



Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi

Aug 18, 2025 · 25 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1957420377983865289](#)

In today's Vatnik Soup, I'll explain the Alaska Fiasco and how it marks the peak of Trump's two-year betrayal of Ukraine. What was sold as "peace talks" turned into a spectacle of weakness, humiliation, empty promises, and photo-ops that handed Putin exactly what he wanted.

1/24



Let's start with the obvious: Trump desperately wants the gold medal of the Nobel Peace Prize, mainly because Obama got one. That's why he's now LARPing as a "peace maker" in every conflict: Israel-Gaza, Azerbaijan-Armenia, India-Pakistan, and of course Ukraine-Russia.

2/24

Trump reiterates that five wars ended with his involvement, hinting at peace prize

MARIYA YEMETS, ROMAN PETRENKO — SATURDAY, 16 AUGUST 2025, 08:40



© 6263



Donald Trump

Trump reportedly called Norwegian minister 'out of the blue' to ask about Nobel prize

US president told Norway's finance minister he wants the Nobel peace prize, according to the Norwegian press

Maya Yang

Thu 14 Aug 2025 22:15 CEST

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📷 Donald Trump speaks with Jens Stoltenberg, then the secretary general of Nato as they attend a Nato summit in Watford, England, in 2019. Photograph: Dan Kitwood/Getty Images

Donald Trump cold-called Norway's finance minister last month to ask about a nomination for the **Nobel peace prize**, Norwegian press reported on Thursday.





WORLD, ASIA - PACIFIC

US doubles down on Trump's role in India-Pakistan ceasefire, India rejects claim

Secretary of State Rubio calls Trump 'president of peace' amid rising tensions over disputed narrative

Gizem Nisa Demir | 08.08.2025 - Update : 08.08.2025



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Another theory is that Putin holds kompromat — compromising material such as videos or documents — that would put Trump in an extremely bad light. Some have suggested it could be tied to the Epstein files or Russia's interference in the 2016 US presidential election.

SWAMP CHRONICLES

A THEORY OF TRUMP KOMPROMAT

Why the President is so nice to Putin, even when Putin might not want him to be.

By Adam Davidson

July 19, 2018



President Trump's persistent deference to Vladimir Putin has led many people to speculate that the Russian President is holding something over him. Photograph by Brendan Smialowski / AFP / Getty



Timothy Snyder

@TimothyDSnyder



A guess about a point Putin and Trump agreed on: that Putin won't release the files about Russia's campaigns to support Trump in 2016 and 2020 so long as Trump continues to aid Russia's war.

Former KGB chief of Kazakhstan Alnur Mussayev even claimed that Trump was recruited by the Soviet Union in 1987 under the codename "Krasnov." No solid evidence has ever surfaced, but Trump's actions do look odd given Russia's relatively limited global influence and power.

Krasnov - Before Mussayev there was Shvets saying Trump was a Russian asset



by Bill Addis

Community (This content is not subject to review by Daily Kos staff prior to publication.)

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Finally, the Kompromat is Becoming Clearer

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Russian stuff blowing up: Russian general gravely wounded in Kursk attack

by quaoar,
Community

☆ 358 💬 101

I knew it

by Bidenmytime,
Community

☆ 570 💬 380

The setup for the Alaska Summit was disastrous from the start. Trump's favorite real estate agent, Steven Witkoff, went to Moscow with no expertise and not even a proper translator, only to get played again by Kremlin spies who shifted their demands right after the meeting.

Trump's envoy 'misunderstood' Putin's territorial demands as concessions, media report

Michał Woźniak/hw © 09.08.2025, 16:48



Steve Witkoff (L) was apparently confused as to which country's forces should withdraw. Photo by Kremlin Press Office / Handout/Anadolu via Getty Images

Even the location of the Summit favored Russia, as the state was once part of Russia, sold to the US by a previous Tsar. Russians have been pushing the idea that Alaska should return under Moscow's rule: welcoming Putin there handed the Kremlin yet another symbolic victory.



Painting by Russian artist Sergei Mironenko, "Alaska is Ours," 2014, wood, decal, varnish. (Open source)

Russian propaganda has come up with the false narrative that Alaska was not sold but leased for 99 years, although there is no evidence to back this up. According to the myth, the Soviet Union decided not to take the peninsula back in 1966.

Another myth circulated in Russia is that the country never received the gold for Alaska, as it allegedly sank in a sea storm while being transported by ship.



Despite this, some were optimistic, as Trump had promised Ukraine would get all the help needed to defend its civilians & warned there would be "very severe consequences" if Putin

refused a ceasefire. Of course, this was a lie, just like the “I’ll end the war in 24 hours”...

