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Nov 1, 2023 · 19 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1719701732240789616](#)

In today's #vatniksoup, I'll talk about peace negotiations. There's a common misconception that only Russia wants peace and Ukraine wants to keep on fighting "until the last man", but of course this is far from the truth.

1/18



There's been peace talks pretty during the whole duration of the Russo-Ukrainian War. The first meeting was held in Belarus, just four days after the start of the invasion, on 28 Feb 2022. In March, there were four more rounds of negotiations in Belarus and in Turkey.

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Initial talks between Russia and Ukraine yield no resolution.

Russia's delegation leader said the next meeting would take place once more along the Ukraine-Belarus border in the "coming days."

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In this photograph provided by Belarussian state media, the Russian delegation, on the left, and the Ukrainian delegation, on the right, during negotiations in the Gomel region Monday in Belarus. BeTA



By Valerie Hopkins

Feb. 28, 2022

In 5 Mar 2022, Israel's Naftali Bennett was mediating the negotiations between Ukraine & Russia. They were also coordinated by the US, France & Germany. Bennett said that both sides wanted a cease fire, and that it was the Western powers that stopped this deal from happening.

Bennett returns to Israel after whirlwind trip to meet Putin, brief Germany's Scholz

Few details provided on content of either sit-down amid PM's efforts to mediate in Ukraine war; Israeli leader also speaks by phone with Ukraine's Zelensky and France's Macron

By **TOI STAFF** and **AGENCIES**

6 March 2022, 4:03 am | Updated at 7:40 am | 9

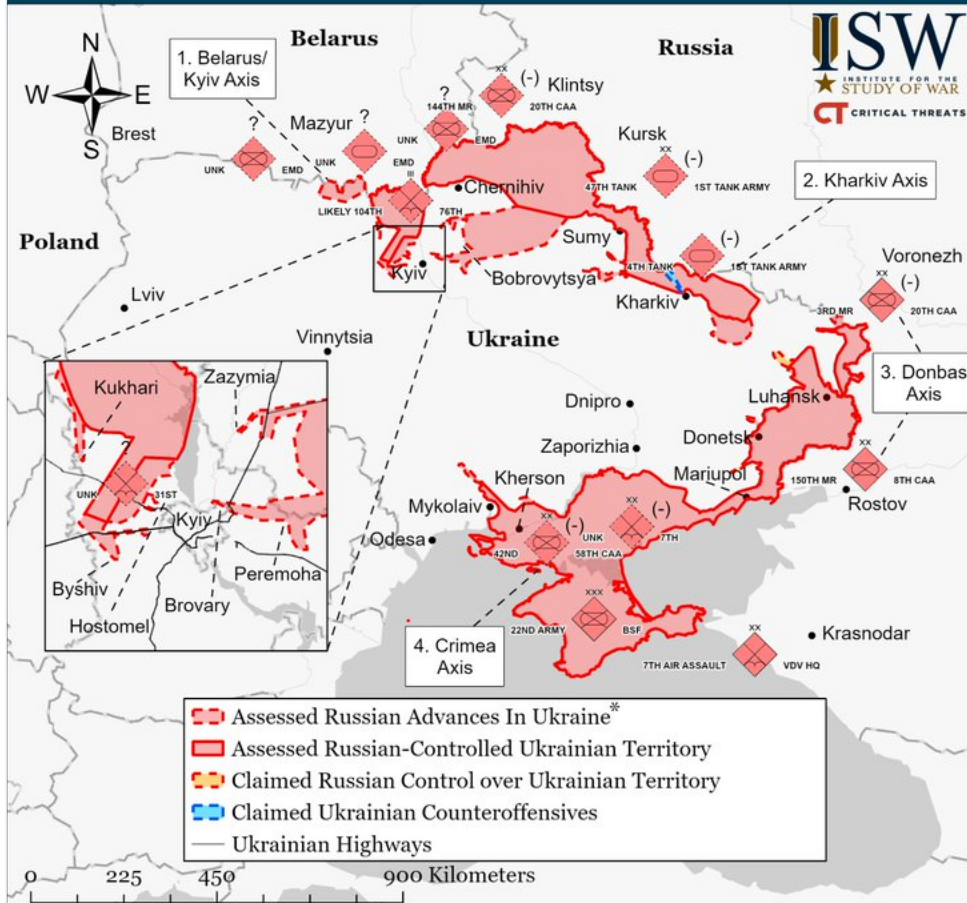


Prime Minister Naftali Bennett shuttling between Russia and Germany on March 5, 2022 (PMO)

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett returned to Israel in the early hours of Sunday morning after a surprise whirlwind trip to Moscow and then Berlin to try to mediate a resolution to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

If you look at the map from that time, it is easy to see why Russia would've wanted a break from fighting - they were controlling eastern, northern and southern parts of Ukraine, their 3-day plan to take Kyiv had failed and their convoy to Kyiv was stalled.

