# Nigel Farage Faces Backlash Over Comments Blaming West for Russia's Invasion of Ukraine



Nigel Farage has drawn widespread criticism following his remarks suggesting that the West provoked Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. During an interview on BBC Panorama, Farage linked NATO and the European Union’s expansion to the conflict in Eastern Europe, suggesting it gave Russian President Vladimir Putin a pretext for war.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak responded, calling Farage's comments “completely wrong” and “dangerous for Britain's security.” He highlighted that such statements could embolden Putin, who has engaged in actions harmful to the UK, including deploying a nerve agent on British soil and forming alliances with countries like North Korea.

Former Conservative Defence Secretary Ben Wallace also criticized Farage, referring to him as a “pub bore” with a simplistic understanding of complex political issues. He questioned how Farage would handle the realities of confronting a leader like Putin, notorious for his totalitarian governance and involvement in the Salisbury nerve agent attack.

Shadow Defence Secretary John Healey and Home Secretary James Cleverly similarly condemned Farage's stance. Healey stated Farage was "unfit for any political office," while Cleverly accused him of echoing Putin's justifications for the Ukraine invasion.

Reform UK has yet to comment on the issue.