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China, Russia against Western plans in Syria

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China says a political dialogue is the only solution to the ongoing crisis in Syria as Russia calls it “naïve” for the West to expect Syrian leader to withdraw his troops from conflict-ridden cities.

In a telephone conversation with the new UN Arab League special envoy to Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi, Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi urged the international community to seek a political solution to Syria crisis and vowed that his country would continue cooperation with the international community over the issue.

The Chinese top diplomat reiterated that his country has been deeply concerned about the humanitarian conditions in Syria, saying Beijing expected Brahimi to play an active role in resolving the Syria crisis.

The UN Arab League envoy, for his part, attached great importance to China's role in putting an end to the ongoing crisis in Syria.

China has been critical of Western powers for undermining peace efforts of the UN and has vowed to cooperate with the new UN Syria envoy to help bring an end to the violence inside Syria.

Meanwhile, pointing to the recent developments in the crisis-hit Arab state, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov also described as naïve and untenable any plans to withdraw Syrian government troops as long as fighting with the insurgents continues.

“There are different attitudes towards the Syrian regime. But while fighting in the streets continues, it is absolutely unrealistic to say that the only way out is for one side to unilaterally capitulate,” the official said during a public appearance at the Moscow State University of Foreign Affairs.

China along with Russia vetoed a Western-backed draft resolution in July, which called for new sanctions against the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad under Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

Syria has been the scene of deadly unrest since mid-March, 2011 and many people, including large numbers of army and security personnel, have been killed in the violence.

Damascus says outlaws, saboteurs, and armed terrorists are the driving factor behind the unrest and deadly violence while the opposition accuses the security forces of being behind the killings.