

Exit the 1987 INF Treaty

Why would anyone stay in a contract where one side is continually unfaithful? Sort of like staying married to a person who is a flagrant adulterer. If we are to believe our intelligence community is correct (and why wouldn't we - think WMD, James Clapper, John Brennan) then we should get out. I do not think Russia is a direct military threat to the U.S., as both countries have long deemed nuclear war as mutually destructive.

Nuclear weapon countries, China, Pakistan, India, North Korea, Iran, Israel, Britain and France are not part of the INF Treaty. So why should Russia and the U.S. constrain themselves? The U.S. did pull all nuclear missiles from Europe in accordance with the treaty and France has deactivated their land based nuclear weapons. NATO is concerned about the dissolution of the treaty, but offers no solutions other than dialogue with Russia. The treaty is toothless and if every nuclear power is not part of the treaty it is a waste of time.

The bigger problem is that while under the 1987 INF Treaty constraints, the U.S. is at a disadvantage in securing our nation against both China and Iran, who are a direct military threat to the U.S. and are not a party to the treaty. I do not believe we are facing war with China within the next 6 years, but after that I am not so sure. President Trump needs to beef up our arsenals and I assume others are doing so already.

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