

KING'S
College
LONDON



Understanding How Missile Defence Affects Nuclear Deterrence and Stability in the New Strategic Environment through Gaming

Ivanka Barzashka
ivanka.barzashka@kcl.ac.uk
UK Connections Conference
King's College London
8 September 2016





“We must write a new playbook, which includes [...] better integrating conventional and nuclear deterrence, as well as adjusting our posture and presence to adapt and respond to new challenges and threats.”

*US Secretary of Defense Ash Carter
14 October 2015*



NUCLEAR POSTURE REVIEW REPORT

APRIL 2010



NPR



BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE REVIEW REPORT

FEBRUARY 2010



BMDR

Should the role of missile defense
change in the new strategic
environment? If so, how?

BMD and Nuclear Risk

Missile defense will, overall, help reduce nuclear risks in the post-Cold War environment.

BMD and Nuclear Risk

~~Missile defense will, overall, help reduce nuclear risks in the post-Cold War environment.~~

BMD and Nuclear Risk

~~Missile defense will, overall, help reduce nuclear risks in the post-Cold War environment.~~

Missile defense could increase or decrease nuclear risks in the new strategic environment.



Objectives

1. Advance knowledge of how BMD affects the risk of nuclear use among the United States, NATO and Russia in the current strategic environment through high quality data, experimentation and analysis

Objectives

1. Advance knowledge of how BMD affects the risk of nuclear use among the United States, NATO and Russia in the current strategic environment through high quality data, experimentation and analysis
2. Inform future decisions about US and NATO nuclear and BMD strategy and force structure

Objectives

1. Advance knowledge of how BMD affects the risk of nuclear use among the United States, NATO and Russia in the current strategic environment through high quality data, experimentation and analysis
2. Inform future decisions about US and NATO nuclear and BMD strategy and force structure
3. Influence the US and European expert debate on the relationship between BMD and nuclear weapons



Research

Research

The objectives are to describe:

1. Current and planned Russian, US and NATO nuclear and BMD force structure

Research

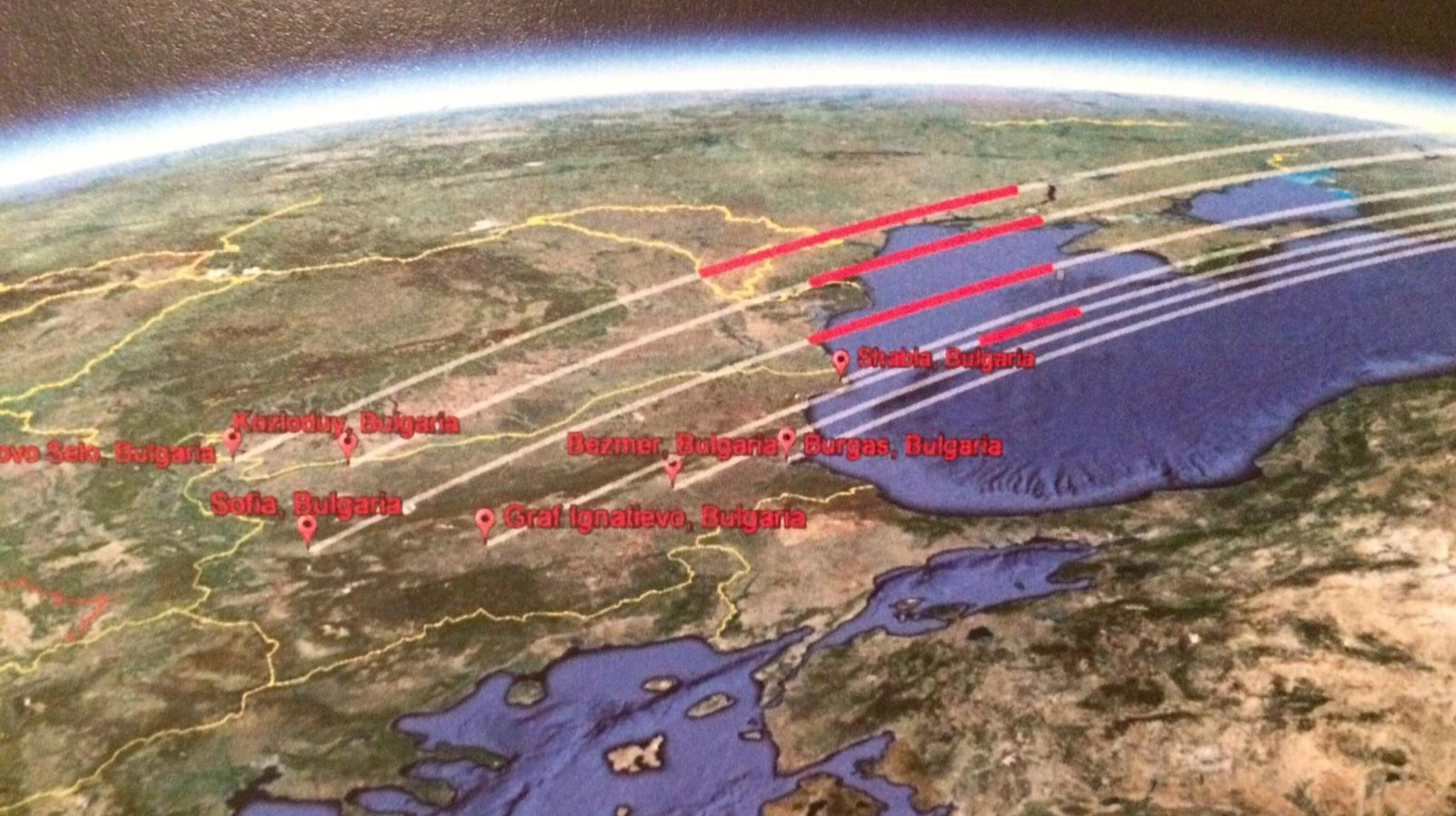
The objectives are to describe:

1. Current and planned Russian, US and NATO nuclear and BMD force structure
2. How nuclear actors think about the uses of BMD and nuclear weapons, each other's military capability, intentions and the strategic environment

Research

The objectives are to describe:

1. Current and planned Russian, US and NATO nuclear and BMD force structure
2. How nuclear actors think about the uses of BMD and nuclear weapons, each other's military capability, intentions and the strategic environment
3. The role of nuclear weapons and BMD systems in past or hypothetical crises



ovo Selo, Bulgaria

Kozloduy, Bulgaria

Sofia, Bulgaria

Bezmer, Bulgaria

Graf Ignatievo, Bulgaria

Burgas, Bulgaria

Shabla, Bulgaria

Analysis

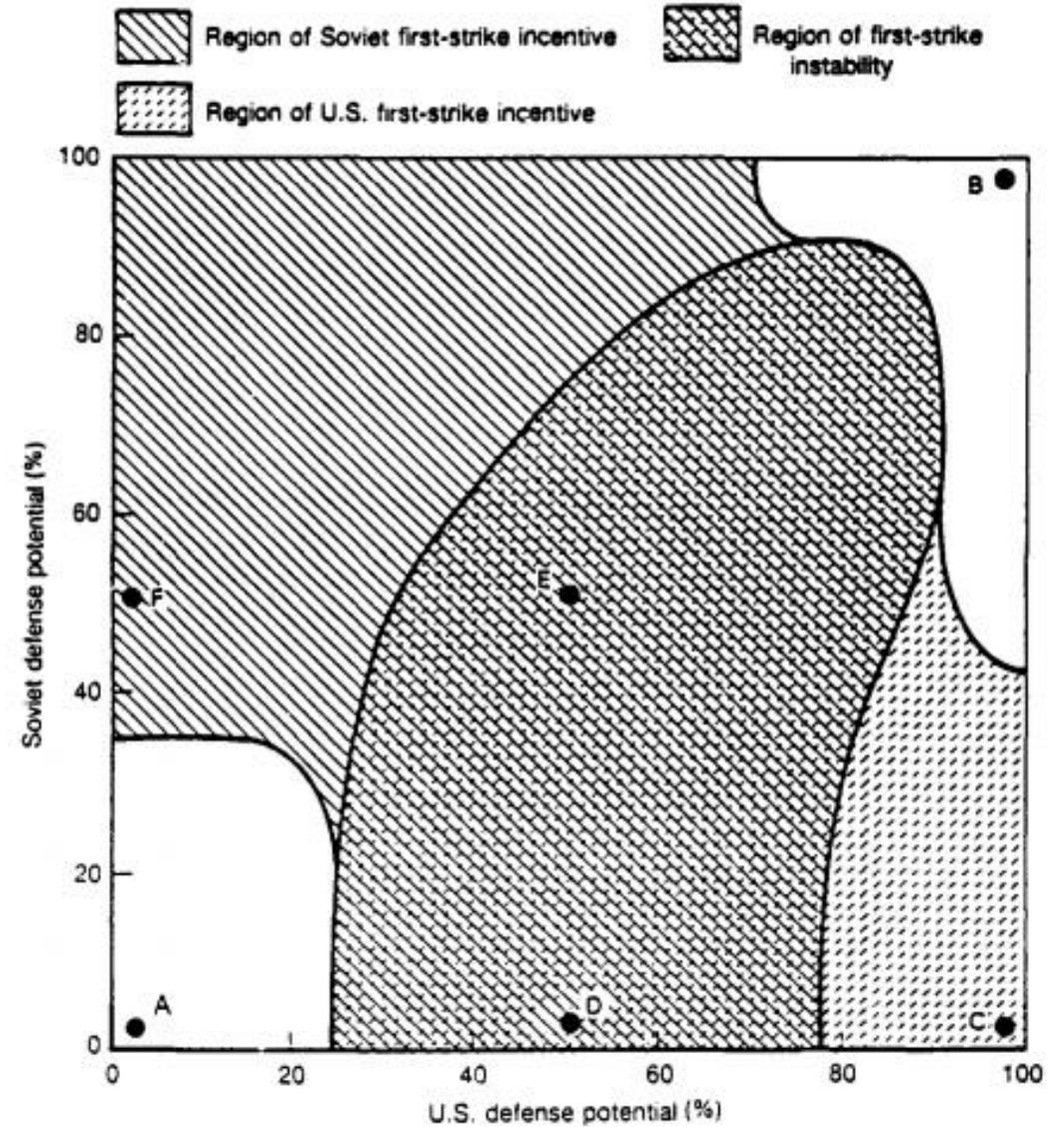
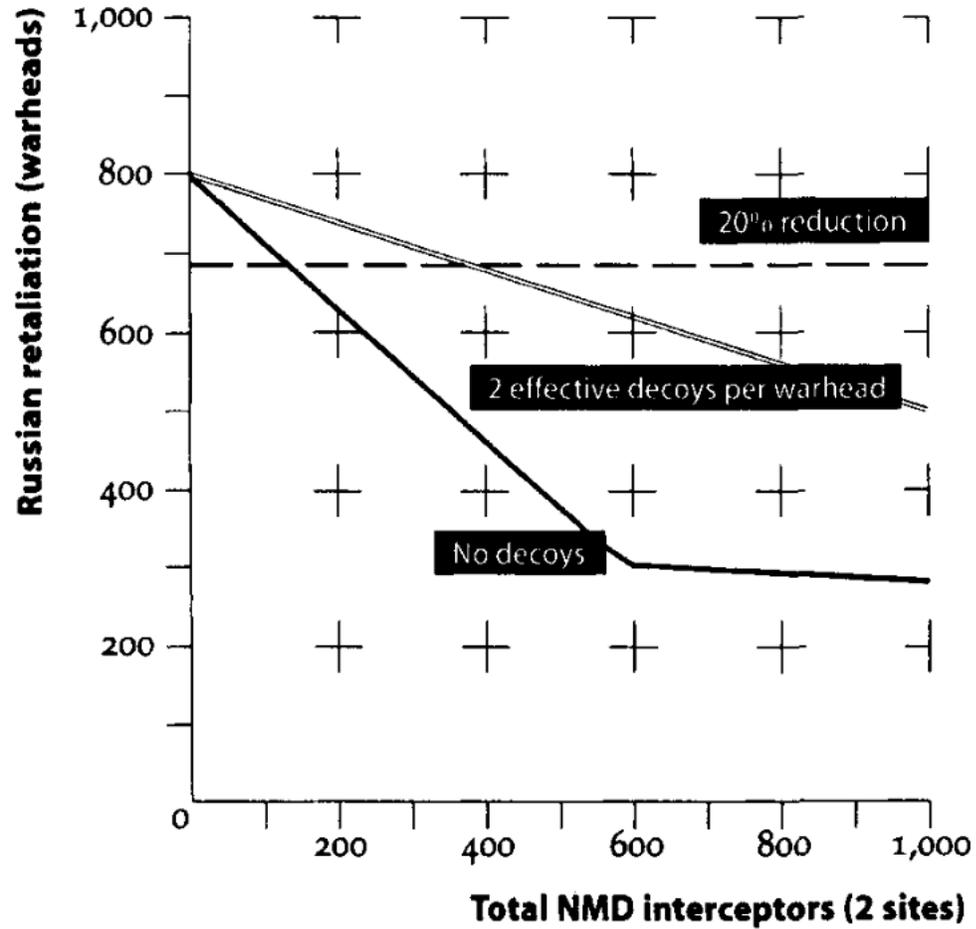
Analysis

The objectives are to :

1. Identify the key technical and human factors
2. Understand the processes and mechanisms
3. Develop a series of testable propositions



Figure 4 *Russian Retaliatory Capability against US NMD*



Dean Wilkening, *Ballistic Missile Defence and Strategic Stability*, Adelphi Paper, 2000

Dean Wilkening and Kenneth Watman, *Strategic Defenses and First Strike Stability*, The Rand Corporation, 1986



Experimentation

3

strategic gaming events
players per team
days per event

Experimentation



