# Hungary to Assume EU Presidency with 'Make Europe Great Again' Motto



Hungary will take over the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union with the motto "Make Europe Great Again," beginning July 1, 2024. This slogan, announced by Hungary’s EU Affairs Minister János Bóka on Tuesday, downplays any connection to former U.S. President Donald Trump’s “Make America Great Again” catchphrase. Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, an ally of Trump, has adopted similar rhetoric in recent years.

Mark Rutte, the outgoing Dutch Prime Minister, is poised to become the next NATO Secretary General after securing support from Hungary and Slovakia by promising not to involve Hungarian resources in Ukraine. Current NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg indicated on Monday that Rutte's appointment is imminent, pending final consensus among NATO member countries.

In defense developments, NATO will see a record 23 of its 32 member nations hitting the alliance's defense spending target in 2024, largely due to heightened security concerns stemming from Russia's invasion of Ukraine. U.S. President Joe Biden praised Stoltenberg's leadership and emphasized NATO's strengthened unity and increased defense efforts at a recent Washington summit.