

One Man Shouldn't Control the Nuclear Button: Presidential Power and Reducing the Threat of Nuclear War

Prof. Jonathan King

Sponsored by MIT Radius

Co-sponsored by the MIT Faculty Newsletter

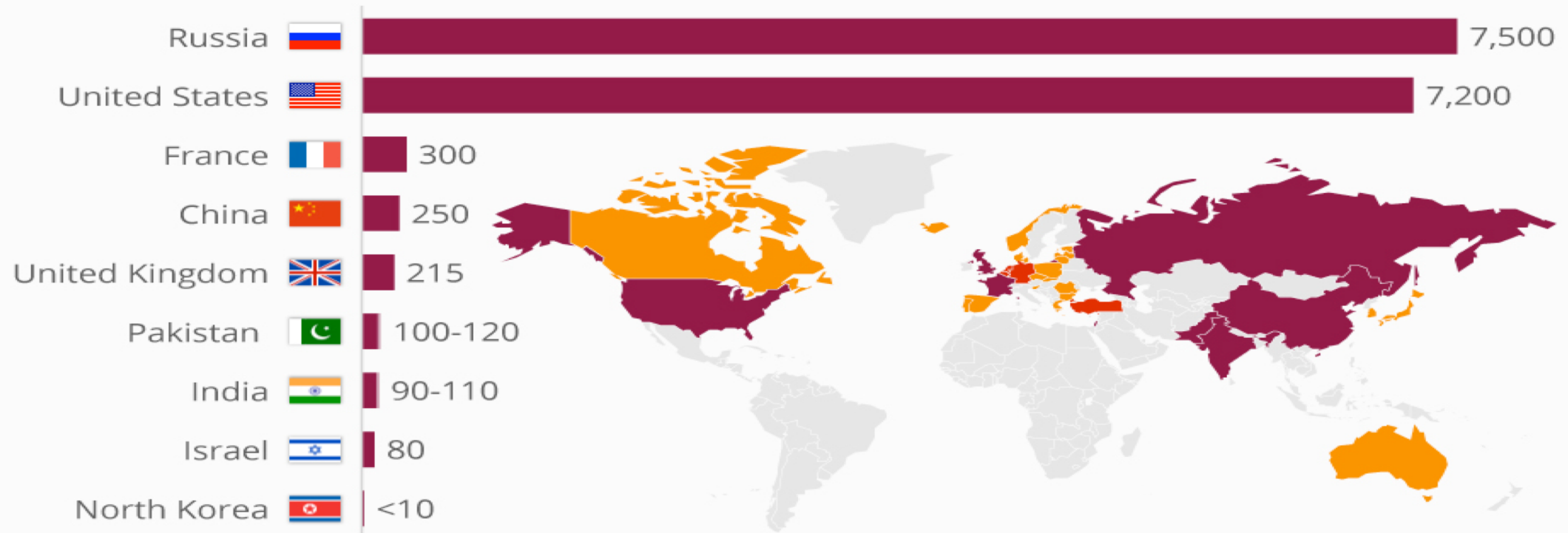
Kosta Tsipis and Aron Bernstein



Nuclear Weapons Arsenals

NUMBER OF NUCLEAR WARHEADS IN COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE IN 2013

