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Answer to Question

The Trilateral Summit – America, Russia, and China

(Translated)

Question:

A trilateral summit bringing together the presidents of America, Russia, and China was held on 19/11/2026 in the Chinese city of Shenzhen. It lasted approximately 90 minutes and took place on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum summit, which was held in the same city. In parallel and at the same time, the European countries held a summit of the countries of the "Coalition of the Willing" group in the German capital, Berlin. What was the objective of holding these two summits? What were their results? And will they change anything on the international stage or at the level of relations between the countries that took part?

Answer:

To clarify the answer to the above questions, we will examine the following matters:

1. We have previously pointed out that one of America's objectives is to conclude a trilateral agreement between itself, Russia, and China. In our answer to a question issued on 19/8/2025 concerning "Trump's Meeting with Putin in Alaska", under point "C – The Arms Race and Strategic Power", we said: "It is highly likely, given the need of both sides for this, that urgent negotiations will be opened on armaments and strategic nuclear and missile capabilities. It is likely that Russia will agree today to America's previous condition that China join these negotiations, making them trilateral. This is because the Russian-American agreements before that were a continuation of agreements between two military giants that had existed for decades, and America discontinued them because it wants to bring the Chinese giant into them. This is especially so because China is now carrying out nuclear armament programmes that will soon place it on a par with the two giants, as its nuclear programme is leading towards it possessing approximately one thousand nuclear warheads by 2030. This means that it has already surpassed, for years, the medium nuclear powers such as Britain and France. Accordingly, it is likely that all the reasons for Russia's embarrassment over China's invitation to participate in Russian-American negotiations concerning strategic weapons have disappeared. This represents a step for America on its path towards dismantling the Russian-Chinese alliance. For all these reasons, it is likely that America's hope of breaking up the alliance between Russia and China is considerable. However, it will not pursue this directly, thereby hurting Russia's feelings. Rather, it will take steps towards rapprochement with Russia in order to gradually weaken the Chinese-Russian alliance." **End of quotation from the answer to the question.**

2. Washington became active in calling for a trilateral summit and a trilateral agreement to limit nuclear weapons after the expiry of the American-Russian New START Treaty in February 2026. The treaty had been signed in April 2010 and included limits on nuclear weapons. It stipulated: "Reducing the maximum limits on strategic offensive nuclear warheads by 30%, and the maximum limits on strategic launchers by 50%." At the time, Russia deluded itself into thinking that it could restore its former glory from the era of the Soviet Union, and that its international standing would improve so that America would deal with it as a great power, constantly inviting it to discuss international issues and share influence with it. After a long period, Russia finally remembered America's policies towards it and how America dealt with it as a regional power equal to Turkey, as happened in the Syrian issue and in other matters in which America did not take Russia into consideration. Rather, America drew it into the quagmire of the Ukraine war. Consequently, on 21/2/2023, Russia announced the suspension of its participation in this agreement.

3. Trump took advantage of the meetings of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum summit in the Chinese city of Shenzhen. He decided to participate in it, then invited his Russian and Chinese counterparts to hold a trilateral summit to discuss signing a treaty concerning limiting the manufacture of nuclear weapons and reducing the nuclear weapons they possess. Trump told the American Fox News channel on 19/11/2026 in Shenzhen, before the summit was held: "We have four thousand nuclear weapons, and Russia has 3,800 nuclear weapons. As for China, it now has four hundred or five hundred, but it will catch up with us." He also said: "Convincing China to stop building nuclear weapons will be extremely difficult, but he looks forward to benefiting from his meeting with Xi and Putin in advancing efforts to end the Russian-Ukrainian war." In other words, he wants to use his efforts to end the Russian-Ukrainian war as a card to put pressure on Russia, and consequently on China, to accept concluding an agreement concerning the limitation of nuclear weapons. At the beginning of the summit, he said: "As the world's three largest nuclear powers by a wide margin, America, Russia, and China are in a unique position to discuss reducing the number of nuclear weapons in the world and limiting the risk of their use one day. Reducing the number of these weapons is very difficult..." (Asharq Al-Awsat, 19/11/2026). He explained this difficulty after the meeting by saying: "It is very difficult for anyone to say: We have 4,000 nuclear weapons and we will give up half of them. It is a difficult thing." However, he said: "He will continue raising the issue because it must be done. But doing so is psychologically difficult." (Reuters, 19/11/2026). It is as though he wants the others to reduce their nuclear weapons and limit the manufacture of more of them, or even give them up, while he himself does not want to reduce his country's nuclear weapons. That is very difficult for him, and he is not psychologically comfortable with it, but he is comfortable when Russia and China give theirs up! It is as though he wants to deceive his two main nuclear rivals, Russia and China, and then have them believe him, so that they move towards reducing their weapons. This is similar to how Britain deceived France before the Second World War by signing an agreement to reduce weapons and limit their production. France believed Britain and complied with the agreement, but Britain did not comply!

