

# America's Global Role – Case study Nuclear Proliferation

Course: BSS 187/487 America's Changing Global Role (Spring 2018)

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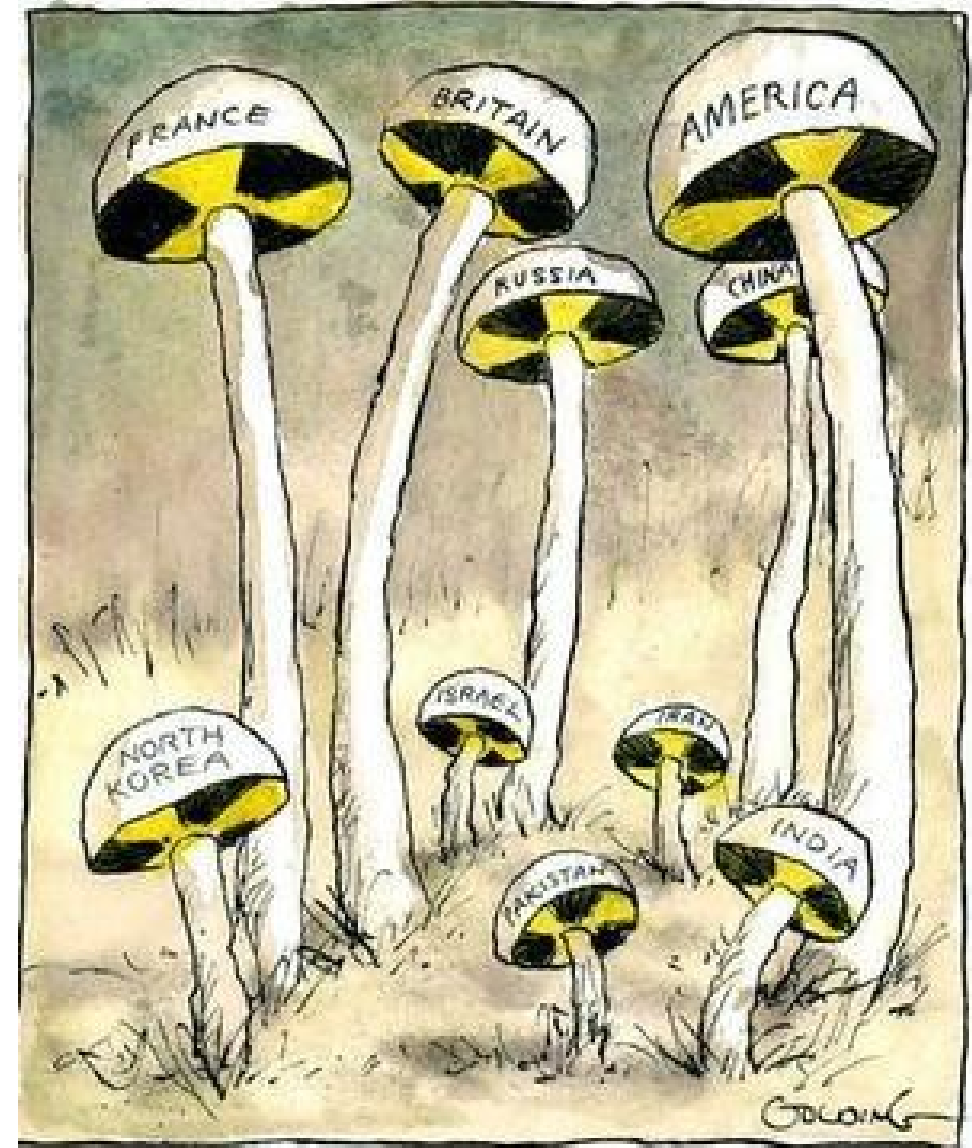
# Nuclear Proliferation

- The spread of nuclear weapons, nuclear weapons technology, or fissile material to state and non-state actors that do not already possess them. (Munro 2017)  
This includes spread of technology, know-how and material required to manufacture means of delivery of nuclear devices (e.g. aircraft, rockets, missiles).
- **Non-proliferation** – Efforts to stop, limit or at least slow down process of proliferation.



# Types of Proliferation

- **Horizontal** – more actors acquire military nuclear capabilities
- **Vertical** – increase in size of nuclear arsenal, improvement of effectivity (of both weapons and means of delivery), development of new types of weapons or means of delivery



