
CHINA SAYS IT WILL NOT JOIN NUCLEAR TALKS 'AT THIS STAGE'

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China said on Thursday it would not join nuclear talks "at this stage" after the expiry of the U.S.-Russian START treaty triggered fears of a global arms race.

"China's nuclear capabilities are of a totally different scale as those of the United States and Russia (and) will not participate in nuclear disarmament negotiations at this stage," Beijing's foreign ministry spokesman Lin Jian told a news conference.

Germany's foreign minister urged China on Thursday to show "restraint" in weapons.

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