# Russia warns NATO and EU against peacekeeper deployment in Ukraine amid nuclear threat



Russia has issued stern warnings to the European Union and NATO countries over the prospect of deploying a “coalition of the willing” peacekeepers to Ukraine, suggesting such an action could ignite a nuclear-armed conflict. Sergei Shoigu, the secretary of Russia’s Security Council and a close ally of President Vladimir Putin, voiced these concerns in an interview with the Russian state news agency TASS.

Shoigu condemned the idea of Western peacekeepers establishing a presence on Ukrainian soil, branding them “a contingent of interventionists or occupiers.” He referenced British Prime Minister Keir Starmer’s proposed coalition of willing countries, questioning the legitimacy of such forces operating in Ukraine. “Where will these ‘peacekeepers’ come from? They will be units of the same NATO countries, against the presence of which Russia opposed even before the war began,” Shoigu said, suggesting that Moscow views any NATO deployment in Ukraine as a direct threat to its historical territory.

Highlighting ongoing tensions, Shoigu claimed that the UK had been actively preparing military infrastructure in Ukraine before the conflict escalated, specifically referring to a naval base in Ochakiv located in Ukraine’s Mykolaiv region. He said British forces had trained Ukrainian naval special units there and conducted operations against Russia, implying that these activities could resume under the guise of peacekeeping.

The Russian official also criticised French President Emmanuel Macron’s statement that Ukraine has the right to request NATO troops without consulting Russia. Shoigu questioned the mission of such peacekeepers in Ukraine, sarcastically asking whether they would protect “the Nazi regime, marches and torchlight processions with symbols of SS divisions,” or support what he characterised as the persecution of Orthodox Christians and the suppression of Russian-speaking communities in Ukraine.

Shoigu warned that the deployment of Western forces on Ukrainian territory risks a direct military clash between NATO and Russia, which could escalate into a third world war. “Sensible politicians in Europe understand that the implementation of such a scenario could lead to a direct clash between NATO and Russia and subsequently to World War Three,” he said.

In addition to warnings about NATO’s potential intervention, Shoigu announced that Russia is prepared to resume nuclear weapons testing for the first time since the Cold War. The announcement comes amid speculation that the United States might restart nuclear tests due to expiring warranties on some of its nuclear munitions and ongoing development of new weapons. “Our position on this matter depends on the United States’ actions in this area,” Shoigu remarked, adding that Russia may respond to any American nuclear testing by resuming its own tests, which have been on hiatus since 1990.

Shoigu also drew attention to Russia’s deployment of a new nuclear-capable weapon, known as “Oreshnik,” in Belarus, signalling Moscow’s readiness to use nuclear arms if it or its allies face aggression.

Despite the aggressive rhetoric, Shoigu expressed a tentative openness to improving relations with the United States, particularly if the U.S. demonstrates real, actionable steps toward resolving systemic issues. “We welcome such an approach and are ready for reciprocal steps. Time will show whether the Americans are ready to resolve the existing systemic problems which require resolution,” he said, highlighting the long and difficult nature of U.S.-Russia relations.

Separately, Dmitry Medvedev, former Russian president and current deputy chairman of the Security Council, issued a veiled nuclear threat against countries supporting the International Criminal Court’s (ICC) arrest warrant for Vladimir Putin. Medvedev said that enforcement of an ICC decision against a head of state who is not a party to the court might be interpreted as a casus belli, or justification for war, against those countries involved. He specifically warned that such actions carry risks given Russia’s status as a nuclear power and permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Medvedev added that officials responsible for the ICC warrant “can and should be prosecuted by the investigative and judicial authorities of the country whose leadership is being illegally prosecuted,” underscoring Moscow’s rejection of the ICC’s jurisdiction over Putin.

These statements intensify the already heightened tensions surrounding the Ukraine conflict and raise concerns about potential escalations leading to wider military confrontation. The Irish Mirror is reporting on this developing situation.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81jDdRgAakY> - This video relates to warnings by Russian officials regarding the deployment of NATO peacekeepers to Ukraine, which could lead to direct war. It supports the claim that Russia views any Western military involvement as a serious threat.
2. <https://abcnews.go.com/International/russia-agree-european-peacekeepers-ukraine-lukashenko/story?id=119466901> - This article highlights Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko's statement that Russia will not accept European peacekeepers in Ukraine. It aligns with the narrative of strong Russian opposition to Western military presence.
3. <https://economictimes.com/news/international/us/russia-warns-of-severe-consequences-if-nato-troops-enter-ukraine/articleshow/118763354.cms> - This article reports on Russia's warning that NATO troops in Ukraine would lead to severe consequences and escalate the conflict. It reinforces the idea that Russia sees NATO involvement as a direct challenge.
4. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/russia-ukraine-war/russia-denounces-uk-france-peacekeeping-plans-in-ukraine/3503419> - The article details Russia's denouncement of peacekeeping plans by France and the UK in Ukraine. It supports the notion that Russia views any Western peacekeeping efforts as unacceptable and potentially escalatory.
5. <https://www.gbnews.com/news/world/emmanuel-macron-european-peacekeeping-force-ukraine-nato-moscow-attack> - This article discusses Emmanuel Macron's warning that a European peacekeeping force in Ukraine could respond if attacked by Russia. It highlights the ongoing tensions and differing positions of European leaders on peacekeeping.
6. <https://www.noahwire.com> - Although this is a source link provided in the query, specific content from Noah Wire Services regarding the article's claims could not be directly verified without access to the specific article. However, it is mentioned as a source for the information about Russia's stance on Western peacekeepers in Ukraine.
7. <https://www.irishmirror.ie/news/world-news/russia-issues-atrocious-world-war-35112044> - Please view link - unable to able to access data