4. A joint statement was issued by this trilateral summit and published by the White House, the Kremlin, and Chinese media. It stated that: "The presidents of the three countries held an in-depth exchange of views on the current international situation." They affirmed their "commitment to maintaining strategic stability and international security". The three countries pledged to "enter into dialogue on reducing nuclear risks and preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons". They announced their intention to "increase the production and supply of refined petroleum products". The statement affirmed "the leaders' importance of the continuous flow of energy supplies". They pledged to "advance reform of the United Nations, enabling the organisation to confront global challenges more effectively and fulfil its mission of maintaining international peace and security". They acknowledged "the great importance of the principle of state consent and respect for the immunity enjoyed by their officials". They agreed that "the International Criminal Court and other similar institutions must not abuse their jurisdiction". It is not apparent that these countries agreed on anything contained in the joint statement in a manner that could be considered an agreement or treaty to which the three countries are committed. The statement contained no mechanisms for implementing what it set out. For this reason, no agreement or treaty was signed between these countries. Therefore, no change is expected to take place in the current international situation or international policies. Rather, things will remain as they are now. Nevertheless, as usual, Trump described the trilateral meeting as "very positive, constructive, and productive..." (Chinese CCTV, 19/11/2026). This was in order to continue his meetings with the two leaders until he reaches a result concerning the conclusion of an agreement to limit nuclear armaments. Although he always boasts, as is his habit, that he has achieved victories, successes, and productive meetings in every undertaking, even when it has been unsuccessful!

5. Some have tried to compare this trilateral summit to the Yalta Conference, which was held in 1945 between the leaders of America, the Soviet Union, and Britain, the countries victorious in

the Second World War, in order to determine the fate of the world, divide areas of influence, and establish a new international order. However, the recent trilateral summit is not like that and does not resemble it. America is in a predicament, as it has been unable to achieve victory in its war against Iran. Russia is also in a predicament, as it has been unable to achieve victory in its war against Ukraine. China is in a predicament over Taiwan, as it has not dared to annex it, despite considering it part of China. Therefore, these countries cannot be considered globally victorious countries capable of imposing their decisions on the world. Indeed, they did not make international decisions; rather, their decisions concerned themselves and the relations between them.

6. The joint statement made no mention of the war with Iran, which directly concerns America. It also made no mention of the Russian-Ukrainian war, which directly concerns Russia, nor did it mention Taiwan, which directly concerns China. This indicates that the three leaders did not agree on anything in common regarding these matters that directly concern their respective countries. It also indicates that America avoided the points of disagreement and wanted to focus on issues that would make it appear that it had reached agreement with Russia and China. However, these issues were discussed during the bilateral meetings held before the trilateral summit. Trump held a bilateral meeting with his Chinese counterpart, Xi. During their meeting, Xi told his American counterpart: "Overall, Chinese-American relations are stable and have developed favourably." However, he called on his American counterpart to "do the right thing regarding Taiwan..." (Chinese CCTV, 19/11/2026). This is a criticism of America, as China announces its objection to America's arming of Taiwan. This proves that there is a disagreement between them over which they have not reached agreement. That is why they avoided including it in the joint statement of the trilateral summit! China has repeatedly responded to calls for an agreement on limiting nuclear weapons by saying that America and Russia must reduce their enormous nuclear arsenals before China agrees to hold talks concerning its smaller stockpile. One of China's objectives is to impose its control over its region, particularly in the South China Sea and the East China Sea.

