

# Russian space weapon concerns U.S.

The United States fears Russia is developing a space-based nuclear weapon capable of wiping out its satellite network, which the U.S. has no ability to counter

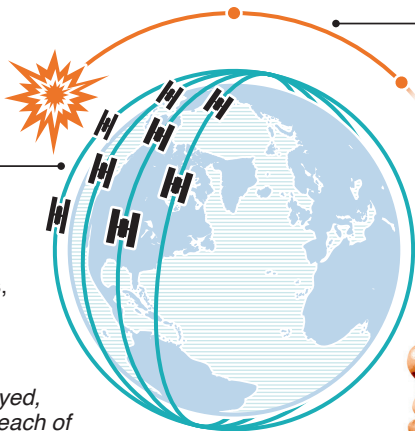
## HOW WEAPON COULD WORK

### 1 U.S. satellite network:

Comprised of civilian communications, surveillance and military satellites

*If weapon deployed, it would be in breach of Article IV of 1967 **Outer Space Treaty**, which bans all orbital nuclear weapons*

**2**  
**Russia:** Nuclear weapon detonated close to satellites could knock out communications, both civilian and military



*Russian President  
**Vladimir Putin***

## SPACE WEAPONS FALL INTO THREE CATEGORIES



### Earth-to-space:

Includes direct-ascent anti-satellite weapons, which **U.S.**, **China**, **India** and **Russia** have all tested, as well as lasers and jammers



### Space-to-space:

Satellites or assets placed into orbit that attack or disrupt other satellites through kinetic impact or directed energy means



### Space-to-Earth:

Includes any orbiting asset capable of using either kinetic or non-kinetic means to attack or disrupt terrestrial targets