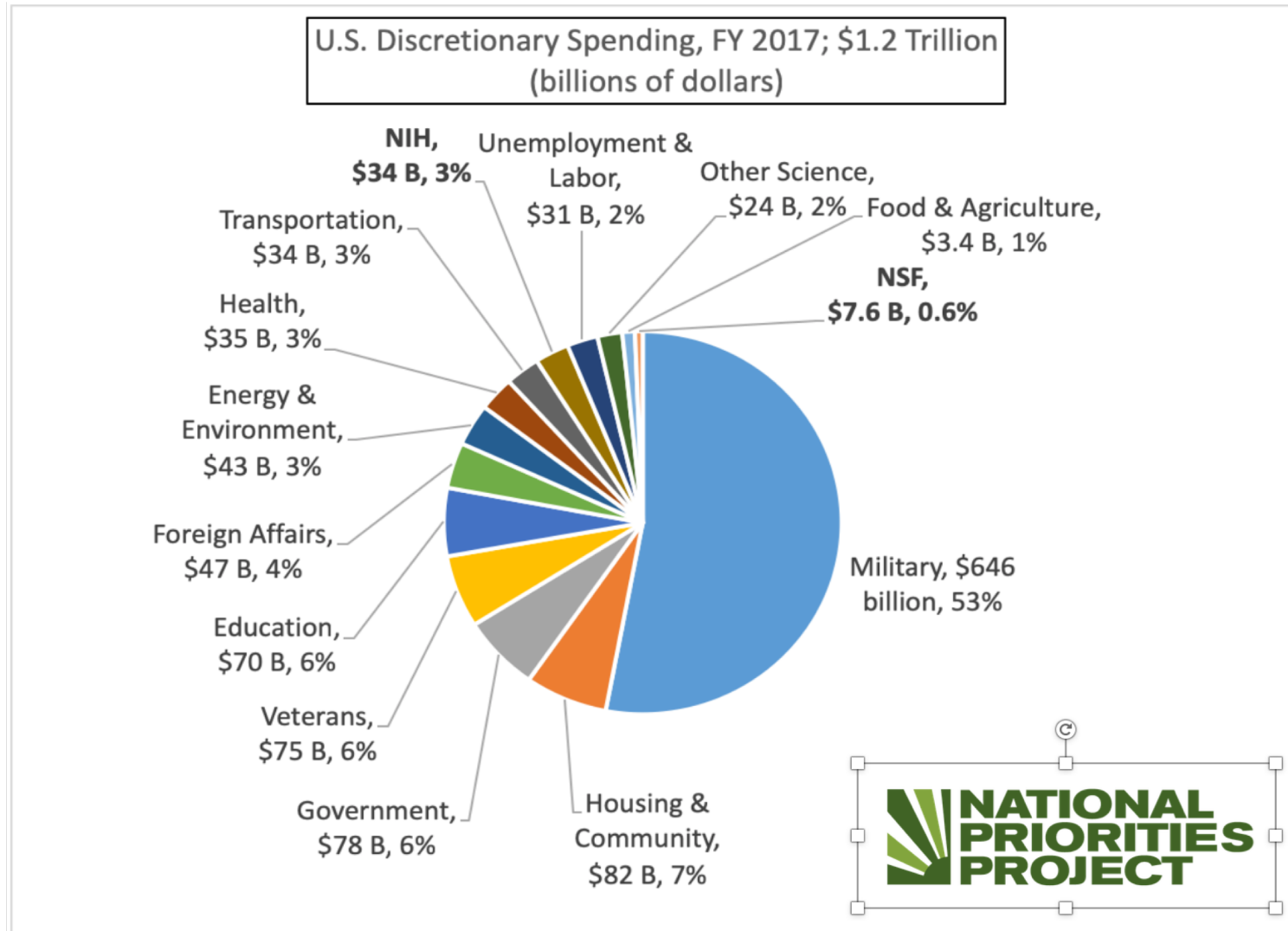
■ Nations with nuclear weapons ■ Nations hosting nuclear weapons
■ Nations in nuclear alliances



One of 14 Ohio Class Subs: Armed with 24 Trident D5 missiles with 8 nuclear warheads each



Congressional Discretionary Budget Pre-Pandemic



Trump Cuts NIH to Finance Weapons Contracts

- “President Trump’s 2018 budget blueprintproposes cuts in discretionary spending for most government agencies to pay for large increases in military spending.” (*NY Times* March 16, 2017).
- Budget Director Mulvaney was quite clear in speaking with Republican Governors: “By way of defending such extensive cuts, Mr. Mulvaney said simply that the White House’s priority was military spending and that other reductions were necessary to advance that goal.” (Alexander Burns, *NY Times*, March 22, 2017.)

Civilian versus Military Congressional Budgets

- Build Back Better for civilian needs - \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill over ten years (\$350 billion/ year).
- Compare with massive \$768 billion Pentagon Budget just for the coming year:
- That will be a **minimum \$7.7 trillion** over 10 years , more than double the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill.

Grass Roots Campaigns

- ***No First Use:***
Decrease the Danger of Nuclear War
- ***Back from the Brink***
- ***Sign UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons***

