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Kremlin Says Putin-Xi-Trump Meeting in China Will Have Major Impact on Global Affairs

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Donald Trump and Xi Jinping. **REUTERS / Kylie Cooper**

The Kremlin said on Monday that a planned meeting in China on Thursday between Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping and U.S. President Donald Trump will have a major impact on global affairs.

The three leaders are due to sit down together at the same time as China hosts a summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Shenzhen.

Kremlin foreign policy aide Yury Ushakov told reporters the meeting would take place at the Chinese leader's official residence.

"The significance and symbolism of this meeting cannot be overstated. It is the first such meeting of its kind. It has been agreed that it should be structured in the spirit of the mutual understanding and alliance between our three countries during World War II, with an

emphasis on our countries' cooperation in the establishment of the United Nations," said Ushakov.

"In other words, all three parties are prepared, building on these highly positive and constructive aspects, to hold a fruitful and substantive discussion which, we believe, should have a significant impact on the development of the international situation as a whole."

China's Foreign Ministry said earlier Monday that the trilateral meeting is of "groundbreaking significance" and will promote world peace and stability.

Trump will raise efforts to reduce nuclear arms at the meeting, the White House said last week. China has rebuffed attempts to talk about nuclear arms with Russia and the United States, which have the largest stockpiles of such weapons.

The Financial Times reported, citing a person familiar with the plans, that the three leaders would meet without a prearranged agenda.

Speaking in Manila on Monday, UN chief Antonio Guterres said the United Nations is prepared to support any denuclearization effort that may arise from the summit meeting of the three countries.

China has said it was more appropriate for Russia and the U.S. to speak directly because of their large arsenals.

The UN has long advocated nuclear disarmament, warning that rising geopolitical tension and growing rivalry among major powers have fueled global nuclear risks.

Reuters contributed reporting.

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