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## **NORTH KOREA FINALISES LANDMARK DEFENCE PACT WITH RUSSIA**

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Tamsin Paternoster

North Korea ratified a major defence pact with Russia on Tuesday, outlining mutual military aid and requiring both countries to provide each other with immediate military assistance if attacked.

Russia had already completed its side of the ratification last week after the pact was signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

The treaty between the two countries comes as South Korea, the US and Ukraine have said there are thousands of North Korean troops in Russia preparing to fight against Ukrainian soldiers.

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