GLOBAL SECURITY THROUGH NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION
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The International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe is one of the largest non-governmental organizations uniting leading, world-renowned experts on non-proliferation of nuclear arms and arms reduction and limitation.

The Forum was established pursuant to a decision of the International Conference on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe held in Luxembourg on May 24–25, 2007.

The Forum’s priorities are:

- to facilitate the process of nuclear arms limitation and reduction, counteract growing threats to the non-proliferation regime and erosion of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), including the escalating danger of nuclear terrorism and attempts by individual states to gain access to nuclear materials and technologies;
- to promote international peace and security through new approaches, and propose to decision-makers practical solutions to critical non-proliferation and arms control issues.

International Conference on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe
Luxembourg, May 24–25, 2007

Presentation of the International Luxembourg Forum Declaration
Moscow, December 18, 2007

International Luxembourg Forum Working Group Meeting
Moscow, April 14, 2008

International Luxembourg Forum Working Group Meeting
Vienna, April 8–9, 2010

Workshop of the International Luxembourg Forum
Geneva, July 2, 2009

International Luxembourg Forum Supervisory Board Annual Meeting
Moscow, December 9, 2008

International Luxembourg Forum Working Group Meeting
Moscow, April 22, 2009

International Luxembourg Forum Conference “2012: Achievements and Prospects of Non-Proliferation and Disarmament”
Washington, September 20–21, 2008

International Luxembourg Forum Supervisory Board Annual Meeting
Moscow, December 8–9, 2009

International Luxembourg Forum Working Group Meeting
Vienna, April 8–9, 2010

International Luxembourg Forum Conference “Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Perspectives after Entry into Force of the New START Treaty”
Stockholm, June 13–16, 2010

International Luxembourg Forum Working Group Meeting
Moscow, December 8–9, 2009

International Luxembourg Forum Supervisory Board Annual Meeting
Moscow, December 8–9, 2010
Well-known international public activist, philanthropist, entrepreneur and investor, strongly involved in finding ways to resolve issues of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and promoting secure tolerance worldwide.

President of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe
The International Advisory Council consists of more than 50 leading experts from many countries. IAC members make proposals on the Forum’s agenda, arrange events and participate in drafting the Forum’s final documents (declarations, memoranda, statements etc.) to be circulated to top-tier politicians, heads of international organizations and public figures around the world.
These days, when new threats are emerging – among them the risk of nuclear terrorism – any steps to reduce tension in the nuclear field should be taken jointly by the major countries. The only alternative to cooperation is irreversible catastrophe.
The International Conference on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe was an unprecedented gathering of leading international experts on nuclear proliferation and the erosion of existing safeguards.

Due to the high level of its participants, the conference became the largest and most authoritative event to address the issue of nuclear non-proliferation in the last decade. Leading experts from 14 nations attended the conference, including Mohamed ElBaradei, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); Rolf Ekeus, High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; Sergey Kirienko, Head of the Russian Federal Agency of Atomic Energy, former Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, William Perry, Member of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission (WMDC), Professor (Stanford University), former U.S. Secretary of Defense; Hans Blix, Chairman of the WMDC and former IAEA Director General, Nikolay Laverov, Academician, Vice President of the Russian Academy of Sciences and others.

The conference differed from many similar gatherings in that it was aimed at formulating specific practical suggestions and recommendations to deal with nuclear security issues.
Scientists and experts prepared a final document of the conference – its Declaration, containing proposals to avoid the collapse of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, as well as a number of initiatives to resolve nuclear issues.

PARTICIPANTS AND GUESTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PREVENTING NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE,

Your representative forum is devoted to a highly topical issue, namely strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

The end of the Cold War significantly reduced the risk of the nuclear threat, but the world has not become a safer place. More and more, we are confronted with fundamentally new challenges and have to grapple with hazards that are different but no less complex than before. The main challenges are those posed by international terrorism and the risk of nuclear weapons or related materials falling into the hands of terrorists.

Another destabilizing trend is the growing prominence of force as a factor in world affairs. As a result, some states are tempted to “go nuclear”. Such negative trends must be reversed on the basis of multilateral diplomacy and existing international legal instruments.

A key component of international security and stability is the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (the NPT). New threats to the non-proliferation regime must be suppressed primarily on the basis of this treaty. We consider that the keys to success here lie in the processes of disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful use of atomic energy in their organic interrelation.

Russia strictly abides by all of its disarmament obligations. We have successfully been implementing the agreements in this field, and we also stand ready to take further constructive steps. We hope that individual countries and the global community as a whole will be our partners in ensuring stability and security.

Furthermore, it is necessary to create the political and economic conditions that would enable non-nuclear states to fully exercise their right to a peaceful use of nuclear energy, in strict compliance with their obligations under the NPT. It is towards these ends that we have tailored our proposal to develop a blueprint for global nuclear energy infrastructure. A first step in this direction has already been taken: we are building an international uranium enrichment center in Russia.

An important part of strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime is ensuring universal support for the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency and enhancing the efficacy of its verification functions.

I am certain that this forum will perform an objective analysis of the state of affairs in the field of nuclear non-proliferation and provide recommendations for strengthening the non-proliferation regime.

