

South Korea Confirms Kim Jong-un's Arrival in Russia, Suggests 'Arms Trade' with Putin

The South Korean Defense Ministry confirmed on Tuesday a train carrying North Korea's communist dictator Kim Jong-un had crossed into Russia, apparently navigating towards the far east of that country for an in-person meeting with strongman Vladimir Putin.

Both administrations confirmed Kim and Putin, longtime allies, would meet in eastern Russia in the near future. Neither has offered any details regarding the planned conversation, but multiple international media outlets – and the U.S. State Department – have suggested that Putin is considering buying North Korean weapons to be used in the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Given the deficient speed of Kim's bulletproof train and the lack of information regarding a destination for it, when exactly Kim would arrive and when he would meet with Putin remain unknown. The *Korea JoongAng Daily* suggested Kim could be traveling upwards of 20 hours before reaching his last stop.

"We are not telling yet [where talks will take place]. In the Far East," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Tuesday. He added that the two leaders expected to hold a "one-on-one" exchange but did not intend to hold a press conference to discuss their meeting.

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