

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists

EXISTENTIAL THREAT SCORECARD



2020 Presidential Debates

OCTOBER 22, 2020

Joe Biden

Donald Trump

Kristen Welker

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

New START treaty extension / anything about arms control

No first use / sole launch authority

Nuclear modernization

The Iran nuclear agreement

North Korean nuclear weapons

“Super-duper missile” / “hydrosonic missile”

CLIMATE CHANGE

Plan for a clean energy revolution (or anything close)

Carbon tax / cap-and-trade (or any mention of carbon at all)

Paris Agreement

Solar or wind energy / electric cars / [bird death](#)

Storms, floods, or forest management

“It’ll start getting cooler, just watch”

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Qanon

Deep fakes / [altered videos](#)

Artificial intelligence / Killer robots / Terminator

Russian election interference / [Manchurian Candidate](#)

Regulation of social media / Mark Zuckerberg

“Fake news”

THE PANDEMIC

220,000

China Virus

Superspreader

World Health Organization

Racial disparities in COVID-19 infection rates

“He will listen to the scientists”

BONUS POINTS

“Idiot”

“Shut up”

ADD YOUR OWN