7/24

Ukraine to Receive New Patriot Systems From US as Trump Announces Major Military Aid

Jul 14, 2025 19:26 Updated Jul 14, 2025 21:21 ⌚ 2 min read



DARIIA MYKHAILENKO
Author



WORLD NEWS

Trump warns of 'severe consequences' if Putin does not agree to stop war after summit



1 of 10 | President Donald Trump says there will be "very severe consequences" if Russia doesn't agree to stop the Ukraine war after Friday's summit with President Vladimir Putin. He said a pre-summit call with Ukrainian and European leaders was "very friendly."

BY [GEIR MOULSON](#), [SYLVIE CORBET](#), [STEFANIE DAZIO](#) AND
[LORNE COOK](#)

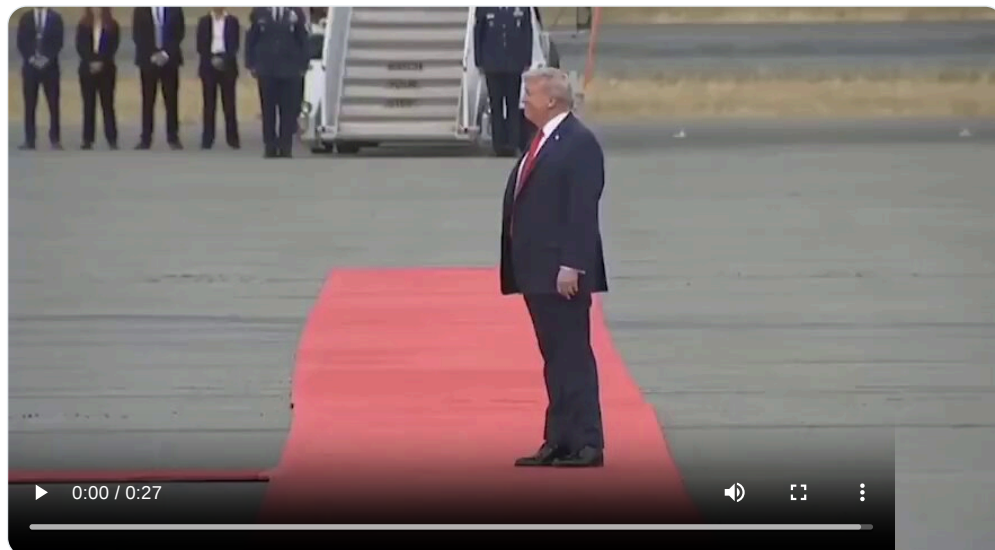
Updated 10:53 PM GMT+3, August 13, 2025

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...and the endless “two-week deadlines” he kept giving Putin for months. By now it’s obvious: Trump has no intention of punishing Russia or his dear Putin for their aggression against Ukraine. Russia got exactly what it wanted from the Summit: photo-ops of Putin with Trump...