V. Putin
“The Luxembourg Forum’s key priority is to encourage nuclear-armed states to disarm. If there is no agreement or progress on nuclear disarmament, we will have to recognize that the world will continue to slide towards nuclear catastrophe.”
The declaration was finalized in early December 2007, with more than forty world leading experts from fourteen countries contributing to its creation. The declaration contains proposals to prevent the collapse of the nuclear weapons non-proliferation regime and offers a set of practical steps to strengthen this regime.

During the press conference, Rolf Ekeus called the important initiative well-timed, since some rogue states are seeking to create their own full nuclear fuel cycle. According to the Peace Research Institute Chairman, we are facing the danger of true “nuclear anarchy” and the chief aim of the declaration is to prevent this scenario.

Hans Blix stated that the specific proposals incorporated in the declaration form an action plan intended to reduce the nuclear threat within the next few years. Commenting on the commencement of Russia’s nuclear fuel deliveries to the Iranian power plant in Bushehr, Blix emphasized that this step and other initiatives supporting Iran’s civilian nuclear program are positive developments in the process of settling the Iranian nuclear issue, provided that Iran halts its military nuclear efforts.

Viatcheslav Kantor announced the opening of a permanent Luxembourg Forum, explaining that the Forum’s program envisages regular workshops and conferences on the most current and pressing issues related to nuclear weapons proliferation.
Russian and U.S. experts from the Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe gathered in Moscow at their first meeting that year to discuss a new UN Security Council resolution on Iran and the current state of the Iranian nuclear crisis.

The meeting focused on political and diplomatic ways to address the issue, in particular the possibility of recognizing Iran’s nuclear status, following the announcement by its president that the country had developed civil nuclear technologies. Such recognition would be subject to Iran’s ratification of the NPT Additional Protocol, strict compliance with the protocol’s provisions and wider IAEA inspection powers, as well as more severe financial sanctions against Iran should it breach the recent UN Security Council resolution. Also, under discussion were the consequences of various military actions, whether envisaged in the UN Charter or taken unilaterally.

All participants of the Working Group were concerned that the limited sanctions implemented until that time did not appear to be sufficient to convince Iran’s leaders to comply with the UN requirements. The greatest concern was the apparent strengthening of Iran’s determination to continue its uranium enrichment and plutonium separation efforts.
“The current state of relations between Russia and the West precludes our reaching the level of cooperation required to combat terrorism. This could lead to nuclear confrontation or deployment of a “dirty bomb”. We are close to recreating the conditions that almost resulted in a nuclear conflict during the Cold War.”
The first panel of the Seminar was followed up by a press conference that addressed important issues relating to the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 NPT Review Conference, various acute problems of strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and growing concerns about international security of nuclear materials.

In response to a question about Iran, Mr. Alexey Arbatov, Deputy Chairman of the Forum’s Organizing Committee, said: “We must use a carrot and stick approach to the issue. Financial and economic sanctions must be put in place as well as positive guarantees in case Iran is ready to cooperate with the international community. If Iran obtains nuclear military capability, it could lead to a domino effect for the whole Middle East region.”

Professor Paolo Cotta-Ramusino, Secretary General of Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, said: “Iran does not have any nuclear weapons and all of its activities in this field are under the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency (‘IAEA’). There are some issues that are not finalized yet, but alternatives to a diplomatic solution are very dangerous and unrealistic, and they will create chaos which would be almost unstoppable.”

The Seminar, in keeping with the Forum’s tradition, produced specific breakthrough proposals to counter these threats to civilization; those were forwarded to Heads of State and heads of the international security institutions.
The session addressed the most urgent nuclear non-proliferation and global security issues, both worldwide and in challenging regions. The Iranian nuclear program was brought into focus. Former Russian Foreign Minister and ex-Secretary of the Russian Security Council Igor Ivanov spoke about Russia’s position on the Iranian problem. He stated, “There are no grounds to say that Russia is engaged in double-dealing with Iran.” According to Ivanov, “Russia has always been an active supporter of the existing mechanism for resolution of the Iranian issue” and acts in concert with other participants in the negotiation process.

International Luxembourg Forum’s Supervisory Board addressed the leaders of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council (P-5) with the proposal to undertake the following steps as a matter of urgency:

- For the USA and Russia, it is necessary to undertake all measures to conclude by the end of 2009 a new legally binding Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty to replace START-1. For this the political will of the presidents of both states is needed as well as the organization of the effective and highly professional mechanism of negotiations.

- The USA and Russia should find as soon as possible the mutually acceptable compromise on the deployment of the ballistic missile defense (BMD) in Europe and to this end reconcile the assessments of the missile threats coming from third countries and in the future undertake the BMD development and deployment on the basis of cooperation.

- The USA and Russia should enter into discussions of tactical nuclear weapons reduction in the context of the NATO non-expansion to the east and restoration of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty with necessary adjustments.

- P-5 and Germany should do everything in their power to work out a unified position on the Iranian nuclear program. This position should include effective measures which would ensure Iranian compliance with the terms of the UN SC resolutions.

- The USA, China, India and other countries should ratify without delays the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty.
The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) expired in 2009. At a meeting in Moscow, International Luxembourg Forum Working Group discussed prospects for the new START and potential pitfalls. The meeting, entitled “Strategic Arms Control and Prospects of the PrepCom for 2010 NPT Review Conference” was attended by experts from Russia, the U.S., Italy and Sweden.

