# Dutch PM Mark Rutte to Become Next NATO Secretary General After Romanian President Withdraws



Outgoing Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte is set to become NATO's next Secretary General following the withdrawal of Romanian President Klaus Iohannis from the race. Iohannis's decision, endorsed by Romania's security council, was announced late last week, paving the way for Rutte's appointment. Rutte, who has served as the Prime Minister of the Netherlands since 2010, received crucial support from major NATO members including the United States and Germany.

NATO member Hungary lifted its veto on Rutte’s candidacy after he guaranteed that Budapest would not be compelled to participate in any military plans to support Ukraine. Turkey had also lifted its objections earlier in April. With Iohannis's exit, NATO looks to present a united front as tensions with Russia over Ukraine persist. Rutte, expected to be formally confirmed in the coming days, will succeed Jens Stoltenberg on October 1.