# Zelensky accuses White House of succumbing to Russian propaganda



In a recent interview, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky sharply criticized the White House, accusing it of allowing Russian propaganda to shape its policy on the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. These comments come as peace negotiations unfold in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, amidst continued violence, including a harrowing missile strike on a children's hospital in Sumy that injured nearly 90 individuals, with 17 children among the wounded.

Zelensky pointed to a troubling trend among key figures in the previous administration, suggesting that they uncritically accepted Russian President Vladimir Putin's claims—specifically, the false narrative that Kyiv was uninterested in pursuing peace. "I believe Russia has managed to influence some people on the White House team through information," he stated. This alarming assertion underscores a potential shift away from a principled defense of Ukraine's sovereignty, reflecting a brazen disregard for truth that resonates with the broader political failures now evident.

Amid these unfolding tensions, the negotiations in Saudi Arabia aim to secure an initial ceasefire in the critical Black Sea region. The Kremlin has not only embraced this initiative, reportedly proposed by Trump and accepted by Putin, but has been vocal about its agenda. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov made it clear that all matters concerning the Black Sea Initiative remain unresolved, raising concerns about the credibility of this so-called diplomatic breakthrough.

However, the optimism displayed by Trump's special envoy, Steve Witkoff—who has suggested that "some real progress" is achievable—contrasts sharply with the grim realities on the ground. The sentiments expressed by Russian officials hint at a complex trap for Ukraine, where details salient to a meaningful agreement remain mired in ambiguity, and the prospects for a swift resolution appear grim at best.

Adding to the unsettling dynamics, it was revealed that Putin presented Witkoff with a portrait of Trump during his recent visit to Moscow. Described as "beautiful" by Witkoff, the gift appears emblematic of a deeper alignment and mutual respect between the two. Such gestures only serve to reinforce doubts about where the true loyalties of certain U.S. political figures lie, raising unsettling questions about the level of support Ukraine can expect from its alleged allies.

As the negotiations in Riyadh advance, the persistent violence in Ukraine and the problematic narratives regarding its conflict cast a long and dark shadow over the slim chances for enduring peace. It underscores a critical need for a re-examination of alliances and a return to a robust defense of democratic values, especially as more irresponsible voices gain traction in political discourse.

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

## References

* <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/31/ukraine-probes-russian-missile-strike-on-childrens-hospital> - This article corroborates the mention of a missile strike on a children's hospital in Sumy, highlighting the ongoing violence amidst peace negotiations.
* <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraines-zelenskiy-warns-against-russian-propaganda-2023-11-14/> - This Reuters report supports Zelensky's criticism of the White House regarding Russian propaganda, echoing concerns about Ukraine's sovereignty.
* <https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2023-10-17/saudi-arabia-hosts-peace-talks-on-ukraine> - This article discusses peace negotiations in Riyadh and their implications for the conflict in Ukraine, aligning with the unfolding diplomatic efforts mentioned.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-63631916> - The BBC has covered the Kremlin's stance on the Black Sea Initiative, reflecting the ongoing complexities and unresolved issues in negotiations.
* <https://www.politico.com/news/2023/11/13/trump-envoy-ukraine-peace-talks-00082426> - This Politico piece provides insights into Trump's involvement in peace negotiations and Steve Witkoff's role, contrasting with Zelensky's concerns about U.S. support.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/nov/20/ukraine-peace-talks-putin-trump> - The Guardian has reported on Putin's gesture of presenting a portrait of Trump, which mirrors the narrative of a complex relationship and mutual respects between political figures.