# China Supplies Lethal Aid to Russia for Ukraine Conflict, UK Defence Secretary Claims



**China Supplying Russia with Lethal Aid for Ukraine War, Claims UK Defence Secretary**

LONDON, May 22, 2024—UK Defence Secretary Grant Shapps has disclosed evidence indicating that China is transporting lethal military equipment to Russia, to be used in the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Speaking at the London Defence Conference, Shapps highlighted intelligence from US and British sources that allegedly shows China has significantly increased military trade with Russia.

Shapps's revelations challenge previous assertions by Beijing, which had presented itself as a neutral mediator in the conflict. He emphasized the necessity for NATO to enhance defense spending, reminding that many allies still do not meet the minimum 2 percent GDP spending threshold, despite the UK’s commitment to reach 2.5 percent by 2030.

In a related development, on May 6, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping showcased their partnership during a meeting in Beijing, where calls were made for a political solution to the conflict.

**Russia Proposes Baltic Sea Border Revisions, Drawing Criticism from NATO Members**

MOSCOW, May 22, 2024—Russia's defence ministry has proposed plans to redraw its maritime borders with Lithuania and Finland, prompting sharp disapproval from NATO members. The proposal, published on the ministry's website on Tuesday and removed the following day, is seen as a strategic move to unsettle the region amidst ongoing tensions.

Lithuanian Foreign Minister Gabrielius Landsbergis condemned the proposal as a deliberate escalation and called for a firm response. The Lithuanian government has summoned a Russian diplomatic representative for clarifications.

The revised maritime borders would reportedly involve updates based on modern geographical data, replacing coordinates approved in 1985. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov asserted that the plan was routine and not politically motivated. However, regional leaders, including Finnish President Alexander Stubb and Foreign Minister Elina Valtonen, have called Russia’s intentions into question, with Valtonen labeling the move as part of Russia’s hybrid warfare tactics.

These developments come amid Russia's intensified military activities and the ongoing war in Ukraine, with Finland and Sweden having recently joined NATO, further escalating regional tensions.