**Theme 3:** The US-Soviet/Russian Treaties of reduction, limitation and elimination of weapons (ABM, START, INF)

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| How is ABM, START, INF decrypted?  Как расшифровываются эти аббревиатуры? | The first, ABM is Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.  The START is Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty.  The third, INF is Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. |
| What can you tell about the ABM? (общий вопрос)  Что вы можете рассказать о договоре ПРО? | It was an arms control treaty between the US and the SU on the limitation of the ABM systems used in defending arear against ballistic missile-delivered nuclear weapons. Signed in 1972, it was in force for the next 30 years. In 2002 the US withdrew from the treaty, leading to its termination. Putin responded to the withdrawal by ordering a build-up Russia’s nuclear capabilities, designed to counterbalance US capabilities. |
| Let's discuss the ABM. What was the main purpose of this treaty? | The main purpose of it was to limit of the ABM systems used in defending arear against ballistic missile-delivered nuclear weapons.  The treaty allowed the upgrading and replacement of ABM systems, provided each nation with the right to have two missile defense systems.  Thus, the treaty ruled out the possibility for both parties of an unrequited nuclear strike. |
| When was the ABM signed? Who signed it? | It was signed in 1972 by the US and the SU. |
| Which of the participants came out? | In 2002 the US withdrew from the treaty, leading to its termination.  According to the White House, the reason the US’s withdraw from the treaty is the growing threat of global terrorism. |
| How did the (government of) RF react on the US withdraw? | Russian President Vladimir V. Putin proposed modifying the treaty in order to preserve it, but Washington refused.  Then Putin responded to the withdrawal by ordering a build-up Russia’s nuclear capabilities, designed to counterbalance US capabilities. |
| What can you tell about the START? (общий вопрос) | START is Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty that was a bilateral treaty between the USA and the Soviet Union on the reduction and limitation of the strategic offensive arms. It was signed on 1991 and entered in force on 1994. START negotiated the largest and the most complex arms control treaty in history. It resulted in the elimination of about 80 percent of all Strategic nuclear weapons then in existence. Later it was renamed START-1 after the beginning of negotiations on a START-2 START-1 expired in 2009, and START-3 was signed in 2011 as a replacement for it. |
| Let's discuss the START. What was the main purpose of this treaty? | The main goal of START-1 is to reduce the risk of nuclear war. Each Party shall reduce and limit its ICBMs and ICBM launchers, SLBMs and SLBM launchers, heavy bombers, ICBM warheads and SLBM warheads within 7 years. |
| When was the START signed? | START-1 was signed in 1991, START-2 in 1993 and START-3 in 2010. |
| When did START end? | The START I treaty expired 5 December 2009.  The RF withdrew from the treaty in 2002. On 8 April 2010, the replacement New START treaty was signed in Prague by United States President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. The START 3 is acting currently. |
| What can you tell about the INF? | The INF is Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. It was a 1987 agreement between the US and the SU. The treaty eliminated nuclear and conventional ground ballistic and cruise missile with intermediate ranger of 500 – 5,500 km. In 2008, citing Russian non—compliance, US President Donald Trump announced that was withdrawing the US from the treaty |
| What do you think about US withdrawing from INF? | The threat of proliferation of medium- and shorter-range missiles in connection with the United States withdrawing from the INF Treaty enhances world instability. |