
JAPAN PROTESTS RUSSIA'S DECISION TO QUIT WORLD WAR TWO PEACE TALKS

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Japan is protesting Russias decision to break off negotiations formally ending nearly eight decades of lingering hostilities from World War II because of Tokyos response over Russias invasion of Ukraine.

The two nations have been trying to reach a peace treaty for years to resolve a disputed chain of islands off Japans northern island of Hokkaido, known in Russia as the Kurils and the Northern Territories in Japan. The islands were seized by Russia, under the banner of the Soviet Union, at the end of World War II.

Japan has imposed a number of economic sanctions on Russia in reaction to the invasion, and has announced plans to revoke Russias most-favored nation trade status. Russias Foreign Ministry announced Monday it was ending the talks, accusing Tokyo of taking an unfriendly position against the country and trying to damage its interests.

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