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## Russia to exchange information with Taliban in fight against ISIS

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Russia has opened communication channels in a bid to exchange information with the Taliban group in Afghanistan regarding the emergent Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group in Afghanistan, it has been reported.

A Russian diplomat quoted by Interfax news agency said Moscow and Taliban interests in fight against Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Afghanistan coincide.

“We have communication channels opened for sharing information,” said Zamir Kabulov, a department chief at Russia’s Foreign Ministry and President Vladimir Putin’s special envoy on Afghanistan.

Kabulov further added that Russia is ready to supply weapons to Afghanistan but he insisted that the supply of weapons will be mostly on commercial basis.

The remarks by Kabulov comes as Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu earlier said Russia has stepped up rearming the armed forces of Kyrgyzstan amid concerns that the deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan could affect the Central Asian countries.

“From our side, we are doing everything possible in order to complete the plan for rearming the Kyrgyz Armed Forces so that they can counter threats that are coming [out of Afghanistan],” Shoigu said.

There have been numerous deadly clashes among the Taliban militants and the loyalists of ISIS terror group during the recent months amid major differences in the ideology of the two group.

At least 16 militants were killed and several others were wounded in the latest clash between ISIS and Taliban militants in Chaparhar district of eastern Nangarhar province earlier this month.