



Anatoly Antonov, a Russian military officer and diplomat who took the official post in Washington on September 1 and presented his credentials to President Donald Trump on September 8, 2007. He has been deputy minister of foreign affairs since December 2016.

Anatoly Ivanovich Antonov was born on May 15, 1955, in Omsk, a city in southwestern Siberia. He earned a B.A. and an M.A. in International Relations at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations in 1978 and 1983, respectively. Later, in 2012, Antonov earned a Ph.D. in Political Science at the Institute of World Economy and International Relations in Moscow, with a dissertation entitled, “Controlling nuclear weapons as a factor in ensuring national and international security.”

Antonov began his diplomatic career in 1978, spending the next 33 years at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its successor, the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He specialized in arms control, the patchwork of treaties that try to regulate and limit the spread of nuclear, chemical, conventional, and biological weapons. In the early 2000s, he was deputy permanent representative to the U.N. organizations in Geneva, Switzerland.

From 2004 to 2011, Antonov served as director of the Foreign Ministry’s Department for Security and Disarmament, where he was Russia’s point man on all disarmament issues. He served as lead negotiator in talks to forge the New START Treaty in 2010, working with US diplomat Rose Gottemoeller, who is now deputy secretary general at NATO.

An officer in the Russian Army since 1990 and currently a general, in February 2011 Antonov left the Foreign Ministry to accept President Dmitry Medvedev’s appointment as deputy minister of defense. Antonov left the Defense Ministry in December 2016 and returned to the Foreign Ministry as a deputy minister.

Antonov is fluent in English and Burmese.

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