

# Vladimir Putin invites Xi Jinping to visit Russia next spring to show strength of ties with China

Vladimir Putin has invited his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping to visit Russia next spring to show to the world to “demonstrate to the whole world how strong the Russian-Chinese friendship is”.

In a year-end video call, the pair also reaffirmed their strong ties in trade and energy as Russia continues to be targeted by Western sanctions following its invasion of Ukraine. The Chinese side did not say whether Xi had accepted the invitation.

Putin said Russia-China relations are in “the best period in their history”, according to a statement from the Kremlin, adding: “In the context of growing geopolitical tension, the importance of the Russian-Chinese strategic partnership as a stabilising factor is growing.”

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## **Source:**

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