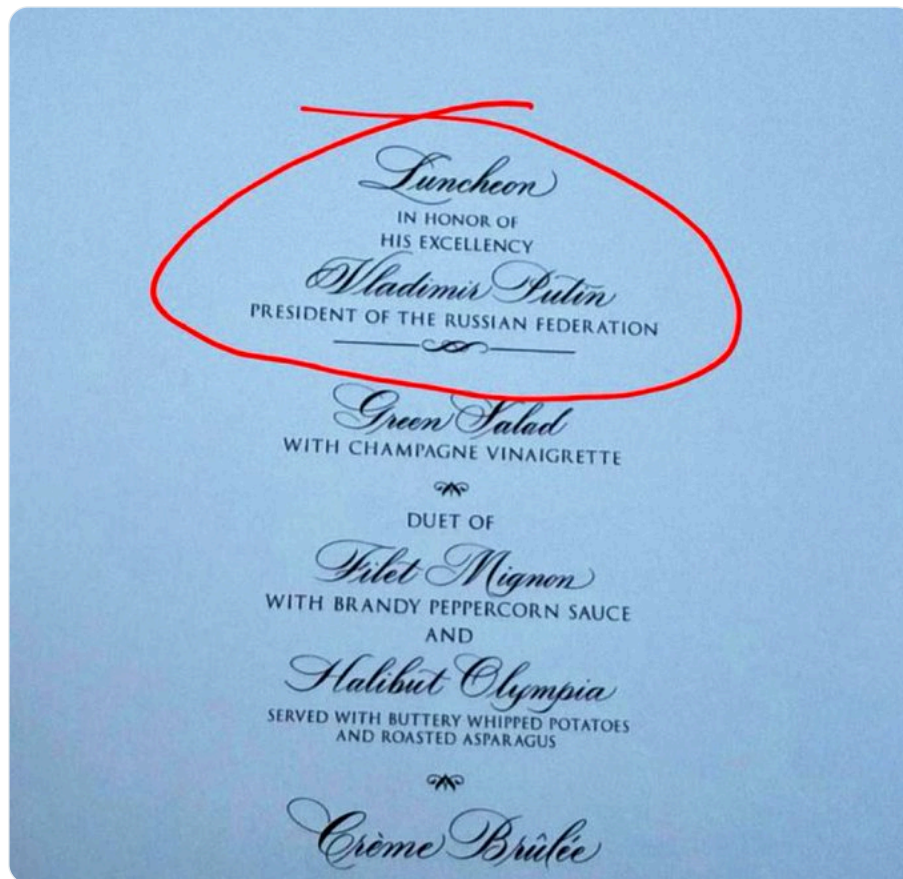
8/24



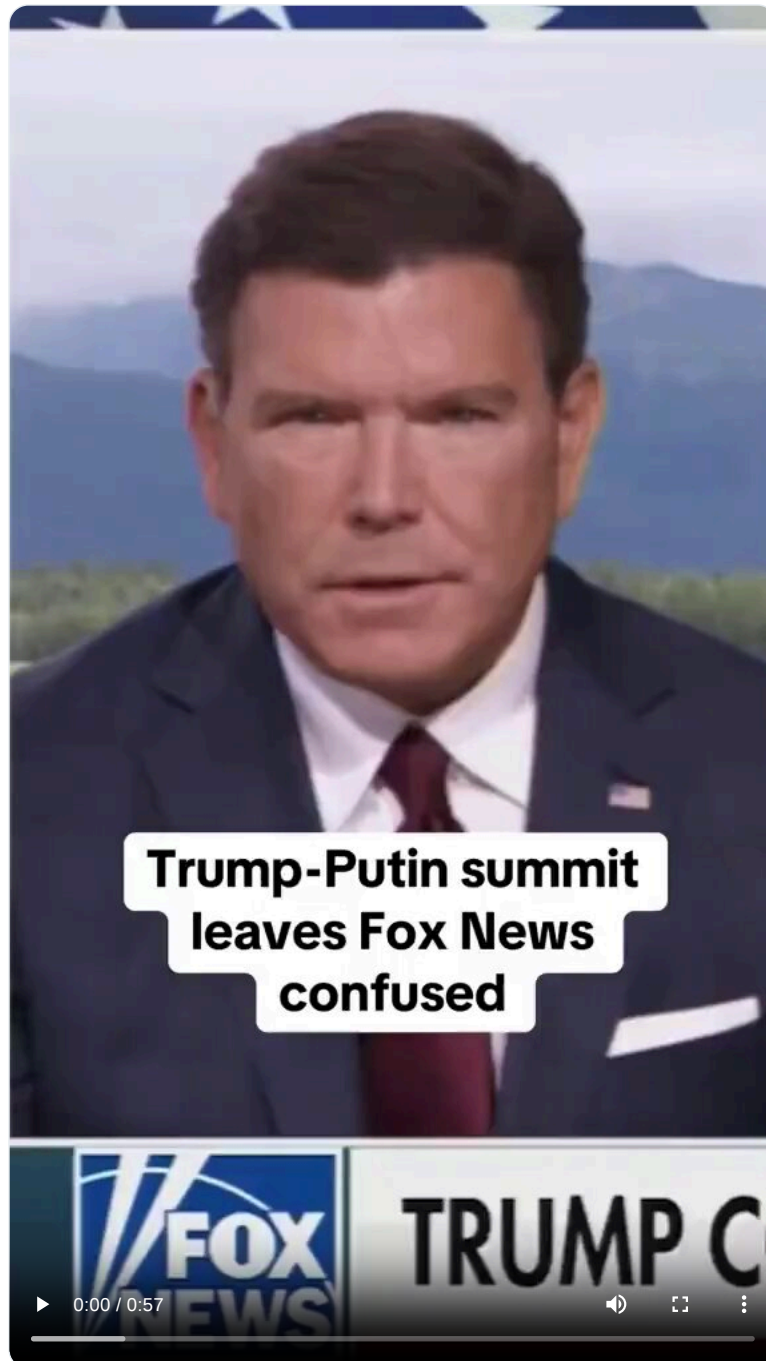
...and a starring role on the world stage. But Russia got even more: US soldiers kneeling in front of the Russian plane, rolling out a red carpet for Putin, photos of Putin looking smug while Trump looked tired and defeated, and a press conference where Putin stole the show...