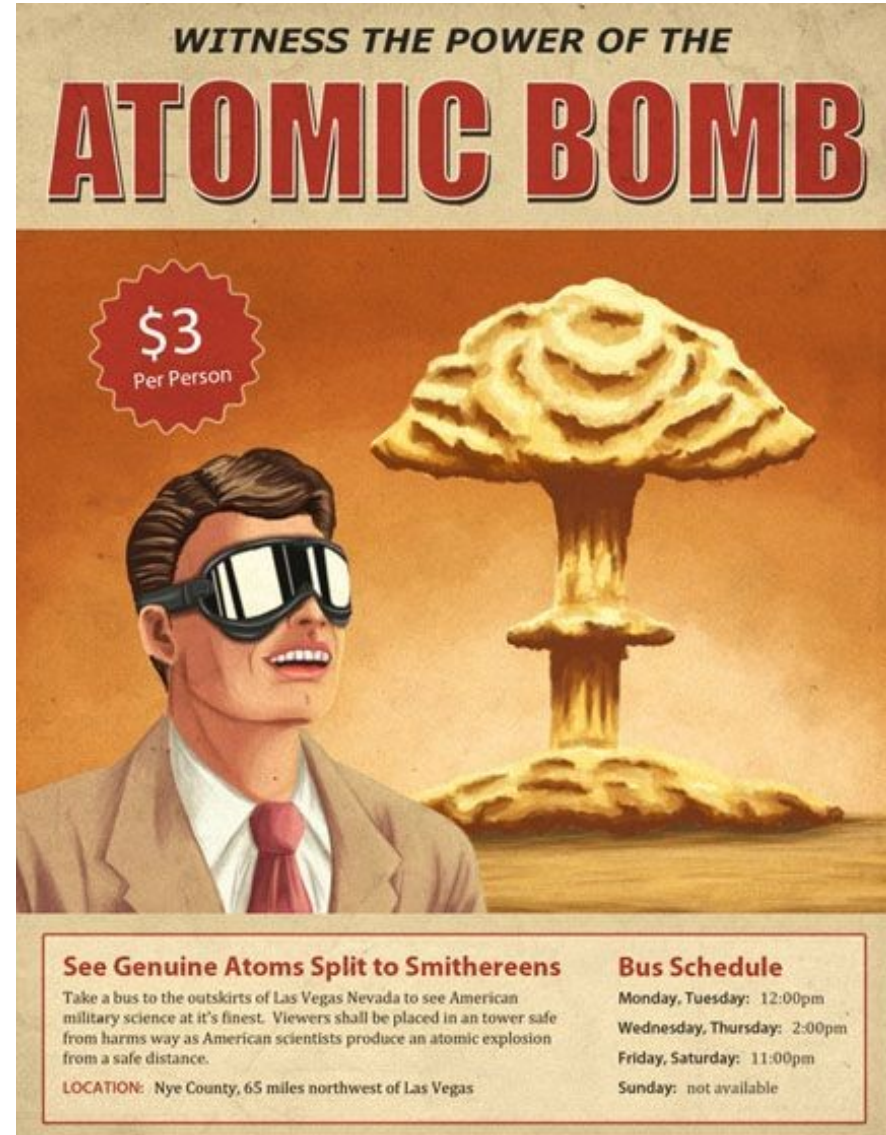
# USA and Nuclear Proliferation

- The United States always did everything they could to stop proliferation of nuclear weapons!
- US efforts to limit and prevent nuclear proliferation were and still are by great part purely pragmatic!
- Proliferation of WMDs was and still is viewed by the USA as one of the biggest security threats and risks.
- It is very hard to imagine scenario in which the USA would be willing to give up their nuclear weapons.
- At first the US were very reluctant to help their allies with their own nuclear programs.

WITNESS THE POWER OF THE

# ATOMIC BOMB

\$3  
Per Person



**See Genuine Atoms Split to Smithereens**  
Take a bus to the outskirts of Las Vegas Nevada to see American military science at it's finest. Viewers shall be placed in a tower safe from harms way as American scientists produce an atomic explosion from a safe distance.

**LOCATION:** Nye County, 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas

**Bus Schedule**  
Monday, Tuesday: 12:00pm  
Wednesday, Thursday: 2:00pm  
Friday, Saturday: 11:00pm  
Sunday: not available

# Countries with nuclear weapons



RUSSIA



UNITED STATES



FRANCE



CHINA



UK



PAKISTAN



INDIA



ISRAEL



N. KOREA

Status

Deployed  
Ready to launch

1,910

1,800

290

?

120

0

0

0

?

Undeployed  
Stockpiled, or  
some assembly  
required

2,390

2,200

10

270

95

140

130

80

60

Retirement  
Retired, waiting  
for disassembly

2,700

2,800

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

Total

7,000

6,800

300

270

215

140

130

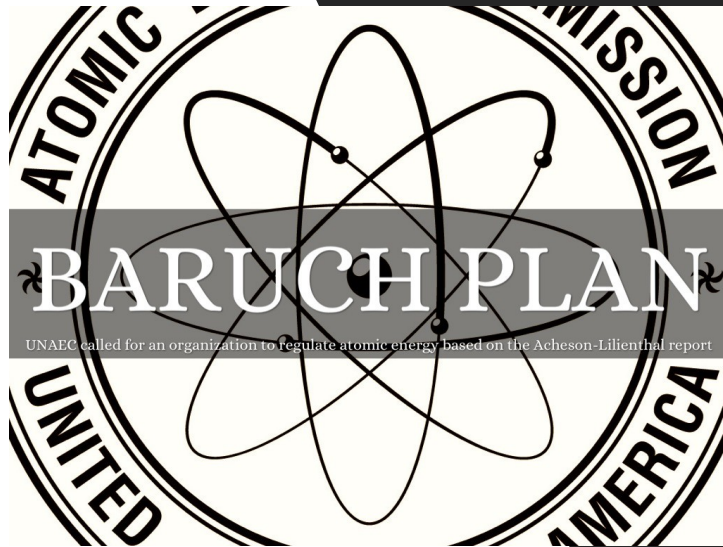
80

60

\*Estimates indicate that North Korea may have 30-60 weapons

SIPRI, Federation of American Scientists, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, WaPo, Business Insider

