

No. 6964

**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA, AFGHANISTAN, AUSTRALIA, etc.**

**Treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in
outer space and under water. Signed at Moscow, on
5 August 1963**

Official texts: English and Russian.

*Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America on
15 October 1963.*

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES, ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD, ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE,
AFGHANISTAN, AUSTRALIE, etc.**

**Traité interdisant les essais d'armes nucléaires dans l'at-
mosphère, dans l'espace extra-atmosphérique et sous
l'eau. Signé à Moscou, le 5 août 1963**

Textes officiels anglais et russe.

*Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques, le Royaume-Uni de
Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord et les États-Unis d'Amérique le
15 octobre 1963.*

No. 6964. TREATY¹ BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS
IN THE ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER
WATER. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, ON 5 AUGUST 1963

The Governments of the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, hereinafter referred to as the "Original Parties",

Proclaiming as their principal aim the speediest possible achievement of an agreement on general and complete disarmament under strict international control in accordance with the objectives of the United Nations which would put an end to the armaments race and eliminate the incentive to the production and testing of all kinds of weapons, including nuclear weapons,

Seeking to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time, determined to continue negotiations to this end, and desiring to put an end to the contamination of man's environment by radioactive substances,

Have agreed as follows :

Article I

1. Each of the Parties to this Treaty undertakes to prohibit, to prevent, and not to carry out any nuclear weapon test explosion, or any other nuclear explosion, at any place under its jurisdiction or control :

(a) in the atmosphere; beyond its limits, including outer space; or under water, including territorial waters or high seas; or

(b) in any other environment if such explosion causes radioactive debris to be present outside the territorial limits of the State under whose jurisdiction or control such explosion is conducted. It is understood in this connection that the provisions of this subparagraph are without prejudice to the conclusion of a treaty resulting in the permanent banning of all nuclear test explosions,

¹ The Treaty came into force on 10 October 1963, the date of deposit of the instruments of ratification by the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America with each of the three depositary Governments, in accordance with paragraph 3 of article III.

Ratifications and accession (a)

Instruments were deposited with the Government of the United States of America by the Governments of the following States on the dates indicated :

New Zealand	10 October 1963
South Africa	10 October 1963 (a)
Poland	14 October 1963

Certified statement was registered by the United States of America on 22 October 1963.

including all such explosions underground, the conclusion of which, as the Parties have stated in the Preamble to this Treaty, they seek to achieve.

2. Each of the Parties to this Treaty undertakes furthermore to refrain from causing, encouraging, or in any way participating in, the carrying out of any nuclear weapon test explosion, or any other nuclear explosion, anywhere which would take place in any of the environments described, or have the effect referred to, in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article II

1. Any Party may propose amendments to this Treaty. The text of any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Depositary Governments which shall circulate it to all Parties to this Treaty. Thereafter, if requested to do so by one-third or more of the Parties, the Depositary Governments shall convene a conference, to which they shall invite all the Parties, to consider such amendment.

2. Any amendment to this Treaty must be approved by a majority of the votes of all the Parties to this Treaty, including the votes of all of the Original Parties. The amendment shall enter into force for all Parties upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by a majority of all the Parties, including the instruments of ratification of all of the Original Parties.

Article III

1. This Treaty shall be open to all States for signature. Any State which does not sign this Treaty before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article may accede to it at any time.

2. This Treaty shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification and instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Governments of the Original Parties—the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—which are hereby designated the Depositary Governments.

3. This Treaty shall enter into force after its ratification by all the Original Parties and the deposit of their instruments of ratification.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Treaty, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The Depositary Governments shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification of and accession to this Treaty, the date of its entry into force, and the date of receipt of any requests for conferences or other notices.

6. This Treaty shall be registered by the Depositary Governments pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article IV

This Treaty shall be of unlimited duration.

Each Party shall in exercising its national sovereignty have the right to withdraw from the Treaty if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject matter of this Treaty, have jeopardized the supreme interests of its country. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to all other Parties to the Treaty three months in advance.

Article V

This Treaty, of which the English and Russian texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Depositary Governments. Duly certified copies of this Treaty shall be transmitted by the Depositary Governments to the Governments of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed this Treaty.

DONE in triplicate at the city of Moscow the fifth day of August, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-three.

For the Government
of the United States
of America :

Dean RUSK

For the Government
of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland :

HOME

For the Government
of the Union of
Soviet Socialist
Republics :

A. ГРОМБИКО

*List of signatures affixed on the original of the Treaty deposited with the Government
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*

За Правительство Республики Индии:

For the Government of the Republic of India :

T. H. KAUL

8 августа 1963 года

8 August 1963

За Правительство Народной Республики Болгарии:

For the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria :

Иван БАШЕВ

8 августа 1963 года

8 August 1963

За Правительство Мексиканских Соединенных Штатов:

For the Government of the United States of Mexico :

LUCIO

8 августа 1963 года

8 August 1963

За Правительство Республики Гана:

For the Government of the Republic of Ghana :

ELLIOTT

8 августа 1963 года

8 August 1963

За Правительство Венгерской Народной Республики:

For the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic :

PÉTER

8 августа 1963 года

8 August 1963

За Правительство Германской Демократической Республики:

For the Government of the German Democratic Republic :

Lothar BOLZ

8 августа 1963 года

8 August 1963