# Keir Starmer sets out to build ties with Trump amid Ukraine crisis



Sir Keir Starmer, the newly instated Prime Minister of the UK, is set to engage in discussions with US President Donald Trump on the volatile situation in Ukraine, with a focus on securing a US security “backstop” to deter further aggression from Russian President Vladimir Putin. This press conference, scheduled for approximately 7pm UK time on Thursday, will follow a lunch meeting between the two leaders. Major broadcasters, including the BBC and Sky News, are expected to offer live coverage, providing a polished narrative that may mask the underlying concerns of many UK citizens.

Ahead of these crucial talks at the White House, Sir Keir has remarkably expressed faith in Trump’s ability to influence the crisis positively, asserting that the US President comprehends Putin’s role in igniting the conflict. This perspective begs the question: can the new Labour administration genuinely chart a course of stability while relying on a leader who has shown reluctance to commit to the security guarantees that a nation like Ukraine desperately needs?

In a separate announcement, President Trump revealed that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky would meet with him to endorse an economic agreement granting US access to Ukraine’s rare earth minerals. However, concerns echoed by Zelensky indicate that this agreement lacks the vital security assurances needed for Ukraine’s defence. The naïveté of Sir Keir in placing trust in Trump’s approach could result in dire consequences for national security and the very principle of sovereignty.

Under the Prime Minister’s watch, the notion that Russia is fully responsible for the ongoing turmoil is articulated effectively. Nevertheless, his uncritical support for Trump is striking; it raises alarms about the new Labour government's strategy in tackling this geopolitical nightmare. "They are the aggressor," Sir Keir claimed, as if mere statements of condemnation can replace actionable support for Ukraine.

When asked about Trump’s grasp of the situation, Sir Keir expressed an unwarranted confidence. "Of course, the president has been very clear about the peace that he wants," he stated. Yet, with Trump’s well-documented reluctance to provide robust security guarantees—"I’m not going to make security guarantees beyond very much," he remarked—it's evident that the Prime Minister's assurances may be misplaced.

The urgency of deterrence against Putin’s ambitions cannot be overstated as Sir Keir eloquently states the importance of a solid security guarantee. However, his trust in Trump’s intentions appears misguided, especially in light of recent political events demonstrating an erratic approach to international alliances. Sir Keir’s confident claims about a good relationship with Trump may not serve the UK’s strategic interests amidst the rising tensions in Europe.

As discussions unfold, one can only wonder whether the new Labour government, through misplaced trust in a mercurial US leadership, can effectively navigate the treacherous waters of international relations. Failure to secure a decisive stance on security assurances could lead to grave repercussions, undermining the sovereignty of nations and emboldening aggressors like Putin in ways that could destabilise not only Ukraine but the entirety of Europe moving forward.

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

## References

* <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-hosts-uks-keir-starmer-ukraine-talks-amid/story?id=119249871> - This article corroborates the meeting between Sir Keir Starmer and President Donald Trump, focusing on discussions about the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the need for a US security backstop. It also highlights Trump's reluctance to commit to security guarantees.
* <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-president-trump-27-february-2025> - This government news release confirms the meeting between Prime Minister Keir Starmer and President Trump, discussing their shared commitment to security and prosperity, including talks on Ukraine.
* <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-hosts-uks-keir-starmer-ukraine-talks-amid/story?id=119249871> - This article further details Trump's stance on security guarantees, stating that Europe should bear primary responsibility, which aligns with concerns about the lack of robust security assurances for Ukraine.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This source provides the original context for the discussions between Sir Keir Starmer and President Trump, highlighting the importance of a US security backstop for Ukraine.
* <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-hosts-uks-keir-starmer-ukraine-talks-amid/story?id=119249871> - The article mentions Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's upcoming visit to Washington, D.C., to discuss an economic agreement involving US access to Ukraine's rare earth minerals, which lacks vital security assurances.