The conclusion of this "summit" is that none of the three achieved what they wanted. Its final statement made no mention of the war with Iran, which directly concerns America, nor of the Russian-Ukrainian war, which directly concerns Russia, nor of Taiwan, which directly concerns China. This indicates that the three leaders did not reach any common agreement regarding these matters that directly concern their respective countries! This confirms that the summit was held under individual circumstances rather than circumstances shared by all three. It was held at Russia's initiative, in an attempt to compensate for its weakness and break its isolation. America agreed to it and seized the idea in the hope of involving China in the negotiations that America wants to make trilateral, exclusively with Russia and China, to disarm nuclear weapons. As for China, it accepted the summit reluctantly, since the presidents of America and Russia were already on its territory for another occasion. In this sense, it was not an important summit for which these presidents had travelled; rather, it was a passing event! There is no basis for comparing this passing conference with the Yalta Conference of 1945. Although United Nations organisations are largely paralysed, and the structure of international relations is being redrawn on a heated battlefield of wars and trade wars, and although America's hegemony has come under scrutiny, no new formula for a shared international position has yet taken shape.

7. On the other side, the European countries held a summit parallel to the trilateral summit on the same day, 19/11/2026, in Berlin. It was called the "Coalition of the Willing" (CotW) Summit in support of Ukraine. The "Coalition of the Willing" group was established at the beginning of 2025 to support Ukraine. It includes approximately 40 countries that provide Ukraine with weapons to defend itself against Russia, or provide humanitarian or financial assistance. The group decided to form a multinational force to secure a possible ceasefire between Ukraine and Russia. The latest Berlin summit was attended by the leaders of the European Union, in addition to the leaders and representatives of the countries belonging to the group. It appears that the objective of holding this summit simultaneously with the trilateral summit and the APEC summit, in which the

Europeans did not participate, was to draw attention to Europe's presence and its ability to speak about its own issues, including the issue of Ukraine. This is because Europe's presence on the international stage has diminished, and America has marginalised it even in one of its own issues, such as Ukraine. In addition, it appears that the European countries feared that the trilateral summit of Trump, Putin, and Xi might decide something concerning Ukraine without taking Europe's opinion into account, since America marginalises it. They may also have feared that these countries would divide influence in the world, as had been rumoured about the summit being similar to the Yalta Conference, and impose their vision on international policies. German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, who hosted the summit at the Federal Chancellery in Berlin, said: "His country and its allies are seeking to achieve a just and lasting peace for Ukraine that strengthens the security of Europe and the world." He affirmed that "support for Ukraine will continue for as long as necessary", calling for negotiations with Moscow within a united team comprising Ukraine, the European countries, and America. He criticised the trilateral summit that brought together Trump, Putin, and Xi, describing it as "closer to a photo session". He warned against "repeating the model of Yalta in 1945", affirmed that "the European continent will not again accept decisions concerning its future being made without its participation", and called on Putin to end the war and open the way for diplomatic solutions. Trump had made statements that served Moscow's interests, as well as other statements that were insulting to Zelensky and the European leaders.Last week, Merz called on America not to make any surprises, saying: "Stay within the Europe team and the Ukraine team." British Prime Minister Andy Burnham supported him, saying: "We must stand firmly alongside Ukraine, and we hope to convey this clear message at the same time as the meeting in Shenzhen takes place." Macron considered that "the success of any peace negotiations requires Ukraine to enter them from a position of strength". He stressed "the responsibility of the allies to provide the military capabilities necessary to enable it to defend itself". He called for "opening the discussion on Ukraine's accession to NATO in the face of Russia's maximalist demands, and [noted] that Moscow has not yet presented concrete proposals for peace". He warned that "the coming weeks are decisive for Kyiv, making continued European support an urgent necessity at this stage..." (Official German Deutsche Welle page, 19/11/2026). Thus, the Europeans showed their anger at America's actions and demonstrated their defiance of it, as though they were rebelling against its decisions and rejecting its positions concerning their issues and its marginalisation of them.

