# Russia accuses Britain of trying to derail Putin‑Trump summit as diplomats warn Kyiv must not be sidelined



Russia has publicly accused Britain of trying to derail a planned summit between Presidents Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump, casting London and some European capitals as intent on using Ukraine “as an anti‑Russian battering ram”. The broadside, issued by the Russian Embassy in London and carried in state and semi‑state outlets, framed recent Western statements and actions as efforts to obstruct talks aimed at ending the conflict. According to reporting from the Express and Russian outlets, the embassy said those European initiatives threatened to prolong hostilities rather than foster a settlement.

The allegations come as the two presidents prepare to meet in Alaska, a summit Moscow characterises as an opportunity to explore ending the war. Kremlin aides have warned that unnamed countries will make “titanic efforts” to disrupt the meeting, language that Reuters says reflects deep suspicion in Moscow about Western intentions. At the same time, Western coverage notes that details of the proposed summit remain vague, and that officials on both sides are cautious about expectations for substantive progress.

British politicians and diplomats have been quick to stress that any negotiated settlement must preserve Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity. Shadow Foreign Secretary Dame Priti Patel told the Express that “Putin has to know that if he tests the Euro‑Atlantic alliance, he will fail,” arguing that Britain must not reward aggression and must stand up for the principles of democracy, liberty and the rule of law. Those themes also underpin formal UK diplomacy: in March 2025 the UK told the Organisation for Security and Co‑operation in Europe that any peace must be negotiated from a position of strength for Kyiv and must guarantee Ukraine’s security.

The government’s public posture is to reject the idea that the UK seeks to prolong the conflict. In a statement to the OSCE earlier this year, the UK said it would continue support for Ukraine until Kyiv could accept a durable and just peace, stressing adherence to international legal norms and the unacceptability of territorial concessions extracted by force. That official line is intended to counter Moscow’s narrative that Western states are simply seeking confrontation rather than resolution.

Public and elite reaction inside Russia has been largely upbeat about the prospect of a summit, with state commentators portraying the invitation as a diplomatic prize for the Kremlin. Western analysts caution, however, that domestic celebration does not equate to concessions, noting Moscow’s long‑standing strategic aims in Ukraine. Russian media reports and the embassy’s statements say Russia remains open to negotiation, but they also accuse Western governments and media of disinformation that, in Moscow’s telling, complicates the prospects for talks.

European leaders and diplomats outside Moscow have voiced a different anxiety: that a bilateral meeting between the US and Russia could sideline Kyiv and risk legitimising territorial changes achieved by force. Reuters and the Washington Post record concern among analysts that a hasty deal might reward aggression and undermine the post‑war legal order. TASS and other Russian outlets also warned against Western military involvement that, in their view, could escalate into direct NATO–Russia confrontations — an accusation that Western officials reject as part of Moscow’s wider attempt to shift blame for the deadlock.

The stakes are straightforward: any move that removes Ukraine from the table risks producing a settlement that Moscow could portray as acceptance of its gains, while excluding Kyiv would be politically and morally fraught for Western partners who have pledged to defend its sovereignty. Moscow’s accusations that Britain and others are attempting to sabotage diplomacy are now part of the public debate, but so too are firm UK assurances — voiced in parliament and at international fora — that peace must not come at the price of Ukraine’s territorial integrity. As the Alaska meeting approaches, diplomats and analysts say the central challenge will be to keep Kyiv engaged and to ensure that any negotiations reinforce, rather than erode, international norms.

