

# Spain Joins Missile Defense

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**The  Moscow Times**

The Spanish government has agreed to participate in NATO's missile shield, which means specialized United States warships will be based at a Spanish base already used by the U.S. Navy.

Deputy Prime Minister Soraya Saenz de Santamaria said Spain and the U.S. had sealed the deal Friday to use the base in southwestern Spain as part of the shield, enabling four U.S. Navy destroyers and some 1,400 operators to be deployed at the base.

Moscow has long opposed the shield and called for binding guarantees from the U.S. and NATO that it will not target Russia.

*(AP)*

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