

Missile Deal Unlikely at NATO Summit

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A senior government official says there is very little chance of Russia and the United States reaching a compromise on missile defense at the NATO summit in Chicago in May.

Deputy Defense Minister Anatoly Antonov said Tuesday that Russia and the United States have failed to narrow their differences over plans for a U.S.-led NATO missile shield in Europe.

Antonov says the United States has proceeded with its missile defense plans without considering Russian concerns. He says Russia and NATO have failed to come anywhere close to a deal on missile defense.

He says, "it would be very difficult to achieve any success at the summit."

The United States has long insisted that the planned missile shield is aimed at deflecting any potential missile threats from Iran, but Russia says it fears that it really designed for undermining its nuclear deterrent.

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