“Having the strategic goal of complete nuclear disarmament in the future, we must focus today on the more pressing task of mitigating the risk of a nuclear conflict.”

IGOR IVANOV
Member of the Supervisory Board of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe; President of the Russian International Affairs Council; Professor at the Moscow State Institute for International Relations (University) of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation); Corresponding Member, Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia)
WORKSHOP OF THE INTERNATIONAL LUXEMBOURG FORUM
GENEVA

The approved Final Document was circulated to Heads of State and the leaders of major international organizations fighting for peace and global security.

The working group met in advance of the U.S. president’s visit to Russia, during which negotiations were expected to focus on nuclear disarmament. The meeting discussed ways to demilitarize the nuclear programs of Iran and of North Korea. The danger of these rogue states developing their own nuclear weapons still remained imminent. Iranian and North Korean leadership ignored all calls by the global community to discontinue uranium enrichment and development of nuclear weapons.
During the event a number of most acute issues were discussed. Among them — the vital tasks of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, the prospects for further nuclear weapons reductions.

The meeting also analysed the Iranian and North Korean nuclear programs, and addressed the problem of international terrorism. The outcomes of the meeting were presented in the Final Document.

Summarizing the meeting’s results, Stanford University professor and former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Defense William Perry declared that the remaining U.S.-Russian differences in the START Treaty “are in details rather than principle.”

“With nuclear weapons more widely available, deterrence is decreasingly effective and increasingly hazardous.”

HENRY KISSINGER
Member of the Supervisory Board of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe; Chairman of Kissinger Associates (former U.S. Secretary of State, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs); Ph.D. (USA)
In view of the unique nature of the moment when the U.S. and Russian Presidents signed the New START Treaty in Prague on the very same day, in his opening address at the regular meeting of the Working Group of the International Luxembourg Forum, Viatcheslav Kantor emphasized that “the legislatures of the USA and Russia should promptly initiate procedures to ratify the New Treaty, which has many opponents.”

Rose Gottemoeller, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State and the lead United States negotiator to the Strategic Arms Reductions Treaty follow-on, sent a special address to the participants of the April meeting of the Working Group.

The International Luxembourg Forum made significant gains in authority among organizations working on issues of international security. As a matter of fact, the Forum joined the list of the most influential organizations in this sphere, including the famous group led by William Perry, Sam Nunn, George P. Shultz and Henry Kissinger, the Japanese-Australian Evans-Kawaguchi commission and the Global Zero initiative.

The International Luxembourg Forum’s recommendations are used in decision-making processes and elicit prompt responses from such major international organizations as the European Union and NATO.

Importantly, NATO Secretary General expressed positive reaction to the address of the Luxembourg Forum’s Supervisory Board from December 2009, following which he made his well-known statement urging NATO to pursue a more vigorous policy on nuclear disarmament and to contribute to this process.
“The efforts must focus on monitoring and on the early detection of attempts by different countries to create nuclear weapons under the pretense of developing nuclear energy. Fukushima did not scare the world and the development of nuclear energy continues apace, making it more difficult to spot attempts to create nuclear WMDs.”
An impressive list of prominent politicians, leading world experts in arms control, non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, materials and delivery vehicles, including current and former administration advisors and former administration officials, discussed the prospects of further strategic nuclear arms and tactical nuclear arms reductions, cooperation in the area of anti-ballistic missile defense, results of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, and the status and resolution of the Iran and North Korea nuclear crises.

The Forum’s experts discussed the recently signed Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty between the U.S. and Russia and how to build on this important accord. At the end of the Conference a memorandum containing the outcomes of the meetings, observations and recommendations was circulated to heads of leading powers and major international NGOs.

The former Foreign Minister of Russia, Igor Ivanov, said that “forums like the Luxembourg Forum are particularly necessary today because the issue of nuclear non-proliferation is no longer a matter for just a narrow group of experts.” According to him, such platforms serve “not to focus on mutual grievances, but to seek areas of common ground — the experts attending these forums genuinely discuss the issues at hand...”

Linton Brooks, the former administrator of the U.S. National Nuclear Security Administration, remarked that “the Luxembourg Forum is doing keenly following the discussions concerning the New START Treaty. Given the American system, one cannot exclude the possibility that the New START Treaty could, in theory, remain unratified. But I think that the Treaty will be ratified. The United States stands to benefit from it. And it will happen before the end of the year. This issue is being considered by the U.S. Senate at such lengths for several reasons.”
“In a period of recession and economic crisis nuclear powers should make every effort to reduce spending on the maintenance and storage of nuclear weapons... As long as nuclear weapons exist, non-nuclear weapon states as well as terrorists will attempt to acquire them.”

JAYANTHA DHANAPALA
Member of the Supervisory Board of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe; President of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs (former United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs); Ambassador (Sri Lanka)
The experts consolidated currently available best practices in reduction of nuclear arms generated by different parties, reviewed the results of various events held in 2010, and summarized proposals and developed a specific plan for a mutually beneficial strategic partnership, which would not infringe on the interests of any party.

This meeting became an important international event in the sphere of advancing nuclear arms reduction and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Forum’s experts also discussed possible scenarios of settling the Iranian and North Korean nuclear crises.

