

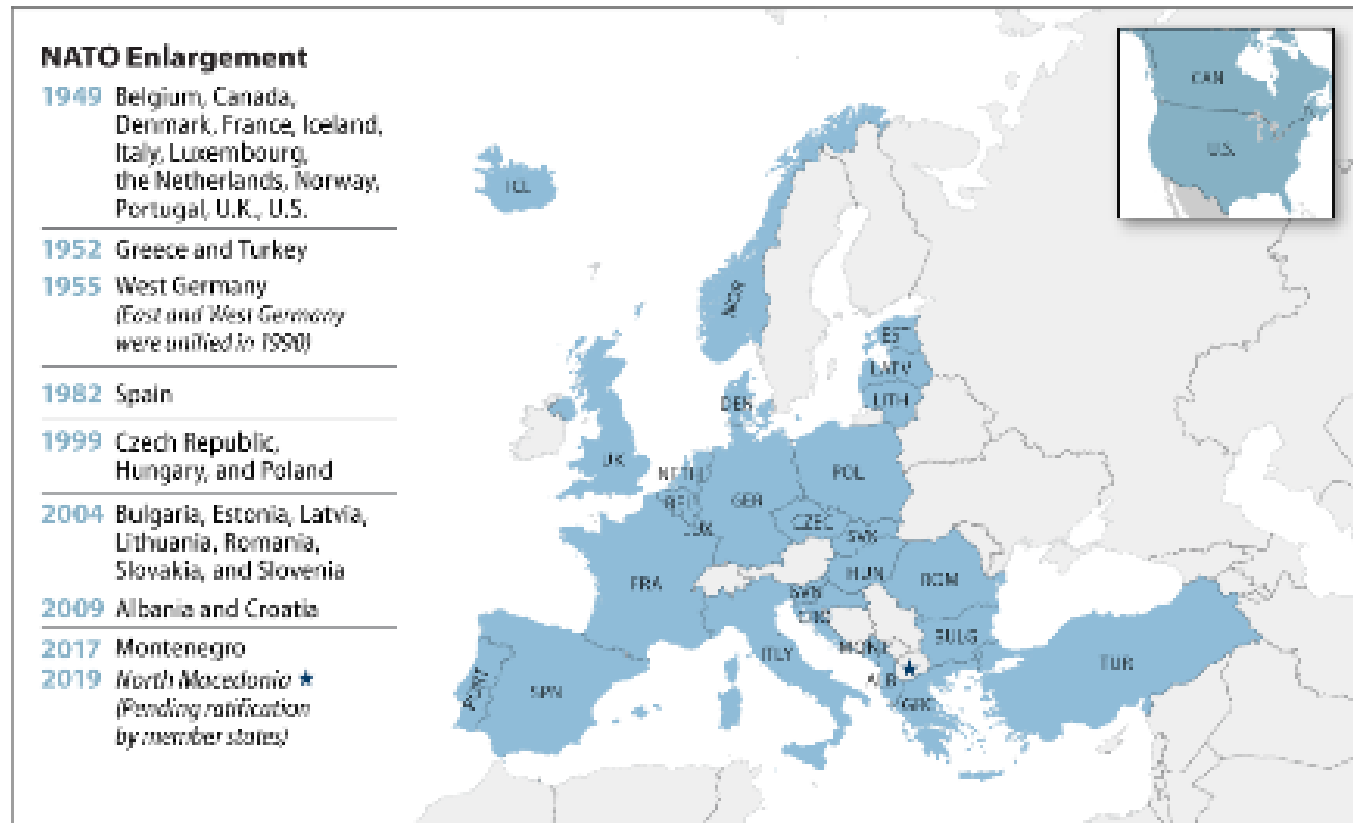
Allies and Alliances in US Security Strategy

