

Cyprus deal allows Russian navy to use ports

Cyprus has signed a deal with Russia allowing its navy ships to make regular port calls on the EU island member state. The agreement comes amid strong tensions between Russia and the West over Ukraine

CYPRUS-RUSSIA AGREEMENTS



■ **Cypriot ports:** Russian navy ships allowed regular access, primarily for international counter-terrorism and anti-piracy missions

■ **Limassol:** Port already used by Russian ships for refuelling and as transit station for supply of arms to Syrian President **Bashar al-Assad**

■ **Airports:** Russian military aircraft able to use **Papandreou Air Base**, adjacent to **Paphos International Airport**, for humanitarian efforts



■ **Military equipment:** Cypriot National Guard has replaced many of its French **AMX-30** tanks with Russian-made **T-80**, and purchased 11 Russian **Mi-35** attack helicopters





■ **Sovereign Base Areas**
UK military facilities

■ **United Nations buffer zone**

■ **Finance:** Russia has restructured **€2.5bn (\$2.8bn)** loan to Cyprus signed in 2011, cutting annual interest rate from **4.5 to 2.5 percent**

WARMING EU-RUSSIA RELATIONS

 **Hungary:** Kremlin-friendly government has secured more favourable terms for supplies of Russian gas, and criticized European allies for their policy of seeking to isolate Moscow over Ukraine

 **Greece:** Leftist, anti-austerity Syriza-led government has distanced itself from calls to broaden sanctions on Moscow. Could seek Russian aid if EU bailout talks fail