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WILL XI-PUTIN SUMMIT DELIVER A BREAKTHROUGH ON UKRAINE WAR?

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Xis trip to Russia comes after China called for a truce, dialogue in Ukraine and brokered a rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Chinese President Xi Jinping is on his way to Moscow, on a voyage of friendship, cooperation and peace, weeks after Beijing unveiled a 12-point position paper calling for a ceasefire in the Russia-Ukraine war and days after it mediated a surprise rapprochement between longtime Middle East foes, Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Xis three-day visit, which begins on Monday, will feature one-on-one talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, a man the Chinese leader has described as his best friend and who is now wanted by the International Criminal Court on war crimes accusations.

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