Dr. Brad Roberts
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April 2019



North Atlantic Treaty of 1949



Allies in East Asia



Middle East and North Africa



Official Trump Administration Strategy

- National Security Strategy, 2017
 - “Experience suggests that the willingness of rivals to abandon or forgo aggression depends on their perception of U.S. strength and the vitality of our alliances.”
- National Defense Strategy, 2018
 - “To succeed in the emerging security environment [we] will have to out-think, out-maneuver, out-partner, and out-innovate adversaries”
 - “Mutually beneficial alliances and partnerships are crucial to our strategy, providing a durable, asymmetric strategic advantage that no competitor or rival can match.”
 - “By working together with allies, we amass the greatest possible strength.”
 - “We will strengthen and evolve our alliances.”



President Trump Reportedly Wants Allies to Pay Full Cost of Hosting U.S. Troops Abroad 'Plus 50%'

[Nick Wadhams and Jennifer Jacobs / Bloomberg](#)

Mar 08, 2019

For years, President Donald Trump has complained that countries hosting American troops aren't paying enough. Now he wants to get even, and then some.

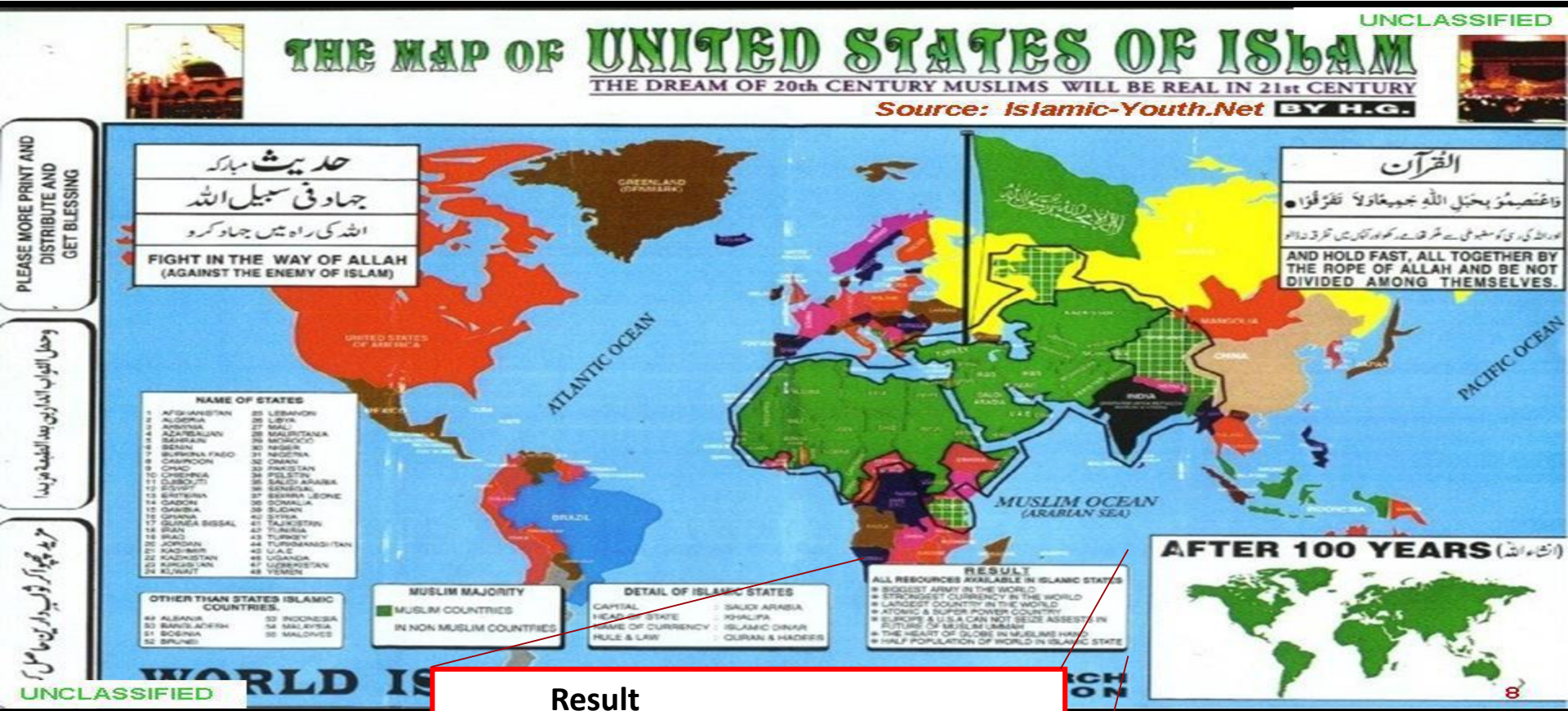
Under White House direction, the administration is drawing up demands that Germany, Japan and eventually any other country hosting U.S. troops pay the full price of American soldiers deployed on their soil — plus 50 percent or more for the privilege of hosting them, according to a dozen administration officials and people briefed on the matter.

