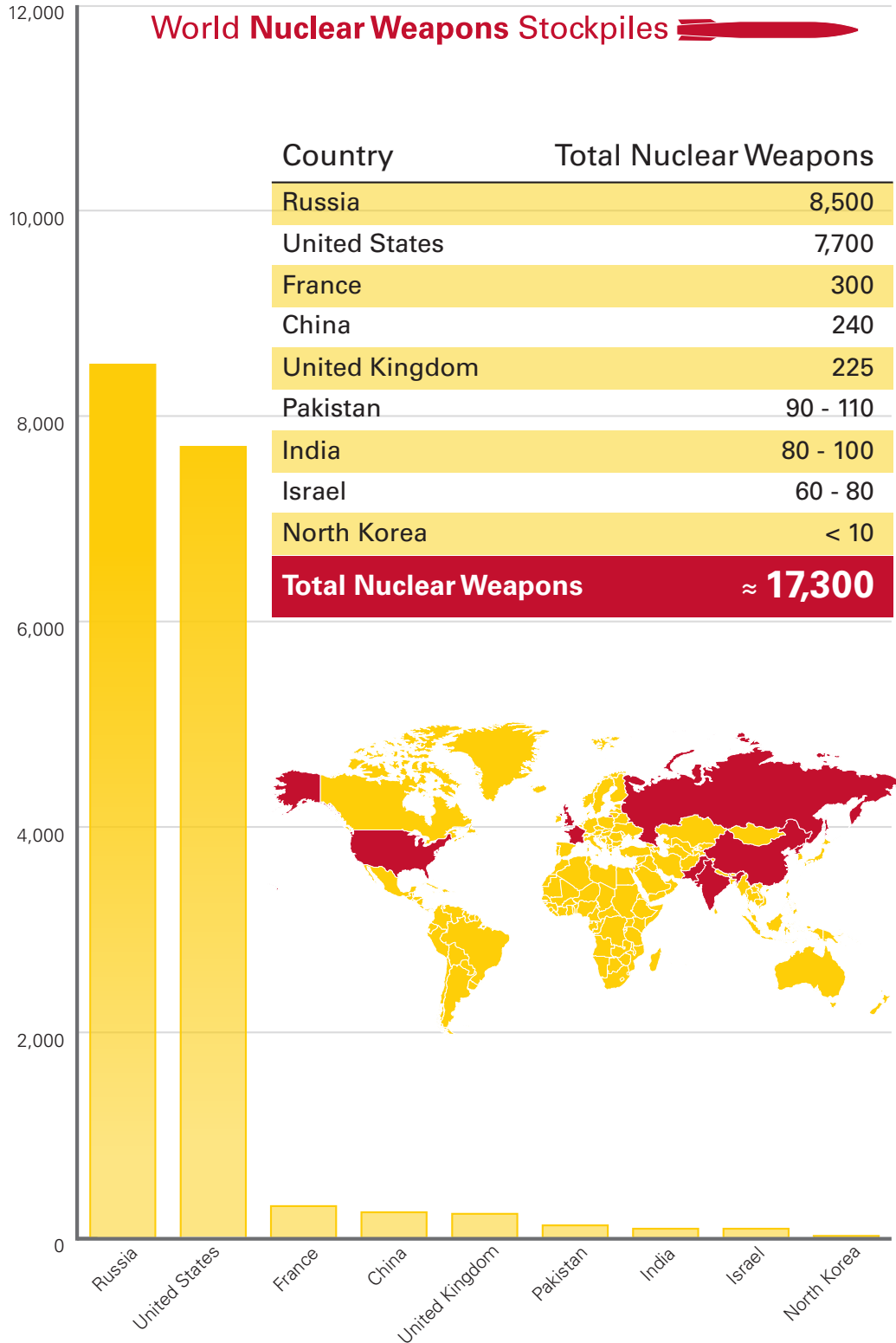


The exact number of nuclear weapons in global arsenals is not known, as each country guards these numbers as closely held national secrets. What is known, however, is that more than a decade and a half after the Cold War ended, the world's combined stockpile of nuclear warheads remain at unacceptably high levels.



Visit Ploughshares Fund at ploughshares.org for the "World Nuclear Stockpile Report" and access detailed information about nuclear weapons across the globe.

RESOURCES:
thebulletin.org
fas.org

Hans Kristensen and **Robert Norris** of the Federation of American Scientists are the leading experts in estimating the size of global nuclear weapons inventories. The table is a compilation of their estimates and analyses, with links to their full reports. These reports are published in The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists and discussed further at the FAS Strategic Security Blog.

As the authors of these estimates note, the above numbers may not add up due to rounding and uncertainty about the operational statuses and size of the total inventories. For a full analysis of how the authors arrived at their estimates, please view the provided links for the complete reports.

Updated December 20, 2012.

Sources:

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