# Russian President Vladimir Putin visits North Korea after 25 years, signs partnership agreement with Kim Jong Un



On June 20, 2024, Russian President Vladimir Putin visited North Korea for the first time in nearly 25 years. The visit involved significant ceremonial events, including being welcomed by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. The elaborate welcome included white stallions, balloons, and large posters praising the "eternal" friendship between North Korea and Russia.

During this visit, both leaders exchanged notable gifts. Putin presented Kim with a luxury Aurus limousine, a tea set, and an admiral’s dirk. In return, Kim gifted Putin several pieces of artwork, including busts.

The visit culminated in a summit where Putin and Kim signed a comprehensive partnership agreement. North Korean state media described the agreement as a mutual defense pact with broader cooperation in military, foreign policy, and trade. However, Russia has not published the text of the agreement, leading to varying interpretations.

North Korean officials claimed the deal elevated the bilateral relations to an alliance, whereas Putin did not explicitly term it an alliance. Key aspects of the agreement include mutual defense commitments, economic cooperation, and military-technical collaboration.

This visit and agreement mark a significant moment in the relationship between Russia and North Korea, especially amidst their growing international isolation.