“Europe has a set of primary interests, which to us have none, or a very remote relation. Hence, she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves, by artificial ties, in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics, or the ordinary combinations & collisions of her friendships, or enmities. Our detached & distant situation invites and enables us to pursue a different course.”

*President George Washington
Farewell Message, 1796*



Osama bin Laden: "Our intended goal in this age is the establishment of a caliphate."



Result

- Strongest army in the world
- Strongest currency in the world
- Largest country in the world
- Atomic and super power country
- Half of world population in Islamic State



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The Burden Sharing Debate: \$\$\$ or Responsibilities?

- Better to go it alone as the sheriff?
- Or go with a posse?



President Putin to the Russian Duma, March 18, 2014

- “We have every reason to assume that the infamous policy of containment...continues today. They are constantly trying to sweep us into a corner...But there is a limit to everything...If you compress the spring all the way to its limit, it will snap back hard.”

Putin to the Valdai Club, October 2014

- headline banner: “new rules or no rules”

Russia's Conventional Precision Strike Capabilities, Regional Crises, and Nuclear Thresholds

DAVE JOHNSON



Livermore Papers on Global Security No. 3
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
Center for Global Security Research
February 2018

Russia's Strategy for Regional War

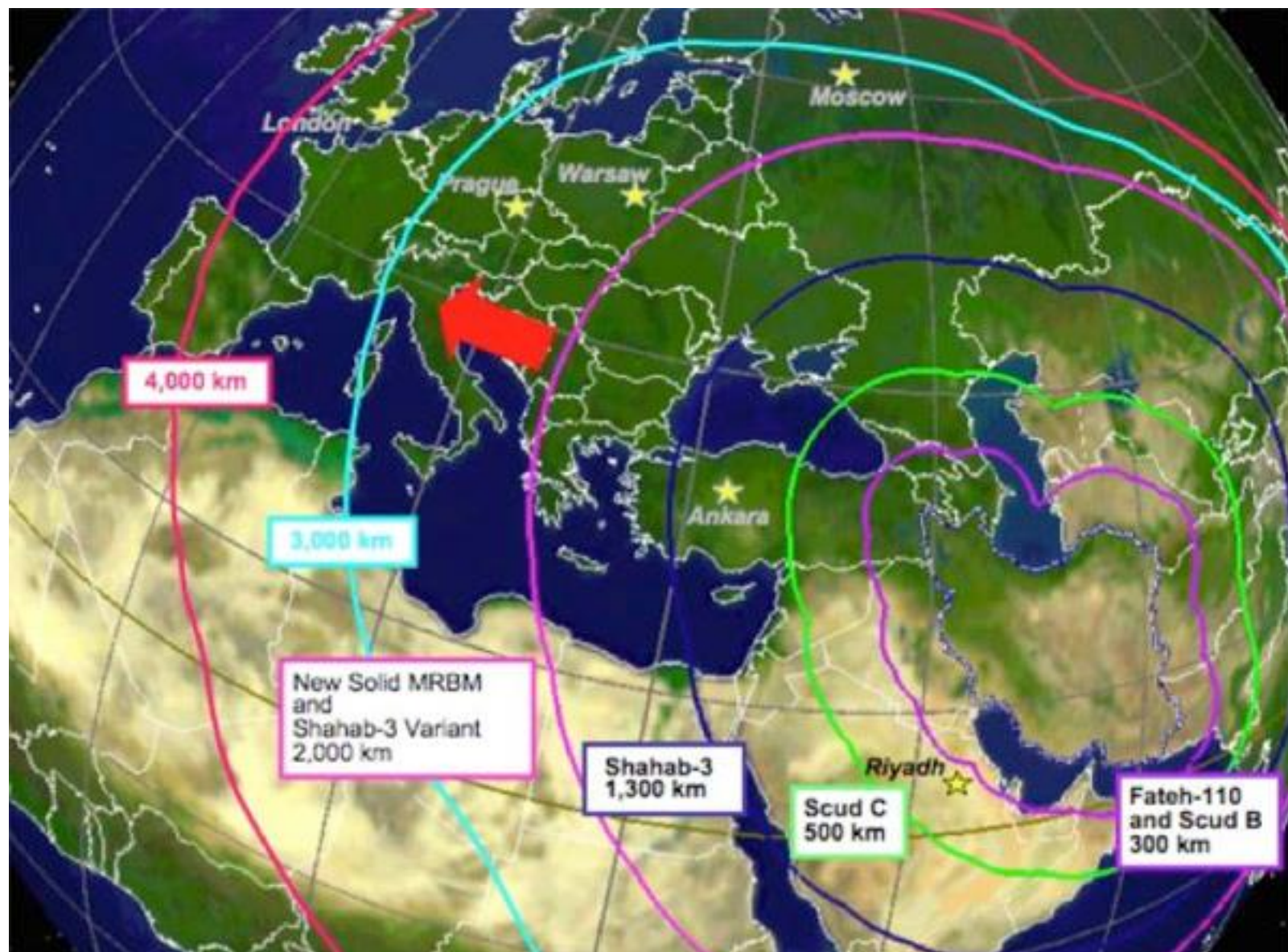
- Set the conditions ahead of time for success in a short war
- Prepare to escalate to strategic strikes on Western targets with a newly diversified "strategic weapons set"
- Employ nuclear weapons if needed on a limited basis "to sober, not enrage" the enemy
- Divide NATO so that it is paralyzed and separate European allies from the US so it is left to fight alone or not at all

