

# Gorbachev: Trump Ditching Nuclear Treaty with Russia Poses ‘Dire Threat to Peace’

By [Jessica Corbett](#)

Global Research, October 29, 2018

[Common Dreams](#) 26 October 2018

Region: [Russia and FSU, USA](#)

Theme: [History, Militarization and WMD, US](#)

[NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [Nuclear War](#)

*While the Trump administration ignores warnings from nuclear experts and pursues plans to exit the Cold War-era intermediate-range nuclear forces treaty (INF) with Russia, former President of the Soviet Union **Mikhail Gorbachev**—who initially signed the deal with former **President Ronald Reagan**—has joined the chorus of voices cautioning that ditching it poses “a dire threat to peace” by increasing the risk of armed conflict.*

Since [reports](#) emerged last week that President Donald Trump’s warmongering **National Security Adviser John Bolton** was working within the administration to garner support for dismantling the 1987 treaty, as experts have denounced the move as “[stupid and reckless](#)” and a “[colossal mistake](#),” the president and Bolton have doubled down, justifying the looming withdrawal by [claiming](#) that Russia is violating the deal by developing the 9M729 ground-launched cruise missile.

Reflecting on the landmark agreement, which led to significant reductions in both American and Russian stockpiles of nuclear weapons, Gorbachev wrote in a *New York Times* [op-ed](#) published Thursday:

“I am being asked whether I feel bitter watching the demise of what I worked so hard to achieve. But this is not a personal matter. Much more is at stake. A new arms race has been announced.”

Gorbachev noted that Trump’s decision to withdraw comes as American “military expenditures have soared to astronomical levels and keep rising,” and in the context of the president’s disdain for global cooperation.

“There will be no winner in a ‘war of all against all’—particularly if it ends in a nuclear war. And that is a possibility that cannot be ruled out,” the former Soviet leader warned. “An unrelenting arms race, international tensions, hostility, and universal mistrust will only increase the risk.”

“With enough political will, any problems of compliance with the existing treaties could be resolved,” Gorbachev pointed out. “But as we have seen during the past two years, the president of the United States has a very different purpose in mind. It is to release the United States from any obligations, any constraints, and not just regarding nuclear missiles.”

While urging the United States and Russia “to return to dialogue and negotiations,” he also

called on other nations to refuse to support a new nuclear arms race.

“I hope that America’s allies will, upon sober reflection, refuse to be launchpads for new American missiles. I hope the United Nations, and particularly members of its Security Council, vested by the United Nations Charter with primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, will take responsible action,” he concluded. “Faced with this dire threat to peace, we are not helpless. We must not resign, we must not surrender.”

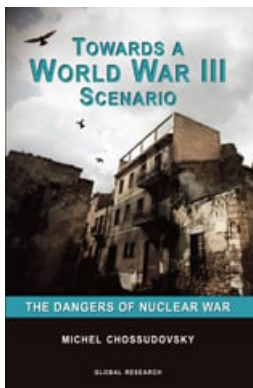
In addition to Gorbachev’s piece, the *Times* published on Thursday an [op-ed](#) in which **George Shultz**, Reagan’s former secretary of state, argued that

“now is not the time to build larger arsenals of nuclear weapons. Now is the time to rid the world of this threat. Leaving the treaty would be a huge step backward. We should fix it, not kill it.”

\*

Note to readers: please click the share buttons above. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

*Featured image: Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed a landmark nuclear arms control treaty in 1987. (Photo: White House Photographic Office/National Archives and Records Administration)*



**[“Towards a World War III Scenario: The Dangers of Nuclear War”](#)**

**by Michel Chossudovsky**

***Available to order from Global Research!***

ISBN Number: 978-0-9737147-5-3

Year: 2012

Pages: 102

**[Print Edition](#)**: \$10.25 (+ shipping and handling)

**[PDF Edition](#)**: \$6.50 (sent directly to your email account!)

*[Michel Chossudovsky](#) is Professor of Economics at the University of Ottawa and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), which hosts the critically acclaimed*

website [www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) . He is a contributor to the Encyclopedia Britannica. His writings have been translated into more than 20 languages.

## Reviews

“This book is a ‘must’ resource – a richly documented and systematic diagnosis of the supremely pathological geo-strategic planning of US wars since ‘9-11’ against non-nuclear countries to seize their oil fields and resources under cover of ‘freedom and democracy’.”

**-John McMurtry**, Professor of Philosophy, Guelph University

“In a world where engineered, pre-emptive, or more fashionably “humanitarian” wars of aggression have become the norm, this challenging book may be our final wake-up call.”

**-Denis Halliday**, Former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations

Michel Chossudovsky exposes the insanity of our privatized war machine. Iran is being targeted with nuclear weapons as part of a war agenda built on distortions and lies for the purpose of private profit. The real aims are oil, financial hegemony and global control. The price could be nuclear holocaust. When weapons become the hottest export of the world’s only superpower, and diplomats work as salesmen for the defense industry, the whole world is recklessly endangered. If we must have a military, it belongs entirely in the public sector. No one should profit from mass death and destruction.

**-Ellen Brown**, author of ‘Web of Debt’ and president of the Public Banking Institute



The original source of this article is [Common Dreams](#)

Copyright © [Jessica Corbett](#), [Common Dreams](#), 2018

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Jessica Corbett](#)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)