**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 2 MINUTES TO MIDNIGHT SETTING**

**ON THE DOOMSDAY CLOCK\***

The closest setting ever since the height of the Cold War in 1953

***Nuclear Developments***

* Creation of Low Yield Nuclear Weapons by the US
* Modernization of Nuclear Weapons Systems by nearly all nuclear powers with expansion of their arsenals
* Possibilities for Expansion of the Nuclear Club (Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iran)
* Expansion of Global Nuclear Weapon Budget Expenditures
* No progress on development of a New Start Treaty (the last existing nuclear treaty in effect)
* Trump’s Plans for a Space Shield and new Space Agency
* US Abandonment of the Iran Nuclear Deal
* US Withdrawal from Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty
* No substantial change on the Korean Peninsula

***Climatic Developments***

* Upward climb of global carbon dioxide emissions in last two years
* Lack of serious government steps to cut emissions to zero by mid century
* US Withdrawal from the 2015 Paris Accord and affiliation with oil producing countries of Saudi Arabia, Russia and Kuwait in conference in Poland in 2017 to promote petroleum usage
* Loss of confidence in scientific sources and lying by nationalistic leaders and their intentional attempts to distort reality

For more information, please see <https://clock.thebulletin.org/>

\* The Doomsday Clock is a design that warns the public about how close we are to destroying our world with dangerous technologies of our own making. It is a metaphor, a reminder of the perils we must address if we are to survive on the planet. It is maintained by the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, the source of the above information.

WE NEED TO TURN BACK THIS CLOCK!