Defense Minister Shoigu in March 2019

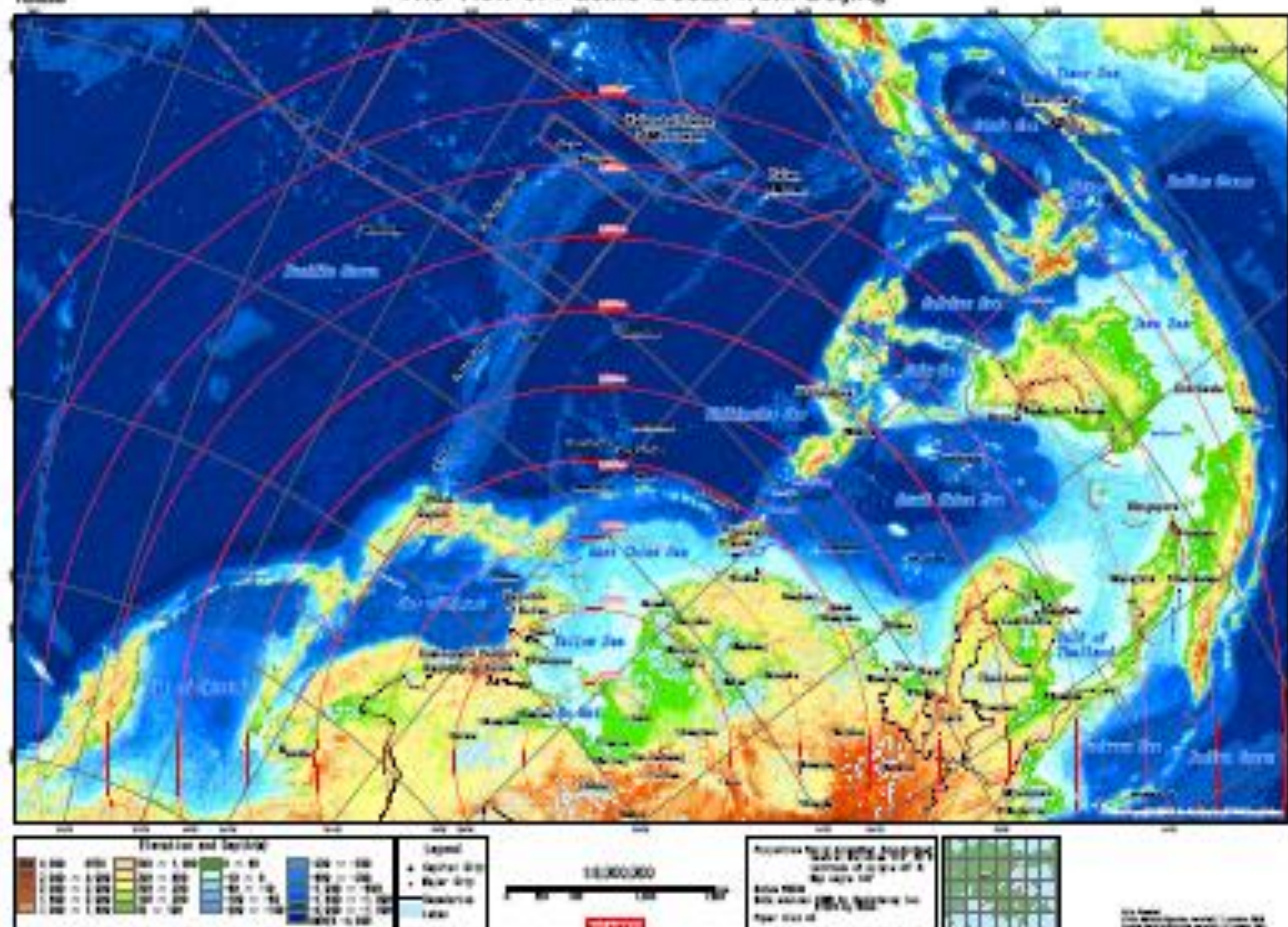
- Defense modernization over the decade has:
 - Increased weapons platforms capable of striking Europe by a factor of 30
 - Increased cruise missiles by a factor of 18 (such missiles are capable of delivering either nuclear or non-nuclear warheads)

Russia's Arms Control Strategy

- Legacy agreements rejected by Putin as forced upon Russia in time of weakness, aimed at keeping Russia weak
- US questions RF compliance with 5 arms control agreements and 6 other legal commitments related to military transparency and respect for sovereignty



