

## 8. Nuclear security: the enduring challenge of nuclear weapons

### Acronyms and abbreviations

**IAEA**—International Atomic Energy Agency

**ICMB**—Intercontinental Ballistic Missile

**JCPOA**—Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action

**NATO**—North Atlantic Treaty Organization

**NPT**—Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty

### Glossary

**Agreed Framework (1994):** An agreement between the U.S. and North Korea. North Korea was to replace its nuclear power plants with light water reactor plants by 2003, in exchange for normalized political and economic relations. By the target year, the agreement had broken down.

**Ayatollah Khamenei:** Supreme leader of Iran since 1989, with control over the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government, the media and the military.

**Benjamin Netanyahu:** Prime minister of Israel since 2009, and previously from 1996–99.

**Bombing of Hiroshima (August 6, 1945):** The nuclear bombing of Hiroshima, Japan by the United States during WWII. Three days later, the U.S. dropped another atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Nagasaki. Hiroshima and Nagasaki are the only two cities ever targeted by nuclear bombs in warfare. Japan capitulated to the Allies on August 15, 1945.

**Cold War:** The political and military tensions between the U.S., the Soviet Union and their respective allies that occurred between 1947 and 1991. Although no direct fighting ensued, the U.S. and Soviet Union armed themselves in case of a possible nuclear war.

**Incirlik Air Base:** Airbase located in Adana, Turkey, used by coalition forces to launch airstrikes against ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

**John Kerry:** An American politician from the Democratic Party who served as secretary of state during the Obama administration, beginning in 2013. He was the Democratic nominee for president in 2004.

**John McCain:** An American politician from the Republican Party, and senior senator from Arizona. In 2008, he was the Republican nominee for president.

**Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) (Iran nuclear deal):** The nuclear agreement reached between Iran, the EU and the P5+1 (five permanent members of the UN plus Germany) in 2015 and implemented in 2016. Iran agreed to limitations and international inspections of its nuclear program. In exchange, the EU, U.S. and UN would lift economic sanctions on the country.

**Kim Jong Un:** Supreme leader of North Korea. He inherited the position upon his father's death in 2011.

**Mahmoud Ahmadinejad:** President of Iran (2005–13). Ahmadinejad's presidency was partly characterized by a hardline stance on Iran's nuclear program, and negative rhetoric against the U.S. and Israel.

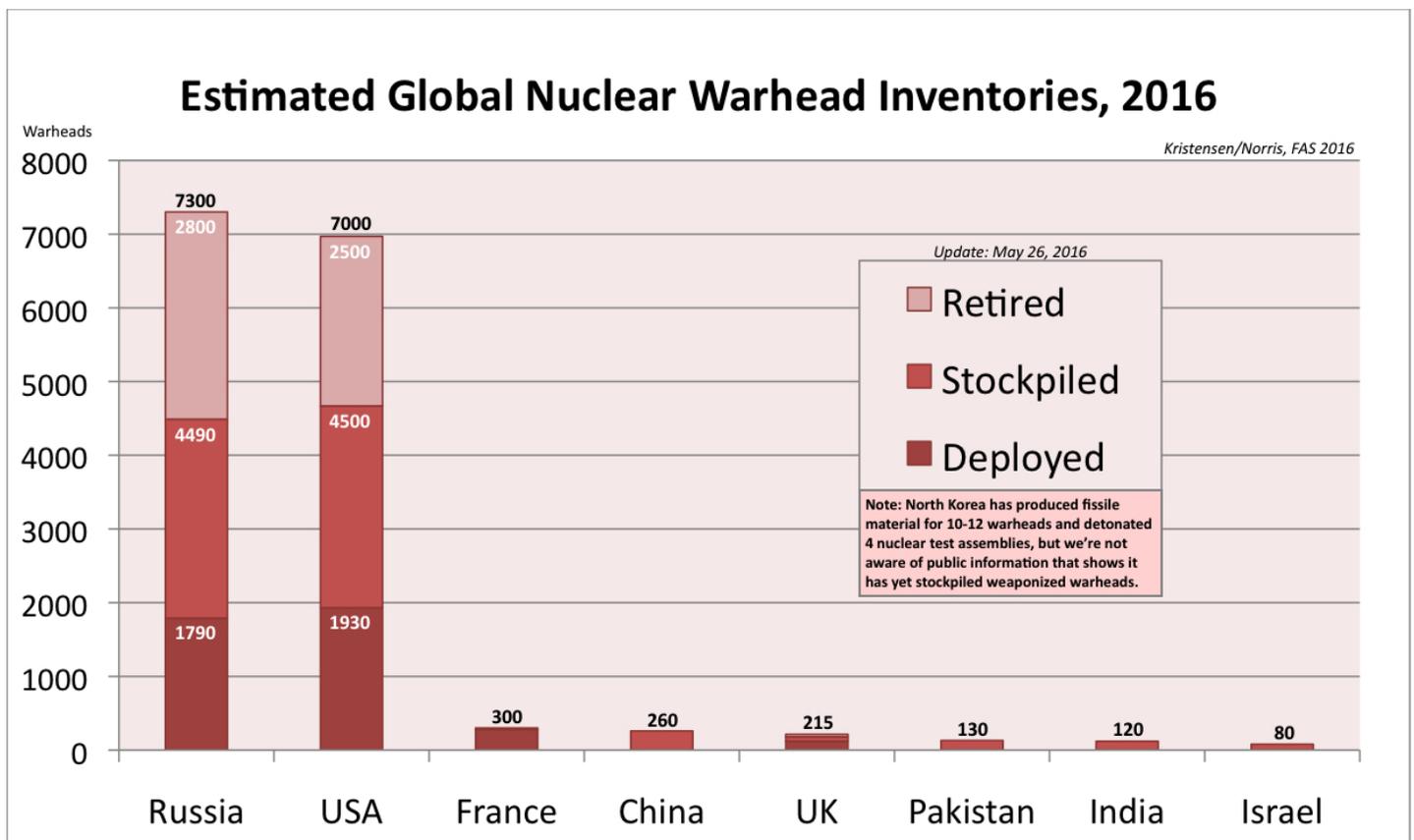
**New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty):** An agreement between the U.S. and Russia to reduce nuclear arms, ratified in 2011. It succeeded the Treaty of Moscow (SORT), a similar agreement that would have expired in 2012.

**Sam Nunn:** An American politician from the Democratic Party, and former senator from Georgia (1972–97). He is currently co-chairman and CEO of the Nuclear Threat Initiative, established in 2001.

**Stockpile Stewardship Program:** A U.S. program that assesses nuclear weapons in order to assure reliability, without conducting nuclear tests. The U.S. has not conducted a nuclear explosive test since 1992.

**Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT):** An international treaty intended to prevent nuclear proliferation. It came into effect in 1970, and today has 191 signatories.

**Tsar Bomba:** Refers to a nuclear bomb tested by the Soviet Union in 1961. Tsar Bomba—officially, RDS-220—is the most powerful nuclear weapon ever detonated.



Source: Kristensen/Norris, Federation of American Scientists