

Issues About the ISTC Raised by the Supreme Soviet

List Prepared by the Supreme Soviet in April 1993

1. May the Center finance projects which are not of interest to Russia?
2. May the Center monitor work of a military character?
3. Will the staff of the Center have the opportunity to enter closed enterprises; and, in that case, how will state secrets be protected?
4. Won't the Western scientists use the knowledge they receive from Russian projects for their own military development?
5. Won't there be discrimination of the Russian staff members of the Secretariat in comparison with Western staff members, in pay and in travel abroad?
6. Won't the reorientation of weapons scientists to peaceful topics weaken the military readiness of the country?
7. Won't the Russian scientists, the enterprises, and the nation as a whole lose because of the loss of legal entitlement to the intellectual property created by Russian scientists?
8. How will the activity of the Center facilitate the transition to market relationships?
9. How can the scientists of Russia and the CIS countries be stimulated to participate in activities of the Center?
10. What will be the relationship between the Governing Board and the Executive Director of the Center in the main decisions concerning the financing and carrying out of the projects of the Center and in the use of the results of the activities of Russian specialists in projects?
11. Isn't the procedure for initiating the projects too long?
12. Isn't it simpler to create direct bilateral connections (minus the Center) between Russia and foreign organizations where the customers are located?
13. Why is the Russian parliament considering an agreement on establishing a Center not only with Russia but also with other CIS countries?
14. What is the procedure for other CIS countries to adhere to the Agreement?
15. Which country will designate the arbitrator to decide questions concerning violations of the Agreement and project agreements?

16. What is meant by the phrase “and also services” in Article 9 about the responsibilities of the Russian Government in providing material support for the Center?
17. Who will pay for expanding the premises of the Center when other countries accede to the Agreement?
18. Why are the foreign staff members of the Center exempted from paying Russian income tax?
19. Why is the financial support received by specialists participating in Center projects not subject to income tax?
20. Won't the sale of foreign currency on the internal exchange market of Russia be harmful to Russia?
21. Won't Russia be harmed from the exemption of the staffs of non-Russian organizations from paying customs on their personal property which they or their families can repeatedly bring into Russia?
22. Aren't there too many diplomatic immunities for the foreign staff of the Center?
23. Won't there be the possibility for legal action against the foreign staff of the Center in the event of a crime?
24. Won't the Center attract the best scientists of the country to the projects for further work abroad?
25. Won't the use of the “cheap working labor” of Russian scientists and participants in Center projects enrich the Western countries which participate in the Agreement?
26. May countries with clear dictatorial regimes join the Agreement?
27. In what currency will the calculations be made for countries of the CIS which have their own foreign currency?
28. Will financing of the Center reduce humanitarian aid for Russia and other CIS countries?
29. What are the perspectives of the activities of the Center in the near future if the Supreme Soviet ratifies the Agreement?
30. Will the activities of the Center be increased in the future from the point of view of additional financial assistance from abroad?
31. Are the Center and Russia interested in attracting internal Russian capital investment for supporting projects of the Center without the participation of Japan and France?

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1. Doesn't the organizing of the ISTC on the material base of the most advanced Russian scientific centers create a one-way street of disseminating leading technology abroad with nothing in return?
2. Will there be analogous research carried out at leading institutes in the United States, Japan, and the European Community in the fields of microelec-

tronics, computer technologies, and biotechnologies with the participation of Russian scientists? Since the Agreement doesn't envisage such cooperation, how will there be partnerships and equality?

3. The ratification of the Agreement will not only be an organizational step but will also authorize the broad proliferation of intellectual achievements of Russia.

4. The Agreement should provide for compensation for the COCOM ban on the import of leading technologies into Russia.

5. If there is no change in the COCOM ban on imports of technologies into Russia, there should be bans on exports of technologies from Russia.

6. It should be noted that in Russia there is no internal legal basis for organizing a legal structure similar to the ISTC.

7. There is no legal basis for transferring advanced technologies of dual-use significance from state scientific organizations to the commercial structure and to foreign parties.

8. There is no legal basis for protecting and transferring intellectual property.

9. There is no government system for registering advanced and dual-use technologies such as a state register and procedures for their transfer through sales or exchanges.

10. It is essential that ratification be supported by the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Security, the Intelligence Service, the Committee for the Defense Industry, and others.

11. It is not clear whether the Center can engage in commercial activities.

12. It is not clear if the Secretariat will be able to monitor projects which are financed through channels other than the ISTC.

13. It is not clear how the customs exemption will be carried out (licenses, quotas) in connection with items that are regulated in response to specific decisions of the President and the Government.

Translated by Glenn Schweitzer