Going monadic? Debating the future of France’s aircraft-delivered nuclear weapons

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ARGUMENTS

Argument 1: France should retain the air-leg of its nuclear forces because it has very important advantages for limited cost.

Argument 2: We can expect France to retain a nuclear dyad up to the 2060 horizon.
Limited cost

Operational = €56M/y

Dual Capable aircraft! (conventional/nuclear)

ASMP-A mid-life = €600M

ASMP-A follow-on = €500M

Only <10% of credits for Deterrence

€ 300 M/y
High benefits

- “Effet d’entraînement” on conventional forces.
- FAS/FOS complementarities and strategic coherence

- Yield
- Precision
- Visibility
- Delivery
- Flexibility

**Limited strike**

**Full 2\textsuperscript{nd} strike**

**Avertissement ultime / pre-strategic strike**
Looking at the future

OK for next 20 years

Decisions for follow-on are made now!
Thank You!