



Dear Friends,

As we approach one of the most critical elections in our history, this is no time for complacency.

For perspective, please join us for a moment at the top of the world, the edge of the polar ice caps, where I had the privilege to spend time with Eskimo Elder Angaagngaq Angakkorsuaq ("Man Who Looks Like His Uncle"), an Eskimo-Kalaallit Elder whose family belongs to the traditional healers of the Far North from Kalaallit Nunaat, Greenland. Traveling as part of the Peace Pledge Project<sup>(1)</sup>, I was shocked at what I saw, and came away with an even clearer view of the inextricable link between the destruction of our Earth's environment and the ongoing pursuit of security through the threat to use nuclear weapons. I am also grateful that the trip received extraordinary global press coverage.<sup>(2)</sup>



The cooperation needed to adequately address climate change is being actively hindered by the pursuit of global security without sufficient emphasis on diplomacy, law, and the recognition of our shared interests. The threat of nuclear weapons and the melting of the ice cap are alarm clocks ringing to demand a change in how we view security. We will either disgrace our humanity by inflicting enormous suffering on ourselves and future generations or find ways to work together toward peace and survival.

[watch video \(4:21\)](#)

At the same time, in one of his most dangerous actions yet, the U.S. President has announced plans to withdraw the United States from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF). Two world leaders who negotiated the Treaty with President Reagan, have had strong words in two "must read" Op Eds on the issue.

The Cold War came far too close to becoming a hot war. In addition to President Ronald Reagan, who stated succinctly that a nuclear war can never be won and thus must never be fought, Secretary of State George Shultz was instrumental in negotiating with President Mikhail Gorbachev<sup>(3)</sup>

They did not accomplish utopia but had they not stepped forward to build trust and change direction, instead of having less than 15,000 nuclear weapons the world would likely still have over 60,000, and the fear and animosity that characterized the decades of the Cold War could easily led us over the brink.



U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and President Mikhail Gorbachev at the 1986 Reykjavik Summit with President Ronald Reagan.

**"As a pretext for the withdrawal from the I.N.F. Treaty, the United States invoked Russia's alleged violations of some of the treaty's provisions. Russia has raised similar concerns regarding American compliance, at the same time proposing to discuss the issues at the negotiating table to find a mutually acceptable solution. But over the past few years, the United States has been avoiding such discussion. I think it is now clear why.**

**"With enough political will, any problems of compliance with the existing treaties could be resolved. But as we have seen during the past two years, the president of the United States has a very different purpose in mind. It is to release the United States from any obligations, any constraints, and not just regarding nuclear missiles."**

*Former President of the U.S.S.R. Mikhail Gorbachev*

[Mikhail Gorbachev: A New Nuclear Arms Race Has Begun](#)

**"Now is not the time to build larger arsenals of nuclear weapons. Now is the time to rid the world of this threat. Leaving the treaty would be a huge step backward. We should fix it, not kill it."**

*Former Secretary of State George Shultz*

[George Shultz: We Must Preserve This Nuclear Treaty](#)

President Gorbachev is an active Advisory Board member for Global Security Institute. I have had the privilege of working with Secretary Shultz in the United Religions Initiatives Voices for a Nuclear Weapons Free World, which includes the inspiring nuclear prayer.<sup>(4)</sup>

**There is always something we can do:**

1. Vote and get others to vote;
2. Support candidates that believe in science, peace, and diplomacy, or become one;
3. Become involved in organizations that advocate progress on climate change, and nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament;
4. And, financially support organizations that express your values and advance policies that are based on facts.

Thank you for all that you do.

With warm regards,

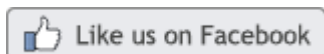
Jonathan Granoff

President, Global Security Institute

**Additional links:**

1. [Peace Pledge](#)
2. [Peace Pledge global press](#)
3. [Transcript of negotiations, 1987, Mikhail Gorbachev, George Shultz](#)
4. [United Religions Initiatives Voices for a Nuclear Weapons Free World](#) and [Nuclear Prayer](#)

**Stay Connected**



Global Security Institute, 220 East 49th Street, Suite 1B, New York, NY 10017

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [granoff@gsinstitute.org](mailto:granoff@gsinstitute.org) in collaboration with



Try it free today