Assessed Control of Terrain in Ukraine and Main Russian Maneuver Axes as of March 5, 2022, 3:00 PM EST



Map by George Barros, Kathryn Tyson, and Thomas Bergeron
 © 2022 Institute for the Study of War and AEI's Critical Threats Project

Confirmed Russian units in the past 24 hours:

The 488th Motorized Rifle Regiment of the 144th Motorized Rifle Division of the 20th Combined Arms Army attacked Kharkiv Oblast.

Elements of the 150th Motorized Rifle Division attacked Donetsk Oblast.

Elements of the 43rd Separate Naval Assault Aviation Regiment attacked Mykolaiv Oblast.

Elements of the 70th Motorized Rifle Regiment of the 5th Combined Arms Army (CAA) of the Eastern Military District attacked either Kyiv or Chernihiv Oblast.

Elements of the 49th CAA, 22nd Army Corps, and the 7th Airborne Assault Division attacked in the direction of Mariupol and Zaporizhia.

* Assessed Russian advances are areas where ISW assesses Russian forces have operated in or launched attacks against but do not control.



Kyiv must have been worried about the convoy reaching the capital, and they probably also wanted to stop Russia from invading more regions in Ukraine. Bennett later tweeted that he had his doubts about the deal, and said the odds for it holding were roughly 50-50.

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From the beginning, many politicians stated that Russia wouldn't hold their end of the deal, and for example French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said that Russia was only "pretending to negotiate", a strategy they had used many times before.

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UKRAINE CRISIS

French Foreign Minister says Russia is 'pretending to negotiate' in Ukraine talks

Russia is pretending to negotiate with Ukraine, while pursuing the invasion of its neighbour in line with a brutal strategy it has used elsewhere, French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said Thursday.

Issued on: 17/03/2022 - 13:58 ⌚ 1 min



France's Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian. © AFP/Alik Keplicz

On 9 Apr 2022, Boris Johnson visited Zelenskyy and told him that "Putin is a war criminal, he should be pressured, not negotiated with." Now this statement is often used as an evidence that the West sabotaged the peace negotiations, but it's worth mentioning that...

Possibility of talks between Zelensky and Putin came to a halt after Johnson's visit - UP sources

IRYNA BALACHUK, ROMAN ROMANIUK — THURSDAY, 5 MAY 2022, 13:32



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IRYNA BALACHUK, ROMAN ROMANIUK — THURSDAY, 5 MAY 2022, 13:32

...this statement was made right after the atrocities in Bucha were revealed. Also, Lavrov later stated that the peace deal was no longer an option, stating that even the Donbas was not enough for Russia and that the "geography had changed."



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Russia's top diplomat says the 'geography' of Ukraine has changed as the White House warns Moscow plans to annex more territory

Natalie Musumeci and John Haltiwanger Jul 20, 2022, 8:16 PM GMT+3

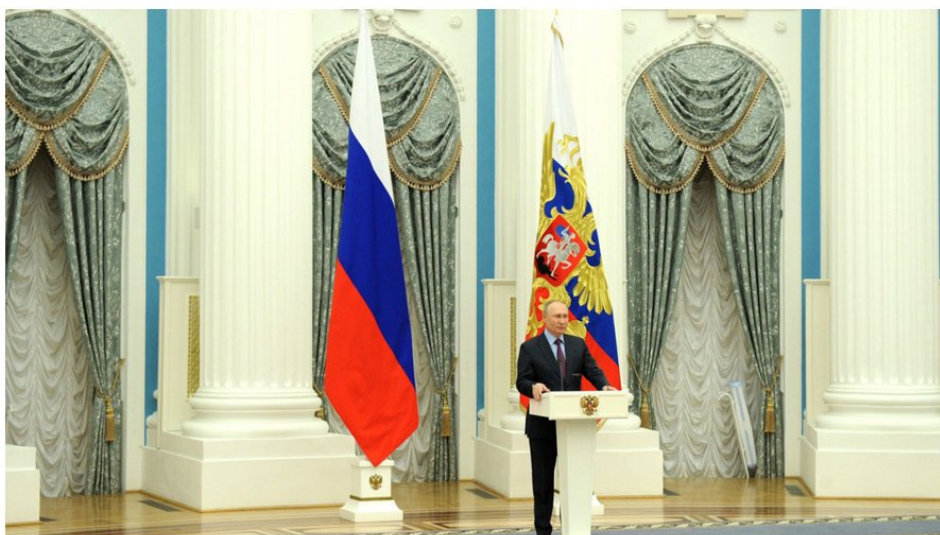


Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. Willy Kurniawan/Pool Photo via AP

