



China's peace plan for Ukraine may just be smoke and mirrors

China's proposal merits careful consideration, but it should only be judged in terms of concrete support for Ukrainian sovereignty

by [Tuvia Gering](#) / March 4, 2023

Last week, on the first anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, China issued a 12-point position paper outlining its “peace plan” for resolving the conflict. The document was released in the wake of statements by senior US officials, including Secretary of State Antony Blinken and the White House national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, warning that China is contemplating sending lethal weapons to Russia, a step it has avoided so far.

Western policymakers have not forgotten the joint statement issued by Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin in the weeks leading up to the invasion, in which they declared their “no-limit partnership.” The West's chief concern is that the escalating rivalry with China has brought together two authoritarian countries hell-bent on reshaping the international order.

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