



## **Xi promotes China as peacemaker on first trip to Russia since Ukraine invasion**

The visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping could serve as an even greater show of solidarity after the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Russian President Vladimir Putin.

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HONG KONG — Frustrated by what it sees as the United States' determination to thwart its rise as a global superpower, China is pushing ahead with efforts to promote a new international order that has Beijing at its center.

In recent weeks, China has spoken more robustly about the prospect of conflict unless the U.S. changes course and reveled in a major diplomatic victory in the Middle East. Now its leader, Xi Jinping, is in Moscow to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin, signaling Beijing's growing embrace of its rising power on the global stage and the potential for it to further deepen conflict with the U.S. and its allies.

[...]

"It's a low risk, high-reward move that boosts Chinese legitimacy and prestige and Xi Jinping in particular as someone who personally, according to Chinese sources, facilitated this détente," said **Tuvia Gering**, a researcher with the Diane and Guilford Glazer Israel-China Policy Center at the **Institute for National Security Studies** in Tel Aviv and a nonresident fellow at the Atlantic Council.

Fan Hongda, a professor at the Middle East Studies Institute at Shanghai International Studies University, said he didn't think the deal on its own would upend the global order.

"But to a certain extent, this is indeed a testament to the rising influence of China," he said. "Therefore, the United States is likely to take China more seriously."

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