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زبانهای اروپایی

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20.03.2025

Russia Kicks the Ball Back: Trump's "Lame Efforts" 2-Impose a Shame Ukrainian-Russian Ceasefire!

Trump's Ceasefire Attempt Meets European Resistance Amid Russian Skepticism.



It is interesting to watch the never-ending insanity of Europe when it comes to the attempt by President Trump to broker a 30-day ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine. Like the lemmings they are, almost every major European leader from EU dictators von der Leyen and Kallas, to national leaders like Starmer and Macron, have parroted the same lines “**The ball is now in Russia’s court**” which were first uttered by new US Secretary of State, Marco Rubio, after the US-Ukrainian talks in Riyadh resulted in Ukraine agreeing to a ceasefire as proffered by the US.

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Of course, the Ukrainians immediately reminded the world that they would not stop mobilization, lift marshal law, or hold elections, the latter bluntly stated by Podolyak, senior advisor to Zelensky.

Trump and his team claimed to have levers to “force” Russia to accept a ceasefire, with Trump saying:

“I can do things financially. It would be very bad for Russia,” he told reporters. “I don’t want to do that because I want to get peace.”

Spiked Cool-aid

It seems that the US president has drunk the cool-aid regarding the efficacy of sanctions. After all, they have not worked so well to date. It makes me wonder if we are not seeing a glaring example of “the illusion of choice” in action.

Nonetheless, Trump seems to be doubling down on the failed policies of his predecessor, despite some cosmetic changes, including the now infamous verbal bitch-slapping of Zelensky in the Oval Office, that resulted (supposedly) in a temporary halting of intelligence sharing and weapons supplies, which were claimed to be instrumental in forcing the Ukrainian dictator to his knees before Trump’s demands.

But then came immediate resumption of both intelligence sharing and weapons supplies as soon as the Ukrainian delegation waved the white flag in Riyadh, which will allow Ukraine to conduct more deep strikes against Russian civilian targets, and to be resupplied, though it is notable that the US is not supplying more ATACMS, but more of the GLSDB (Ground Launched Small Diameter Bombs) which already failed on their testing in Ukraine, but which the US claims to have updated.

Given the proven superiority of Russian electronic warfare, which has rendered western “high precision” weapons ineffective within short periods of their introduction, usually within a few weeks, and the fact that the GSDB is based on the GBU-39, which only has a 250lb (113kg) warhead, one doubts the GLSDB will be of any use except for the time-honored Ukrainian and NATO sport of “How many Russian civilians can we kill today”

Abrupt about face!

With regard to Zelensky’s climb down over agreeing to a ceasefire, the Europeans and the UK have made an abrupt about-face, and are now demanding Russia agree to a ceasefire without conditions, and welcoming the resumption of military aid to Ukraine. Starmer

appears to have been influential in forcing an agreement through, with reports stating he helped draft the ceasefire proposal that both the US and Ukraine agreed to in Riyadh.

It is obvious that the EU and UK have been working closely with Ukraine to try and further entangle the US, and to keep the war going, no matter the human and political costs, and to keep Ukraine on its feet, if not off the ropes, crafting what they see as an ambush for Vladimir Putin, with the ceasefire quite deliberately not addressing any of Russia's repeated demands, from recognition of Russian regions, to a permanent ban on NATO membership for Ukraine, to the protection of the rights of ethnic minorities in Ukraine, etc.

Tactical Success but Strategic Failure?

The plan seems to have been that if Russia agrees to the ceasefire, then the west would achieve a strategic success, removing the current overwhelming battlefield pressure on the Ukrainian army which is retreating on all fronts, buying time for the UAF to mobilize new waves of manpower, albeit young and younger and older and older!

It will also buy time for the European "ReArm" Campaign, though this faces almost insurmountable problems, not the least of which is the de-industrialization of Europe and the ensuing recessions on the horizon and the continued lack of funds where most needed.

Equally important is the rapidly spiraling cost of energy due to Europe's suicidal sanctions on Russian energy, and the fact that Europeans seem rather unwilling to die for their leaders, leaders who obviously hold the unwashed masses in contempt.

