

RUSSIA-SOUTH KOREA RELATIONS AMID THE RUSSO-UKRAINIAN WAR

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Russian-South Korean relations have significantly deteriorated since 2022, primarily due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. South Korea joined international sanctions against Russia and issued strong condemnations of the invasion, prompting Moscow to label Seoul as an "unfriendly state". The Kremlin is deeply concerned about potential South Korean arms deliveries to Ukraine, which Seoul has consistently denied.

South Korea's main concern is the potential for military cooperation between Russia and North Korea, particularly the transfer of military technologies, which could severely destabilise the Korean Peninsula. Kim Jong Un's 2023 visit to Russia heightened these fears, signalling closer ties between Pyongyang and Moscow.

By early 2024, relations between Moscow and Seoul were strained but maintained through cautious diplomacy. However, in June 2024, tensions escalated dramatically when President Putin visited Pyongyang and signed a Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, which includes provisions for mutual military assistance, directly violating United Nations Security Council sanctions. South Korea condemned the treaty, asserting that it undermines the sanctions regime and warned that any Russian arms or technology transfers to North Korea would trigger Seoul to supply lethal weapons to Ukraine. With these developments, further deterioration in Russian-South Korean relations is likely.

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Chinese:

俄乌战争背景下的俄韩关系

自 2022 年以来，俄罗斯和韩国的关系急剧恶化，主要原因是俄罗斯对乌克兰的侵略。韩国加入了国际对俄罗斯的制裁，并对这次侵略发出了强烈谴责，这促使莫斯科将首尔列为“不友好国家”。克里姆林宫对韩国可能向乌克兰提供武器深感担忧，而首尔一再否认这一点。

韩国主要担心的是俄罗斯和朝鲜之间可能的军事合作，特别是军事技术的转让，因为这可能会严重破坏朝鲜半岛的稳定。金正恩在 2023 年访问俄罗斯，加剧了这些恐惧，表明平壤和莫斯科的关系更加紧密。

到 2024 年初，莫斯科和首尔之间的关系虽然紧张，但通过谨慎的外交手段得以维持。然而，2024 年 6 月，当普京总统访问平壤并签署了一项全面战略伙伴关系条约时，紧张局势急剧升级。该条约包括相互军事援助的条款，直接违反了联合国安理会的制裁。韩国谴责了该条约，声称它破坏了制裁制度，并警告说，任何俄罗斯向朝鲜转让武器或技术的行为都将促使首尔向乌克兰提供致命武器。在这些发展下，俄韩关系可能进一步恶化。

French:

LES RELATIONS RUSSIE-CORÉE DU SUD AU PRISME DE LA GUERRE RUSSO-UKRAINIENNE

Les relations entre la Russie et la Corée du Sud se sont considérablement détériorées depuis 2022, principalement en raison de l'invasion de l'Ukraine par la Russie. La Corée du Sud s'est jointe aux sanctions internationales contre la Russie et a fermement condamné l'invasion, à la suite de quoi Séoul fut qualifié d'«État hostile» par Moscou. Le Kremlin est profondément préoccupé par les éventuelles livraisons d'armes sud-coréennes à l'Ukraine, ce que Séoul a toujours nié.

La principale préoccupation de la Corée du Sud concerne le potentiel de coopération militaire entre la Russie et la Corée du Nord, en particulier le transfert de technologies militaires, qui pourrait gravement déstabiliser la péninsule coréenne. La visite de Kim Jong Un en Russie en 2023 a accru ces craintes, signalant des liens plus étroits entre Pyongyang et Moscou.

Début 2024, les relations entre Moscou et Séoul restaient tendues mais étaient maintenues grâce à une diplomatie prudente. Cependant, en juin 2024, les tensions se sont considérablement intensifiées lorsque le président Poutine s'est rendu à Pyongyang et a signé un traité de partenariat stratégique global, qui comprend des dispositions d'assistance

militaire mutuelle, violant directement les sanctions du Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies. La Corée du Sud a condamné le traité, affirmant qu'il porte atteinte au régime de sanctions et a averti que tout transfert d'armes ou de technologies russes vers la Corée du Nord inciterait Séoul à fournir des armes létales à l'Ukraine. À la suite de ces développements, une nouvelle détérioration des relations entre la Russie et la Corée du Sud est probable.

