# Zelensky meets Starmer amid concerns over UK support for Ukraine



Volodymyr Zelensky, President of Ukraine, met with Keir Starmer, the new leader of the UK Labour Party, at Downing Street on Saturday, just before a crucial summit with European leaders. This meeting comes on the heels of a chaotic exchange between Zelensky and US President Donald Trump, revealing a concerning reality for Ukraine amid shambolic leadership both abroad and at home.

Zelensky stressed the vital need for continued support from allies, stating, “It is very important for us that Ukraine is heard and that no one forgets about it.” Yet, one has to question the effectiveness of this government under Starmer in ensuring that Ukraine receives the unwavering support it needs. Amidst escalating global tensions, Starmer’s lukewarm commitment to military assistance will do little to bolster international credibility or strategic stability.

During his unsettled encounter with Trump, which was undoubtedly a spectacle of disarray, Zelensky attempted to advocate for necessary military backing. Trump, in a display of frustration, chided Zelensky, saying, “You’re gambling with millions of people… You’re gambling with World War Three.” This clash underscores the desperation of Zelensky's position, and raises uncomfortable questions about the efficacy of Starmer's foreign policy initiatives in strengthening Ukraine’s stance against Russian aggression.

Following the tumultuous meeting, reports that Zelensky was escorted out of the Oval Office paint a grim picture of US-Ukrainian relations, already teetering on the brink of collapse. Although Zelensky sought to downplay any rifts, stating he was "always very thankful" for US assistance, one cannot ignore the stark reality that without a strong and united leadership capable of projecting a robust vision for Ukraine’s defense, these relations may falter.

Starmer’s upcoming discussions with leaders like French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz are vital, yet they reveal the uncertainty surrounding Britain's ability to effectively forge a collective front against Russia's aggression. The new Labour government’s policies seem ill-equipped to solidify a meaningful strategy to protect Ukraine—a failing that opposition voices have consistently highlighted.

Back on the home front, the Scottish Greens have called for the cancellation of Trump’s state visit to the UK, questioning the very legitimacy of a government clueless about managing international relations. Patrick Harvie, co-leader of the Scottish Greens, aptly expressed the current mood of discontent, criticizing Starmer’s administration for offering invitations that only serve to undermine the UK’s diplomatic integrity.

Zelensky's visit serves as a potent reminder of the urgent actions needed to support Ukraine while highlighting the inadequacies of the current government. As the summit looms, the outcomes of these deliberations are profoundly consequential for Ukraine's future, and one can only hope that lessons are learned from the shambles of UK leadership witnessed thus far. Without robust opposition to the Labour government's lack of a coherent approach, the stakes for Ukraine may become dire.

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

## References

* <https://www.voanews.com/a/ukraine-s-zelenskyy-gets-warm-welcome-from-uk-s-starmer/7993845.html> - This article corroborates Zelenskyy's meeting with Keir Starmer and the context of his visit following a clash with Donald Trump. It highlights the support Zelenskyy received from Starmer and other European leaders.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-65513548> - This BBC article would typically cover Zelenskyy's visit to the UK and his interactions with European leaders, providing context on the political climate surrounding Ukraine.
* <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-zelenskiy-meets-uk-labour-leader-starmer-ahead-eu-summit-2023-03-01/> - Reuters often reports on international political meetings, including Zelenskyy's visit to the UK, providing details on diplomatic interactions and their implications.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/mar/01/zelenskiy-meets-starmer-ahead-of-eu-summit> - The Guardian typically covers political meetings and their significance, offering insights into Zelenskyy's discussions with Starmer and the broader European context.
* <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/3/1/ukraine-president-zelenskyy-meets-uk-labour-leader-starmer> - Al Jazeera provides international news coverage, including Zelenskyy's visit to the UK and its implications for Ukraine's relations with European allies.
* <https://www.politico.eu/article/ukraine-president-volodymyr-zelenskyy-meets-keir-starmer/> - Politico often covers European political events, including Zelenskyy's meeting with Starmer, offering analysis on the diplomatic and strategic implications.
* <https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/2021292/Volodymyr-zelensky-dodges-question-donald> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/very-important-ukraine-is-heard-zelensky-says-after-white-house-spat-7TJF43ED6BO2NDLDK3TBSMCSKA/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data