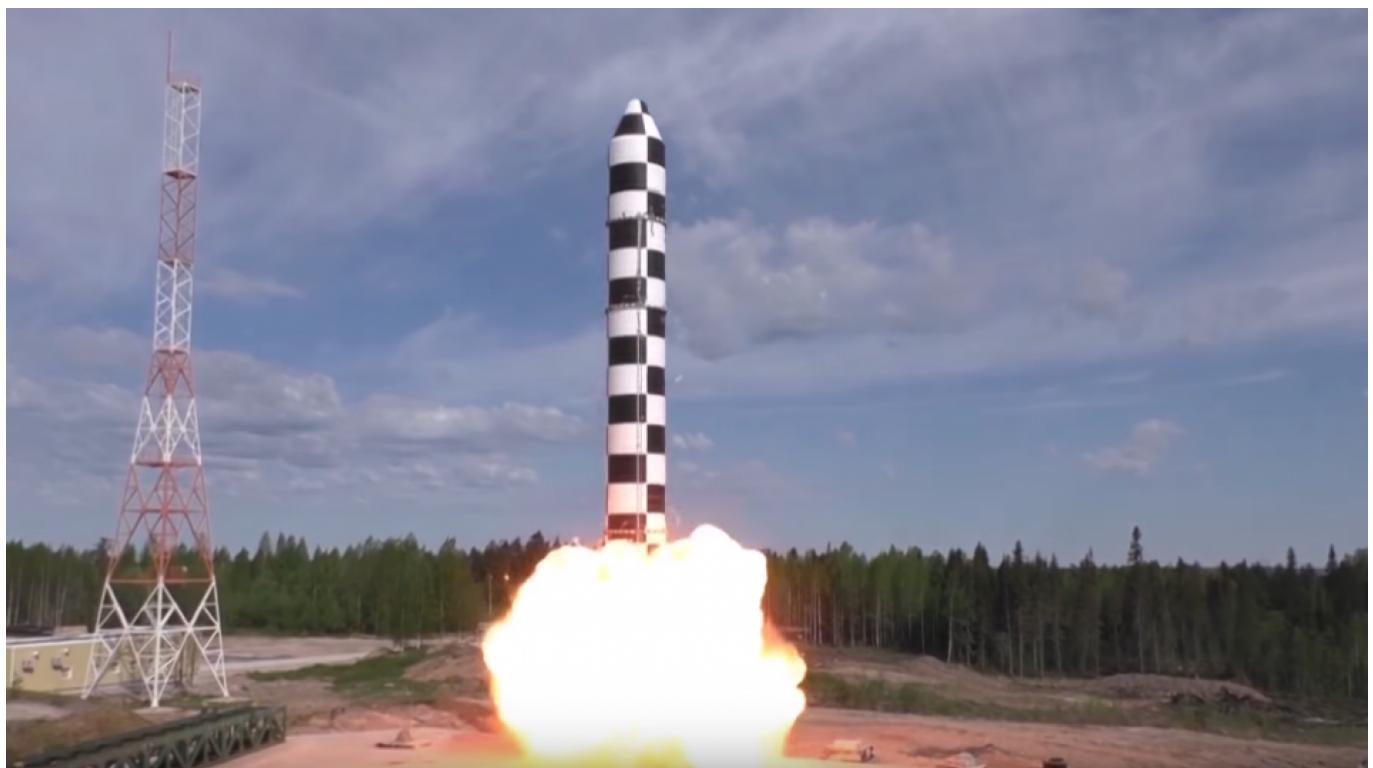


# Russia Prepares Largest-Ever 'Satan-2' Ballistic Missile Tests

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Sarmat missile system **Russian Defense Ministry / Youtube / Screenshot**

Russia is preparing to conduct at least five tests next year of its new ballistic missile that has been called the largest missile in history, the *Vedomosti* newspaper [reported](#) Wednesday.

President Vladimir Putin unveiled the Sarmat missile, also called Satan-2, at an annual address last year that reportedly riled U.S. President Donald Trump. Russia went on to test-launch the ICBM from a northern Russia cosmodrome last March to study its behavior during takeoff.

**Related article:** [Russia Test Launches Satan-2 Ballistic Missile](#)

"The missile system will be put into service in 2021 if it meets the required conditions," an unnamed source close to Russia's Defense Ministry told *Vedomosti*.

Sarmat's developers have encountered a series of technical and logistical difficulties that have

delayed previous tests, the publication reported.

The Defense Ministry did not comment on Vedomosti's report, but an unnamed defense industry executive confirmed plans to begin testing Sarmat in early 2020.

Russia is planning to enter Sarmat into service next year as a part of its ongoing push to modernize its nuclear arsenal.

The Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) is reportedly equipped with multiple hypersonic warheads MIRVs that help it evade missile defense systems.

The Russian government says the new missile can carry a payload of up to 15 warheads, has a range of 10,000 kilometers and is capable of destroying an area the size of Texas.

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