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**CHINA DENIES ASKING RUSSIA TO DELAY UKRAINE INVASION UNTIL AFTER BEIJING WINTER OLYMPICS**

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Channel News Asia (3 March 2022)

China on Thursday (Mar 3) denied a report that it asked Russia to delay its invasion of Ukraine until after the Beijing Winter Olympics, as international scrutiny grows of warming ties between the two powers.

Beijing has taken a cautious line over the actions of its close ally, and President Xi Jinping held a meeting last month with his Russian counterpart where the pair agreed to a "no limits" partnership.

Since then, Beijing has not condemned the invasion of Ukraine but has stopped short of outright support.

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