# Post WW2 History



- **Baruch Plan** (1946) – Proposal of the USA to give up its nuclear arsenal (only existing in the world at that time) if all other countries will pledge not to develop their own military nuclear capabilities. Peaceful development and use of nuclear energy would be still possible under international régime. Safeguards and control mechanisms to prevent proliferation would be implemented. Sanctions could not be vetoed by any member of UN SC. **Proposal was rejected by the Soviet Union.** (Atom Archive n.d.)
- **Atomic Energy Act of 1946** (McMahon Act) – Control over US nuclear research was placed under civilian supervision. **The USA were prohibited to share any information regarding their nuclear program with any other country** including the UK and Canada which participated on Manhattan Project. (US DOE n.d.)

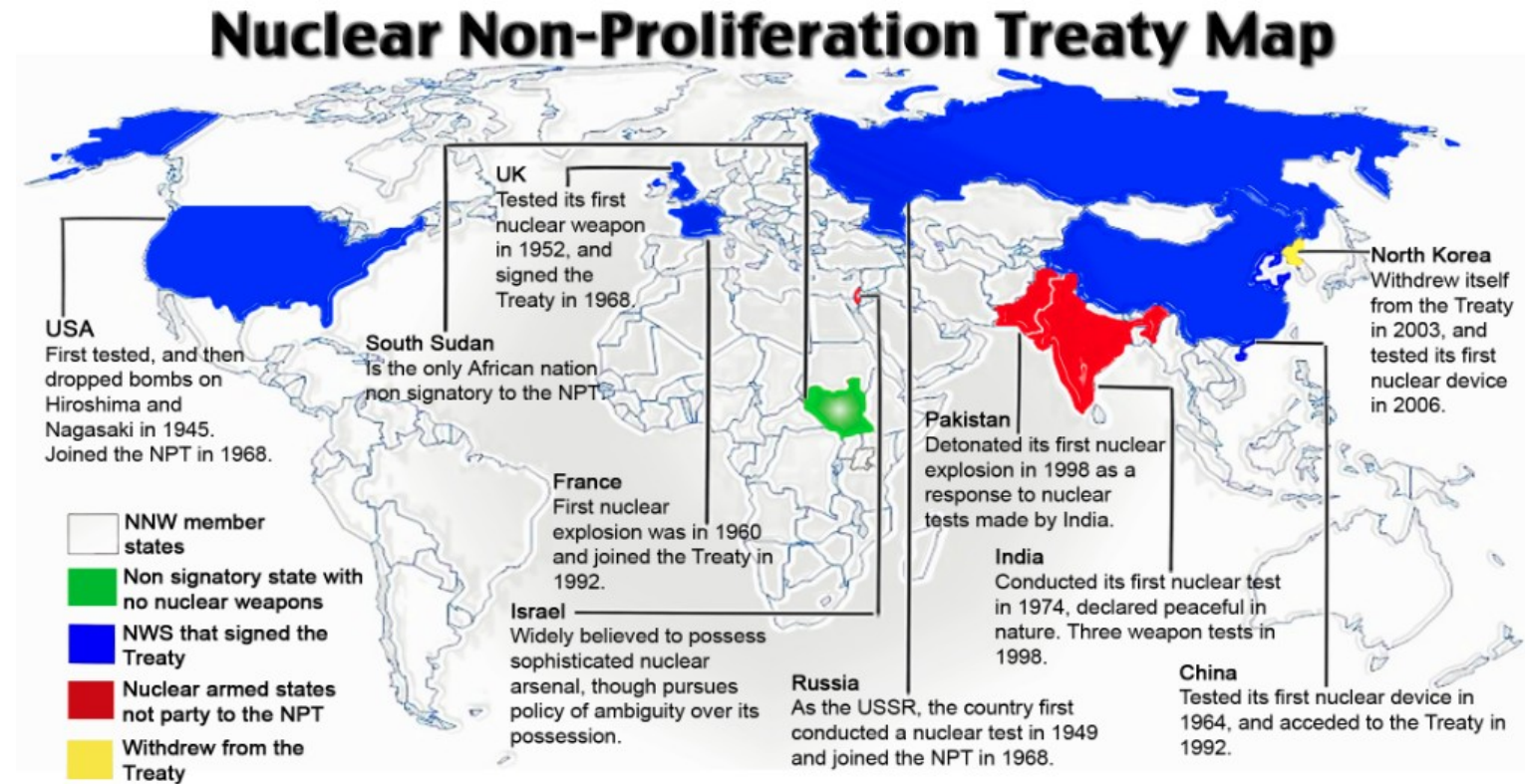
# “Atoms for Peace”

