

France Pushes “Autonomy” Through Russia Talks and New Carrier



us.politsturm.com

France Pushes “Autonomy” Through Russia Talks and New Carrier

2025-12-25

1 min read

Paris is pursuing parallel diplomatic channels with Moscow and plans to build a new aircraft carrier, pushing for autonomy from the US.

Details. President Macron [stated](#) that he and Vladimir Putin are [both](#) open to holding direct negotiations alongside existing diplomatic tracks. Macron [stressed](#) that any talks would be transparent and coordinated with Ukraine, seeking to present France as an “honest broker”.

► Simultaneously, France has [announced](#) major new military investments. Macron [confirmed](#) that France will build a new nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, PANG (Porte-Avions Nouvelle Génération), expected to enter service around 2038 at an estimated cost exceeding €10 billion.

► The government justified the carrier as essential for power projection, the protection of “strategic interests,” and reinforcing France’s nuclear deterrence. Set to become the [largest aircraft](#) carrier ever built in Europe, it would place France alongside only a few European states with carriers, while remaining far behind the US, which operates [eleven](#) nuclear-powered carriers.

Context. These developments unfold amid [accelerating](#) EU and US militarisation, growing uncertainty over the [reliability](#) of US security guarantees, and open NATO [calls](#) to prepare for large-scale war. Repeated signals from Washington about reducing its commitments to Europe have intensified demands for “[strategic autonomy](#),” meaning the ability to act as an independent imperialist power.

► The talks with Putin take place within intensified inter-imperialist competition, as rival powers manoeuvre to [shape the outcome](#) of the “SMO” following Washington’s renewed push for a peace deal.

► Since Britain left the EU, France remains the EU’s only nuclear power, [strengthening](#) its leverage within the bloc and its ambitions to shape European defence policy.

► Paris, as the second-largest economy in Europe, has repeatedly [pushed](#) for greater European military autonomy, including proposals that France’s nuclear forces could contribute to a wider EU deterrence framework. [Various](#) existing European defence funding programmes have already laid the institutional groundwork for rapid rearmament.

► While the military has [opposed](#) any delays, critics have argued that the PANG project should be postponed amid economic strain, rising debt, and social unrest, highlighting how [militarisation](#) advances at the expense of [welfare](#) and public services.