The CTBTO, the United States, and Strengthening Support for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

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"…the longest-sought, hardest-fought prize in the history of arms control."

— President Bill Clinton, September 1996.
The United States on the CTBTO and nuclear testing

• “I think the [nuclear test] moratorium has served us well.” – written response from Secretary Rex Tillerson to questions from Tillerson’s confirmation hearing, January 2017

• “We believe that all States should maintain all existing voluntary moratoria on nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, and those States that have not instituted such moratoria should do so.” – G7 April joint communique on nonproliferation and disarmament, which Tillerson was a part of, April 2017

• “A reduction in IMS capability could deprive the U.S. of an irreplaceable source of nuclear explosion monitoring data.” – Trump administration fiscal year 2018 Budget Request, May 2017
Problems in Congress

• In the Trump administration's fiscal year 2018 proposed budget, the CTBTO Preparatory Commission is slated to get $31 million.

• How will Congress react?

• Senator Tom Cotton (R-Ark.) and Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) determined to “restricts funding” for the CTBTO and attacks UNSCR 2310 (Sept. 2016)
  – First introduced as a Feb. 7 standalone bill
  – Then attached as an amendment in the latest National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)
In 1996, the United States was the first nation to sign the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which “prohibits any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion.” The CTBT helps curb the spread of nuclear weapons and establishes a global monitoring network to detect and deter cheating. The time for the CTBT is now.

**Project News**

**Amendment on CTBTO Funding Undermines Global Test Ban**

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Also in the amendment is a declaration by Congress that UN Security Council Resolution 2310 passed Sept. 15, 2016 does not “obligate...nor does it impose an
The Longest-Sought, Hardest Fought ...

- CTBTO.org
  - Youthgroup.ctbto.org
- ProjectForTheCTBT.org
  - Twitter.com/CTBTNow
- Articles
  - On U.S. Funding for CTBTO “Amendment on CTBTO Funding Would Undermine Global Test Ban,” Daryl Kimball, Arms Control Association, July 2017
- Videos on the CTBTO and the IMS
  - MinutePhysics – “How to Detect a Secret Nuclear Test” (3:47)
  - MinuteEarth – “What Nuclear Bombs Taught Us About Whales” (2:49)