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In Photos: Russia Marks Soviet WWII Victory With No Tanks

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Russia staged its set-piece Victory Day parade on Moscow's Red Square on Saturday to mark 81 years since the Soviet Union's victory over Nazi Germany in World War II. The scaled-back event went ahead with no military hardware, in a first since 2008. Addressing the military servicemen gathered on the square, President Vladimir Putin said Russian soldiers in Ukraine were fighting an "aggressive force" backed by all of NATO and described his war goals as "just." Only a handful of foreign leaders were in attendance, most of them leaders of Russia's close allies. The event featured North Korean troops for the first time, after Pyongyang sent soldiers to help Russia push Ukrainian troops out of the Kursk region in 2025. See photos from the parade here:



Alexander Nemenov / AFP

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