# Russian President Putin to Visit North Korea for Talks with Kim Jong-un on Security and Economic Cooperation



Russian President Vladimir Putin is set to visit North Korea this week, marking his first trip to the country since 2000. Putin will engage in talks with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un in Pyongyang to enhance security and economic cooperation, amid sanctions imposed on both nations by Western countries. Putin’s delegation will include key figures such as Defense Minister Andrey Belousov and Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov.

The purpose of the visit is to seek further military support from North Korea for Russia’s ongoing war in Ukraine. North Korea has been supplying Russia with artillery munitions, ballistic missiles, and electronic equipment necessary for its military campaign. In return, Russia has offered assistance with North Korea’s satellite program and provided other forms of economic aid and diplomatic support.

Kim previously visited Vladivostok in Russia's far east last year, where he and Putin toured a factory producing fighter jets and the Vostochny Cosmodrome.

The visit aligns with a period of heightened focus on defence by NATO member states, with a record number expected to meet defence spending targets due to growing concerns over the Ukraine conflict. NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg also raised alarms over China’s support for Russia and its increasing nuclear arsenal, indicating potential consequences if Beijing continues on its current path.

Stoltenberg's comments highlight the gravity of the situation, as NATO considers the broader implications of escalating military cooperation between Russia, China, and North Korea, amidst rising global security tensions.