The NATO Lisbon Summit approved a new Strategic Concept of North-Atlantic Alliance, which held that the Alliance posed no threat to Russia. This concept was confirmed at the Russia – NATO Summit, where NATO offered Moscow cooperation in the sphere of creation of European missile defense system. Russian President Dmitry Medvedev supported this initiative, stating that the missile defense system should be universal, it should not be built to protect particular countries only, or to cover particular military theatres only.

The ratification by the Russian and the U.S. parliaments of the New START Treaty signed by the two Presidents in Prague, in April 2010, was expected in the near future. This event would become a milestone in the process of nuclear disarmament and reinforcement of the regime of WMD non-proliferation in the modern world.
“The world is not becoming safer because nuclear capabilities are not being reduced. These capabilities could be used, probably even incidentally, resulting in a tragedy of unimaginable scale.”

GARETH EVANS
Member of the Supervisory Board of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe; Chancellor of the Australian National University (former Senator and Member of Parliament, Minister of Foreign Affairs) (Australia)
The Stockholm conference discussed the current state and prospects for nuclear non-proliferation, ballistic missile defense cooperation as the key issue of further nuclear disarmament, as well as the status and prospects of resolving the Iranian nuclear crisis.

The Luxembourg Forum held the conference jointly with Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The conference brought together world’s leading experts, including prominent public activists and experts in the sphere of arms control and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The ratification of the New START Treaty caused significant disputes about interpretation of some of its provisions. “Unless these disputes are resolved, further steps towards nuclear disarmament and building partnership are to face considerable difficulties,” underscored the Luxembourg Forum President Viatcheslav Kantor. “These steps include reduction and limitation of non-strategic nuclear weapons and reaching agreements on cooperation in the area of ballistic missile defense system in Europe.”
“The international community should develop peaceful but effective measures to influence the North Korean regime. What we need to recognize is that we have to put more effort into working with it in order to accomplish disarmament simply because missile technologies in the hands of such regimes pose a serious threat to all nations.”
For the time being, Russia and the U.S. have failed to reach an agreement concerning cooperation in the sphere of designing Europe’s missile defense system. This led to higher tensions and lack of trust between Russia and NATO, which was reflected in several countermeasures planned by Russia. Likewise, the prospects of further disarmament and the viability of existing treaties did not seem promising without progress on a joint missile defense system. Therefore, approving the European missile defense architecture and information system integration could be the first step towards overcoming existing contradictions.

The meeting discussed pressing issues related to the development of relations between Russia and the U.S. and NATO, including further reduction of nuclear arms under the New START Treaty, overcoming the European missile defense system crisis, developments in the Iranian and North Korean nuclear programs, and preventing the threat of nuclear terrorism.

On the back of escalating instability at the global and regional levels, the Forum’s Supervisory Board members recommended paying close attention to the active search for new areas of cooperation, primarily in the sphere of promoting nuclear arms non-proliferation and strengthening anti-terror efforts.
Experts on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation came to the capital of Germany from all over the world to consider the most pressing contemporary problems of international security. The conference marked five years since the Forum’s founding in 2007.

The conference analysed ways to address the most important nuclear disarmament challenges faced by the global community today. The major issues for discussion included the current state and perspectives of nuclear arms reduction and limitation, the outlook for nuclear non-proliferation, and the role of the UN Security Council and the IAEA in promoting non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The experts discussed the efficiency of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty after the 2010 NPT Review Conference.

The conference discussed regional issues of nuclear non-proliferation which may result in escalation in the Middle East and Central Asia, as well as on the global scale.

The experts focused on the current state and ways to resolve the Iranian nuclear problem, as well as on approaches to overcome the North Korean nuclear deadlock.

“Transparency”, “trust” and “concern” are among the words most frequently uttered by the many experts taking part in the conference of this think tank run by Viatcheslav Kantor. And these words are pronounced not just in reference to Iran, but also during discussions on relations between the United States and Russia and between Russia and Europe.

“Only the continuation of the disarmament of nuclear powers can end nuclear proliferation,” said Rolf Nikel, the German Government Commissioner for Arms Control and Disarmament. He emphasized the need for tactical nuclear weapons, which, more than 20 years on from the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War, Russia and NATO continue to hold on the territories of several countries, to be covered by disarmament agreements.”
The participants of the Fifth Anniversary Conference called on the leaders of the Russian Federation and United States, other NATO countries and all responsible nations, as well as international organizations, to apply the necessary political will, flexibility and ingenuity in order to overcome the present impasse and resume consistent steps along the way of nuclear disarmament, enhancing non-proliferation regimes and facilitating cooperative international security at large.

As its outcome, the Berlin conference circulated to leaders of world powers and principal international organizations (the UN, IAEA, NATO, CSTO, OSCE and others) specific proposals on resolution of the most pressing issues of the nuclear security.

WORLD AT “MOMENT OF TRUTH” ON IRAN, UZI ARAD TELLS “POST”

“...From sidelines of fifth International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe, Arad says Iranians want end to sanctions, world wants end to Iranian nuclear program.

Describing the current situation as a “collision path”, Arad said “both sides have advanced. Iran advanced its nuclear program, and the international community has increased sanctions.”

