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# TacNukes News No. 3

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For more information on the project, please visit our website at <http://tacticalnuclearweapons.ifsh.de>

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### 1. New Publication

This Nuclear Policy Paper pictures the debate over the future of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe within a broad context of political and military-technological issues. Exploring problems in the NATO-Russia "correlation of forces" it points out that chances of cooperation may be found far from classical arms control solutions.

Edmond E. Seay III (January 2013) [Theatre Nuclear Weapons and the next round of bilateral New START Treaty follow-on talks](#) (Nuclear Policy Paper No. 12) [http://tacticalnuclearweapons.ifsh.de/pdf/Nuclear\\_Policy\\_Paper\\_No12.pdf](http://tacticalnuclearweapons.ifsh.de/pdf/Nuclear_Policy_Paper_No12.pdf)

### 2. Russian TNW stockpiles - new numbers

Do we know how many non-strategic warheads Russia actually has? The findings of this paper challenge the assumption that Russia holds a large supremacy in non-strategic warheads: if the US and NATO wish to negotiate non-strategic nuclear reductions with Russia, this paper suggests that they will need to acknowledge the diverse elements and geographically dispersed tasks of Russia's stockpile, and find a new way of prompting Russia to reassess its security needs.

Igor Sutyagin (November 2012) [Atomic Accounting A New Estimate of Russia's Non-Strategic Nuclear Forces](http://www.rusi.org/downloads/assets/1211_OP_Atomic_Accounting_Web_updated.pdf) (RUSI Occasional Paper) [http://www.rusi.org/downloads/assets/1211\\_OP\\_Atomic\\_Accounting\\_Web\\_updated.pdf](http://www.rusi.org/downloads/assets/1211_OP_Atomic_Accounting_Web_updated.pdf)

Unfortunately, the outlook that Russia and NATO will reach an accord anytime soon to reduce their respective stocks of deployed short-range nuclear weapons is not very bright. For more reading on that see:

Chris Schneidmiller (January 2013) [Experts: Outlook Bleak for Near-Term NATO-Russia Tactical Nuke Deal](http://www.nti.rsvp1.com/gsn/article/expert-outlook-bleak-near-term-nato-russia-tactical-nuke-deal/?mgh=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nti.org&mgf=1) (Global Security Newswire) <http://www.nti.rsvp1.com/gsn/article/expert-outlook-bleak-near-term-nato-russia-tactical-nuke-deal/?mgh=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nti.org&mgf=1>

### **3. Central European views on TNW**

Using the DDPR as the point of departure, the PISM report is meant to provide an analytical glimpse into the future—the next decade of the functioning of NATO's deterrence posture, as seen from Central Europe. It concentrates on the regional perceptions of the security environment and threats, the assessments of the credibility of NATO's policy, and the way forward. Taking into account the perspective of a turbulent decade in which the viability of NATO's defence and deterrence posture will be subjected to external and internal pressures, understanding the concerns and viewpoints of Central Europeans would help in charting the right course for the Alliance.

Łukasz Kulesa (December 2012) [The Future of NATO's Deterrence and Defence Posture Views from Central Europe](http://www.pism.pl/publications/reports/PISM-Report-The-Future-of-NATO-s-Deterrence-and-Defence-Posture-Views-from-Central-Europe) (PISM Report) <http://www.pism.pl/publications/reports/PISM-Report-The-Future-of-NATO-s-Deterrence-and-Defence-Posture-Views-from-Central-Europe>

Another view on the argumentation line of CEEs in the debate over NATO nuclear extended deterrence has been gathered and published as a second in the series paper by the RUSI-ELN partnership programme. For more reading see:

Shatabhisha Shetty, Ian Kearns, Simon Lunn (January 2013) [The Baltic States, NATO and Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons in Europe](http://www.europeanleadershipnetwork.org/medialibrary/2013/01/07/a92db4c7/The%20Baltic%20States%20NATO%20and%20NSNW.pdf) (ELN Occasional Paper) <http://www.europeanleadershipnetwork.org/medialibrary/2013/01/07/a92db4c7/The%20Baltic%20States%20NATO%20and%20NSNW.pdf>

In his second term, U.S. President Barack Obama is likely to continue the implementation of his ambitious arms control agenda. The role of Europeans does not have to be limited to merely supporting U.S. actions. They can provide their ideas and also take a leadership role in some areas.

Jacek Durkalec, Łukasz Kulesa (January 2013) [Arms Control During Obama's Second Term: What May the U.S. Want and How Can Europeans Contribute?](http://www.pism.pl/Publications/PISM-Strategic-Files/PISM-Strategic-File-no-28) (PISM Strategic Files No. 28) <http://www.pism.pl/Publications/PISM-Strategic-Files/PISM-Strategic-File-no-28>

### **4. US boots on the ground in Poland**

A group of up to 10 American troops became the first ever full-time US 'boots on the ground' in Poland. Washington already rotates a Patriot missile battery through Poland. A statement issued by the Russian defence ministry said Moscow would "take into account the American-Polish plans and carry out its own armed forces development projects" adding it "believed that different decisions would be better in the interest of European security".

