

U.S. plans to act against Syria, bypassing UN

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MOSCOW: Russia is concerned over plans announced by the United States to influence Damascus bypassing the UN Security Council.

"If such statements and such plans are elements of real politics, it sends quite a troubling signal to all of us, prompting us to think how the international community is going to respond to international conflicts," Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Lukashevich said at a press briefing in Moscow on Friday.

A task facing all foreign players, "especially the members of the UN Security Council, is to use all of their resources and abide by decisions that were adopted collectively earlier," he said.

Lukashevich said he was speaking about decisions adopted by the UN Security Council's five permanent members and subsequently supported by the entire international community – Resolutions 2024 and 2043 and the Geneva communique.

U.S. Department of State spokesman Patrick Ventrell earlier gave a positive answer to a question about Washington's possible plans to act bypassing the UN Security Council.

Russia and China have blocked the resolution three times, he said.

The U.S. would like these countries to change their position, but they refuse to do so, Ventrell said.

The U.S. would continue working through the UN if there were a chance for new prospects regarding the position of Russia and China, he said.

But the U.S. has a broader strategy, and it has no intention of stopping to do what it has been doing because there is no resolution, he said.

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