# Macron seeks to reaffirm European influence in US discussions on Ukraine



French President Emmanuel Macron recently visited the White House, where he engaged in discussions with US President Donald Trump concerning the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and broader European security issues. The meeting, which took place on a Monday, highlighted the tensions in transatlantic relations and marked an attempt to reaffirm European influence in discussions that deeply affect the continent.

During a joint news conference held in the Oval Office, Macron navigated the complexities of the relationship between the US and Europe, demonstrating a diplomatic style that involves acknowledging, flattering, and carefully persuading the American president. He articulated that both leaders share a common desire for peace and stability, attempting to build a rapport amidst a backdrop of political strain.

While Macron sought to clarify certain assertions made by Trump regarding European support for Ukraine, he simultaneously recognised a need for Europe to assume greater responsibility for its own security. Speaking to the media, Macron suggested that the ongoing situation requires a more proactive approach from European nations in dealing with potential threats.

One striking element of the discussions was Macron's concession that Trump’s strategy of re-establishing relations with Russian President Vladimir Putin might have merit. “There is good reason for President Trump to re-engage with President Putin,” he stated, acknowledging a shift in approach that contrasts with the prevailing stance in key European capitals, which have typically advocated for the isolation of Russia and the imposition of sanctions.

The French President also proposed that European countries, including France and the UK, could play a decisive role in ensuring the security of Ukraine in a post-truce scenario, potentially involving the deployment of air power and troops positioned away from the frontlines. Despite these bold assertions, Macron underscored the importance of continued American support for Ukraine, highlighting the need for a reliable backstop from the United States.

Notably, Macron concluded the meeting without securing a firm commitment for US backing, and he did not elicit any significant criticism of Putin from Trump. Nevertheless, Macron's efforts were aimed at reinstating Europe as a voice in the geopolitical landscape surrounding the Ukraine conflict, a goal that he and other European leaders may consider a partial success.

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

## References

* <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-hosts-frances-macron-white-house-amid-ukraine/story?id=119123204> - This article supports the claim that French President Emmanuel Macron visited the White House to discuss the Ukraine conflict and European security with US President Donald Trump. It highlights the tensions in transatlantic relations and Macron's efforts to ensure Ukraine's involvement in peace negotiations.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXWBrea5Adw> - This video provides evidence of the joint news conference held by President Trump and President Macron at the White House, where they discussed Ukraine and broader European security issues.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_icClkj0Eo> - This video includes excerpts from the press conference where Macron and Trump discussed their shared desire for peace and stability, and Macron's diplomatic approach to building rapport with Trump.
* <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-hosts-frances-macron-white-house-amid-ukraine/story?id=119123204> - This article also mentions Macron's acknowledgment of the need for Europe to assume greater responsibility for its security and his concession that Trump's strategy of re-engaging with Putin might have merit.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This source provides the original article detailing Macron's visit and discussions with Trump, focusing on European security and the Ukraine conflict.