

# Russia's Lavrov Says 'Extremely Significant' Differences With Japan on Peace Deal – Reports

By [Reuters](#)

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Japan's Minister for Foreign Affairs Taro Kono and Russia's Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergei Lavrov  
**Valery Sharifulin / TASS**

Moscow and Tokyo still have "extremely significant" differences over a World War II peace deal that Japan hopes will end a territorial row between them, the state-run RIA Novosti news agency quoted Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov as saying on Friday.

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Japan is seeking a deal with Russia to put an end to a dispute over islands off its northeastern coast that were seized by Soviet troops in the last days of World War II, a disagreement that has soured bilateral relations for decades.

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