Arad, Professor of the Institute for Policy and Strategy at the Lauder School of Government at the IDC, added that the next step in the ongoing struggle between the two camps depended on their “level of determination” to stick to their guns.

He pointed out that Israel’s expectations were the same as those of the UN Security Council, which has called for a total freezing of Iranian uranium enrichment activities, unlike some propositions being raised by P5 + 1 negotiators, who have reportedly suggested that Iran could continue to enrich uranium to a low level under an agreement.

Earlier, the president of the Luxembourg Forum, Viatcheslav Kantor kicked off the conference by sounding the alarm over Iran’s ongoing enrichment activities.

During his address, Kantor told senior delegates from Russia, the U.S., Germany, and other countries that Tehran has “tripled its enriched uranium output,” and slammed “fruitless negotiations” that have failed to stop Iran’s nuclear advancement.

He called on the international community to toughen sanctions if Iran maintains its current course, saying, “Iran has reached the red line.” Ultimately, an economic blockade against Iran might be required, he added.

Rolf Nikel, the German Commissioner of the Federal Government for Disarmament
“We need to call on the statesmen in Russia and USA to abandon reckless rhetoric and replace it with the language of mutual respect. This is an essential component in the relations between our two countries that control over 90 percent of the world’s nuclear weapons and materials. Otherwise, we will end up in a situation of further escalation.”
The conference participants expressed concern that for the first time since the end of the Cold War there was a possibility of another arms race. According to the Luxembourg Forum’s President Viatcheslav Kantor, development of the ballistic missile defense system by the U.S. and its allies in the Asia Pacific region has given rise to concern in China, which is taking offensive and defensive countermeasures. This way, the race of offensive and defensive arms between Russia and NATO could be redoubled and aggravated by the arms race between China and the U.S. allies in the Asia Pacific region.

The conference brought together international experts, including Luxembourg Forum President Viatcheslav Kantor, former IAEA Director General Hans Blix, Professor at the University of Maryland Roald Sagdeev, Director of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy Fred Tanner, Head of the Task Force on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Benno Laggner, director of the UN Institute for Disarmament Research Theresa Hitchens, Head of the WMD and Disarmament Program at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy Pal Sidhu, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran Mohammad Hassan Davayei, and other members of the Luxembourg Forum’s International Advisory Council.
In the corridors of the Luxembourg Forum, the phrase “armed conflict” is constantly to be heard from the lips of many experts. Over the next few days here in Switzerland, they will seek peaceful solutions to the simmering conflict. The outcome will be a declaration, which, as always since the Forum was established 5 years ago, will then be sent to the leaders of major countries and to key international organizations such as the UN, the IAEA, NATO and the OSCE.

**HEATED DEBATES IN VIENNA AND GENEVA**

Could the international community be on the wrong track? With tensions surrounding the Iranian nuclear issue running higher than ever, the world’s great powers have toughened their tone and condemned Tehran, in the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), for the continuous expansion of its uranium enrichment program. Meanwhile, Israel’s Prime Minister, Benyamin Netanyahou, is clamoring for a “red line” to be drawn for Tehran.

Hans Blix, on the other hand, believes that, for there to be a way out of the deadlock and so as to secure Iran’s cooperation, a change of approach vis-à-vis Iran is needed. The former Director General of the IAEA was in Geneva on Tuesday and Wednesday for a meeting of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe. Set up in 2007, this little-known, international think tank was meeting for the first time in the lakeside city. Blix once again told the press how important it is that a peaceful solution to the Iranian issue be found. And for such a solution to be reached, he says, “we need to think more broadly. I think we’re giving too much stick and not enough carrot. Iran is a proud country and, like any other state, doesn’t want to be humiliated.”

The Conference of the Luxembourg Forum recommended:

- The United States and Russia should proceed without further delay with the next phase of START negotiations without preconditions. The goal of an immediate follow-on START Treaty should be the reduction and limitation of operationally deployed strategic offensive arms (nuclear and conventional) down to a level of no more than 1000 warheads.

- A new search for compromise on ballistic missile defenses should begin with a U.S./NATO-Russian discussion to craft a new understanding of the concept of strategic stability and the ways of incorporating U.S.-led ballistic missile defense (BMD) programs as well as Russia’s Air-Space Defense. In particular, there should be agreement on criteria for stable strategic and theatre defenses. In parallel, multilateral consultations with China, India, and concerned states in the Middle East should be initiated on this subject.

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CONFERENCE OF
THE INTERNATIONAL
LUXEMBOURG FORUM
“SAFE TOLERANCE
CRITERIA FOR NUCLEAR
NON-PROLIFERATION
REGIMES”
MONTREUX

The Conference was held jointly with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy.

Unlike previous events, this Forum Conference’s focus marked the initial stage of research aimed at identifying those conditions and features that prove that a state’s nuclear technologies are approaching the so-called “red line” which, when crossed, strongly suggests its intention to develop nuclear weapons. Urgent solutions and appropriate measures are required to prevent such developments.

Based on the Conference outcome, the experts assured that they intended to proactively continue their research to articulate the rationale for acceptable limits of “nuclear tolerance”, the point at which non-nuclear states that have the right to create a complete nuclear fuel cycle for the benefit of the nuclear power industry under the Non-Proliferation Treaty, start to show signs of abusing this right with an eye to illegally developing weapons technologies.
Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate (the upper parliament chamber) of Poland, former Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, head of the Democratic Left Alliance and Prime Minister of Poland in 2001–2004 Leszek Miller, and Russian Ambassador to Poland Alexander Alekseev attended the meeting as guests.

