
NATO REJECTS RUSSIAN REQUEST TO WITHDRAW FROM BULGARIA AND ROMANIA

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24.01.2022

bne IntelliNews (23 January 2022)

Both Nato and the governments in Bucharest and Sofia have firmly rejected Russias request that Nato forces withdraw from countries that joined after 1997.

The request came amid a worsening of relations between Russia and the West, and ahead of the start of a new round of talks between US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov.

The meeting is aimed at trying to find any common ground between the two sides in a bid to stop the crisis from escalating, though both Blinken and Lavrov have said they don't have much hope for progress.

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