- “Atoms for Peace” (1953) – Program presented by US president Dwight Eisenhower to UN GA on December 8, 1953. The USA offered to share its know-how and technologies for peaceful use of nuclear power with other countries that will pledge not to seek to obtain nuclear weapons. As a result of this initiative International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was founded in 1957. [IAEA became the main global body for control of nuclear proliferation.](#) (Hicks 2014)



# Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

- States without nuclear weapons will not acquire them;
- States with nuclear weapons will pursue disarmament;
- All states can access nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, under safeguards. (NTI 2017)



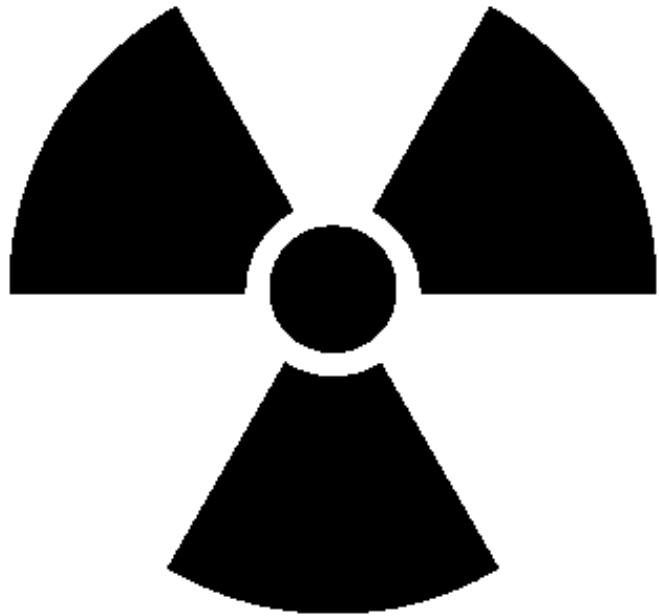
Source: <https://www.pressenza.com/2015/06/npt-consensus-failure-a-good-thing-108-countries-pledge-to-help-ban-nuclear-weapons>



# Cold War – Vertical Proliferation



- Examples of bilateral and multilateral treaties involving US that adressed vertical proliferation (ACA n.d.):
- Limited Test Ban Treaty (LTBT) – 1963
- Outer Space Treaty – 1967
- **Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT I) – 1968**
- Seabed Arms Control Treaty - 1971
- **Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty – 1972**
- Threshold Test Ban Treaty (TTBT) – 1974
- Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty (PNET) – 1976
- Strategic Arms Limitation Talks II (SALT II) – 1979
- **Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty – 1987**



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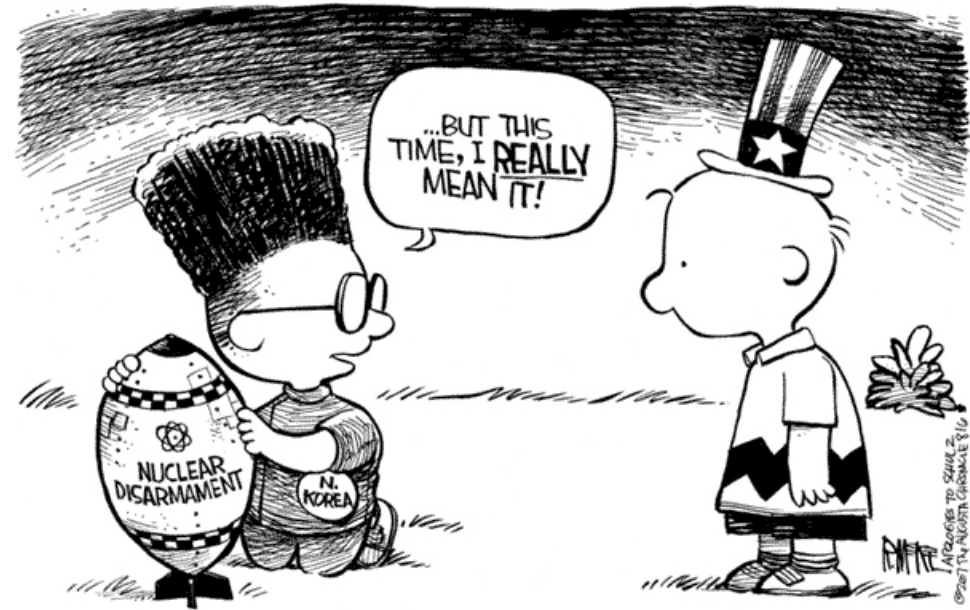
# 1990's, Nukes, and the US

- South Africa gave up the bomb (1991)
- US did its last nuclear bomb test (1992)
- World Court says nuclear weapons illegal (1996)
- Total nuclear test ban is signed (1996)
- India and Pakistan conduct nuclear tests (1998)



