# Defence Secretary warns against a peace deal that sidelined Ukraine



This weekend, the UK’s Defence Secretary John Healey issued a stark warning about the dangerous ramifications of a peace deal for Ukraine that fails to adequately include Kyiv in the decision-making process. Writing for The Sunday Times, Healey expressed concerns about an “insecure peace” negotiated without Ukraine's involvement, which he cautioned could lead to "more war." His comments come during a critical juncture, as discussions about a ceasefire are underway, just as Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer prepares to engage with U.S. President Donald Trump.

The upcoming week is particularly pivotal for Starmer, who will meet President Trump at the White House on Thursday. This significant encounter unfolds against a backdrop of rising tensions between Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, underscoring the complexities of diplomacy and military strategy in the region. However, one can’t help but question whether this new Labour leadership is truly equipped to handle a delicate matter as consequential as Ukraine’s sovereignty.

In his remarks at America’s largest right-wing conference, Trump stated, “I’ve spoken to President Putin and I think that thing is going to end,” suggesting that a resolution may be on the horizon—a resolution that may not serve the best interests of Ukraine or its allies. This alarming prospect raises serious concerns among British officials about the potential for a peace deal that could jeopardize the very essence of Ukraine’s sovereignty and security.

Compounding these worries, Lord Mandelson, the newly appointed ambassador to the United States, is reportedly advising Starmer to set a definitive deadline for increasing UK defence spending. While the Prime Minister has pledged to reach a defence spending target of 2.5 percent of GDP, one must question whether Labour will follow through on these commitments amid pressing global challenges. It begs the question: can we entrust the future of our military capabilities to a government so ready to appease uncertain allies?

As these critical negotiations transpire, the fraught dynamics between the UK, the United States, and Ukraine are vital for the stability of the region. Yet, with a Labour government at the helm, the potential for disastrous decisions looms large, threatening the very foundations of security in Eastern Europe. The discourse surrounding Ukraine and its future must be approached with the utmost caution, particularly as our leaders weigh the implications of their actions on the world stage. It is time for a robust voice demanding accountability and action from those in charge—a voice that embodies a commitment to ensuring substantial support for Ukraine, ensuring it is guarded against an impotent peace.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/john-healey-donald-trump-ukraine-volodymyr-zelensky-kyiv-b1212141.html> - This article supports John Healey's concerns about the peace process in Ukraine and his emphasis on maintaining maximum pressure on Putin. It also highlights the tensions between Trump and Zelensky.
2. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/john-healey-donald-trump-ukraine-volodymyr-zelensky-kyiv-b1212141.html> - The article further details Trump's comments on Ukraine and Zelensky, which have been criticized by British officials.
3. <https://breakingdefense.com/2025/02/uk-defence-secretary-urges-us-backstop-to-avoid-future-putin-attack/> - This article corroborates John Healey's call for a US security backstop for Ukraine and his concerns about future Russian aggression.
4. <https://breakingdefense.com/2025/02/uk-defence-secretary-urges-us-backstop-to-avoid-future-putin-attack/> - It also mentions the upcoming meeting between Keir Starmer and Donald Trump, highlighting the importance of US involvement in securing Ukraine's future.
5. <https://www.politicshome.com/news> - This link could provide additional context on political developments in the UK, including Labour's stance on defence spending and international relations.
6. <https://www.noahwire.com> - This source is mentioned in the original text but does not provide specific information on the claims made about Ukraine or the UK's defence strategy.
7. <https://www.thetimes.com/uk/politics/article/insecure-peace-in-ukraine-risks-more-war-john-healey-warns-trump-pz6dpdgtz> - Please view link - unable to able to access data