On the flip side, if Russia outright rejects the ceasefire, it would be likely that Trump, in a fit of wounded pride (for which he is well known) would be likely to double down on supporting Ukraine, further entangling the US in the ongoing conflict.

At least, that was the hope of the European globalist cabal.

We got a warning of how Russia was likely to react when Putin visited the military headquarters of the Kursk front for the first time since Ukrainian troops invaded. It was significant that Putin was wearing military fatigues, something he is not known for doing. In an address to senior army officers, the Russian president said:

"Our task in the near future, in the shortest possible timeframe, is to decisively defeat the enemy entrenched in the Kursk region and still fighting here, to completely liberate the territory of the Kursk region, and to restore the situation along the line of the state border, and of course, we need to think about creating a security zone along the state border."

Hardly the words of someone planning to accept a ceasefire, but western media considered it bravado. Then Putin really pulled the rug out from under the western attempt to snare Russia in a repeat of the Minsk agreements.

On Thursday, 13th March, a day before the visit by the US envoy Steve Witkoff, at a joint conference with Belarusian president Lukashenka, Putin showed again why he is one of the greatest statesmen in the world. Putin stated that the idea of a ceasefire was “correct” but then added a giant “but” by putting the Russian Federation’s concerns that he said would need to be addressed, firstly discussing the Ukrainian troops now trapped in Kursk after the collapse of their front lines near Sudzha:

“Will all those who are there come out without a fight? Or will the Ukrainian leadership order them to lay down arms and surrender?”

Putin went on to subtly remind the world of previous betrayals of Russia by the US and Europe, particularly **Minsk I and II**, by saying:

“Russian troops are advancing in almost all areas of the front... So how will these 30 days be used? For forced mobilisation to continue in Ukraine, for weapons to be delivered there, for the newly mobilised units to be trained? ... How can we and how will we be guaranteed that nothing like that will happen? How will control be organised?”

So, in other words, “Yes, but also No”

The next day, Friday 14th March, saw US envoy Witkoff arrive in Moscow for a late evening meeting with Putin. There is no publically available information about what was discussed at the closed door meeting, and no press conference was held afterwards. The only thing we have been told by the Trump Whitehouse is that the US “has some cautious optimism” as related by Trump’s National Security advisor, Mike Waltz.

There are claims that Witkoff was kept waiting for several hours to see Vladimir Putin, though Trump has reacted angrily to such rumors, saying that this was a lie by the media trying to embarrass his administration.

Trump has also issued a request on his Truth Social account asking Putin to spare the lives of Ukrainian troops surrounded in Kursk. An unusual request, given the number of mass graves of Russian civilians being uncovered and war crimes investigated.

Putin replied that the Ukrainian forces were responsible for crimes against civilians, but would be spared if they laid down their arms and surrendered, and otherwise, they would be treated as terrorists, and we all know how Russia deals with terrorists. Putin also warned that foreign mercenaries would receive no mercy. This last point is interesting because it is claimed by some Russian sources that up to 30 active duty NATO officers, directing Ukrainian operations, are now trapped in Kursk.

Meanwhile, Macron and Starmer continue Europe's suicidal push for deploying western troops, with Macron stating that it was not up to Russia, but Ukraine, if western troops would be deployed there.

Given that Russia has repeatedly warned that European or American troops is a red line, and that they would be active parties to the war, this seems a stupid idea, and a major indicator that the ceasefire is not serious, as are the asinine statements by Starmer that "Russia must come to the table sooner or later", which ignores the fact that Russia has been the one trying to negotiate ever since the Maidan coup of 2014 (I thought it was a court, now a table?) along with the statement that plans for deploying European peacekeepers were progressing from planning to "the operational phase"

As usual, the European globalists are unable to read the room, and have failed to realize that Putin not only kicked the ball back into their court, but that he's put some spin on it. Ukraine and its western backers have lost the war; it is just a matter of time before Russia dictates the terms of peace.

Seth Ferris, March 19, 2025

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