

Russia Test Launches Satan-2 Ballistic Missile

March 30, 2018



Russian Ministry of Defence

The Russian military has test-launched its new Intercontinental Ballistic Missile, or ICBM, that President Vladimir Putin unveiled at an annual address this month amid increasing tensions between Moscow and the West.

Russia [announced](#) plans in 2013 to develop the Sarmat ICBM to replace a Cold War standby known in the West as “Satan,” or the RS-20B Voyevoda in Russia. Putin unveiled the Sarmat, or Satan-2, with an array of other nuclear-capable weapons at his annual speech to both chambers of parliament on March 1 that has reportedly riled U.S. President Donald Trump.

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The Russian Defense Ministry [published](#) a video on Thursday showcasing the launch of the Sarmat from a northern Russia cosmodrome to study its characteristics and behavior during

takeoff.

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Equipped with multiple hypersonic warheads MIRVs to help it evade missile defense systems, Satan-2 is expected to enter service by the start of the next decade as part of Russia's push to modernize its nuclear arsenal. Moscow says the Satan-2 is capable of destroying an area the size of Texas.

Reuters contributed reporting to this article.

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