The meeting focused on issues of secure nuclear tolerance and setting the criteria for undeclared development of nuclear weapons to be used by the IAEA and the UN Security Council to identify the nature and objectives of nuclear programs pursued by NPT state parties. The meeting also considered the prospects for nuclear disarmament and arms control, strengthening the non-proliferation regime for weapons of mass destruction, ballistic missile defense cooperation and its role in the nuclear disarmament process.
“Both in the era of the USSR and nowadays, solutions to missile and nuclear issues have always hinged on the national leaders. It was often said that if experts failed to agree, then presidents should discuss and resolve an issue. With some leaders, the personality factor worked positively, whilst with others it exacerbated the situation.”
The Luxembourg Forum experts noted with concern that the entire complex of key issues of nuclear non-proliferation had become a secondary matter in global politics for several reasons, including the marked aggravation in relations between the leading Western states and Russia triggered by the situation in Ukraine. However, these problems did not disappear, and lack of attention can further complicate the chances of finding positive solutions.

In this context the participants of the Round Table found it necessary to join their efforts to overcome the stagnation in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation and boost cooperation between leading countries in this domain regardless of the general political crisis and in spite of it.

Luxembourg Forum experts proposed to include in the Final Declaration a call for the U.S. and Russia to complete the strategic arms reduction two years in advance, by 2016 instead of 2018, as was stipulated by the New START Treaty. Acceptance of this proposal by the U.S. and Russia could become an incentive to restore the negotiation process.

The Forum’s experts found that it was advisable to once again remind the United States Administration and Congress of the necessity to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty prior to the 2015 NPT Review Conference, thereby increasing the chances of its success.

The participants included in the Final Declaration a proposal to prepare a treaty prohibiting deployment of all types of weapons in outer space, and development and testing of all ground-, air-, and sea-based systems capable of destroying space platforms.
According to the head of the Luxembourg Forum, "Ukraine joining NATO would lead to an escalation in tensions."

That was the view firmly expressed by Viatcheslav Kantor, President of the Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe, on Tuesday in response to a question from TASS.

"Everything affects everything else. It’s simply inconceivable that separate statements by non-nuclear and non-aligned states would not affect the general mood," Kantor said. "But for now that remains a matter of mindset."

"However", he pointed out, "there have so far been no official statements about Kiev’s admission into NATO".

"On the other hand, such a step would lead to a further escalation in tensions, which would be very undesirable," added the head of the Forum.

The members of the Supervisory Board expressed their disappointment and concern about the deteriorating state of relations between Russia and the West, deepening deadlock in nuclear disarmament and failure to resolve in due time the Iranian nuclear problem in the recent negotiations.
The President of the Luxembourg Forum Viatcheslav Kantor emphasized that the Conference was scheduled so that the participants could analyse the results of the 2015 NPT Review Conference, with anticipation that the final provisions of the Comprehensive Agreement between the Group of Six and Iran would be outlined with sufficient certainty.

Mr. Kantor underscored with regret that the NPT Review Conference, nevertheless, failed to adopt the final document. The principal stumbling block in the course of discussions was the issue of convening a conference on establishment of a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

“I cannot now estimate the consequences of this event,” the Luxembourg Forum President said. “Clearly, it does not strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime. However, we still have to determine to what extent the Non-Proliferation Treaty remains robust, or whether it is under the threat of dramatic weakening.”

“I believe that based on findings of our analysis we will be able to develop recommendations for further steps to preserve and strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime,” Mr. Kantor added.

The Conference participants discussed the results of the 2015 NPT Review Conference, which took place on 27 April – 22 May 2015. The experts also analysed the agreement with Iran and ways out of the North Korean nuclear crisis.
“The world is “sleep-walking” into re-armament, and we need to wake it up. We have failed to prevent the proliferation of nuclear capabilities. In order to make sure nothing similar happens, it is urgent to start discussing how to prevent weaponization of outer space.”

HANS BLIX
Member of the Supervisory Board of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe; Ambassador (former Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency); Ph.D. (Sweden)
Participants of the Conference discussed immediate concerns and relevant issues as well as specific steps to achieve nuclear arms reduction, ways of jump-starting stalled negotiating processes, methods of fighting nuclear terrorism and boosting cooperation between the world’s leading nuclear powers. Discussions also looked at the role of arms control in strengthening international stability, and on how to better cope with the threats to the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Based on the outcomes of these proceedings, participants addressed a number of proposals to the leaders of Russia and the U.S. aimed at resuming the dialogue on nuclear arms control.

Participants of the Conference adopted a joint statement on “Preventing the Crisis of Nuclear Arms Control and Catastrophic Terrorism”, which was simultaneously presented to the leaders of the Russian Federation and the United States:

An important and necessary step in addressing nuclear dangers is discussion of the dangerous “prompt-launch” or “hair-trigger” status of strategic missiles — a perilous posture inherited from the Cold War. In addition, it is imperative to avoid the possibility of launch by accident, miscalculation or sabotage. Reducing nuclear risks should be at the top of the agenda, even as the crises over Ukraine, Syria and the flow of refugees to Europe demand serious attention.
Leaders should recall that, in the past, each time a new U.S.-Soviet or U.S.-Russian nuclear arms control agreement was signed, the parties immediately started negotiations for the next one. Presently, five years after approval of the 2010 New START Treaty, there are no negotiations underway or expected. At the same time, the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty has not entered into force, the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty is under threat, and the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty is not being implemented.