Spanish:

RELACIONES ENTRE RUSIA Y COREA DEL SUR EN EL CONTEXTO DE LA GUERRA RUSO-UCRANIANA

Las relaciones entre Rusia y Corea del Sur se han deteriorado significativamente desde 2022, principalmente debido a la invasión de Ucrania por parte de Rusia. Corea del Sur se unió a las sanciones internacionales contra Rusia y emitió fuertes condenas a la invasión, lo que llevó a Moscú a etiquetar a Seúl como un "estado no amigable". El Kremlin está profundamente preocupado por la posible entrega de armas surcoreanas a Ucrania, algo que Seúl ha negado consistentemente.

La principal preocupación de Corea del Sur es la posible cooperación militar entre Rusia y Corea del Norte, en particular la transferencia de tecnologías militares, que podría desestabilizar gravemente la península de Corea. La visita de Kim Jong Un a Rusia en 2023 aumentó estos temores, señalando una relación más estrecha entre Pyongyang y Moscú.

A principios de 2024, las relaciones entre Moscú y Seúl estaban tensas pero se mantenían a través de una diplomacia cautelosa. Sin embargo, en junio de 2024, las tensiones se intensificaron drásticamente cuando el presidente Putin visitó Pyongyang y firmó un Tratado de Asociación Estratégica Integral, que incluye disposiciones para la asistencia militar mutua, violando directamente las sanciones del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas. Corea del Sur condenó el tratado, afirmando que socava el régimen de sanciones y advirtió que cualquier transferencia de armas o tecnología rusa a Corea del Norte llevaría a Seúl a suministrar armas letales a Ucrania. Con estos acontecimientos, es probable que las relaciones entre Rusia y Corea del Sur se deterioren aún más.

Executive Summary

1. The Yoon Suk Yeol administration's approach towards Russia was deeply impacted by the war in Ukraine.
2. The Republic of Korea (ROK or South Korea) has joined international community's efforts, including economic sanctions, to curb armed invasion and resolve the situation. In retaliation Russia included the ROK in the list of "unfriendly countries" in 2022.
3. In the same year, Russia accused South Korea of supplying arms to Ukraine. South Korea has denied these allegations and insisted that it only provides non-lethal aid and humanitarian goods to Ukraine, together with the international society.
4. Russia has often blamed Indo-Pacific strategies as parts of NATO's efforts to spread the Alliance's influence within the Indo-Pacific region.
5. Russia has heavily criticised Washington-Tokyo-Seoul alliance, targeting almost exclusively the United States for instability and diplomatic tensions on the Korean Peninsula and in the region.
6. South Korea has turned to the Indo-Pacific region, reinforced by the "Strategy for a Free, Peaceful and Prosperous Indo-Pacific Region" adopted at the end of 2022.
7. Since the beginning of 2024 Russian rhetoric towards South Korea has become more moderate, indicating a willingness to cooperate with Seoul in the future. The new narrative describes South Korea as country that is forcibly engaged by the United States in anti-Russian sanctions.
8. Moscow has serious concerns with South Korea's lethal weapon supply to Kyiv and has constantly threatened to cut bilateral relations in case of such deliveries.

9. South Korea has maintained an unequivocal and unchanging position on the war in Ukraine condemning Russia's invasion.
10. Seoul is most wary of the military cooperation between Russia and North Korea as the consequences are unpredictable. The transfer of military technologies especially for enhancing North Korea's weapon of mass destruction (WMD) capabilities could seriously aggravate the security situation on the Korean Peninsula.
11. The Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between Russia and North Korea signed on 19 June 2024 has seriously undermined Russo-South Korean relations. South Korea has severely criticised the Treaty as a violation of UN Security Council resolutions. Seoul declared its readiness to reconsider the issue of providing Ukraine with lethal weapons.