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* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2094364/russia-britain-ukraine-sabotage), [[3]](https://tass.com/politics/1935923), [[7]](https://en.iz.ru/en/1935271/2025-08-11/embassy-russian-federation-pointed-londons-attempts-disrupt-settlement-ukraine)
* Paragraph 2 – [[4]](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/moscow-warns-titanic-efforts-disrupt-putin-trump-meeting-2025-08-09/), [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2094364/russia-britain-ukraine-sabotage), [[5]](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2025/08/10/putin-trump-russia-ukraine-summit/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2094364/russia-britain-ukraine-sabotage), [[6]](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-supports-ukraine-in-its-aim-to-ensure-russia-cannot-attack-it-again-uk-statement-to-the-osce), [[4]](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/moscow-warns-titanic-efforts-disrupt-putin-trump-meeting-2025-08-09/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[6]](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-supports-ukraine-in-its-aim-to-ensure-russia-cannot-attack-it-again-uk-statement-to-the-osce), [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2094364/russia-britain-ukraine-sabotage)
* Paragraph 5 – [[5]](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2025/08/10/putin-trump-russia-ukraine-summit/), [[7]](https://en.iz.ru/en/1935271/2025-08-11/embassy-russian-federation-pointed-londons-attempts-disrupt-settlement-ukraine), [[3]](https://tass.com/politics/1935923)
* Paragraph 6 – [[4]](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/moscow-warns-titanic-efforts-disrupt-putin-trump-meeting-2025-08-09/), [[3]](https://tass.com/politics/1935923), [[5]](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2025/08/10/putin-trump-russia-ukraine-summit/)
* Paragraph 7 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2094364/russia-britain-ukraine-sabotage), [[4]](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/moscow-warns-titanic-efforts-disrupt-putin-trump-meeting-2025-08-09/), [[6]](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-supports-ukraine-in-its-aim-to-ensure-russia-cannot-attack-it-again-uk-statement-to-the-osce), [[5]](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2025/08/10/putin-trump-russia-ukraine-summit/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2094364/russia-britain-ukraine-sabotage> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2094364/russia-britain-ukraine-sabotage> - An Express interview reports that Russia has accused Britain of trying to sabotage planned talks between Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin aimed at ending the war in Ukraine. The Russian Embassy in London reportedly criticised the UK and other European states for allegedly wanting to 'use Ukraine as an anti‑Russian battering ram'. The article quotes Shadow Foreign Secretary Dame Priti Patel urging unity, warning that Putin must not be rewarded and asserting the need to defend Ukraine’s territorial integrity. It notes concern that talks in Alaska could sideline Kyiv and stresses Britain’s commitment to stand with Ukraine and uphold democracy.
3. <https://tass.com/politics/1935923> - TASS reports that the Russian Embassy in London accused Britain and France of attempting to undermine efforts to resolve the Ukraine conflict. The embassy dismissed Western initiatives as an effort to disrupt settlement talks, criticising a 'coalition of the willing' and warning against Western military involvement that could provoke direct NATO–Russia clashes. TASS quotes the embassy saying European elites seek to continue using Ukraine as an 'anti‑Russian battering ram' and accused London of covering up Kyiv’s actions. The piece reflects Moscow’s accusation that Western diplomacy aims to prolong hostilities rather than secure a negotiated settlement in recent statements seen internationally.
4. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/moscow-warns-titanic-efforts-disrupt-putin-trump-meeting-2025-08-09/> - Reuters reports Moscow warned that unnamed countries would make 'titanic efforts' to disrupt a planned summit between Presidents Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin. The piece says Kirill Dmitriev and Kremlin aides accused European states of attempting to derail talks aimed at resolving the Ukraine conflict, framing Western actions as obstructionist. Reuters notes the summit’s objective to explore ending hostilities, though details remained vague, and that European leaders fear any settlement could force Ukraine to accept territorial changes. Analysts and diplomats expressed concern about sidelining Kyiv and the broader implications for the Euro‑Atlantic alliance and regional security and international norms and law.
5. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2025/08/10/putin-trump-russia-ukraine-summit/> - The Washington Post reports widespread Russian approval of an Alaska summit between Presidents Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump, describing domestic commentary that hailed the invitation while anticipating few concessions from Moscow. The article explains the visit is a trip to the United States and that many in Russia consider the summit a diplomatic victory. Western analysts and Ukrainian officials warned the talks could sideline Kyiv and risk legitimising Russian territorial gains. The piece outlines doubts about any durable settlement, noting Moscow’s longstanding goals in Ukraine and Western fear that a hasty deal might reward aggression rather than secure lasting peace.
6. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-supports-ukraine-in-its-aim-to-ensure-russia-cannot-attack-it-again-uk-statement-to-the-osce> - A speech on GOV.UK records the UK statement to the OSCE reaffirming Britain’s commitment to Ukraine and asserting that aggression must not be rewarded. Delivered by Ambassador Neil Holland on 6 March 2025, the statement emphasises the importance of Ukraine negotiating from a position of strength and insists any lasting peace must guarantee Ukraine’s security and territorial integrity. It rejects suggestions the UK seeks to prolong conflict and warns against rewarding Russian aggression. The UK calls for adherence to post‑war legal principles, stresses support for Ukraine’s sovereignty, and pledges continued assistance until Kyiv can accept a durable and just peace.
7. <https://en.iz.ru/en/1935271/2025-08-11/embassy-russian-federation-pointed-londons-attempts-disrupt-settlement-ukraine> - Izvestia reported the Russian Embassy in London accused British authorities of attempting to disrupt a peaceful settlement of the Ukraine crisis, issuing a statement on 11 August 2025. The embassy alleged London and partners were trying to undermine talks ahead of a planned Trump–Putin summit in Alaska and claimed Western actions confirmed intentions to use Ukraine as an 'anti‑Russian battering ram'. Izvestia described Moscow’s view that European leaders' statements and activities were obstructing diplomacy and said Russia remained open to negotiated solutions while blaming Western disinformation for complicating the process. The piece noted Western concerns that Kyiv might be sidelined.