Important negotiations are dead-locked and cooperative steps that would improve the security of all parties are on hold. At a moment of friction and conflict when restraint is needed, arms control is failing; trust is being eroded precisely when it is most needed.

The world’s major powers must come together to combat global terror and arrest the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Dialogue between the United States and Russia is absolutely essential. The two countries that control the vast majority of the world’s nuclear weapons simply need to talk. Political differences must be set aside, the stakes are too high. Our leaders must focus on the existential threat of our time with unity, single-mindedness and courage.

We live in an age of unparalleled risks to global security, with none greater than the risk of a terrorist organization acquiring and deploying a nuclear weapon. It is for this reason that the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe and the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) met this week in Washington, D.C. to propose solutions to world leaders on how to tackle the threat of nuclear terrorism.

Dr. Kantor, President of the Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe. 

The Conference of the International Luxembourg Forum brought together both eyewitnesses of the historic 1986 meeting in the capital of Iceland and leading nuclear security experts of today.

In his address to the conference participants former President of the USSR Mikhail Gorbachev compared the current political situation with the events thirty years ago, pointing out that “the window to a nuclear-free world, first opened in Reykjavik, is being shut and locked before our eyes.”

Mikhail Gorbachev noted that movement toward a nuclear-free world had become increasingly more difficult: “New types of nuclear weapons are being created. Their qualitative specifications are expanding. Missile defense systems are being deployed. “Prompt conventional strike” capabilities, which are comparable to weapons of mass destruction in terms of the risks they present, are being developed. The nuclear powers’ military doctrines have been changed for the worse. They expand the “acceptable bounds” of the use of nuclear weapons. The danger of nuclear weapons proliferation has grown to a large extent for this reason.”

The Telegraph
WE MUST FACE UP TO THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR TERRORISM

“...We live in uncertain and troubling times. We are rightly on red alert against the threat of what has now become conventional terrorist acts of indiscriminate suicide bombings, gun and knife attacks. But we are seemingly blind to the much more catastrophic and all too real threat of nuclear weapons falling into the hands of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and other terrorist groups.

It is hard for us to imagine, but terrorist groups are alarmingly close to acquiring nuclear weapons. Security experts believe the Jihadi brothers Khalid and Ibrahim el-Bakraoui were plotting to make a radioactive bomb by kidnapping Belgium’s nuclear program chief in order to force him to let them into one of Belgium’s two atomic facilities to steal nuclear material. Nuclear proliferation, either by terrorist groups such as ISIL or state actors like North Korea, mean we are living in a world confronted with a threat level the likes of which we have not seen since the Cold War...”

Dr. Kantor, President of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe.

POOR U.S.-RUSSIA RELATIONS INCREASE RISK OF DIRTY BOMB IN EUROPE: EXPERTS

“...Former U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry said he regretted the current lack of communication between the United States and Russia, which went into a deep freeze after Russia’s 2014 annexation of Crimea. “We are about to recreate the conditions that nearly brought us to the brink of nuclear war” during the Cold War, Perry said.

The Forum’s head, Viatcheslav Kantor, said the threat of a “dirty bomb” attack on a European city was at its highest level since the end of the Cold War.

Security experts have raised concerns since the attacks in Paris and Brussels by Islamist militants that poorly guarded European nuclear facilities pose a risk. Kantor cited chemical weapons attacks carried out by Islamic State in Iraq, their stated desire to carry out more attacks in Europe, and evidence militants linked to the attacks in Paris had also been studying a Belgian nuclear power plant.”
The experts stated that the historic turning point made in Reykjavik and follow on agreements were currently at risk. Participants of the Luxembourg Forum urged the United States and Russia to make new efforts to protect these historic gains and to take additional steps to reduce nuclear dangers and nuclear weapons. They urged the leaders of the United States and Russia to meet to provide the necessary impulse to get out of the current impasse.
“Everything has stalled because of the great risk that, sooner or later, when the world reaches the final mile in nuclear disarmament, when only a few nuclear weapons remain, someone may attempt to cheat. And if someone were to keep even just one or two unaccounted nuclear bombs, they could present the rest of the world with an ultimatum.”

ROALD SAGDEYEY
Member of the Supervisory Board of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe; Distinguished Professor at the University of Maryland; Director Emeritus of the Space Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences; Academician, Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia/United States)
Special sessions examined current negotiations over the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and elevated tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Following the latest changes in the global international security system, as well as in the nuclear sphere, and Donald Trump’s victory in the United States, the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe examined the recent developments around the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action for Iran and the impact of Trump’s presidency on U.S. relations with Russia. The Forum reiterated its call for urgent and immediate efforts to rebuild U.S.-Russian relations in order to reduce the crisis of nuclear arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation.

