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# Nuclear Nonproliferation and Arms Control Implications of the Future China-Russia Strategic Relationship

Center on Contemporary Conflict

Monterey, California. Naval Postgraduate School



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## **Nuclear Nonproliferation and Arms Control Implications of the Future China-Russia Strategic Relationship**

Performer: Hudson Institute

Principal Investigator: Richard Weitz

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### **Objective:**

Excluding the United States, Russia and China are the two most powerful militaries in the world. China is undertaking a comprehensive military modernization program and Russia still has approximately the same nuclear weapons capacity as the United States. While bilateral relations between Russia and China are strong in many areas, trilateral cooperation is inadequate in strategic nuclear arms control, operational arms control, and averting regional nuclear weapons proliferation.

The Hudson Institute will focus on strategic offensive forces (intercontinental and short range), strategic defense (national and regional), and strategic stability issues that can contribute to further nuclear proliferation. Increased understanding of the trilateral relationship between the world's three most important nuclear powers will shed key insight on the countries' strategic positions.

### **Approach:**

A literature review and targeted interviews with experts will focus on past Russian and Chinese strategic arms control policies and isolate when and why the two countries collaborated or differed on various issues. The analysis will identify current and possible future Russian and Chinese strategic arms control issues, seeking to identify areas of trilateral cooperation and divergence.