# New millennium and problem called North Korea

- 2003 - North Korea withdraws from the NPT
- 2006 - North Korea conducts nuclear test
- 2007 - North Korea agrees to close its main nuclear reactor in exchange for an aid package worth \$400 million, but they miss deadline
- 2009 - The UN Security Council condemns the nuclear test and imposes new sanctions



# Nuclear threats to 21st century

- **North Korea** - the deputy director of a North Korean think tank says the country has the missile capability to strike mainland United States and would do so if the United States forced their hand.
- **Nuclear terrorism** - [Nuclear Terrorism: The Threat is Real](#)
- **Iran** – since 2003, worldwide concern over Iran's nuclear program has increased as Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) spar over investigation and details of Iran's program



# America's view

„Today, in the post-9/11 world, the most urgent nuclear weapon threats to the United States are not from another major power's deliberate use of them, but instead are from **non-state terrorist actors** or from the **regional proliferation of such weapons** into unreliable hands“

- Nuclear Weapons in 21st Century U.S. National Security report





# America's view

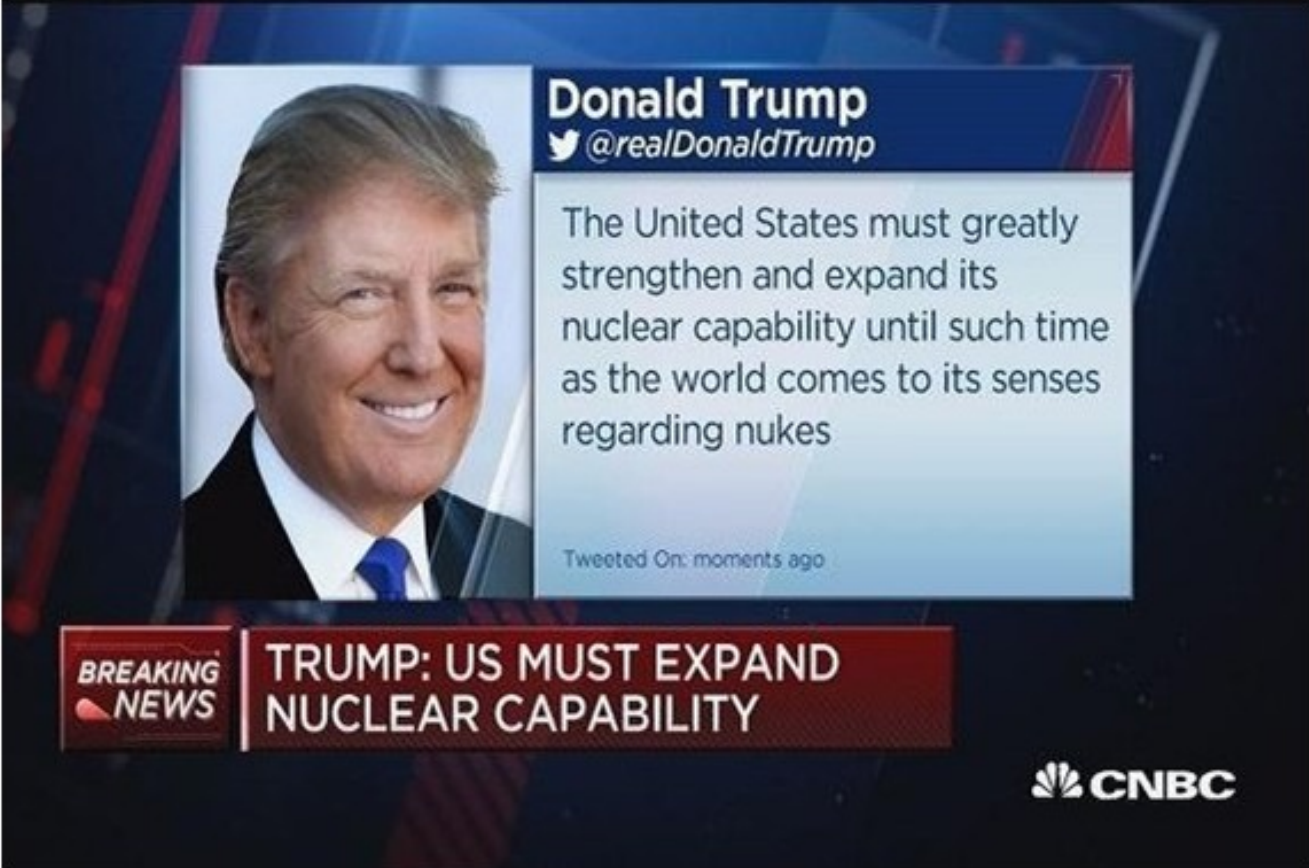
„U.S. nuclear policy and strategy in this post-Cold War and post-9/11 security environment **have not been well articulated** and as a consequence are poorly understood both within and outside American borders. **This situation has led to doubts and uncertainties about the roles and missions of nuclear weapons** and their value against 21st century security threats, including allies' uncertainties about U.S. assurances as they relate to emerging nuclear-armed neighboring states“

