

reductions should proceed apace (with more detailed verification built in) and "Open Skies" agreements as well, to avoid getting back into the corrosive debates about forces (based on secret intelligence sources) which again loomed up at the Paris Conference. Negotiations on reducing short-range nuclear forces (SNF) should proceed as promised, and it is time to extend new security and arms reduction arrangements to the oceans and to the Pacific, whether or not the US navy or others resist such moves.

While future instability in the Soviet Union or some of its component parts could trigger renewed East-West threats of various kinds, such a consequence of the break-up of the Soviet Union is not inevitable. Much of what can be done in the interim – in arms control and arms reductions, in political, diplomatic, human and economic efforts – can help to ensure that any further conflict in the Soviet Union will be as contained and localized as possible. Certainly the most immediate concern of the Soviet Union's westerly neighbours is that economic desperation and the newly-gained freedom to emigrate may lead to mass migrations to the West. No country can accept unlimited numbers of immigrants and other European countries may be compelled to stem the flow forcibly to the extent that they can. Only a better life at home can effectively counter this kind of "threat", and there are definite limits to what outsiders can contribute in this regard.