



# 2019 MISSILE DEFENSE REVIEW

## OVERVIEW

- > Conducted under the direction of the President and Secretary of Defense to review the future threat environment, and develop U.S. missile defense policies and programs to respond to this threat.
- > This review is aligned with the 2017 *National Security Strategy (NSS)*, the 2018 *National Defense Strategy (NDS)*, and the 2018 *Nuclear Posture Review (NPR)*.
- > Because the expanding offensive missile threat includes non-ballistic systems, such as advanced cruise missiles and hypersonic weapons, this review is entitled the 2019 *Missile Defense Review (MDR)*.

## MISSILE DEFENSE ROLES, POLICY, AND STRATEGY

- > This review describes a comprehensive approach to prevent and defeat adversary missile attacks through a combination of: deterrence; active and passive missile defense; and attack operations.
- > This review advances a number of missile defense roles:
  - Strengthening our ability to protect the U.S. homeland, U.S. forces abroad, and allies and partners;
  - Deterring adversary coercive threats and attacks;
  - Assuring allies and partners we will stand by our security commitments;
  - Providing a position of strength in support of U.S. diplomacy;
  - Hedging against future unanticipated offensive missile threats; and
  - Preserving our freedom of action to conduct military operations in defense of our interest.
- > Key principles that will govern our missile defense policy, strategy, and capabilities include:
  - Fielding defenses for the United States to stay ahead of rogue ICBM threats;
  - Tailoring our regional missile defenses to defend U.S. forces abroad and allies and partners from threats from any source; and
  - Pursuing new missile defense concepts and technologies to address future threats.
- > Elements of our missile defense strategy include:
  - Comprehensive missile defense capabilities, including attack operations to defeat missile threats prior to launch should deterrence fail and conflict ensue;
  - Flexible and adaptable missile defense systems;
  - Enhanced ballistic and cruise missile defense integration and interoperability;
  - Leveraging the space domain for missile defense sensors; and
  - Emphasizing capabilities that can be surged in a crisis or conflict.

## U.S. HOMELAND DEFENSE

- > The MDR, in line with the *NSS* and the *NDS*, focuses the Department's efforts on deploying a layered missile defense system to protect the U.S. homeland and stay ahead of the rogue ICBM threat.
- > The United States will strengthen current homeland defenses for the near-term, and develop and field innovative and advanced missile defense capabilities to counter future threats.



# 2019 MISSILE DEFENSE REVIEW

- > Today, the United States is protected by the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) system against the threat of an ICBM attack from rogue states such as North Korea and potentially Iran. We are taking steps to improve the performance and effectiveness of the current GMD.
  - Expanding the GMD system with 20 additional Ground-Based Interceptors (GBIs) in Alaska, bringing the total to 64;
  - Developing a new kill vehicle for the GBI;
  - Deploying new missile tracking and discrimination sensors in Alaska, Hawaii, and the Pacific region; and
  - Fielding a Space-based Kill Assessment capability.
- > We will bolster homeland defenses against cruise missile threats to the National Capital Region and examine technologies and concepts that could be used to expand this defensive surveillance capability to the rest of North America.

## REGIONAL DEFENSE

- > To ensure the United States can respond to the growing regional offensive missile threat, and sustain our freedom of action to protect U.S. forces, allies, and partners, DoD is:
  - Deploying additional land- and sea-based missile defense systems;
  - Fielding missile defense capabilities that are mobile and relocatable to provide the flexibility to respond to unexpected or rapidly evolving crises or conflicts; and
  - Improving the integration of regional ballistic missile and cruise missile defenses with attack operations.

## PREPARING FOR EMERGING OFFENSIVE MISSILE THREATS & UNCERTAINTIES

- > To counter the expanding and increasingly advanced offensive missile capabilities of potential adversaries and to hedge against unanticipated missile threats, DoD is strengthening homeland and regional missile defenses by:
  - Improving and adapting existing missile defense systems;
  - Pursuing new missile defense capabilities;
  - Examining concepts and technologies for advanced missile defense systems;
  - Improving the U.S. early warning system to be able to warn against advanced missile threats; and
  - Tailoring our regional missile defenses to support the security of our allies and partners.

## MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND TESTING

- > DoD will continue to streamline and refine the current flexible acquisition authorities used to develop, test, and field missile defenses while ensuring rigorous testing.

## WORKING WITH ALLIES AND PARTNERS

- > DoD will strengthen regional missile defense architectures in Indo-Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East and encourage allies and partners to share more widely the responsibility for our common defense against missile attacks.
- > DoD also will field interoperable missile defenses and integrate them where feasible with allied and partner missile defenses to enhance the effectiveness of our defenses against ballistic and cruise missile attacks.