During the early days of the invasion, Deputy Kremlin Chief of Staff Dmitry Kozak even proposed Putin a deal where Ukraine would not join NATO if Russia called off their invasion. Putin refused, as he wanted to annex more Ukrainian territories and absorb them into Russia.

Putin Rejected Early Ukraine Peace Deal to Pursue 'Expanded' Annexation Goals – Reuters

Sep. 14, 2022



Putin at the Feb. 22 Security Council meeting where he laid out his intent to formally recognize the Donbas' separatist republics as independent states. kremlin.ru

Russian President Vladimir Putin had rejected a potential deal with Ukraine offered by his key envoy in the early days of the invasion as he “expanded” his goals to include annexing more

Russian President Vladimir Putin had rejected a potential deal with Ukraine offered by his key envoy in the early days of the invasion as he “expanded” his goals to include annexing more territory, Reuters [reported](#) Wednesday, citing three unnamed sources close to Russia's leadership.

Kremlin deputy chief of staff Dmitry Kozak, Putin's chief envoy on Ukraine, was said to have secured a deal guaranteeing that Ukraine would not join NATO — a key Russian demand prior to its full-scale invasion of its pro-Western neighbor.

According to Reuters, Putin made clear that Kozak's deal with an unspecified number of Ukrainian concessions did not go far enough.

Putin reportedly “expanded his objectives to include annexing swathes of Ukrainian territory,” Reuters reported.

Now, so-called "peaceniks" often like to talk about how the West and/or Ukraine are unwilling to "stop the killing" and negotiate with Russia. But what they fail to realize, is that Russia hasn't been willing to

negotiate for peace, and when they are, they're planning to...

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STORIES

Why Russia is pushing a return to negotiations

The Kremlin wants to buy time to prepare for a 'full-scale offensive' in early 2023, sources say

3:53 pm, October 14, 2022 - Source: [Meduza](#)



An abandoned Russian military vehicle in Ukraine
Dimitar Dilokoff / AFP / Scanpix / LETA

...re-group and mobilize more troops to continue their barbaric invasion. In Jun 2023, the Kremlin-controlled RIA Novosti published an op-ed by Viktoriia Nikiforova on Russian "empire building" and how it takes time.

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08:00 19.06.2023 (updated: 08:14 06/19/2023)

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Agreement or agreement? No, just the capitulation of Ukraine



© RIA Novosti / Evgenia Novozhenina | Go to media bank
Monument of Independence of Ukraine in Kyiv. Archive photo


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Victoria Nikiforova
all materials

At a meeting with African leaders, President Putin showed a page from the initialed agreement between Russia and Ukraine, signed in March 2022 in Istanbul. Then the speeches of the country's chief negotiator, Vladimir


According to Nikiforova, "it took Russia several decades and several peace treaties in the 17th century before it managed to annex Kyiv." Do read Oleksandr Polianichev's fantastic thread on this:

 **Oleksandr Polianichev**
@OPolianichev · [Follow](#)

“Global support for the war is shrinking,” @TIME says. Indeed, now that “Ukraine fatigue” is everywhere, Russia feels emboldened to carry on with solving the Ukrainian question for good. But what happens if a peace treaty is signed? An op-ed in RIA Novosti explains it all. 📖

 РИА НОВОСТИ

Договор или договорняк? Нет, просто капитуляция Украины



8:54 PM · Oct 30, 2023

♥ 402 💬 Reply 🔗 Copy link

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As I mentioned, Russia was never ready to negotiate for truce or peace. Some examples: In Dec 2022, Dmitry Peskov said that any peace plan can only proceed if Ukraine recognizes Russia's sovereignty over the regions it annexed from Ukraine.

13/18

“There can be no peace plan for Ukraine that does not take into account today’s realities regarding Russian territory, with the entry of four regions into Russia,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Wednesday. “Plans that do not take these realities into account cannot be peaceful.”

