New and novel threats to watch

- **Lowering of threshold for nuclear use** as states move to build smaller nuclear weapons
  - Ex: Pakistan’s low-yield systems, such as Nasr, raising concerns for nuclear escalation in South-East Asia [The Diplomat](https://www.thediplomat.com/)
  - US nuclear posture review could also include building new smaller, tactical nuclear weapons [Business Insider](https://www.businessinsider.com/) and [Politico](https://www.politico.com/)

- **Risk of lowering norm against use of chemical weapons** if use goes unpunished
  - New signs: block by Russia of the UN-OPCW inquiry into chemical weapons use in Syria [BBC, The Guardian](https://www.bbc.com/)
  - Aggravating factor: Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)’s viability put in question [Clingendael](https://www.clingendael.org/)

- **Inadequately controlled new biotechnology tools** could lead to severe health catastrophes
  - New developments (ex. gene-editing) progressively outpacing bioweapons convention, which requires adaptation [The Bulletin](https://www.thebulletin.org/)
  - Lack of biosafety and security measures: risk of accidents or use by rogue actors such as terrorists [NTI, The Guardian](https://www.nti.org/)

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The Clingendael Radar
alerts you on new threats
for European security
Long term trend: a decrease in stockpiles but ongoing modernisation
Multi-factor assessment for the next 5 years (2017-2021)

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- ➥ CBRN threat decreasing
- ➤ Factor trending up
- ➥ CBRN threat increasing
- ➤ Factor trending down

For more info please see our [Strategic Monitor 2017](#)