



## Stop New Nuclear Weapons

Ronald Reagan famously warned that, “A nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought.” In the 35 years since Reagan’s statement, the world has made important but insufficient progress in reducing nuclear dangers. Now, the Trump Administration is arguing, without any credible evidence, that other countries may think they could prevail in a limited nuclear exchange. The administration is looking in turn to build new types of “low-yield” nuclear warheads and new sea- and ground-launched missiles. That’s *on top of* existing plans for a decades-long, trillion dollar-plus rebuild of Cold War-holdover nuclear forces.

Any use of nuclear weapons is immoral and invites catastrophe. But increasing the role of still-massively destructive “low-yield” nuclear weapons is particularly dangerous. Senior national security voices such as former Secretary of Defense William Perry, former Secretary of State George Shultz, and the late Senator Richard Lugar have cautioned that these “dangerous” weapons could send our country down a “slippery slope to nuclear war.” Because nuclear-armed adversaries would have no way of knowing whether an incoming missile carries a “low” or a massive opening nuclear strike, they would likely respond to the worst-case scenario.

- **Stop the “Low-Yield” Trident:**  
Congress should bar deployment of a new “low-yield” W76-2 Trident submarine-launched ballistic missile warhead.
- **Do Not Fund a Nuclear Sea-Launched Cruise Missile (SLCM):**  
Putting nuclear warheads back on SLCMs would entail massive costs and risks sparking an arms race.
- **Do Not Build Intermediate Range Missiles:** These missiles will only increase great power tensions and could deepen divisions among U.S. allies.

**Members of Congress  
should insist on the  
House-passed provisions  
blocking creation and  
deployment of these  
dangerous new nuclear  
weapons.**