
JAPAN WARNS FRANCE THAT INVITING CHINA TO NEXT YEAR'S G7 SUMMIT COULD AFFECT GROUP'S UNITY

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Japan has raised concern with France over a possible invitation to Chinese President Xi Jinping for next years Group of Seven (G7) summit in Evian, Kyodo News reported on Wednesday, citing government sources.

Tokyo has asked Paris to carefully assess any outreach to Beijing, amid fears that Chinas participation could complicate discussions among G7 members. Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi, responding on Friday to questions about whether China may be invited, said Tokyo places importance on the unity of the G7, which shares fundamental values such as democracy and the rule of law.

France assumes the rotating G7 presidency in January and will host the summit in June next year at the Alpine spa resort town of Evian-les-Bains and the host nation has the right to invite countries to the expanded G7 summit.

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