

UN proposes adding Russian bank unit to SWIFT if Putin extends Black Sea grain deal

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has proposed that Russian President Vladimir Putin extend the Black Sea grain deal in return for adding a Russian agricultural bank's unit to the SWIFT payment network, Reuters reported citing sources.

The deal, which allows Ukraine to export grain through the Black Sea, is set to expire Monday. The deal was brokered by the U.N. and Turkey last July and has been extended three times.

Russia has threatened to back out of the deal, blaming the West for blocking its exports as a result of restrictions on payments, logistics and insurance.

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