9/24





... as Trump refused to take a single question. The whole fiasco made the US look weak, and even Fox News, Trump's favorite media outlet, admitted that Putin came to Alaska and "steamrolled" him. After the Summit, Trump went golfing and left Rubio to spin the fiasco.



Rubio claimed there would be no sanctions on Russia, arguing they'd "interfere" with peace talks and that Putin would just keep the war going if punished. Rubio refused to name any concessions Russia should make, claiming it would "collapse the negotiations."



Less than 24 hours later, Trump himself named two, but for Ukraine: no NATO membership, and surrendering Crimea, as he's been hinting at for two years.

Art of the Deal, or something.

But as always with Trump, one must look at his actions rather than at his words.

12/24

POLITICS

Fox News cut out Trump saying he might let Russia take over areas of Ukraine as part of peace deal

By Tom Porter



YURI KADOBNOV/AFP via Getty Images

March 2023

Mar 8, 2023, 6:38 PM EET

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- Fox News edited out remarks by Trump when it replayed an interview with him.
- In the part excluded, he said he could have let Russia have parts of Ukraine.
- Trump has long drawn criticism for his refusal to criticise Russia.

Fox News cut out comments by former President Donald Trump in which he said he would have considered letting Russia have parts of Ukraine as part of a peace deal between the nations.

In an interview on Fox News host Sean Hannity's radio show on Monday, which is not broadcast by Fox, Trump revealed how he would try and broker a peace deal between Russia and Ukraine in the wake of Russia's invasion last year.

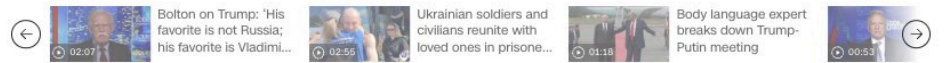
Trump has claimed he can quickly bring an end to the war as he seeks election again in 2024.

Trump slams Zelensky for refusing to recognize Russian control of Crimea

By Todd Symons, Rob Picheta and Kylie Atwood, CNN
6 min read · Updated 10:30 PM EDT, Wed April 23, 2025



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(CNN) — President Donald Trump slammed Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky on Wednesday for his comments that Ukraine wouldn't recognize Russian control of Crimea, calling the remarks "very harmful to the Peace Negotiations with Russia."

"It's inflammatory statements like Zelenskyy's that makes it so difficult to settle this War. He has nothing to boast about! The situation for Ukraine is dire — He can have Peace or, he can fight for another three years before losing the whole Country," he posted on Truth Social.

CNN

Politics

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LIVE UPDATES

Trump tells Zelensky to give up Crimea and joining NATO ahead of White House talks

By Kathleen Magramo, Lauren Kent and Tim Lister, CNN

Updated 7:24 AM EDT, Mon August 18, 2025

Witkoff: US aims for consensus with Zelensky ahead of possible trilateral talks

00:53

What we're covering

• **Zelensky in Washington:** Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has arrived in Washington, DC, where he will be joined by key European leaders when he meets with Donald Trump this afternoon. Trump says Zelensky must agree to some of Russia's conditions — including that Ukraine cede Crimea and agree never to join NATO — for the war to end.

• **Potential security guarantees:** At last week's summit with Trump, President Vladimir Putin agreed to allow security guarantees for Ukraine and made concessions on "land swaps" as part of a potential peace deal, US envoy Steve Witkoff told CNN. Zelensky suggested that such guarantees would need to be stronger than those that "didn't work" in the past. Russia has yet to mention such agreements.

• **Change in tactics:** Trump is now focused on securing a peace deal without pursuing a ceasefire due to his progress with Putin, Witkoff said. In seeking this deal, Trump has backed away from his threat of new sanctions on Moscow, despite calls to impose more economic pressure.

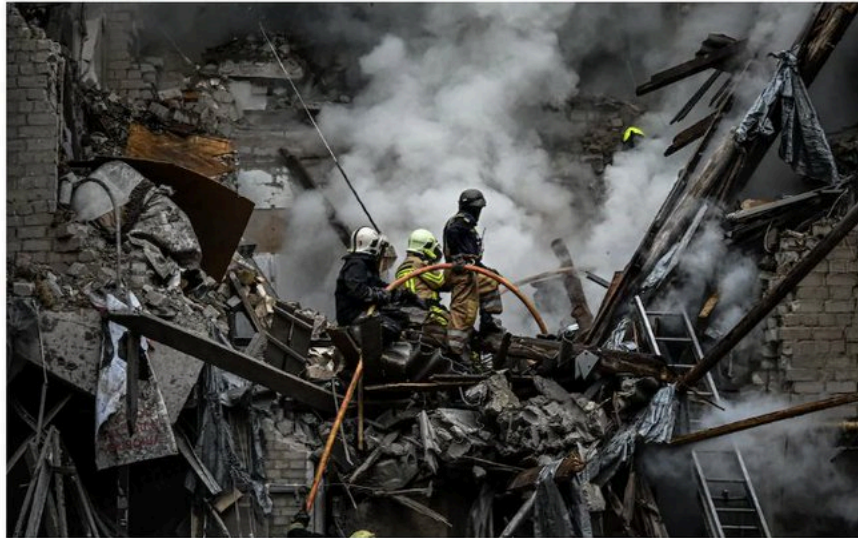
So far, he's:

- Disbanded US sanctions enforcement
- Cut tracking of kidnapped children
- Blocked aid approved by Congress
- Opposed oil price cap at G7
- Paused intelligence sharing to Ukraine
- Made the US and allies vote against a UN resolution condemning the aggression

13/24

Trump to abandon Russia war crimes prosecution

Washington signals end to pursuit of Putin as third anniversary of Ukraine invasion looms



Firefighters stand in the remains of an apartment block in Kharkiv following Russian missile strike in 2022. Credit: Sergey Bobok/AFP



Joe Barnes

21 February 2025 6:02pm GMT

The US has signalled that it could leave an international effort to prosecute Russia for invading Ukraine, The Telegraph can reveal.

US envoys refused to label Russia as an “aggressor” at a meeting of a “core group” of countries preparing a Nuremberg-style tribunal to try Vladimir Putin for his war crimes, according to Western officials.

Washington is similarly refusing to co-sponsor a United Nations statement that supports Ukraine’s territorial integrity and demands Moscow to withdraw its forces from the war-torn nation.

Mr Trump’s administration has also refused to sign off a planned G7 statement calling Russia the “aggressor” in the war with Ukraine to mark the third anniversary of the conflict on Monday.

The US president has blamed Ukraine for starting the war, branded Volodymyr Zelensky a “dictator” and pushed for Russia to be invited back to the alliance of industrialised nations.

European officials fear Mr Trump’s flattery of Putin could lead to the Russian despot being let off the hook for his invasion as part of any peace settlement.

Musk cuts the team finding Ukrainian children stolen by Russia

Trump's federal cost-cutting - led by Elon Musk's Doge - has now hit the unit helping rescue Ukrainian children taken by Russia



There have been more than 19,500 reports of Ukrainian children taken by Russia. Now Musk's funding pause will hamper efforts to find them

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IN FAVOUR: 93		AGAINST: 18		ABSTENTION: 65			

Trump says Putin launching massive strike on Ukraine is 'what anybody would do'

US president says he finds Russia easier to deal with than Ukraine after cutting off intelligence and weapons to Kyiv

● [Ukraine war live: latest updates as Russia steps up attacks](#)



📷 Donald Trump told reporters he had 'always had a good relationship with Putin'.
Photograph: Chris Kleponis/EPA

Donald Trump has said [Vladimir Putin](#) was “doing what anybody would do” after Russia launched a massive missile and drone strike on Ukraine days after the US cut off vital intelligence and military aid to Kyiv.

Ironically, the US in general has conversely shown strong support for Ukraine: 83 (out of 100) Senators backed a secondary sanctions bill targeting Russia's energy sector, demonstrating rare bipartisan unity outside of Trump's MAGA, and polls show support for Ukraine.

LATEST NEWS

Bipartisan Russia Sanctions Bill Gains Support, Could Reach Senate Vote Soon

Jul 10, 2025 10:57 Updated Jul 11, 2025 17:00 3 min read



CYRIL BARABALTCHOUK
Author



Lindsey Graham's Plan To Punish China For Buying Russian Oil Is Dead



By Stephen Silver Published July 24, 2025



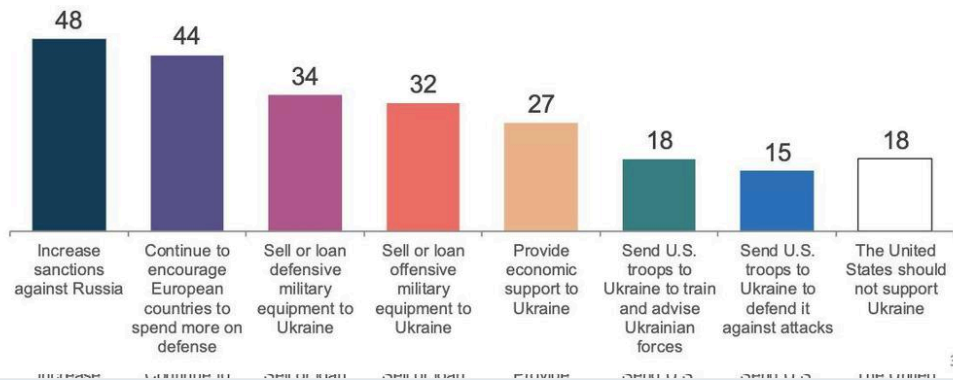
Putin in 2022. Image Credit: Creative Commons.