AFP (November 2012) [US puts first full-time 'boots on ground' in Poland](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5i-MsDXdmdFrgOkFGFShQPyOPG6RQ?docId=CNG.220f3eec0ddffaa706fedfc8d740cee1.4d1) (AFP on GoogleNews) <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5i-MsDXdmdFrgOkFGFShQPyOPG6RQ?docId=CNG.220f3eec0ddffaa706fedfc8d740cee1.4d1>

Spangdahlem Air Base (November 2012) [Detachment 1, 52nd Operations Group](http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=20103) (Official Website of the Spangdahlem Air Base) <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=20103>

US Department of State (June 2011) [Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Poland on Cooperation of the Air Forces of the United States of America and the Republic of Poland, on the Territory of the Republic of Poland](http://photos.state.gov/libraries/poland/788/pdfs/AvDet.pdf) (US Department of State website) <http://photos.state.gov/libraries/poland/788/pdfs/AvDet.pdf>

Meanwhile, U.S. Ambassador Stephen Mull, who recently took up his post in Warsaw confirmed that "President Obama is absolutely determined to form a missile shield base in Redzikowo in 2018". At this moment the United States are sending scientist to the Redzikowo Base to survey the buildings on the base in preparation for the 2018 Aegis Ashore Ballistic Missile Defense facility.

Leszkowicz Dagmara (November 2012) [U.S. stations first permanent military unit in Poland](http://news.yahoo.com/u-stations-first-permanent-military-unit-poland-142255471.html) (Reuters) <http://news.yahoo.com/u-stations-first-permanent-military-unit-poland-142255471.html>

U.S. Embassy Warsaw (November 2012) [US Missile Defense Agency Engineers to Visit Redzikowo, 28-29 November](http://poland.usembassy.gov/nov.html) (U.S. Embassy Warsaw Press Release) <http://poland.usembassy.gov/nov.html>

## **5. Debate on Nuclear Weapons in Germany intensifies**

On 20 December, the German government replied to questions of the Green Party in the Bundestag on a range of arms control and disarmament issues. German government response to Green Party Parliamentary questions On the B61-12 the government repeats its position that the LEP is a national U.S. programme on which no final decision has been taken. The government states that the US has assured allies in the NPR that the LEP does not presume the results of future decisions within NATO about the requirements of nuclear deterrence and nuclear sharing. The government states that NATO's intention to propose confidence and transparency measures on TNW to Russia can support and complement efforts to include TNW in a future US-Russian arms control accord. It concedes that discussions on the mandate of the new arms control committee are continuing and pledges that it will continue to implement the coalition agreement and work towards withdrawal of TNW from Germany.

[Bundestag printed paper No. 17/11956](http://dipbt.bundestag.de/dip21/btd/17/119/1711956.pdf) (December 2012) <http://dipbt.bundestag.de/dip21/btd/17/119/1711956.pdf> (in German)

This report in the German weekly Die Zeit explores why German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle failed to achieve his goal of withdrawal US tactical nuclear weapons from Germany and analyses the implications of a possible modernization of B61 bombs as well as the dual-capable aircraft.

Jochen Bittner (November 2012) [Atombomben, ja bitte!](http://www.zeit.de/2012/47/USA-Atomwaffen-Modernisierung-Deutschland) (Die ZEIT) <http://www.zeit.de/2012/47/USA-Atomwaffen-Modernisierung-Deutschland> (in German)

More analysis on B61-12 development and implications for arms control and European security:

Hans Kristensen (November 2012) [B61-12: Contract Signed for Improving Precision of Nuclear Bomb](http://www.fas.org/blog/ssp/2012/11/b61-12contract.php) (FAS Strategic Security Blog) <http://www.fas.org/blog/ssp/2012/11/b61-12contract.php>

Julio Godoy (November 2012) [NATO pushing Europe into New Nuclear Arms Race](http://www.indepthnews.info/index.php/global-issues/1281-nato-pushing-europe-into-new-nuclear-arms-race) (IDN) <http://www.indepthnews.info/index.php/global-issues/1281-nato-pushing-europe-into-new-nuclear-arms-race>

(November 2012) [The U.S. Is About To Drop \\$10 Billion Retrofitting Its Nukes](http://blogs.smithsonianmag.com/smartnews/2012/11/the-u-s-is-about-to-drop-10-billion-retrofitting-its-nukes/) (Smithsonian.com) <http://blogs.smithsonianmag.com/smartnews/2012/11/the-u-s-is-about-to-drop-10-billion-retrofitting-its-nukes/>

## 6. Last minute news from NATO

On the stalemate on the mandate for a new arms control committee in NATO, read:

Oliver Meier (January 2013) [NATO Divided Over Arms Control Panel](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013_01-02/NATO-Divided-Over-Arms-Control-Panel) (Arms Control Today) [https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013\\_01-02/NATO-Divided-Over-Arms-Control-Panel](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013_01-02/NATO-Divided-Over-Arms-Control-Panel)

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