



Is Russia considering using nuclear weapons in Ukraine?

August 27, 2026 metro.co.uk reported: “Sources close to the Kremlin told Bloomberg that Vladimir Putin is hellbent on a new escalation after peace talks have reached a dead end.

Russia is continuing to experience mounting, unprecedented attacks on oil and gas infrastructure, ports and military sites. Russia would likely choose to use tactical nuclear weapons, which are much less powerful than the bombs used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, at the end of World War II.

Ratcliffe is thought to have warned Putin against ‘testing NATO’s resolve’ by staging a limited attack in the Baltics. Neither Washington nor Moscow commented on the nature of the visit, but in-person discussions between officials from the two nations are relatively rare...The Kremlin has been quite outspoken about threats against multiple NATO nations, promising to nuke them on numerous occasions...”

Kremlin Insider Warns of ‘Semi-Military’ Strikes Against Britain For Supporting Ukraine War Effort

August 26, 2026 Breitbart reported: “Former Russian deputy foreign minister Andrei Fedorov, now billed as a Kremlin insider and frequently appearing talking head on Russian television, has told British state broadcaster the BBC that his president Vladimir Putin is under political, military, and public pressure to retaliate against the United Kingdom’s military support for Kyiv.

Speaking to the BBC’s *Newsnight* programme, Fedorov said armaments factories in the United Kingdom are a particular target for the hoped-for Russian attacks, which he said could be quasi-military or by computer hackers, but in any case, would be by actors at arms-length from Moscow with plausible deniability. Referring to London’s continuing support for Ukraine, and following the announcement on Monday that the UK would be handing over blueprints to a bunker-buster missile to Ukraine so they could produce their own, Fedorov said the country was opening as “Pandora’s box”.



Kremlin

Comment from London has fallen on the side that the weapons blueprints decision does not represent an escalation in the conflict because Britain and France have already been donating the same missile to Ukraine for years. But Fedorov asserted there was a...growing pressure inside Russia itself on President Putin to punish Britain...”

An ‘Islamic NATO’ is born — Trump would be foolish to ignore it

August 25, 2026 Washington Examiner reported: “For decades, whenever the Middle East faced a major security crisis, regional leaders looked toward Washington. That instinct is beginning to change. On Aug. 7, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Pakistan signed the Mecca Joint Defense Agreement. Its central commitment is unmistakably modeled on NATO: An armed attack against one member will be treated as an attack against all three.

It is tempting to dismiss the agreement as another ceremonial pact among governments with different interests. That would be a mistake. The agreement may not yet possess NATO’s integrated command structure, operational planning, or clearly defined military obligations, but it reflects something strategically important: Three major Muslim powers no longer want their security to depend entirely on the United States.

Calling the pact an “Islamic NATO” may be premature. But it is not an absurd comparison. Together, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Pakistan represent roughly 375 million people and spend more than \$120 billion annually on defense. More important than the numbers, however, is what each country brings to the arrangement. Saudi Arabia brings money, energy leverage, and a commanding geographic position in the Gulf and Red Sea. Turkey brings NATO’s second-largest military and a rapidly expanding domestic defense industry capable of producing drones, missiles, armored vehicles, electronic warfare systems, and aerospace technology. Pakistan brings one of the world’s largest militaries, decades of combat experience, and an estimated nuclear arsenal of roughly 170 warheads...”

October 7 attack in math lessons

August 25, 2026 Jerusalem Post reported: “Schools run by the Palestinian Authority have incorporated the October 7, 2023, massacre in southern Israel into math lessons and used it as inspiration for speeches delivered at school assemblies, Palestinian Media Watch first reported, and *The Jerusalem Post* independently verified on Tuesday.

A teacher at the PA-administered Al-Kuwait Primary Mixed School assigned students to write equations based on the attacks just one week after the massacre, according to a post published on the school's social media account...

Beyond reducing October 7 to a math exercise, the nine-year-olds were also praised by their teacher in written feedback for writing questions relating to martyrdom, including child martyrdom, in Gaza..."

Humanoid robot soldiers likely only 5-10 years away, one developer behind China's robotics boom tells CBS News

August 24, 2026 cbsnews.com reported: "How long before China is ready to deploy humanoid robot soldiers?"

That question is on the minds of many of the humans gathered in Beijing right now to watch the World Humanoid Robot Games, and as smashed records highlight the dizzying pace of advancement, one developer tells CBS News the answer is likely less than a decade.

In the indoor arena used as the speedskating venue for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics, dozens of humanoid robots stand in the center of the track, surrounded by their human minders, while hundreds of spectators in the crowd watch and cheer from their seats. Two more are in a boxing ring, dressed in red and black headgear, punching and kicking each other in a kickboxing match.



Others stand around a large gymnastics spring mat, waiting their turn as a preceding robot flips and spins smaller robots — the size of children — gather on a miniature soccer field, kicking a ball up and down the synthetic grass...One of the machines beat Jamaican track great Usain Bolt's 100-meter sprint record on Sunday, running the 109 yards in just 9.39 seconds, beating Bolt's 2009 time of 9.58 seconds.

During competition, a number of humanoid robots have tripped, collapsed, burst into flames or slammed into safety barriers and then been stretchered off the track. Crowds here have been thoroughly entertained..."

Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Pakistan invited Iran to join newly established Mecca defense pact

August 23, 2026 Jerusalem Post reported: "Iran has been invited to join the Mecca Agreement for Mutual Defense, the new security alliance established by Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan earlier this month, *Al Mayadeen* reported on Saturday, citing a senior Iranian official.

The invitation has not yet been officially confirmed by Iran's Foreign Ministry or by any of the three countries that are parties to the agreement. Mehdi Rahimi, head of the Iranian parliament's Khaneh Mellat news agency, told the channel that "Iran has received an invitation to join the Mecca Agreement, and the matter is under review."

Rahimi added that countries in the region "are moving toward seeking a regional security umbrella," and claimed that this represented "a victory for Iran, because it has been calling for this for a long time."

The Mecca Agreement was signed on August 7 by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. The agreement establishes a principle of mutual defense under which an attack on any one of the three countries would be considered an attack on all of them. Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan compared the mechanism to Article 5 of the NATO treaty, but stressed that the agreement was not directed against Iran or any specific country.

The member states have already begun developing mechanisms for diplomatic and military coordination, including meetings among foreign and defense ministers and military commanders, joint exercises, and cooperation between their defense industries.

Turkey has said the alliance could expand to include additional countries. Egypt has been publicly mentioned as a possible candidate for membership. Iran has so far responded to the agreement with cautious approval..."

US ally on Putin's doorstep braces for war as Russia tensions take ominous turn

August 19, 2026 foxnews.com reported: "Russia's threat of "consequences" against Britain and a stark warning from a senior Polish defense official are intensifying concerns that Moscow could seek to test NATO directly as the war in Ukraine continues.

Polish Deputy Defense Minister Cezary Tomczyk said his country is actively preparing for the possibility of conflict, telling Super Express in an interview published Aug. 17: "We are preparing for war, hoping that it never happens."...

A European diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, backed Tomczyk and said Poland sees a pattern of escalating Russian pressure on multiple fronts..."

Compiled by L. Jim Tuck

Minister

jim_tuck@ucg.org