

No. 13448

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

**Agreement relating to basic principles of negotiations on the  
further limitation of strategic offensive arms. Signed at  
Washington on 21 June 1973**

*Authentic texts: English and Russian.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 2 August 1974.*

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

**Accord relatif aux principes de base pour les négociations  
tendant à établir de nouvelles limitations en matière  
d'armes offensives stratégiques. Signé à Washington le  
21 juin 1973**

*Textes authentiques: anglais et russe.*

*Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 2 août 1974.*

## BASIC PRINCIPLES<sup>1</sup> OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE FURTHER LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS

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The President of the United States of America, Richard Nixon, and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, L. I. Brezhnev,

Having thoroughly considered the question of the further limitation of strategic arms, and the progress already achieved in the current negotiations,

Reaffirming their conviction that the earliest adoption of further limitations of strategic arms would be a major contribution in reducing the danger of an outbreak of nuclear war and in strengthening international peace and security,

Have agreed as follows:

*First.* The two Sides will continue active negotiations in order to work out a permanent agreement on more complete measures on the limitation of strategic offensive arms, as well as their subsequent reduction, proceeding from the Basic Principles of Relations between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed in Moscow on May 29, 1972, and from the Interim Agreement between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on May 26, 1972,<sup>2</sup> on certain measures with respect to the limitation of strategic offensive arms.

Over the course of the next year the two Sides will make serious efforts to work out the provisions of the permanent agreement on more complete measures on the limitation of strategic offensive arms with the objective of signing it in 1974.

*Second.* New agreements on the limitation of strategic offensive armaments will be based on the principles of the American-Soviet documents adopted in Moscow in May 1972 and the agreements reached in Washington in June 1973; and in particular, both Sides will be guided by the recognition of each other's equal security interests and by the recognition that efforts to obtain unilateral advantage, directly or indirectly, would be inconsistent with the strengthening of peaceful relations between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

*Third.* The limitations placed on strategic offensive weapons can apply both to their quantitative aspects as well as to their qualitative improvement.

*Fourth.* Limitations on strategic offensive arms must be subject to adequate verification by national technical means.

*Fifth.* The modernization and replacement of strategic offensive arms would be permitted under conditions which will be formulated in the agreements to be concluded.

*Sixth.* Pending the completion of a permanent agreement on more complete measures of strategic offensive arms limitation, both Sides are prepared to reach agreements on separate measures to supplement the existing Interim Agreement of May 26, 1972.

*Seventh.* Each Side will continue to take necessary organizational and technical measures for preventing accidental or unauthorized use of nuclear weapons under its

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 21 June 1973 by signature.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 3 of this volume.

control in accordance with the Agreement of September 30, 1971,<sup>1</sup> between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Washington, June 21, 1973.

For the United States  
of America:

RICHARD NIXON

(President  
of the United States of America)

For the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics:

ЛЕОНИД БРЕЖНЕВ<sup>2</sup>

(General Secretary  
of the Central Committee, CPSU)

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 807, p. 57.

<sup>2</sup> L. Brezhnev.