"The special relationship, the old brotherhood? I don’t know whether he would be open to such things," Blix told the Observer at the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe held in London. “Maybe the Brits will talk about the golf course in Scotland? I think he is not a very international figure but I can’t indicate anyone who would be influential in talking to him”.

Trump has threatened to scrap the nuclear deal, signed by six major powers including Britain, in which Iran agreed to scale down its nuclear aspirations in exchange for sanctions relief. 
The Supervisory Board of the International Luxembourg Forum expressed its deep concern that the crisis of nuclear arms control continued to get worse.

Members of the Supervisory Board expressed their hope that the advent of a new U.S. Administration and the Russian response to it would present an opportunity for improved dialogue and consequent U.S.-Russian steps aimed at protecting the nuclear arms control system and regimes. It may also lead to further progress in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. They called on the leaders of the United States and Russia to apply all necessary efforts to overcome the current crisis in nuclear arms control and achieve real progress in the near future.

< ...Given the potential for the domino effect, all of this threatens to wreck the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the landmark international treaty in which the U.S., former Soviet Union, the UK, France and China agreed to limit the spread of military nuclear technology and further the goal of disarmament.

The deep stagnation in relations between the U.S. and Russia was the focus of another conference, by some of the world’s leading experts in nuclear disarmament, which took place this week. The International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe, of which I am President, brings together a high-level panel of scientists and experts from 14 countries, including Hans Blix, former Director General of the IAEA and former UK Secretary of State for Defense Des Browne.

Not for the first time, our forum expressed concerns that there has been no follow on to the New START Treaty. This time, there was also anxiety at the growing trend among our global leaders to express their willingness to use nuclear weapons. Playing with the possibilities that nuclear weapons offer as a way to keep others in check is a dangerous game, pushing us closer the brink of a Cold War-like nuclear arms contest.

Dr. Kantor, President of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe>.

WASHINGTON

The book contains recommendations on the most pressing issues of non-proliferation, reduction and limitation of nuclear weapons, including nuclear terrorism. The Joint Statement of the Luxembourg Forum and NTI, which was circulated to the presidents of Russia and the United States in line with the decision adopted by the Conference, is also part of the book.

During the presentation, the experts shared their vision of such topical issues as bilateral relations and cooperation between the United States and Russia on a range of international security issues (START, ABM deployment, INF Treaty, combating nuclear terrorism, plutonium disposition), nuclear programs of North Korea and Iran, non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, etc.

Mr. Kantor is convinced that “There is a huge risk of nuclear material falling into the hands of Islamist terrorists. The situation in the field of nuclear arms control today is unprecedented, even compared to the time of the Cold War, let alone the period after it.”
"The Iranian nuclear program cannot be considered out of the context of regional and international security. I believe that the Iranian leadership is not so much seeking to develop nuclear weapons as it is trying to reserve the opportunity to develop nuclear weapons in the future."

ROLF EKEUS
Member of the Supervisory Board of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe; Ambassador (former High Commissioner on National Minorities at the OSCE; Chairman of the Governing Board at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute — SIPRI) (Sweden)
The speakers focused on the aggravated situation on the Korean Peninsula in anticipation that North Korea might be preparing for another nuclear test and in light of a statement by the U.S. Vice President that “the era of strategic patience is over” with respect to the country, which coupled with the manoeuvre of the U.S. aircraft carrier strike group in the region may lead to unleashing a nuclear war with unpredictable consequences.

Experts are concerned that nuclear weapons are no longer taken seriously. The President of the Luxembourg Forum, Viatcheslav Kantor, warns that the ongoing escalation could spell the end of the nuclear non-proliferation policy. “North Korea is the only state on our planet to carry out nuclear and missile tests in defiance of repeated demands set forth in UN Security Council resolutions. The DPRK’s actions give its southern neighbor, Japan and the USA additional reasons for developing antimissile defense systems, something to which Russia and China object,” explained Kantor. “Evidence of this can be seen in the recent proposals by the South Korean parliament to create its own nuclear weapons. If these proposals are acted upon, after which more nuclear states would emerge through the “domino effect”, then the collapse of the entire nuclear non-proliferation regime would be inevitable.”
Preventing nuclear catastrophe  
Luxembourg, 2007

The International Luxembourg Forum Seminar on review the results and looking on the prospects of the PrepCom for the 2010 NPT Review Conference  
Rome, 2008

New UN Security Council Resolution on Iran: Prospects of the Iranian nuclear issue solution  
Moscow, 2008

Results of the 2009 PrepCom and the prospects for the 2010 NPT Review Conference  
Geneva, 2009

Achievements and prospects of non-proliferation and disarmament  
Washington, 2010

Prospects for non-proliferation and disarmament  
Vienna, 2010

Manifesto on global security and secure tolerance  
Moscow, 2011

Perspectives of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament  
Geneva, 2012

Contemporary problems of nuclear non-proliferation  
Berlin, 2012

Secure tolerance criteria for the nuclear non-proliferation regime  
Montreux, 2013

The limits of secure nuclear tolerance  
Moscow, 2014

Preventing the crisis of the nuclear arms control and catastrophic terrorism  
Washington, 2016

Reykjavik summit: lessons for the future of U.S.-Russian relations  
Moscow, 2016

Revitalizing nuclear arms control and non-proliferation  
Moscow, 2017

You may find these books, documents and other related materials on the website of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe.