

## Today in History, Nov. 20

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Unity component (top) and Zarya (with solar panels deployed) in 1998.

Fifteen years ago today, on Nov, 20, 1998, Russia launched the first component of the International Space Station aboard a Proton-K rocket from the Baikonur Cosmodrome.

The module was given the name Zarya and was later joined by two other modules, Unity and Zvezda, creating the largest artificial body in orbit today.

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