

## Moscow demands clarification from U.S. over Gates remarks about targeting Russia

By [Global Research](#)

Global Research, February 13, 2007

Xinhua 13 February 2007

Region: [Russia and FSU](#)

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

Russia has demanded an explanation from the United States over Defense Secretary Robert Gates' remarks, which suggested that Russia was being identified as a potential threat, the Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

Russia has asked the United States to clarify whether Gates' remarks represented the official position of the U.S. administration, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Kamynin in a statement.

On Feb. 7, Gates addressed a committee meeting of the U.S. congress, suggesting that Russia poses a potential threat to U.S. security.

He said: "We don't know what's going to develop in places like Russia..., in North Korea (DPRK), in Iran and elsewhere."

Kamynin said Russia had noticed what Gates had said, which were among a series of recent remarks by the U.S. military and intelligence officials that has greatly bewildered Russia.

Over the past few days, there have been a series of verbal battles between the United States and Russia.

Addressing a high-profile security conference in Munich, Germany on Saturday, Putin condemned the United States for "almost uncontained" use of force.

He said the United States "has overstepped its national borders in every way" and is fostering a new global arms race.

In response, Washington immediately dismissed Putin's accusations as false.

In a statement later on Saturday, White House national security spokesman Gordon Johndroe said, "We are surprised and disappointed with President Putin's comments."

On Sunday, Russian Defense Minister Sergey Ivanov justified Putin's accusations against the United States after the security conference in Munich.

Ivanov said that Putin's remarks were simply "a reminder" of the fact that the United States is breaking its promises it made a decade ago that NATO would not move any closer to Russian borders.

The original source of this article is Xinhua  
Copyright © [Global Research](#), Xinhua, 2007

---

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

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Global Research](#)

**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)