

Moscow Tests Anti-Missile Shield with Rocket Launch

February 12, 2018



Russian Ministry of Defense

The Russian military has successfully tested an upgraded anti-missile shield at a time of mutual mistrust between Russia and the United States over missile defense.

Russia's Aerospace Forces [tested](#) the interceptor missile twice last year at the same site in Kazakhstan, following the activation of a new NATO missile defence station in Romania. The Western military alliance's defense system has raised Moscow's ire over what it [views](#) as an arms buildup along its borders.

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The latest missile "successfully completed its task, hitting the target at the scheduled time," Russia's Defense Ministry [cited](#) Colonel Andrei Prikhodko, deputy commander of the Aerospace Forces air defense command, as saying in an online statement on Monday.

Media outlets [said](#) last year that the tested Russian missiles were an upgraded version of the 53T6 Gazelle short-range missile interceptors.

The Russian ministry said Monday that the shield was designed to intercept missiles targeting Moscow and to serve as a missile attack warning system.

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