- Nuclear Weapons in 21st Century U.S. National Security report

# America's view

„Lacking a coherent and compelling rationale for U.S. nuclear strategy and policy, Congress has been unwilling to fund some Bush Administration requests for new nuclear refurbishment efforts (both stockpile and infrastructure). Meanwhile, serious strains on the human, technical, and scientific infrastructure could undermine whatever strategy is ultimately adopted. Clearly, **this policy vacuum regarding our nuclear deterrent must be addressed alongside our efforts to prevent further nuclear proliferation**“

- Nuclear Weapons in 21st Century U.S. National Security report



**Donald Trump**  
@realDonaldTrump

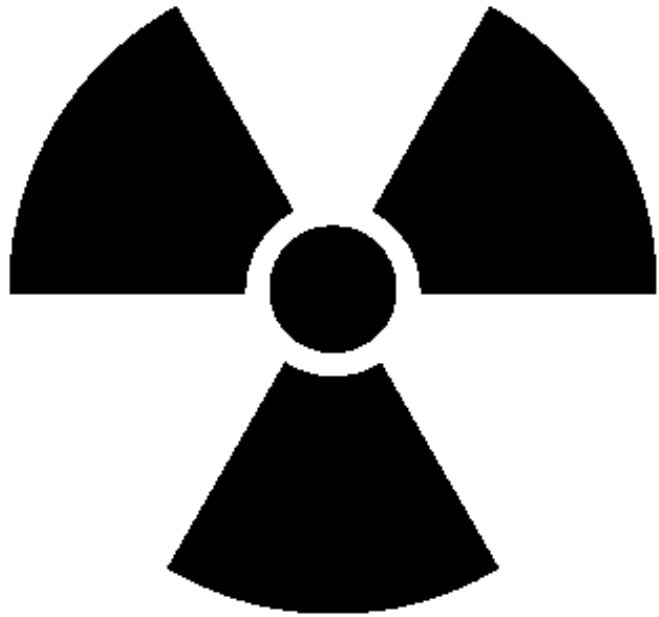
The United States must greatly strengthen and expand its nuclear capability until such time as the world comes to its senses regarding nukes

Tweeted On: moments ago

**BREAKING NEWS** | **TRUMP: US MUST EXPAND NUCLEAR CAPABILITY**

**CNBC**





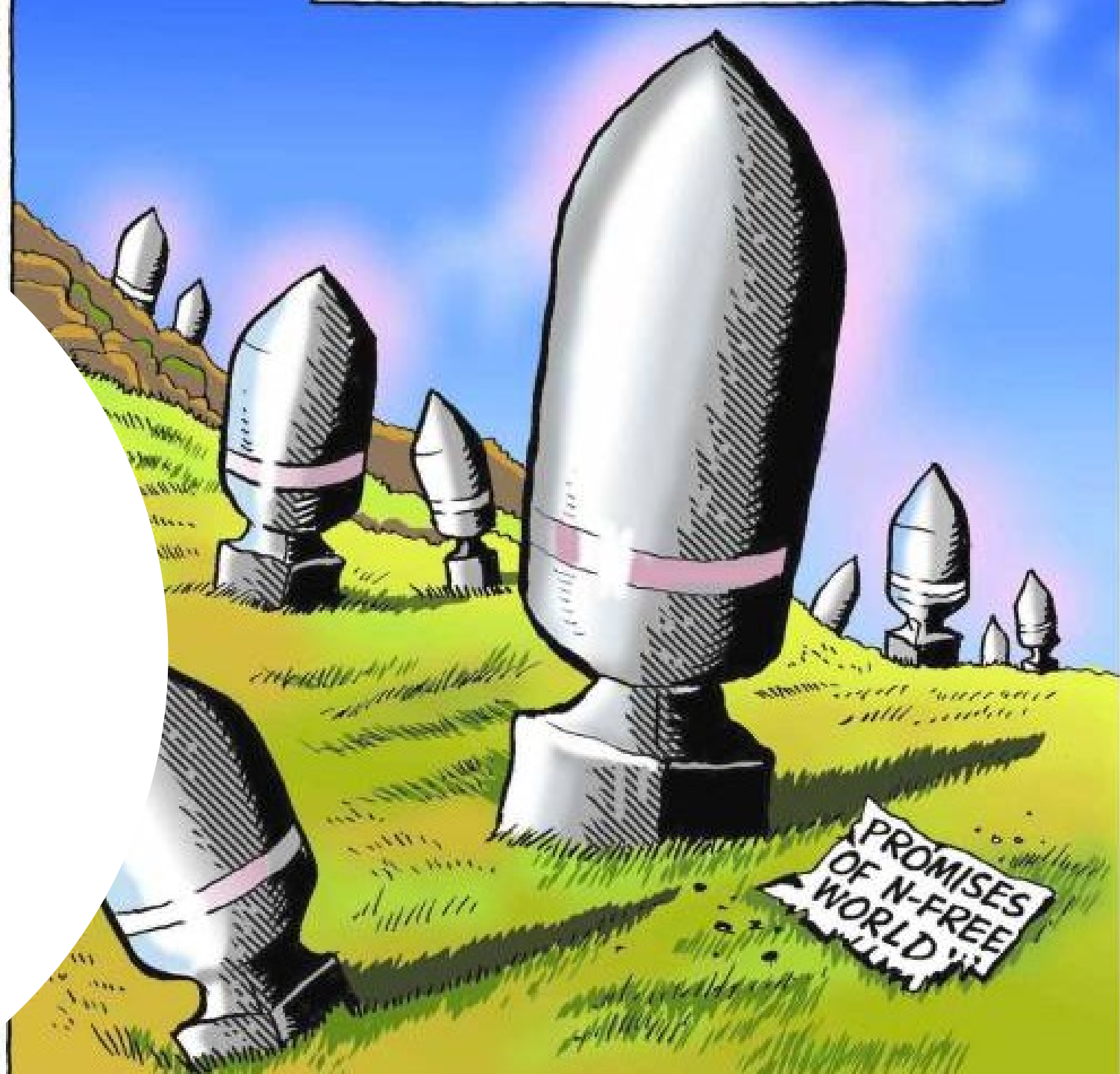
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# U.S. - Nuclear Proliferation and the Future