Key Points and Summary – A powerful, bipartisan Senate bill aimed at imposing harsh sanctions on countries buying Russian oil, like China, has been effectively killed.

Fewer than 1 in 5 Trump Voters Advocate for No Support for Ukraine

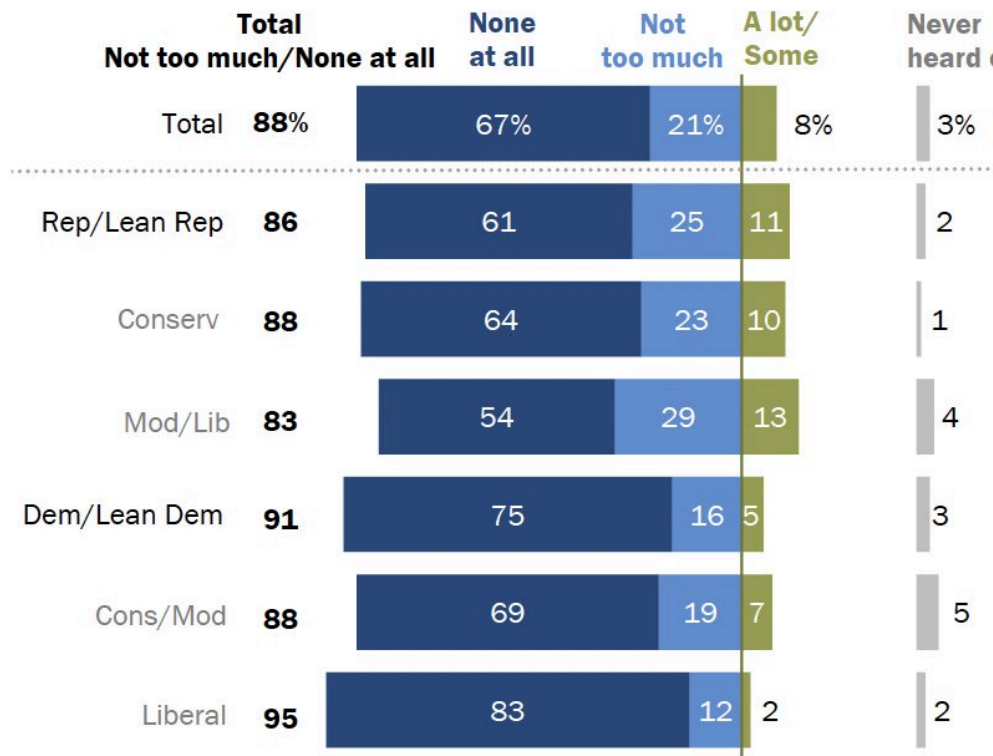
How do you think the United States should support Ukraine? Select all that you agree with.

Direct US Military Support 55% | Other Actions 70% | No Action 18%
Traditional Conservative: Direct US Military Support 56% | Other Actions 71% | No Action 18%
MAGA Conservative: Direct US Military Support 51% | Other Actions 74% | No Action 17%
Moderates: Direct US Military Support 59% | Other Actions 70% | No Action 16%



Roughly 9 in 10 Americans say they have no confidence in Putin

% who have ___ confidence in Russian President Vladimir Putin to do the right thing regarding world affairs




Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 1-7, 2024. Q8d.


"Growing Partisan Divisions Over NATO and Ukraine"


Trump's cabinet is packed with vatniks who seem to despise Ukraine and cozy up to Russia: people like JD Vance, Tulsi, and RFK Jr. have refused to condemn the invasion. US foreign policy is hostage to Russia apologists who'd rather treat a brutal empire as ally than enemy.

Ukraine 'cannot win war', JD Vance claims in chilling statement

Story by Ciaran McGrath, Hannah Broughton • 3mo •  2 min read



 US Vice President JD Vance in India
© (Image: Getty)

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Tulsi Gabbard's history with Russia is even more concerning than you think

One expert says her views are 'so wildly fringe that her potential appointment as DNI is genuinely alarming', [Richard Hall](#) and [Andrew Feinberg](#) write

Tuesday 04 February 2025 21:12 GMT • [Comments](#)



THEN

GOP @GOP · 12 січ. 2019

No Democrat is a match for the record number of accomplishments under [@realDonaldTrump](#), but here's just some of what you need to know about [Tulsi Gabbard](#)...

