

**THE JOINT VERIFICATION EXPERIMENTS  
AS A GLOBAL NON-PROLIFERATION EXERCISE**

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**СОВМЕСТНЫЕ ЭКСПЕРИМЕНТЫ ПО КОНТРОЛЮ КАК ПРОФИЛАКТИКА  
ГЛОБАЛЬНОГО НЕРАСПРОСТРАНЕНИЯ ЯДЕРНОГО ОРУЖИЯ**

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This conference commemorates the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the second of two Joint Verification Experiments conducted by the Soviet Union and the United States. These two experiments, one at the Nevada Test Site in the United States, and the second here at the Semipalatinsk Test Site were designed to test the verification of a nuclear testing treaty limiting the size of underground explosions to 150 kilotons. Today such a treaty seems an incredible anachronism. By building trust and technical respect between the weapons scientists of the two most powerful adversaries, the JVE's had the unanticipated result of initiating a suite of cooperative projects and programs aimed at reducing the Cold War threats and preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Now, ten years later, this site of the Soviet test is in an independent country of Kazakhstan. The Soviet Union is dissolved. The Cold War is over. Among the five nuclear weapon states there have been no nuclear tests for some years, and most states of the world are signatories of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. There are hundreds of exchange visits of nuclear weapons scientists each year between the United States and the Republics that made up the Soviet Union. And we have seen hundreds of millions of dollars spent to reduce the threat to each other, that we lived under for so many years, and to reduce the threats posed by proliferation of nuclear weapons. However, the recent tests in South Asia, in countries not 1000 miles from the border of Kazakhstan, show us that proliferation remains a concern.

From the small beginnings of groups of Soviet and American scientists trying to prove measurement techniques in the Nevada and Semipalatinsk Test Sites have grown cooperations of major importance to the peace and stability of the world.

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