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- U.S. and Iran
- U.S. and North Korea
- U.S. and Russia
- U.S. and Future Prospects → NPR
- U.S. and Future Concerns



# U.S. and Iran

## NOW

In January 2018 President Trump waived, **for the last time**, the sanctions on Iran following the nuclear agreement (JCPOA) from 2015.

Trump's administration laid down new conditions to be met **in the period of four months**.

## FUTURE

**May 12, 2018** – a date of the next waiver.

## IS IT GOING TO HAPPEN?

What are the chances of not destroying the nuclear deal with Iran?

# U.S. and North Korea

## NOW

‘North Korea is pursuing its nuclear and missile programs in defiance of U.N. Security Council sanctions and has made no secret of its plans to develop a missile capable of hitting the U.S. mainland.’

(CNBC)

## FUTURE

By the **end of May 2018** – (currently) a **proposed** meeting between the President Trump and Kim Jong-Un.

**IS IT GOING TO HAPPEN?**

What are the anticipated outcomes?

# U.S. and Russia

## NOW

„Both the United States and Russia have **now** outlined **expansions** of their nuclear arsenals, ....

„Each has also charged the other with violations of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty.“

## FUTURE

„... and it **remains unclear** whether New START, the primary arms-reduction treaty in effect between the two, will **remain viable** beyond its expiration date of 2021.“

(March 1, 2018, Kare DeYoung)

**U.S. and  
Future  
Prospects -  
The 2018  
Nuclear  
Posture  
Review (NPR)**

modernizing the nuclear triad

70 years

has kept us safe for over

## U.S. and Future Prospects -The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review (NPR)

„The United States **would only consider** the use of nuclear weapons in extreme -- **in extreme circumstances** to defend the vital interests of the United States, its allies and partners.,,

Example of extreme circumstances:

**a significant nonnuclear strategic attacks**

**The United States does not want to use nuclear weapons.**

(Deputy Secretary of Defence Patrick M. Shanahan)

