

## Russia Signs S-400 Missiles Deal With Saudi Arabia

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S-400 (Dmitry Rogulin / ITAR-TASS)

Russia has signed a deal with Saudi Arabia for the delivery of anti-aircraft missiles after initial confusion over whether the deal took place or not.

The sale of the S-400 surface-to-air missile systems follows King Salman's <u>visit</u> to Moscow last Thursday. A preliminary agreement was also <u>reportedly</u> reached to buy anti-tank guided missile systems, multiple rocket launchers, as well as to organize production of the Kalashnikov automatic rifle in Saudi Arabia.

The following day, the U.S. Defense Security Cooperation Agency <u>announced</u> \$15 billion in weapons sales to Riyadh.

On Monday, the state-run RIA Novosti news agency <u>confirmed</u> the S-400 deal, citing a spokesperson for Russia's Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation. The head of Russian state-owned corporation Rostec <u>estimated</u> in July the value of the arms deal at \$3.5

## billion.

In another move widely seen as a snub to NATO, Turkey also <u>purchased</u> S-400 weapons from Russia last month.

Russia is the world's second largest  $\underline{\text{weapons exporter}}$  with total sales exceeding \$15 billion annually.

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