## Macron says he'll confer with allies on protecting Europe with French nuclear deterrence

PARIS (AP) — French President Emmanuel Macron said Wednesday he will discuss with European allies the possibility of using France's nuclear deterrent to protect the continent from Russian threats, amid concerns over potential U.S. disengagement.

France is the only nuclear power in the European Union.

Macron, in a televised address ahead of a special European summit Thursday, described Russia as a "threat to France and Europe," and said he had decided "to open the strategic debate on the protection of our allies on the European continent by our (nuclear) deterrent."

He said the use of France's nuclear weapons would remain only in the hands of the French president.

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