

# Arms Control Milestones During the Obama Administration

## 2009

- MAR. 6** ● U.S. Secretary of State Clinton presents “reset button” to Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov, symbolizing an effort to improve relations.
- APR. 5** ● President Obama in Prague outlines his plan for nuclear risk reduction and nonproliferation, calling on countries to have “the courage to pursue a world without nuclear weapons.”
- APR. 8** ● Obama administration announces it will participate in multilateral talks with Iran on its nuclear program, a departure from previous U.S. policy.
- MAY 25** ● North Korea conducts second nuclear test explosion.
- JUN. 12** ● UN Security Council passes Resolution 1874, adding sanctions on North Korea for its nuclear and missile activities.
- SEP. 25** ● The United States, the U.K. and France reveal that Iran has been constructing a secret, second uranium-enrichment facility, Fordow.

## 2010

- APR. 6** ● Pentagon releases 2010 “Nuclear Posture Review” report, which outlines a diminished role for nuclear weapons and a “no new nuclear weapons policy,” but calls for maintaining robust nuclear deterrent.
- APR. 8** ● Obama and Russian President Medvedev sign the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START), which limits each side to no more than 1,550 strategic deployed warheads by 2018.
- APR. 12-13** ● First nuclear security summit involving 47 states is held in Washington to consolidate and protect nuclear material.
- MAY 13** ● Obama announces plan to modernize U.S. nuclear forces.
- MAY 28** ● Eighth nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference adopts 64-point action plan by consensus.

**DEC. 22**

## 2011

- U.S. Senate approves ratification of New START by vote of 71-26.
- JAN. 12** ● U.S.-Russia 123 agreement for cooperation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy enters into force.
- JUN. 2** ● 46-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group adopts tougher guidelines to prevent the spread of enrichment and reprocessing technology.
- JUL. 13** ● U.S.-Russia agreement to dispose of excess weapons-grade plutonium enters into force.

## 2012

- FEB. 29** ● North Korea accepts “Leap Day agreement” for nuclear constraints with U.S. providing food aid. The deal collapses in April 2012.
- MAR. 26-27** ● Second nuclear security summit is held in Seoul; expands scope to address radioactive sources and nuclear safety.
- AUG. 20** ● Obama says use or “moving around” of chemical weapons by Syrian government would cross a “redline.”

## 2013

- JAN. 4** ● UN General Assembly votes to convene an open-ended working group to develop proposals for multilateral nuclear disarmament.
- JAN. 22** ● UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2087 against North Korea after successful Dec. 12 satellite launch.
- FEB. 12** ● North Korea conducts third nuclear test explosion.
- MAR. 7** ● UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2094 in response to North Korea’s nuclear and missile activities.
- APR. 2** ● UN General Assembly approves text of global Arms Trade Treaty 156-3-23.

**JUN. 19**

**AUG. 21**

**SEP. 23**

**SEP. 27**

**NOV. 24**

## 2014

- Obama calls for U.S.-Russian talks to reduce deployed strategic nuclear weapons by as much as one-third below New START levels.
- Chemical weapons attack by the Syrian government in Ghouta kills 1,400 people.
- United States becomes 91st state to sign the Arms Trade Treaty.
- Obama and Iranian President Rouhani have first direct talks between U.S. and Iranian leaders since the 1979 revolution.
- Six world powers and Iran conclude the Joint Plan of Action, an interim agreement freezing Iran’s nuclear progress and guide negotiations for a comprehensive solution.
- MAR. 24-25** ● Third nuclear security summit held in the Netherlands.
- JUL. 31** ● United States reports that Russia is in violation of the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty.
- SEP. 4** ● Joint mission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the United Nations declares it has removed 96 percent of Syria’s chemical weapons, including precursor chemicals.
- DEC. 4** ● United States announces International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification.

## 2015

- APR. 27 - MAY 22** ● Ninth NPT Review Conference fails to produce a final agreement.
- MAY. 27** ● Obama becomes first sitting U.S. president to visit Hiroshima, Japan.
- JUL. 14** ● Iran and P5+1 countries announce the JCPOA to verifiably roll back Iran’s nuclear program over a multi-year period.
- AUG. 7** ● UN Security Council authorizes Joint Investigative Mechanism to identify

individuals and groups using chemical weapons in Syria.

**SEP. 10-11**

**OCT. 29**

## 2016

- Resolution of disapproval fails to block the JCPOA fall short of necessary votes in the Senate and U.S. House of Representatives.
- UN General Assembly votes to convene an open-ended working group to address concrete, effective legal measures to attain a world without nuclear weapons.
- JAN. 6** ● North Korea conducts fourth nuclear test explosion.
- JAN. 16** ● Implementation day for the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.
- MAR. 2** ● UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 2270 against North Korea following nuclear tests and prohibited satellite launch.
- MAR. 31 - APR. 1** ● Fourth and final nuclear security summit is held in Washington; states designate five international organizations as successors for summit work.
- AUG. 24** ● UN Security Council panel finds that Syrian government troops were responsible for two toxic gas attacks and that Islamic State militants used sulfur mustard gas.
- AUG. 27** ● OPCW reports all chemical weapons have been removed from Libya.
- SEP. 9** ● North Korea conducts fifth nuclear test explosion.
- SEP. 23** ● UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2310 reaffirming support for the moratoria on nuclear weapons testing 20 years after the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty was opened for signature.
- OCT. 5** ● Russia suspends agreement with U.S on nuclear and energy-related research cooperation.
- OCT. 27** ● UN General Assembly passes resolution to begin negotiations in 2017 on a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons.