

Russia Says Moscow Has No Plans to Cross Ukraine's Border



Moscow, March 29 (RHC) – Russia said Saturday that Moscow has no plans to cross that country's border.

Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said in a local television interview that Moscow had "absolutely no intention of and interest in crossing Ukraine's borders."

"The only thing we really want is that the work should be collective and the lawlessness that some Western countries are trying to sweep under the rug and paint the situation in bright colors should be stopped, so that they realize their responsibility," he said.

The diplomat also said the interaction between Moscow, Western countries and Kiev over the Ukrainian crisis settlement was getting more tangible.

"Anyway, we are bringing our approaches closer together," he said, "My last meeting with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in The Hague and my contacts with Germany, France and some other countries show that a possible joint initiative that could be offered to our Ukrainian partners is taking shape."

The Russian foreign minister also insisted Ukraine should retain its non-aligned status.

"We are convinced that a new (Ukrainian) constitution should unambiguously stipulate Ukraine's non-aligned status," Foreign Minister Lavrov said.

He noted U.S. President Barack Obama said last week in Brussels that neither Ukraine nor NATO were ready for Kiev's accession to the military bloc and there was no reason to talk about that.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseny Yatsenyuk also said he "so far did not bring up" the issue of Ukraine's NATO membership, Lavrov said.

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