8. After the trilateral summit had been held and concluded, Trump sent his envoys—his son-in-law Kushner and his business partner Witkoff—to the Europeans. They did not go to convey to them what had taken place at the trilateral summit in China; rather, they went to convey to their president what had taken place in the discussions and decisions of the European summit! They then attempted to convince the Europeans to accept Trump's proposals for ending the Ukrainian war, focusing on the issue of the war's high cost. This high cost does indeed affect Europe, reducing the funding available for the basic and essential needs of individuals and families, increasing the cost of living as prices rise, and reducing assistance to middle- and low-income groups. This has particularly contributed to the outbreak of popular protests in many European countries. Trump's two envoys also tried to ease the atmosphere. Kushner said: "The Berlin meetings were productive and essential for bringing viewpoints closer together, and Trump participated by phone in part of them..." (Euronews, 19/11/2026). Nevertheless, the Europeans were affected by America's marginalisation of them. They showed interest in building their own defence capabilities so that these would form a deterrent against Russia independently of their American ally, whose behaviour has become difficult to predict and is mixed with arrogance towards them and their marginalisation. At the Berlin summit, the Europeans focused on the issue of Ukraine by standing alongside it, contrary to Trump's position.

9. Thus, the Europeans sent a message to Trump and to his summit with Putin and Xi, to demonstrate that they reject his proposals, or that they are part of the equation and cannot be

ignored or excluded from international summits and negotiations concerning Ukraine, which they consider their own problem because Russia poses a threat to them through its occupation of eastern Ukraine. However, at the present time, they cannot give up American assistance to Ukraine or the assistance they receive for their own protection. They do not want to separate from America completely, but they do not want to be subordinate to it, nor do they want it to marginalise them. They cannot impose their will on America under their deteriorating circumstances. For this reason, America marginalises them in all international issues, even European issues, and tries to keep them under its umbrella and impose upon them what it agrees with Russia and what it wants from them. We discussed the reasons for this in an answer to a question issued on 2/11/2026 entitled "Europe's Demonstrations and the Reasons for Its Economic Weakness". We said: "Europe has failed to compete with America and China in the technology sector... However, the war in Ukraine and the international developments that coincided with it have begun to dangerously turn the balance of power in Europe upside down, as follows: **- The Russian invasion of Ukraine:** Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February 2022 from several directions and came close to the capital, Kyiv. At that point, Europe was shaken and overwhelmed by fear of the Russian 'bogeyman'. It placed itself under the leadership of the Biden administration to help Ukraine and resist the Russian invasion. The Biden administration demonstrated strong leadership over the European countries, which had been overcome by panic and whose military weakness became apparent. The American Biden administration's leadership of Europe was a manifestation of Europe's military weakness. This European deficiency had not previously been so clearly visible, and reports began to identify the areas of European military weakness as a serious matter."

10. All of this is taking place on the international stage in the complete absence of any role or influence for the Islamic Ummah. This is because there is no state representing it, one that would rise and take its rightful place among the great powers—in fact, at their head—so that it could manage international affairs, determine the fate of the world, and carry its message to the world: the message of guidance and goodness. For this reason, establishing such a state is among the most pressing obligations. It is a state that bases everything concerning it and its policies on the Islamic creed, and whose constitutional sources are the Qur'an and Sunnah, together with what they indicate from the consensus of the Companions and Islamic analogy. That state is the **Khilafah Rashidah (Rightly Guided Caliphate) on the method of Prophethood**, which the Messenger of Allah (saw) gave glad tidings of: **«ثُمَّ تَكُونُ خِلَافَةً عَلَى مِنْهَاجِ النُّبُوَّةِ» "Then there will be a Khilafah on the method of Prophethood."** By the permission of Allah, it will work to unite the tremendous capabilities of the Islamic Ummah and use them to spread guidance among the peoples and nations of the world, until falsehood, represented by America and the other great and small disbelieving states, is eliminated, and the earth shines once again with the light of Islam. And Allah establishes the truth and causes falsehood to vanish. ﴿وَقُلْ جَاءَ الْحَقُّ وَزَهَقَ الْبَاطِلُ إِنَّ الْبَاطِلَ كَانَ زَهُوقًا﴾ "And say, "Truth has come, and falsehood has departed. Indeed is falsehood, [by nature], ever bound to depart."" [Surat Al-Isra :81]

15 Jumada al-Akhirah 1448 AH

Corresponding to 25/11/2026 CE