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THE SOURCE ON NONPROLIFERATION AND GLOBAL SECURITY

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- 6 Getting the Most Out of New START Before It Expires**

By Rose Gottemoeller

With two months left before the treaty expires, a quick-fix does not require negotiations, just a commitment by Russia and the United States to continue abiding by the New START limits.

- 9 Strengthening UNSCR 1540: Pathways for Nonproliferation and Balanced Development**

By Zahir Kazmi

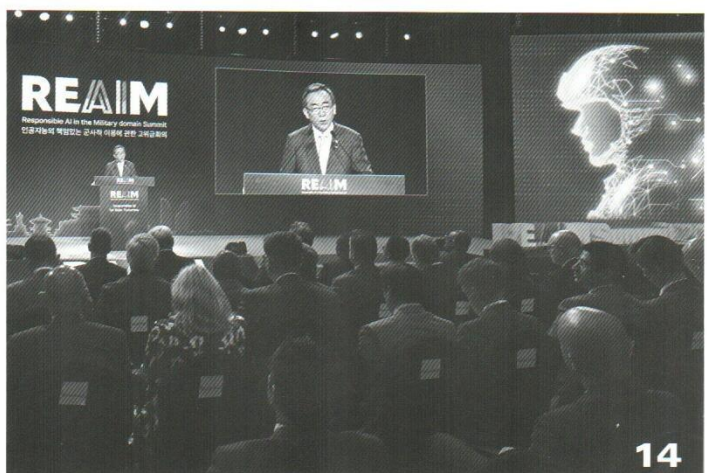
UN Security Council friction and a renewed global push for nuclear power heighten the value of the resolution, which obligates states to combat WMD proliferation.

New Voices

- 14 Solving the AI-Induced Transparency Paradox in Nuclear Command and Control**

By José Ignacio Salamanca Friedlaender

Governments pledge human control and rigorous oversight, but such assurances cannot be demonstrated while AI-nuclear systems remain fully classified.



Cover photo: Russia launches a Yars intercontinental ballistic missile at the Kura test site in Eastern Russia in February 2022. (Photo by Russian Ministry of Defense via Reuters Connect)

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17 U.S., Saudi Arabia Announce Nuclear Cooperation

Despite the joint declaration, key details about the terms of the final deal, including whether Saudi Arabia will be permitted to enrich uranium, remain unclear.

18 North Korea Appears To Reject Trump's Offer For Talks

U.S. President Donald Trump said he hoped to meet with North Korea's leader in the "not-too-distant future," but a senior North Korean official said the Trump administration should not expect its pressure to yield results.

19 U.S. Supports South Korean Enrichment, Reprocessing

But South Korea's acquisition of those capabilities would also give the country the ability to produce fissile material for nuclear weapons, raising the risk of proliferation.

21 Pentagon, Congress Push Military Acquisition Changes

The U.S. Defense Department is reforming how it acquires weapons systems by loosening restrictions on defense contractors and emphasizing speed over other requirements, promising a transformational improvement to a widely criticized status quo.

23 IAEA Passes Resolution On Iran

The International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors passed a resolution urging Iran to fully implement safeguards on its nuclear program and provide information about its stockpile of enriched uranium.

24 Drone Incursions in Belgium Spark Probes, NATO-EU Response

Belgium is conducting multiple criminal investigations after 17 recent unexplained drone sightings over its airports, nuclear power plants, and military sites. NATO countries fear such flights could be testing allied defenses.

25 U.S., Russia Oppose UN Resolutions on Military Use of AI

Members of the UN General Assembly's First Committee voted overwhelmingly to approve two resolutions calling for greater international scrutiny of the risks posed by the military use of AI, with Russia and the United States in notable opposition.

26 U.S. Weapons Complex Safety Board at Risk

The U.S. Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board will continue its work at limited capacity despite the loss of a quorum earlier this year after a board member stepped down

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1100 H Street, NW, Suite 520
Washington, DC 20005

PHONE: 202-463-8270

FAX: 202-463-8273

E-MAIL
act@armscontrol.org

WEBSITE
www.armscontrol.org

Publisher and Executive Director
Daryl G. Kimball

Editor
Carol Giacomo

**Design and
Production Editor**
Allen Harris

**Director for
Nonproliferation Policy**
Kelsey Davenport

Senior Policy Analyst
Xiaodon Liang

Chief Operating Officer
Kathy Crandall
Robinson

Finance Officer
Merle Newkirk

**Program and
Development Manager**
Libby Flatoff

**Website and
Communications
Manager**
Ryan Rowe

**Visiting
Senior Fellow**
Michael T. Klare

**Policy and
Communications
Manager, Physicists
Coalition for Nuclear
Threat Reduction**
Shaghayegh Chris
Rostampour

Scoville Fellow
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Senior Advisor
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Intern
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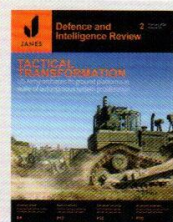
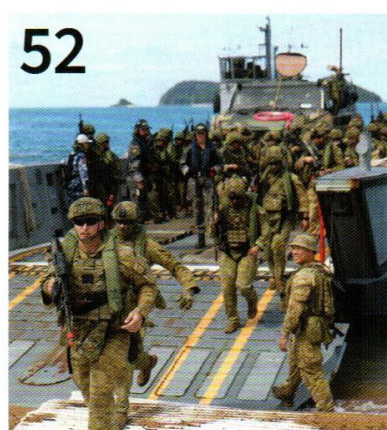
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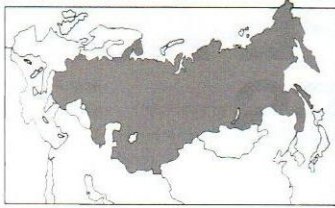
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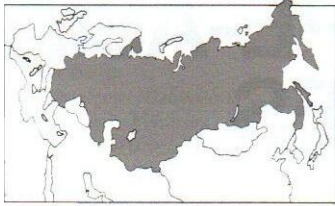
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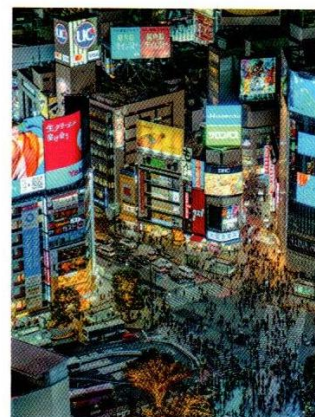
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Website: www.nziaa.org.nz/
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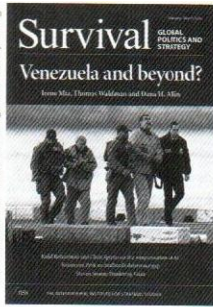
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* Deniable and scalable coercion encourages the use of de-escalatory off-ramps,



On the cover

Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores, are escorted by US federal agents to a courthouse in New York City on 5 January 2026 after being captured by US forces in Caracas on 3 January.

On the web

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but if they are used too often, the coercer may conclude that limited disruption is enough to shape the target's behaviour.

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Any conflict threatening Russia's bastion defence would likely place Norway's Svalbard archipelago under pressure from the early stages of hostilities.
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5	Asia-Pacific Review	http://www.informaworld.com
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23	Identities	http://www.informaworld.com
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MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES

1 Development Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg,

Delhi Cantt. New Delhi-110 010

Telephone: (91-11) 26717983 Fax: (91-11) 26146833, 26154191

E-mail: idsa@vsnl.com Website: www.idsa.in