# Switzerland hosts peace conference on Ukraine crisis with significant global attendance



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky forecasted "history being made" at a peace conference hosted by Switzerland, aiming to establish initial steps towards resolving the conflict in Ukraine. The conference convened at the Burgenstock resort overlooking Lake Lucerne, bringing together over 50 heads of state and government and around 100 delegations, including European bodies and the UN.

Despite prolonged diplomatic efforts, significant breakthroughs were deemed unlikely due to Russia's absence. Attendees included the presidents of Ecuador, Ivory Coast, Kenya, and Somalia, among other western leaders. U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris and foreign ministers from Turkey and Saudi Arabia were also present, while key countries such as Brazil, India, and South Africa were represented at lower levels.

The conference envisaged addressing nuclear safety, humanitarian assistance, and global food security—issues regarded as less controversial compared to Zelensky's ambitious 10-point peace formula introduced in 2022, which calls for the withdrawal of Russian troops and the restoration of Ukraine's territorial integrity.

President Joe Biden participated in the G7 summit in Italy prior to the conference. Amidst a busy schedule and health speculation, he engaged in discussions focused primarily on the Ukraine conflict. Biden's interactions included meetings with Pope Francis, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, culminating in the signing of a security agreement with Ukraine.

Meanwhile, as the summit progressed, the conflict in Ukraine continued, with reports of shelling and civilian casualties in both Ukraine and Russia's Belgorod region. Despite broad participation, the absence of Russia and some critical nations, such as China, highlighted the challenges in creating a unified pathway to peace.