## Russia and Iran sign a partnership treaty to deepen their ties in the face of Western sanctions

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Iranian counterpart, Masoud Pezeshkian, signed a broad cooperation pact Friday as their countries deepened their partnership in the face of stinging Western sanctions.

Russian and Iranian officials say the "comprehensive strategic partnership treaty" covers all areas -- from trade and military cooperation to science, education and culture. The 20-year treaty could be extended further.

Putin praised the deal as a "real breakthrough, creating conditions for the stable and sustainable development of Russia, Iran and the entire region."

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