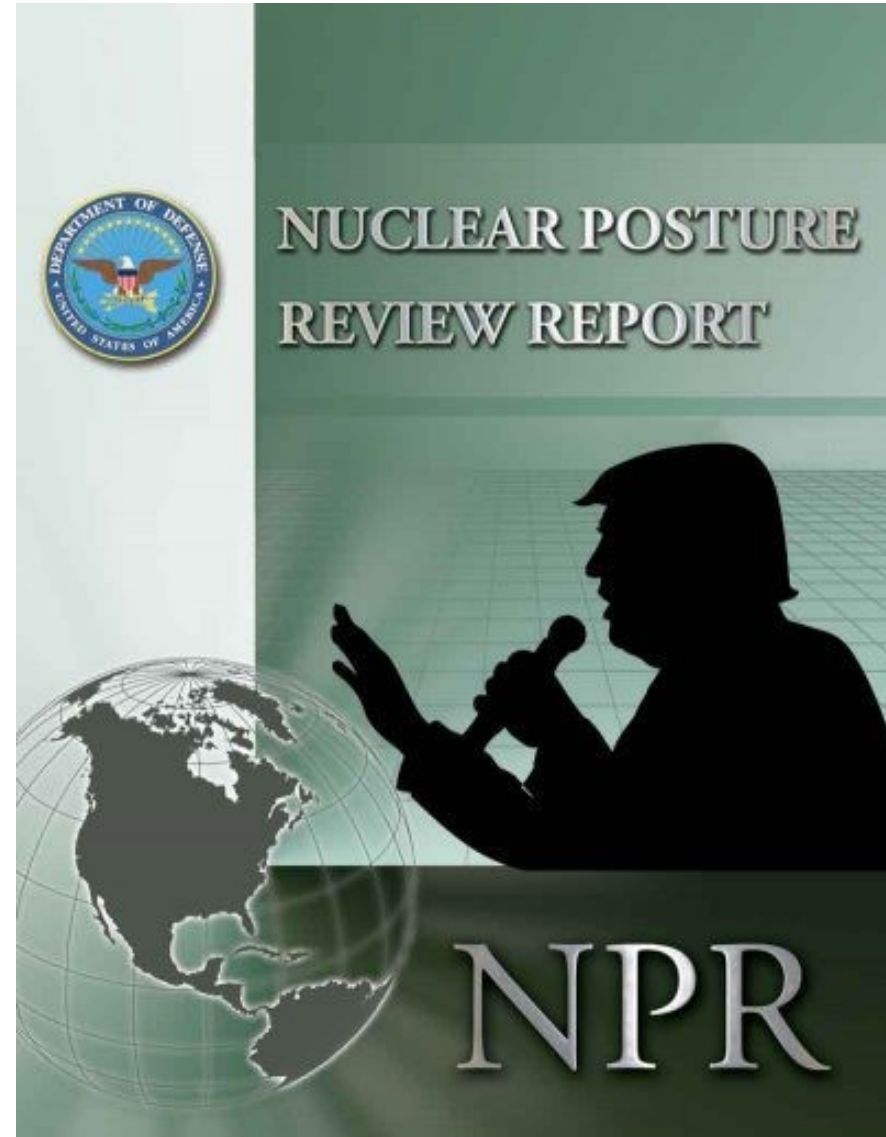


## U.S. and Future Prospects -The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review (NPR)

The 2018 NPR reflects the president's priority to **put America first**...

The potential threat of **non-state actors** getting their hands on a nuclear weapon remains at the front of all of our minds.

( Under Secretary of State for Political Affair Thomas Shannon)





# U.S. and Future Concerns

- Other than nuclear mass destruction threats:

## Cyber or Biological Attacks.

Development of new bans and control measures for new types of bio-weapons (genetic engineering and so on) **would be possible** on a multilateral basis only in the context of **cooperation among the major powers**.

(Atlantic Council Global Risks 2035)

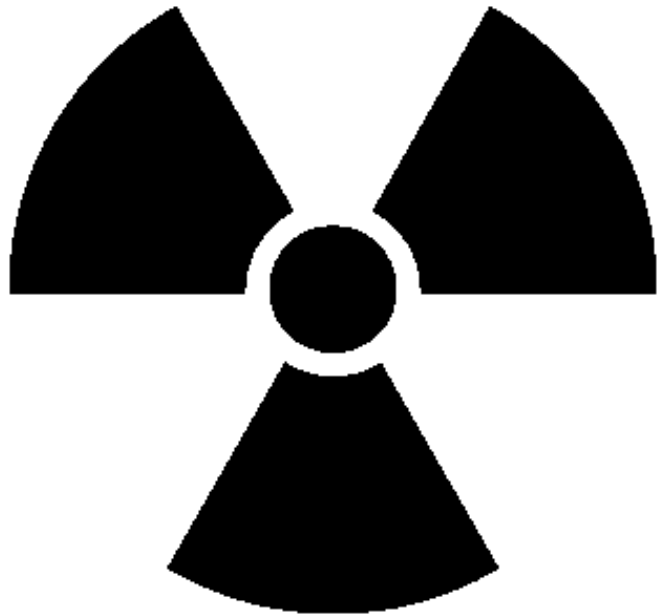
- Nuclear weapons in possession of **non-state actors**.
- Further **division** between U.S. and Europe over **JCPOA**.



**Thank you  
for your  
attention**

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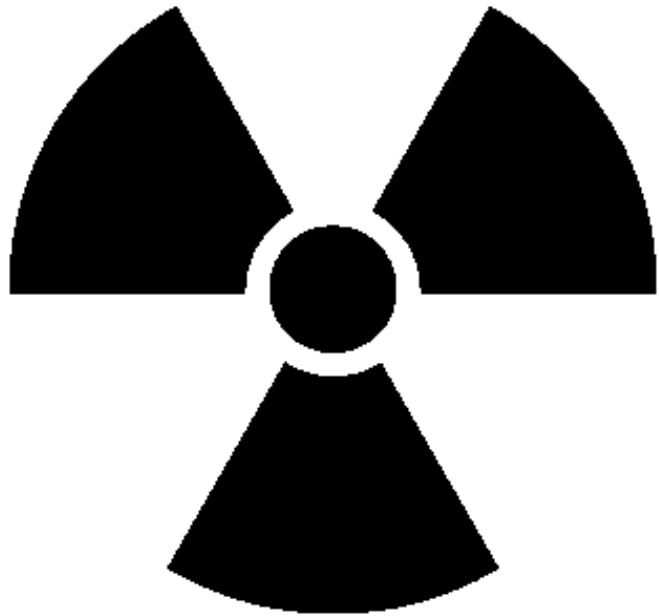
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