



Action Alert

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Stop the Senate Lame Duck Session on New START!

If the Obama administration has their way, the New START Treaty will be approved by the Senate in the lame duck session. This treaty presents several problems for our future strategic forces. The New START:

- Contains explicit constraints and ambiguities that can politically constrain future US programs to develop, test and deploy effective missile defense;
- Would not meet verification standards employed in START and INF Treaties—which is not responsive to the reality that the Soviets/Russians have violated all their past arms control agreements;
- Allows a Russian buildup while constraining US forces—in that regard is reminiscent of the SALT I and II Treaties which legitimized a massive Soviet buildup of nuclear arms; and
- Does not include several thousand Russian so-called Tactical Nuclear weapons, which will no doubt play an important role in Russian strategic thinking that reflects concerns about their “near abroad”—and the current US has retained no negotiating leverage for potential future negotiations that might include them

The Senate should at least review the negotiating record before giving its consent to ratify the Treaty, for the reasons discussed by **Ambassador Henry F. Cooper's** [article from The National Review online](#).

ACTION ITEMS

- 1) Contact your [Senators](#) immediately and urge them to wait until they have access to the negotiating record before taking action with the New START Treaty.
- 2) Educate yourself about New START by visiting www.heritage.org.
 - a. <http://www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2010/04/An-Independent-Assessment-of-New-START-Treaty>
 - b. <http://www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2010/10/Protective-Agreement-to-Limit-Missile-Defense-and-Space-Systems-Should-Delay-New-START>
 - c. <http://www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2010/09/Senate-Must-Scrutinize-Deeply-Flawed-New-START-Verification-Measures>
- 3) Distribute this *Action Alert* to your networks.

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