

Contact: Christy Hicks ~ Phone: (212) 452-7723 ~ Email: hicks@tcf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HART, MATLOCK HAIL LONDON NUCLEAR ARMS COMMITMENT IN RELEASE OF
THE CENTURY FOUNDATION RUSSIA POLICY REPORT**

April 1, 2009, New York, N.Y. — “Today’s meeting in London between Presidents Obama and Medvedev marks an urgently needed change of course in U.S.-Russian relations,” said Gary Hart, former U.S. Senator (D-CO), and Jack F. Matlock, Jr., President Reagan’s last ambassador to the Soviet Union. They issued the statement as they released the policy recommendations of The Century Foundation Working Group on U.S. Policy toward Russia, which they co-chair.

“The two leaders have laid out a hopeful agenda for pursuing the two countries’ many common interests. We particularly applaud their decision to speedily negotiate verifiable nuclear arms reductions in a new, legally binding treaty to replace the expiring Start I treaty this year,” they added.

“America’s relationship with Moscow is no longer the principal driver of U.S. foreign policy, as during most of the cold war, but neither is it irrelevant as many in Washington had condescendingly imagined over the last dozen years,” said Sen. Hart and Amb. Matlock. The two leaders’ announced agenda reflects this, and echoes many of the policy recommendations that the TCF Working Group has made.

Among other recommendations, the Working Group urged the Obama administration to:

- Reverse, urgently and immediately, the Bush administration’s long suspension of any meaningful strategic dialogue or arms control negotiations, starting with agreement on deep new reductions in a treaty to replace the expiring START I by the end of this year;
- Suspend further steps toward antimissile weapons deployment in Poland and the Czech Republic while it assesses whether the proposed weaponry is cost-effective or even needed;
- Test Russia’s stated resolve to keep Tehran’s nuclear program certifiably peaceful, complete with full-safeguard monitoring by the International Atomic Energy Agency, in the context of broader U.S.-Russian cooperation and Obama’s own overtures to Iran; and
- Avoid expending political capital pressuring allies for further expansion of NATO and focus NATO’s attention on the alliance’s strategic mission as guarantor of Euro-Atlantic peace and security.

TCF, a nonpartisan public policy research foundation, has undertaken a [program initiative](#) on Russia through the convening of its Working Group and commissioning papers aimed at identifying a framework for U.S.-Russian relations and policy options for a new administration

and Congress that could help right the two countries' troubled relationship at a crucial juncture. The high-level working group has provided direction to the project and offered recommendations for action that the United States might take.

Working Group Members include:

- **Gary Hart, Co-Chair**
Scholar in Residence, University of Colorado; former U.S. Senator
- **Jack F. Matlock, Jr., Co-Chair**
Adjunct Professor, Columbia University; former U.S. Ambassador to the U.S.S.R.
- **Morton Abramowitz**
Senior Fellow, The Century Foundation; former Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research
- **Avis Bohlen**
Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University; former Assistant Secretary of State for Arms Control
- **Stephen F. Cohen**
Professor, New York University; professor emeritus, Princeton University
- **Padma Desai**
Director, Center for Transition Economies, Columbia University
- **Susan Eisenhower**
President, The Eisenhower Group
- **James E. Goodby**
Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution; Senior Research Fellow, M.I.T.; former Ambassador for Nuclear Security and Dismantlement
- **Thomas Graham**
Senior Director, Kissinger Associates; former Senior Director for Russian Affairs, National Security Council
- **Morton H. Halperin**
Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress; former Director of Policy Planning, U.S. Department of State
- **Jack Snyder**
Professor, Columbia University

The forthcoming papers in the series explore significant aspects of U.S.-Russian relations, outlining a broad range of reasons why Russia matters for American foreign policy and framing bilateral and multilateral approaches to Russia for U.S. consideration.

The Working Group recommendations and related papers are available on The Century Foundation Web site at www.tcf.org. For more information or to interview Jack Matlock, contact Christy Hicks at hicks@tcf.org or 212-452-7723. To interview Gary Hart, call 303-315-2070.

The Century Foundation conducts public policy research and analyses of economic, social, and foreign policy issues, including inequality, retirement security, election reform, media studies, homeland security, and international affairs. The foundation produces books, reports, and other publications, convenes task forces and working groups, and operates seven informational Web sites. With offices in New York City and Washington, D.C., The Century Foundation is nonprofit and nonpartisan and was founded in 1919 by Edward A. Filene.