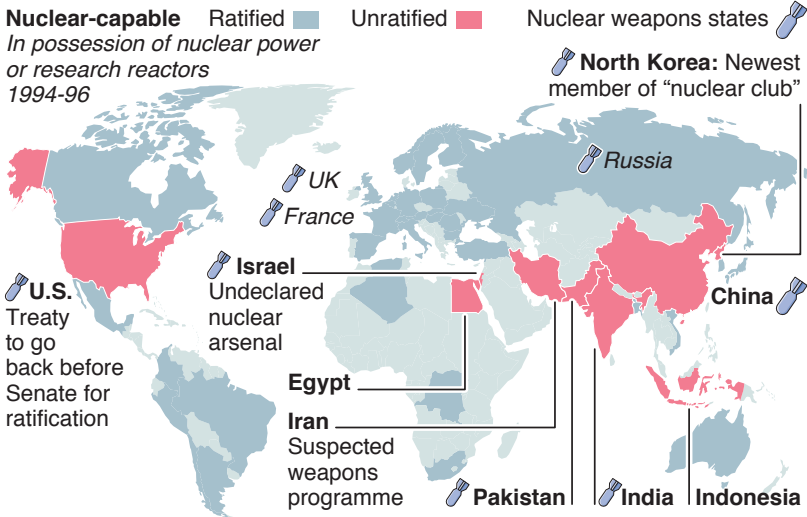



New push for nuclear test ban treaty


The 1996 Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty – which bans nuclear explosions for any purpose around the world – remains on hold 13 years after its adoption by the UN. Signed by 180 countries, the Treaty has still to be ratified by nine more nuclear-capable countries for it to take effect





Enforcement of CTBT depends on International Monitoring System to detect atmospheric, underwater or underground nuclear detonations



 **Acoustic:** 60 infra-sound stations use acoustic pressure sensors to detect and determine source of very low-frequency sound waves in atmosphere

 **Seismic:** 50 primary and 120 auxiliary monitoring stations distinguish between underground explosions and earthquakes

 **Hydro-acoustic:** Six hydrophone stations detect underwater acoustic waves. Five seismic stations pick up acoustic waves when they hit land

 **Atmospheric:** 80 air sampling stations detect radioactive particles which provide conclusive evidence of a nuclear explosion