# World Leaders Gather in Switzerland for Ukraine Peace Summit



### World Leaders Convene in Switzerland for Ukraine Peace Summit

**Stansstad, Switzerland** - On June 15-16, 2024, world leaders gathered at the Buergenstock Resort in central Switzerland to advance Ukraine's peace proposals amid the ongoing conflict with Russia. The summit saw participation from over 90 countries, though notably absent were China and Russia. Chinese authorities boycotted the event citing Russia's exclusion, a decision believed to be influenced by Moscow.

Key attendees included Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris, and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. Harris announced an additional $1.5 billion in energy and humanitarian aid for Ukraine. Zelenskyy heralded the turnout as a historical step towards achieving peace, stating, "Today is the day when the world begins to bring a just peace closer."

The summit addressed broader issues related to the war, such as food security and nuclear safety. However, Turkey and Saudi Arabia emphasized that significant progress would require Russia's participation. On the eve of the summit, Russian President Vladimir Putin reiterated demands for Ukraine to abandon its NATO ambitions and cede four provinces to Russia—a proposal rejected by Ukraine and its allies.

EU President von der Leyen and other leaders underscored that a peace solution without addressing Ukraine's territorial integrity would likely lead to future conflicts. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz likened the summit efforts to nurturing a delicate plant, suggesting that results may take time to manifest.

Outside the official talks, various events in nearby Lucerne highlighted the humanitarian impact of the conflict. Ukrainian refugees organized commemorative activities, including choir performances, to raise awareness of the war's personal toll.

The final communique of the summit, expected after the two-day event, is anticipated to strongly affirm Ukraine's territorial integrity and call for the return of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant to Ukrainian control.