

PASCC

Research in Progress

FY19

A TRACK II DIALOGUE ON US-RUSSIAN STRATEGIC FUTURES

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ABSTRACT:

CSIS proposes to convene Russian and American Security experts for a series of discussions and exercises to improve mutual awareness of how each side responds in crisis scenarios, develop perspectives for U.S.-Russian strategic stability in the face of an evolving arms control environment, and maintain a forum to share positions and interests. In an atmosphere of bilateral tension, each side may send signals the other does not adequately understand. This will be increasingly dangerous as the two countries develop new weapons and technologies that are not bound by formal agreements and verification. By building on an existing dialogue convened to explore challenges and opportunities in the strategic relationship, we hope to support the capacity of participating experts to provide useful advice to their capitals to limit misunderstanding and prevent inadvertent escalation.

This dialogue will continue and develop work conducted under a previous PASCC-funded dialogue (A Track II Dialogue on U.S.-Russian Crisis Stability) which convened U.S. and Russian experts to explore concepts of crisis stability and identify recommendations and ways forward to lengthen decision-making timelines in a crisis.

Results expected from this dialogue include:

- A better understanding by both Russians and Americans of one another's policies and likely sources of misunderstanding and mixed signals;
- A strengthened community of U.S. and Russian experts able to work collaboratively to discuss official and unofficial positions and approaches;
- Recommendations for confidence and security building measures and approaches to decrease risk;
- Plans of action to promote recommendations developed by the group in Moscow, Washington, other capitals, and among the broader expert community.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information please contact INSS@usafa.edu.