In Jan 2023, he said that "there is currently no prospect for diplomatic means of settling the situation around Ukraine." In Mar 2023 he said that "We have to achieve our goals. Right now this is only possible by military means due to the current position of the Kyiv regime." 14/18



war (18144) diplomacy (124) Peskov (248) Russia (9417)

There are currently no prospects for diplomatic solution to situation around Ukraine, - Peskov



Putin's press secretary, Dmytro Peskov, said that there are currently no prospects for settling the "situation around Ukraine" through diplomatic channels.

This is reported by [Censor.NET](#) with reference to the propaganda publication [RIA Novosti](#).

"There is currently no prospect for diplomatic means of settling the situation around Ukraine," said the Russian dictator's spokesman.

The screenshot shows a news article from US News. The header includes navigation links like 'NEWS', 'Best Countries', 'Best States', etc. The article title is 'Kremlin: for Now, Goals in Ukraine Can Only Be Achieved by Military Force'. It is attributed to Reuters and dated March 14, 2023. Below the title is a large portrait of Dmytro Peskov. To the right of the portrait is a 'GALLERIES' section with links to 'ELECTIONS', 'PHOTOS', and 'PHOTOS'.

Incidentally, around this time there was a relatively large, allegedly Kremlin-sponsored "peace movement" and creation of the "antiwar" sentiment in the West, accompanied by large rallies in the US and in Germany:



Pekka Kallioniemi
@P_Kallioniemi · Follow



In today's #vatniksoup I'm going to talk about the "antiwar movement". After Putin organized the fake referendums in the four Ukrainian Oblasts, various pro-Kremlin parties started calling for immediate peace in Ukraine. Unsurprisingly, the movement was planned by the Kremlin. 1/18



7:21 AM · Apr 29, 2023



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In Jun 2023, Putin refused peace plan offered by African nations. In Jul 2023, Putin refused any peace negotiations "while Ukraine is on the offensive."

Of course, even if there was a truce, there would be no guarantees of ending the hostilities. After agreeing on...



Europe

Putin rebuts key elements of African peace plan for Ukraine

Reuters

June 18, 2023 3:47 PM GMT+3 · Updated 4 months ago



June 17 (Reuters) - Russian President Vladimir Putin on Saturday gave African leaders seeking to mediate in the war in Ukraine a list of reasons why he believed many of their proposals were misguided, pouring cold water on a plan already largely dismissed by Kyiv.

The African leaders were seeking agreement on a series of "confidence building measures", even as Kyiv last week began a counteroffensive to push back Russian forces from the swathes of southern and eastern Ukraine that they occupy.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said after meeting them in Kyiv on Friday that peace talks would require Moscow to withdraw its forces from occupied Ukrainian territory, something Russia has said is not negotiable.

Putin opened Saturday's talks with representatives of Senegal, Egypt, Zambia, Uganda, Congo Republic, Comoros and South Africa in a palace near St Petersburg by stressing Russia's commitment to the continent.

But after presentations from the Comoran, Senegalese and South African presidents, he stepped in to challenge the assumptions of the plan - predicated on acceptance of internationally recognised borders - before the round of statements could go any further.

Putin reiterated his position that Ukraine and its Western allies had started the conflict long before Russia sent its armed forces over the border in February last year, something they deny.



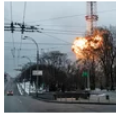
No cease-fire while Ukraine is on the offensive, Putin declares

African and Chinese peace initiatives are 'impossible to implement' at the moment, Russian leader says.



...humanitarian corridors from Mariupol, Russian troops opened fire on civilians. After signing an agreement on grain exports, Russia fired missiles at the port in Odesa.

17/18



SPECIAL SERIES
Ukraine invasion — explained

Russia strikes Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odesa hours after grain deals signed

Updated July 23, 2022 · 3:56 PM ET
Heard on *All Things Considered*

Joanna Kakissis

2-Minute Listen

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Ukraine

● This article is more than 1 year old

Russia accused of shelling Mariupol humanitarian corridor

Safe passage deal for civilians was a trap, say Ukrainians, as Putin's forces step up eastern offensive

● [Russia-Ukraine war: latest updates](#)

Daniel Boffey in Brussels and Lorenzo Tondo in Kyiv

Tue 26 Apr 2022 17:34 CEST



Here you see Boris Yeltsin and Aslan Maskhadov ceremoniously signing a peace treaty between Russia and Chechnya in 1996. Three years later, Putin's Russia invaded Chechnya and completely obliterated its capital, Grozny. You really shouldn't trust Russia.

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Vatnik Soup

#vatniksoup is a Twitter thread series (and a hashtag!) where I'll introduce pro-Russian actors and propagandists from around the world, be they so-called "independent journalists", politicians, mili...

<https://vatniksoup.com>

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