

*Секция «Актуальные проблемы государственного и муниципального управления на современном этапе»*

**CONTEMPORARY THREATS TO HUMANITY THAT DEMANDS RESET IN UNITED STATES-RUSSIA RELATIONS**

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Relations between the United States and Russia were formally established in 1809. Although relations broke down due to internal and external happenings, on December 25, 1991, the United States recognized the Russian Federation as the successor to the Soviet Union and established diplomatic relations on December 31, 1991. The essence of establishing diplomatic relations between countries is typically to ensure that affairs between them are conducted peacefully (Cooper, A. F., Heine, J., & Thakur, R. 2013). These affairs may range from the promotion of political, economic, cultural, or scientific relations.

The United States and Russia have partnered on many occasions to bring relief and support to many countries facing abject poverty and conflicts. The United States-Soviet Alliance of 1941–1945 [1] was a great alliance that secured the defeat of the Nazi Germany. The two countries have been able to use their mutual interest in the reduction of nuclear stockpiles and in February 2021, the two countries extended a crucial nuclear arms control treaty until 2026 [2]. Also, their cooperation has foiled many terrorist attacks and the growth of terrorist groups.

While these partnerships have led to many successful outcomes, in contemporary times their relations have had a nosedive and continue unabated.

Issues such as the accusation of Russia's interference in the 2016 United States presidential elections; the use of military force in Ukraine and the annexation of Crimea; the deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe; the NATO

expansion controversy, the Skripals [3] dilemma and the suspension of the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) by both parties has further widened future relations. These issues provide the basis to reflect on the ability of the world to tackle the rising and changing phase of global threats. In this regard, the study sets as its objectives an examination of the threats. The argument in this study is that these threats would be tackled much better if there is an improved relation between the United States and Russia. Realizing the successes, they have achieved in previous partnerships.

Before delving into these issues, it is instructive to examine some of the areas that their cooperation has brought about success and stability to the international community. The peculiar characteristics of such relations and how this form of partnership may help in tackling the rising level of global challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The proliferation of nuclear weapons and the non-peaceful use of it could lead to a nuclear war that would bring pain and devastation to mankind. The treaty of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons [4] indicates states responsibility to prevent the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons and co-operate in facilitating the application of International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on peaceful nuclear activities. Nonetheless, some countries have been reported to be developing nuclear weapons without the knowledge of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The discreteness of the act and the fear that such countries may use it for non-peaceful purposes has caused fear and panic among several actors in the international community.

The international community has done an excellent job in bringing acts such as these to light and control, but in times of difficulty, it relies on the two major nuclear weapon states, the Russian Federation and the United States. Each having an estimated global nuclear warhead inventory of 6375 and 5800 respectively. With the world's nuclear armed total of nearly 13,500 [5]. Examples of such difficult moments where the two countries cooperated effectively to control the proliferation of nuclear weapons was the case of Iran and North Korea. On Iran,

they cooperated on signing the UNSCR 1929 [6] at its 633th meeting on 9, June 2010, which placed a comprehensive sanction against Iran. On North Korea, they jointly supported the UNSCR Resolution 1874 [7] in expressing the gravest concern at the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea ("the DPRK") on 25 May 2009 (local time) in violation of resolution 1718 (2006).

Also, their cooperation in signing the Plutonium Disposition Agreement, which committed both countries to dispose of sixty-eight metric tons of weapons grade plutonium and the recent ratification of the new start treaty agreement in 2021. These successes in nuclear cooperation have not only brought stability in the regions of concern, but to the whole international community.

Looking at the enormous benefits that come with good relations between the United States and Russia, most incoming presidents try to reset relations [8]. Cardinal among them is the Obama reset policy towards Russia (McFaul 2018). This reset policy led to a multilateral cooperation that concluded with the signing of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran. This pact was able to stabilize the region until recent disagreements. This paper therefore postulates the need for a reset in relations to better tackle the following rising threats. And that failure and or departure from repairing relations may not only impact the two countries, but global security and stability.

The four economies that lead in total carbon dioxide emissions are China, USA, India and Russia. The withdrawal of the US by Donald Trump from the Paris Climate Accord impacted the mutual strength of the accord. Member countries were more critical on the extent to which member countries reciprocate others' promises and contributions (Sælen, 2020). This work argues that the commitment of Russia and the United States to the accord would influence the decision of member countries and vice versa. Recognizing the fall in relations between the United States and China and the rise in mutual understanding and relationship between Russia and China, Russia could use this advantage to seek China's commitment towards the accord. Ultimately, recognizing the technological know-

how and space exploration of both countries, their partnership would enhance satellite monitoring of emissions and removal of greenhouse gases. This unique partnership is needed urgently to address the increasing climate challenge.

The current status of United States-Russia relations is at its lowest point since the end of the Cold War, but that does not mean the relationship must remain adversarial. Cooperation should be pursued where possible for the benefit of world security and to reduce the risk that prolonged hostility devolves into an armed war that helps no one.

The relationship between the United States and Russia, as the world's two most powerful nuclear powers, is especially important for global security. While the United States and Russia frequently disagree on crucial topics that affect their national interests, the inherent potential of armed confrontation between the world's two most powerful nuclear powers necessitates that both countries endeavor to lessen this risk.

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## **СОВЕРШЕНСТВОВАНИЕ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОГО УПРАВЛЕНИЯ ОХРАНОЙ ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЫ (НА ПРИМЕРЕ САМАРСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ)**

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Условия современности, а именно условия Всемирной пандемии заставили нас задуматься о том, откуда появился вирус, может быть это ответ окружающей среды человечеству на тысячелетние вмешательства в естественность? Российская Федерация самая большая по площади страна. Владея огромной площадью и входя в десятку стран по численности населения, ее экономическое развитие и научно-технический уровень остаются на довольно невысоком уровне. На данном этапе Всемирной