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In political disarray, plagued by economic crises and social unrest, and

deserted by key allies such as Syria, whose leader met Trump last week, a

an existential threat. But their very vulnerability could render Tehran's

attacked, it may hit back much harder next time.

weakened Iran is a tempting target for Netanyahu, who insists it still poses

mullahs more dangerous. Iran is reportedly building thousands of missiles. If

A repeat bout of unprovoked, US-backed Israeli aggression would be another instance of extreme state lawlessness. Yet who would stop it? Not the UN. Not the international courts. Not a cowed Europe, nor Trump-appeasing Arab states. A similarly woeful saga of fecklessness, indifference and impotence could unfold if, say, China were to invade Taiwan. Or if Russia invaded Moldova, or even Nato member Estonia.

This is the world as it is now. Rampant state lawlessness finds ultimate

expression in an accelerating global nuclear weapons race unconstrained by

Putin is following suit. Xi Jinping flaunts China's atomic arsenal; Netanyahu

conceals Israel's. Indian and Pakistani leaders threaten mutual destruction.

arms control treaties or common sense. Trump is resuming nuclear tests;

North Korea's Kim Jong-un is building nukes like there's no tomorrow.

Which, at this rate, there may not be. They're all rogue states now. As previously noted: these people could get us all killed.

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