

No. 29637

**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
and
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear weapon tests
(with protocol dated at Washington on 1 June 1990).
Signed at Moscow on 3 July 1974**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement amending the
Protocol of 1 June 1990 to the above-mentioned Treaty.
Moscow, 31 December 1992 and 2 February 1993**

Authentic texts: Russian and English.

Registered by the Russian Federation on 16 March 1993.

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES
SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES
et
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE**

**Traité relatif à la limitation des essais souterrains d'armes
nucléaires (avec protocole en date à Washington du
1^{er} juin 1990). Signé à Moscou le 3 juillet 1974**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord modifiant le Proto-
cole du 1^{er} juin 1990 au Traité susmentionné. Moscou,
31 décembre 1992 et 2 février 1993**

Textes authentiques : russe et anglais.

Enregistrés par la Fédération de Russie le 16 mars 1993.

TREATY¹ BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON THE LIMITATION OF UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Declaring their intention to achieve at the earliest possible date the cessation of the nuclear arms race and to take effective measures toward reductions in strategic arms, nuclear disarmament, and general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling the determination expressed by the Parties to the 1963 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water² in its Preamble to seek to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time, and to continue negotiations to this end,

Noting that the adoption of measures for the further limitation of underground nuclear weapon tests would contribute to the achievement of these objectives and would meet the interests of strengthening peace and the further relaxation of international tension,

Reaffirming their adherence to the objectives and principles of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water and of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,³

Have agreed as follows:

¹ Came into force on 11 December 1990 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Houston, in accordance with article IV.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 480, p. 43.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 729, p. 161.

ARTICLE I

1. Each Party undertakes to prohibit, to prevent, and not to carry out any underground nuclear weapon test having a yield exceeding 150 kilotons at any place under its jurisdiction or control, beginning March 31, 1976.

2. Each Party shall limit the number of its underground nuclear weapon tests to a minimum.

3. The Parties shall continue their negotiations with a view toward achieving a solution to the problem of the cessation of all underground nuclear weapon tests.

ARTICLE II

1. For the purpose of providing assurance of compliance with the provisions of this Treaty, each Party shall use national technical means of verification at its disposal in a manner consistent with the generally recognized principles of international law.

2. Each Party undertakes not to interfere with the national technical means of verification of the other Party operating in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. To promote the objectives and implementation of the provisions of this Treaty the Parties shall, as necessary, consult with each other, make inquiries and furnish information in response to such inquiries.

ARTICLE III

The provisions of this Treaty do not extend to underground nuclear explosions carried out by the Parties for peaceful purposes. Underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes shall be governed by an agreement which is to be negotiated and concluded by the Parties at the earliest possible time.

ARTICLE IV

This Treaty shall be subject to ratification in accordance with the constitutional procedures of each Party. This Treaty shall enter into force on the day of the exchange of instruments of ratification.

ARTICLE V

1. This Treaty shall remain in force for a period of five years. Unless replaced earlier by an agreement in implementation of the objectives specified in paragraph 3 of Article I of this Treaty, it shall be extended for successive five-year periods unless either Party notifies the other of its termination no later than six months prior to the expiration of the Treaty. Before the expiration of this period the Parties may, as necessary, hold consultations to consider the situation relevant to the substance of this Treaty and to introduce possible amendments to the text of the Treaty.

2. Each Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Treaty if it decides that extraordinary events related to the subject matter of this Treaty have jeopardized its supreme interests. It shall give notice of its decision to the other Party six months prior to withdrawal from this Treaty. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events the notifying Party regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

3. This Treaty shall be registered pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

DONE at Moscow on July 3, 1974, in duplicate, in the Russian and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics:
[Signed — Signé]¹
General Secretary
of the Central Committee of the CPSU

For the United States
of America:
[Signed — Signé]²
The President
of the United States
of America

¹ Signed by L. Brezhnev — Signé par L. Brejnev.

² Signed by R. Nixon — Signé par R. Nixon.