TULSI GABBARD
Assad's "Mouthpiece" in Washington

Cheat Sheet

1. Held controversial secret meeting with Assad in 2017.
2. Only Democrat to vote against condemning the Assad regime's violence against civilians.
3. Progressives have blasted her on a wide range of issues, from foreign policy to immigration to her 180 degree turn on social issues.
4. Resigned from DNC to support Bernie Sanders.
5. A House member hasn't successfully run for president since James Garfield – in 1880.

570 597 733 4

NOW

GOP @GOP · 4 лют.

DNI needs proven leadership.

Confirm [Tulsi Gabbard](#)!

Make America Safe Again!

133 201 1 тис. 43 тис. 4

GOP @GOP · 13 груд. 2024

Tulsi [Gabbard](#) Is Right for Director of National Intelligence

nationalreview.com
Tulsi Gabbard Is Right for Director of National Intelligence...
She has the experience, temperament, and professional integrity necessary for the American ...

114 117 550 21 тис. 4

GOP @GOP · 9 груд. 2024

Hundreds of vets pour out in support of Tulsi [Gabbard](#) for DNI

foxnews.com
'Warrior whose vote cannot be bought': Hundreds o...
More than 250 veterans signed a letter endorsing former Hawaii Rep. Tulsi Gabbard to serve as ...

202 307 1 тис. 34 тис. 4

RFK Jr.'s 'history lesson' on Russia's invasion of Ukraine flunks the fact test

A line-by-line dissection shows he's often echoing Russian talking points.

May 8, 2024 More than 1 year ago

🔊 16 min ➦ 📌 📄



(Kena Betancur/AFP/Getty Images)

And Trump himself can't wait to start doing business with Russia again. In Alaska, Putin fed him the same old bullshit about the "stolen" 2020 election and downplayed Moscow's role in 2016, when Trump first won office with a big helping hand from the Kremlin.

White House debates lifting sanctions on Russian energy assets, Nord Stream

The debate pits Steve Witkoff against State Department and U.S. energy export proponents.



Special Envoy Steve Witkoff (left) listens to Secretary of State Marco Rubio during a diplomatic meeting at the Elysée presidential palace in Paris on April 17, 2025. | Pool photo by Ludovic Marin

By BEN LEFEBVRE and FELICIA SCHWARTZ

04/23/2025 08:00 PM EDT



Trump to offer Putin minerals for peace

US president will propose money-making opportunities to encourage Russia to end Ukraine war

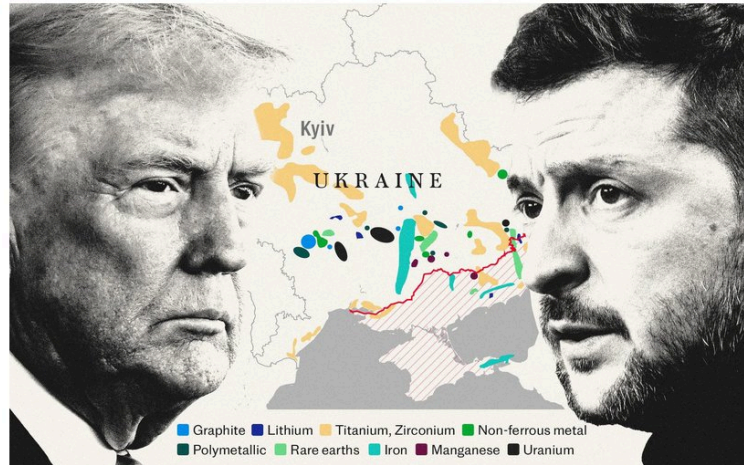
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13 August 2025 9:25pm BST

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Today, the American president meets Zelenskyy, no red carpet. Several EU leaders will join, but Trump has already said he'll meet Zelenskyy alone first. It remains to be seen whether the orange man will disrespect him the same way he did in their last White House meeting.

Trump to meet Zelensky one-on-one, without European leaders - Bild

Kyiv • UNN • August 17 2025, 06:35 PM • 29825 views

The US President will hold a one-on-one meeting with Volodymyr Zelensky, and then representatives of the EU and NATO will join them. A joint working dinner and discussions in an expanded format are planned.



The real estate magnate Witkoff, meanwhile, suggested that Putin agreed to enact a law stating that Russia would not “go after any other European countries”. In Putin’s Russia, this means nothing and they actually already have such a law in place:

https://x.com/Tatarigami_UA/status/1957328390891184364

While Trump and European leaders are scrambling to come up with some security guarantees for Ukraine, Russia's military production is intensifying at an incredible pace, out-producing NATO's manifold. Russia doesn't look like a country preparing for peace...

