# US Prioritises Air Defense Support for Ukraine with Patriot and NASAM Interceptors



The Biden administration has decided to prioritize air defense capabilities for Ukraine amid the ongoing conflict with Russia, enabling Ukraine to receive Patriot and NASAM interceptors ahead of other scheduled recipients. This policy adjustment, described as extraordinary, aims to ensure Ukraine can sustain its air defenses against continued Russian missile and drone attacks, starting from summer 2023 and continuing for 16 months. The adjustment will postpone deliveries to other countries, though export timelines to Taiwan remain unaffected. This decision was communicated to Ukraine during a recent G7 meeting in Italy.

In a related move, NATO member Romania announced on June 20, 2024, that it would donate a Patriot missile system to Ukraine. This decision, coordinated at Romania's Supreme Council of National Defense meeting chaired by President Klaus Iohannis, will proceed once Romania secures a similar or equivalent system for its own defense. This forms part of broader multinational support, with several NATO countries contributing air defense systems to Ukraine.

Romania has actively supported Ukraine since Russia's invasion in February 2022, including hosting an international training hub for F-16 jet pilots. The US, Germany, and other allies have also provided Ukraine with air defense systems, responding to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's calls to bolster defenses against Russian attacks on civilian and energy infrastructure.