The View of Pacific Ocean from Beijing



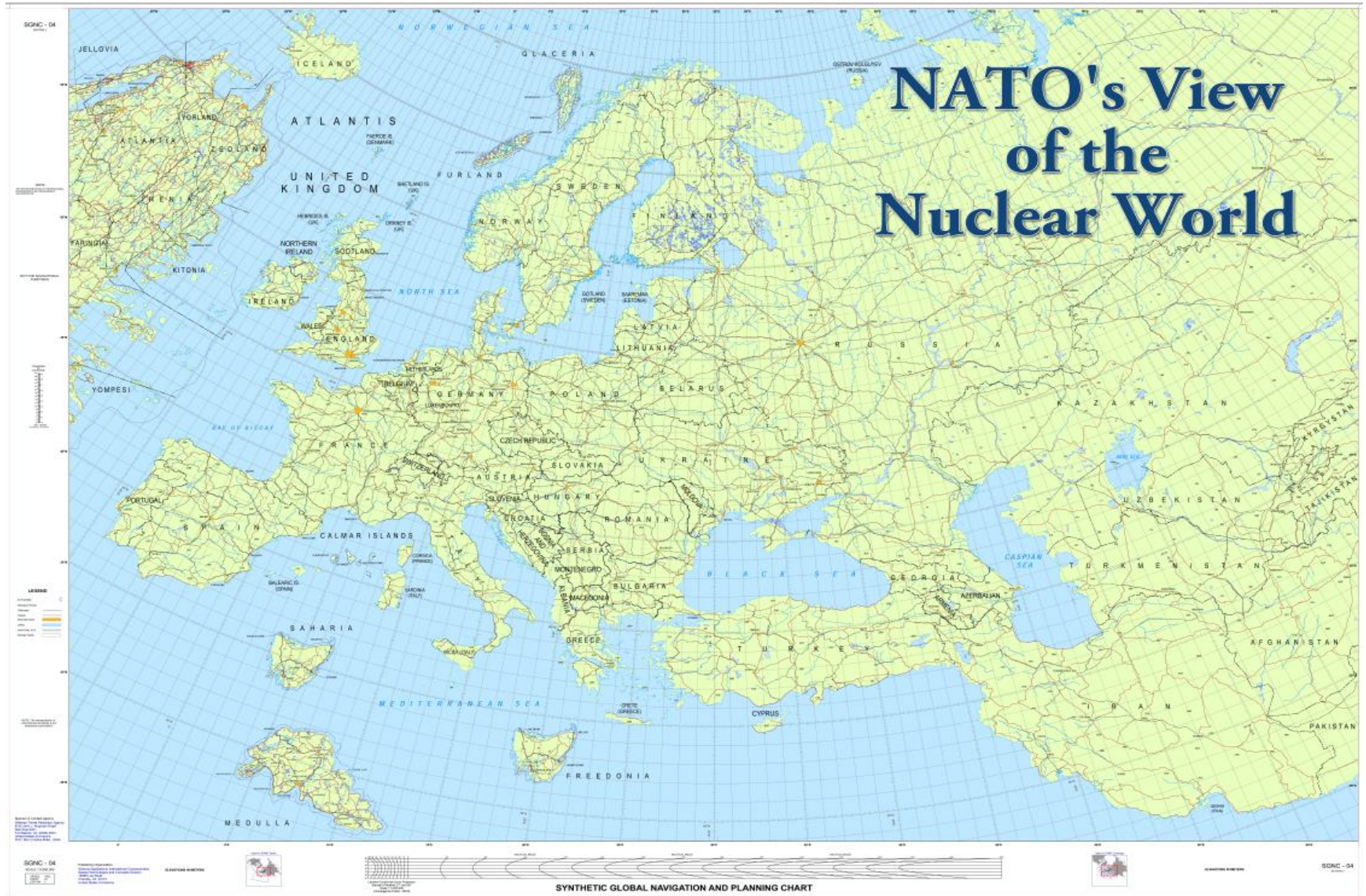


Kim Jong Un reviewing nuclear plans



The North Atlantic Council in session

NATO's View of the Nuclear World





US credibility is fundamental to extended deterrence. Allies want to know:

- Is the US going to be willing to make good on its promise to employ its nuclear weapons when their vital interests are at risk—especially if US vital interests are not at risk?
- Are US promises to do so credible?





“Today, we are emerging from a period of strategic atrophy....Interstate strategic competition, not terrorism, is now the primary concern in US national security.”

2018 National Defense Strategy