

units holding specified conventional armaments and equipment, and the location of designated permanent storage sites and reduction sites, all within the zone affected by the Treaty.

The Treaty outlines specific measures for the destruction of each category of weapon. With respect to aircraft and helicopters, states have the option of disarming and reconfiguring the equipment for training purposes rather than simply destroying it. Methods outlined in the Treaty must be used and the process will be monitored by inspectors.

A number of different types of inspection are available as verification methods. Inspections will be carried out to verify information exchanges and compliance with the limits established in the Treaty. Inspections will also be used to monitor the destruction of equipment and arms, and the processes used to convert aircraft and helicopters. A state cannot refuse an inspection of a declared site but a system of quotas is established in the Protocol on Inspection to ensure that no one state will be subject to an excessive number of inspections. Challenge inspections of specified areas (non-declared sites) are permitted but, in this case, the state to be inspected has the right to refuse the inspection.

A Joint Consultative Group (JCG) is established by the Treaty to provide a framework for all the states party to the Treaty to discuss ambiguous issues, questions of compliance and other questions relating to the Treaty. The JCG will meet twice each year and extra sessions will be held at the request of individual states.

The Treaty does not place limits on personnel levels or the number of troops deployed in the European area. In February 1989, the US and the Soviet Union had agreed to limit personnel to 195,000 troops each. However, this commitment was overtaken by planned Soviet withdrawals from Eastern Europe, the unification of Germany, and proposed US budget cuts calling for far fewer than 195,000 US troops in Europe. Rather than begin negotiations on new levels, in September 1990, the negotiators agreed to postpone this question in order to complete the Treaty by the November deadline. A commitment to proceed with negotiations on personnel levels and aerial inspection methods as the next stage in the CFE negotiations (known as CFE 1A) is part of the CFE Treaty. Aerial inspection is considered very important to the verification procedures for the Treaty. However, as with troop limitations, the effort to complete a treaty by November led negotiators to postpone the question. It is hoped that an agreement on these two questions will be ready for a planned summit meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) in 1992. The first round of the CFE IA negotiations began ten days after the Treaty was signed, on 29 November 1990.