FINANCIAL TIMES

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War in Ukraine + Add to myFT

Volodymyr Zelenskyy and allies to press Donald Trump on security guarantees

European leaders will join Ukraine's president in US as he comes under pressure to concede territory to Russia



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, left, with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Brussels on Sunday © AP

Andy Bounds in Brussels, **James Politi** in Washington and **David Sheppard** in London

BUSINESS INSIDER

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MILITARY & DEFENSE

Russia produces as much ammo in 3 months as all of NATO does in a year, says NATO chief

By Tom Porter



NATO chief Mark Rutte said Russia was 'producing more weapons faster than we thought.' Dan Kitwood/Getty Images

And we've already seen that security assurances or even guarantees mean absolutely nothing: in 1994 the UK, the US, Ukraine and Russia signed the Budapest Memorandum & in 2004 Putin confirmed Ukraine's borders and sovereignty, including Crimea.

All meaningless.

20/24



Trump has even challenged NATO's Article 5, the cornerstone of the alliance. He's said he would let Russia "do whatever the hell they want" to allies who don't spend enough on defense — an open invitation for Putin to test the West's unity.

21/24

Trump says he would encourage Russia to ‘do whatever the hell they want’ to any NATO country that doesn’t pay enough



By Kate Sullivan, CNN

⌚ 3 min read · Updated 5:00 PM EST, Sun February 11, 2024



Putin's goal hasn't changed and he's not hiding it: turn Ukraine into a Russian puppet state like Belarus. For him, "the collapse of the Soviet Union was the greatest geopolitical disaster of the century" so of course he wants former Soviet states under his control again.

Putin's goal remains the complete surrender of Ukraine – US intelligence

Moscow is not making peace proposals, but issuing ultimatums, according to a member of the US Senate Intelligence Committee



Mariia Spaliek
News editor at LIGA.net

AUGUST 15, 17:59



Mark Warner (Photo: WILL OLIVER/EPA)



The Russians were eagerly waiting for Trump's presidency to hand them the parts of Ukraine they couldn't seize after three years of fierce fighting. Now Trump wants to give Putin the whole Donbas — a region that would take Russia years to conquer by conventional means.

Kremlin demands full capitulation from Ukraine, rejects compromise in peace talks — ISW

April 19, 2025, 10:26 5905

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Moscow demands Ukraine's full capitulation and refuses to compromise in peace talks. (Photo: REUTERS/Stringer)

Author: [Alex Stezhensky](#)

Russian officials and propagandists continue to reject U.S. proposals for ending the war in Ukraine unless all of the Kremlin's demands are met — including regime change, demilitarization, and significant territorial concessions — the Institute for the Study of War (ISW) said in a new report on April 18.

Donald Trump

Trump reportedly to back ceding of Ukrainian territory to Russia as part of peace deal

Details of post-summit call were leaked in which US president supports plan for Kyiv to give up Donbas region

Edward Helmore and Pjotr Sauer

Sat 16 Aug 2025 20:25 CEST

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Donald Trump listens to Vladimir Putin during a joint news conference after their meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, on 15 August 2025. Photograph: Gavriil Grigorov/Sputnik/Kremlin pool/EPA

RUSSIAN MEDIA MONITOR

РОССИЯ 1
ПРЯМОЙ ЭФИР

**RUSSIAN
DISINFO**

0:00 / 0:16



Comrade Trump is doing everything very correcttly



So, what will happen? Trump's so-called "peace plan" is really just Putin's wish list. The terms will be unbearable for Ukraine, Zelenskyy will refuse, Trump will blame him, the US will sell weapons through NATO, and Trump will quietly start lifting sanctions on Russia.

24/24

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White House seeks plan for possible Russia sanctions relief, sources say

By Erin Banco

March 3, 2025 11:38 PM GMT+2 · Updated March 4, 2025

U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin shake hands as they meet in Helsinki, Finland, July 16, 2018. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque/File Photo Purchase Licensing Rights

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POLITICS

Fox News cut out Trump saying he might let Russia take over areas of Ukraine as part of peace deal

By Tom Porter



Donald Trump (L) and Russia's President Vladimir Putin shake hands before attending a joint press conference in Helsinki, on July 16, 2018. YURI KADOBNOV/AFP via Getty Images

**Donald J. Trump** ❤️ ➕

@realDonaldTrump

President Zelenskyy of Ukraine can end the war with Russia almost immediately, if he wants to, or he can continue to fight. Remember how it started. No getting back Obama given Crimea (12 years ago, without a shot being fired!), and NO GOING INTO NATO BY UKRAINE. Some things never change!!!

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