

Deal on Syria Unlikely at UN

September 24, 2012

The  Moscow Times

Diplomats aren't expecting any breakthroughs on the deadlock over Syria this week at the UN General Assembly, despite a number of sideline meetings starting Monday.

The new UN-Arab League envoy, Lakhdar Brahimi, will brief the UN Security Council behind closed doors Monday on his recent talks with Syrian President Bashar Assad and other leaders in the region.

The Syrian conflict has bitterly divided the most powerful members of the Security Council, paralyzing the only UN body that can impose global sanctions and authorize military action. Russia, Syria's key protector, and China have vetoed three Western-backed resolutions aimed at pressuring Assad to stop the violence and start political talks with his opponents.

(AP)

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