

Document I-51

Document title: George P. Shultz and Eduard Shevardnadze, "Agreement Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Concerning Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes," April 15, 1987, with attached: "Agreed List of Cooperative Projects."

Source: NASA Historical Reference Collection, NASA History Office, NASA Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

*As part of its overall hostile stance toward the Soviet Union, the administration of President Ronald Reagan allowed the basic U.S.-Soviet Space Cooperation Agreement, signed in 1972 and renewed in 1977, to lapse when it came up for renewal in 1982. U.S. policy toward the U.S.S.R. became much more friendly after Mikhail Gorbachev came into power in 1985, and by 1987 the two countries had agreed to restart formal cooperative activities in space. This agreement, signed by the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet foreign minister, provided the framework for such cooperation, and an attached list identifies an initial sixteen areas of possible cooperation.*

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[1]

Agreement Between the United States of America  
and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics  
Concerning Cooperation in the Exploration  
and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes

The United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, hereinafter referred to as the Parties;

Considering the role of the two States in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

Desiring to make the results of the exploration and use of outer space available for the benefit of the peoples of the two States and of all peoples of the world;

Taking into consideration the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, and other multilateral agreements regarding the exploration and use of outer space to which both States are Parties;

Noting the General Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on Contacts, Exchanges, and Cooperation in Scientific, Technical, Educational, Cultural, and other fields, signed on November 21, 1985;

Have agreed as follows:

[2]

*ARTICLE 1*

The Parties shall carry out cooperation in such fields of space science as solar system exploration, space astronomy and astrophysics, earth sciences, solar-terrestrial physics, and space biology and medicine.

The initial agreed list of cooperative projects is attached as an Annex.

*ARTICLE 2*

The Parties shall carry out cooperation by means of mutual exchanges of scientific information and delegations, meetings of scientists and specialists and in such other ways as may be mutually agreed, including exchange of scientific equipment where appropriate. The Parties, acting through their designated cooperating agencies, shall form joint working groups for the implementation of cooperation in each of the fields listed in Article 1. The recommendations of the joint working groups shall be subject to the approval of each Party in accordance with its appropriate national procedures prior to implementation. The designated cooperating agencies shall notify each other of the action taken by the parties on the recommendations within three months of their adoption by the joint working groups.

[3]

*ARTICLE 3*

The joint working groups shall begin their work with the projects listed in the Annex to this Agreement. Revisions to the list of projects in the Annex, which may include the identification of other projects in which cooperation would be of mutual benefit, may be effected by written agreement between the Parties through a procedure to be determined by them.

*ARTICLE 4*

Cooperative activities under this Agreement, including exchanges of technical information, equipment and data, shall be conducted in accordance with international law as well as the international obligations, national laws, and regulations of each Party, and within the limits of available funds.

*ARTICLE 5*

This Agreement shall be without prejudice to the cooperation of either Party with other States and international organizations.

*ARTICLE 6*

The Parties shall encourage international cooperation in the study of legal questions of mutual interest which may arise in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

[4]

*ARTICLE 7*

This Agreement will enter into force on the date of signature by the Parties and will remain in force for five years. It may be extended for further five-year periods by an exchange of notes between the Parties. Either Party may notify the other in writing of its intent to terminate this Agreement at any time effective six months after receipt of such notices by the other Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Moscow, in duplicate, this 15th day of April, 1987, in the English and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

[signed George P. Shultz]  
FOR THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA:

[signed Eduard Shevardnadze]  
FOR THE UNION OF SOVIET  
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS:

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[Attachment page 1]

### Agreed List of Cooperative Projects

1. Coordination of the Phobos, Vesta, and Mars Observer missions and the exchange of scientific data resulting from them.
2. Utilization of the U.S. Deep Space Network for position tracking of the Phobos and Vesta landers and subsequent exchange of scientific data.
3. Invitation, by mutual agreement, of co-investigators and/or interdisciplinary scientists' participation in the Mars Observer and the Phobos and Vesta missions.
4. Joint studies to identify the most promising landing sites on Mars.
5. Exchange of scientific data on the exploration of the Venusian surface.
6. Exchange of scientific data on cosmic dust, meteorites and lunar materials.
7. Exchange of scientific data in the field of radio astronomy.
8. Exchange of scientific data in the fields of cosmic gamma-ray x-ray, and sub-millimeter astronomy.
9. Exchange of scientific data and coordination of programs and investigations relative to studies of gamma-ray burst data.
10. Coordination of observations from solar terrestrial physics missions and the subsequent exchange of appropriate scientific data.
11. Coordination of activities in the study of global changes of the natural environment.
12. Cooperation in the Cosmos biosatellite program.
13. Exchange of appropriate biomedical data from U.S. and U.S.S.R. manned space flights.
14. Exchange of data arising from studies of space flight-induced changes of metabolism, including the metabolism of calcium, from both space flight and ground experiments.
15. Exploration of the feasibility of joint fundamental and applied biomedical experiments on the ground and in various types of spacecraft, including exobiology.
16. Preparation and publication of a second amplified edition of the joint study "Fundamentals of Space Biology and Medicine."