Shared Drivers and Key Cooperation: U.S.-Soviet NPT Collaboration

Grace Kier
Shared Motivations

- Close calls
- Chinese proliferation
- Potential West German proliferation
- Shared nuclear responsibility
Close Calls

- Cuban Missile Crisis
- Arms buildup
- Creation of the LTBT

Ballistic missile base in Cuba
"There are indications because of new inventions, that 10, 15, or 20 nations will have a nuclear capacity, including Red China, by the end of the Presidential office in 1964. This is extremely serious... I think the fate not only of our own civilization, but I think the fate of world and the future of the human race, is involved in preventing a nuclear war."

-President John F. Kennedy
China and West Germany

- Chinese test in 1964
  - Shared concerns
- Genuine belief in FRG proliferation
  - Counter to USSR and US interests
- Other potential proliferators
Establishment of the NPT: Key Issues

- The West German Issue
- Safeguards
  - Euratom
  - Delayed implementation
- Peaceful nuclear explosions

Creation of EURATOM
Getting West Germany on Board

- Extensive West German Opposition
- Mutual U.S. and Soviet encouragement
- Eventual membership

Willy Brandt, West German Chancellor
Safeguards and Testing

- Euratom issues
- Brazilian and Indian opposition
- Agreements on safeguards

India’s “Smiling Buddha” Test
Current Challenges: Negotiations

- Lack of official negotiations
- Trust problems
  - CTBT
  - Verification
- Ongoing arms control issues

The Signing of New START
Takeaways

- Shared motivations key for NPT creation
- Cooperation throughout NPT establishment
- Lack of trust inhibits current negotiations


Images

Thank you for listening!