



# New START Treaty

## Why in News?

Recently, Russia suspended United States of America's on-site inspections under [New START Treaty](#) with Washington due to Western sanctions and coronavirus infections.

## What is New START Treaty?

- **New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty)** was the last remaining arms reduction pact between the former Cold War rivals and caps to 1,550 the number of nuclear warheads that can be deployed by **Russia and United States of America**.
- It entered into force on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2011.
- It continues the bipartisan process of verifiably reducing U.S. and Russian strategic nuclear arsenals by limiting both sides to 700 strategic launchers and 1,550 operational warheads.
- Its duration was **for ten years** that is till 2021, but it was extended by five more years till 2026.

## What are the various Treaties signed Between USA & Russia?

- **Strategic Arms Limitation Talks-1(SALT):**
  - It began in 1969, Under the Interim Agreement, **both sides pledged not to construct new Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)** silos, not to increase the size of existing ICBM silos significantly, and capped the number of **Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM)** launch tubes and SLBM-carrying submarines.
- **Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty-1 (START):**
  - Signed in 1991, the agreement required the destruction of excess delivery vehicles which was verified using an intrusive verification regime that involved on-site inspections, the regular exchange of information (including telemetry), and the use of national technical means (i.e., satellites).
- **Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty-2:**
  - Signed in 1993, called for reducing deployed strategic arsenals to 3,000-3,500 warheads and banned the deployment of destabilizing multiple-warhead land-based missiles.
- **Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT):**
  - Signed in 2004, under which the United States and Russia reduced their strategic arsenals to 1,700-2,200 warheads each.
- **Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START):**
  - Signed in 2010, **a legally binding, verifiable agreement that limits each side to 1,550 strategic nuclear warheads deployed on 700 strategic delivery systems** (ICBMs, SLBMs, and heavy bombers) and limits deployed and nondeployed launchers to 800.

## Why Russia Suspended the Inspection?

- It is difficult for Russia to carry out inspections on American soil due to Western sanctions including the closure of air space for Russian planes and visa restrictions.
- It also pointed to a new spike in coronavirus cases in the United States.

[Source: HT](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/new-start-treaty-2>

