# UK and Ukraine leaders urge Trump to involve Europe in peace negotiations



In a critical diplomatic effort, UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky are urging former President Donald Trump to involve European leaders in negotiations aimed at resolving the ongoing conflict following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. This push occurs amid rising tensions between Europe and the current administration in Washington regarding the approach to peace talks.

The discussions took place on Saturday as the two leaders strategised for an active week ahead concerning the wartime situation. Sir Keir reiterated the United Kingdom's robust support for Ukraine and stressed the importance of ensuring that Ukrainian representation is central in any conflict negotiations. "Protecting Ukraine’s sovereignty is essential to deterring future aggression from Russia," he emphasised during the meeting with President Zelensky.

Next week, Sir Keir is expected to meet with Donald Trump in Washington, where he aims to discuss Britain's military support and the greater involvement of European nations in peace talks. While Sir Keir plans to assert the necessity of Ukraine's participation in negotiations, a Downing Street spokesman noted that he would not explicitly instruct Trump to ensure Zelensky’s inclusion at the negotiation table.

French President Emmanuel Macron is also scheduled to visit Trump shortly, aiming to communicate a firm stance against Russian aggression, stating he will warn Trump "not to be weak" in his approach to Putin. This visit follows Trump's accusations that European nations, including France and Britain, have "done nothing" to halt the ongoing conflict.

In parallel discussions, Sir Keir spoke with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, reinforcing the collaboration necessary for collective European security. Their dialogue underscores shared commitments to bolster defensive measures and strategic partnerships within the region.

As tensions mount, Sir Keir is set to unveil a strategy for enhancing Britain’s defence spending, aligning with Trump’s call for NATO members to increase their military budgets, ideally targeting 5% of their GDP. Reports suggest that as part of his effort to strengthen ties with Trump, Sir Keir may extend an invitation for a state visit from King Charles III to the former president.

Additionally, the UK Prime Minister is expected to announce a series of sanctions against Russia, as well as providing further military aid to Ukraine and intensifying measures against Russian financial activities in the UK. These initiatives are being described as a "triple whammy" aimed at holding Putin accountable and demonstrating solidarity with Ukraine.

The diplomatic engagements coincide with the impending third anniversary of Putin’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine, with both leaders noting the significance of the moment for Ukraine and broader European stability. According to a Downing Street spokesperson, they recognised the necessity of continued unity amongst allies to foster peace through strength.

This series of diplomatic interactions is set against a backdrop of Trump’s controversial remarks regarding Zelensky, wherein he asserted that the Ukrainian leader has been ineffective in past negotiations. Speaking to Fox News, Trump expressed scepticism about Zelensky’s relevance in future talks, stating, "He’s been in the meetings for three years and nothing got done… so I don’t think he’s very important to be at meetings."

As geopolitical dynamics evolve, Sir Keir Starmer and Volodymyr Zelensky's efforts to recalibrate the dialogue on Ukraine appear pivotal in addressing the ongoing conflict, with an emphasis on collective European efforts and robust support for Ukraine’s sovereignty.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.gbnews.com/politics/keir-starmer-ukraine-trump-talk-washington-kyiv-support> - This article corroborates Sir Keir Starmer's discussions with Volodymyr Zelensky and his upcoming meeting with Donald Trump to emphasize Ukraine's sovereignty and European involvement in peace talks.
2. <https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/home-news/keir-starmer-volodymyr-zelensky-emmanuel-macron-kyiv-prime-minister-b2702835> - This source supports the details of Sir Keir Starmer's conversation with President Zelensky and his plans to meet with Donald Trump to discuss Ukraine's sovereignty.
3. <https://www.noahwire.com> - This is the original source of the article, providing context for the diplomatic efforts between Sir Keir Starmer, Volodymyr Zelensky, and Donald Trump regarding Ukraine.
4. <https://www.gbnews.com/politics/keir-starmer-ukraine-trump-talk-washington-kyiv-support> - This article also mentions Trump's verbal attack on Zelensky and the upcoming visits by European leaders to discuss the conflict.
5. <https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/home-news/keir-starmer-volodymyr-zelensky-emmanuel-macron-kyiv-prime-minister-b2702835> - This source further details the diplomatic efforts and the significance of European leaders' involvement in negotiations.
6. <https://www.noahwire.com> - The original article outlines the broader context of diplomatic efforts and tensions between Europe and the U.S. regarding Ukraine.
7. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/starmer-zelensky-trump-russia-ukraine-b2702848.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data