

The Hague Code of Conduct on Ballistic Missile Proliferation

Workshop on How to Strengthen the Hague Code of Conduct

HCoC in the US-Russia Context

25 March 2010

Vienna

Why do we consider the US-Russia context?

Launches performed between January and December 2008*:

USA → 51

Russia → 38

France → 7

Norway → 7

Ukraine → 5

Japan → 4

Sweden → 3

Pakistan → 6

Iran → 13

China → 12

India → 9



USA and Russia are
the two countries
with the most
important
launching activity

* Including BM, SLV and launches for scientific research

Pre-launch notifications :

USA → 0

Russia → 0

France → 7

Ukraine → 5

Sweden → 0

Norway → 7

Japan → 3



Why?

Bilateral relations are preferred concerning exchange of information about the evolution of BM and nuclear capacities and activities?
(do bilateral programs/initiatives work?)

Joint Data Exchange Center (JDEC)
(Memorandum of Agreement - Clinton, Putin 04 June 2000)

→ to provide near real-time exchange of information on US and Russia launches of BMs and SLVs

→ Through a sophisticated network of early warning radars, infrared systems and space-based sensors

→ Open to other countries (from bilateral to multilateral)

→ Not operational yet: Political interest not strong enough? New political context? Technical difficulties (trust/confidentiality) ?
Logistic difficulties (it should be based in Moscow) (pretext?)?

Russian-American Observation Satellite (RAMOS) program

- To engage Russia and US in cooperative early warning program and theater missile defence research to build confidence through cooperation
- Started in 1992, not completed, not active yet
- Political reasons: the political context is different, it is not a priority on both agendas.
- Budgetary reasons: was the Russian Federation ready to pay? (in FY 2005 \$550M were still necessary: MDA does not foresees a dedicated budget since 2005)
- Technical/practical reasons: two separate data centers in the same building in Moscow? How to disclose not sensitive information?

About the HCoC pre-launch notification:

Once JDEC is operational,

→ US could start pre-notifying its launches in the framework of HCoC

→ Russian Federation stopped to pre-notify launches on the 1st of January 2008. It could resume pre-launch notification.

6 July 2009, Obama-Medvedev Joint Statement

“In accordance with the understanding reached at the meeting in London on April 1, 2009, Russia and the United States plan to continue the discussion concerning the establishment of cooperation in responding to the challenge of ballistic missile proliferation.”*

“Our experts are intensifying dialogue on establishing the Joint Data Exchange Center, which is to become the basis for a multilateral missile-launch notification regime.”*

*The White House; Office of the Press Secretary, Joint Statement by Dmitry A. Medvedev, President of the Russian Federation, and Barack Obama, President of the United States of America, on Missile Defense Issues.

Related issues:

→ Security in Space: Space Situational Awareness programs

→ US Anti-missile shield program in Europe



Do they help to move towards multilateral initiatives?