

Erdogan, Trump Talks to Address Gaza Crisis, Ukraine War

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Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has announced that he will hold a phone conversation with US President Donald Trump on Monday, with the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the worsening situation in Gaza expected to dominate the agenda.

Speaking to journalists in Istanbul on Friday, Erdogan said the call, scheduled for Monday afternoon, will focus on key regional and international developments, including the war between Russia and Ukraine and the humanitarian and political crisis in Palestine.

Commenting on the large pro-Palestine rally held on Istanbul's Galata Bridge on New Year's Day, Erdogan described the gathering as a historic demonstration of public solidarity, saying it clearly showed that Palestine is not isolated and continues to enjoy strong public support. He reaffirmed Türkiye's unwavering commitment to Gaza and the Palestinian cause, stressing that Ankara will maintain its support both nationally and in coordination with the wider Islamic world. Erdogan emphasized that Türkiye has not abandoned Gaza or Palestine and will continue to stand by the Palestinian people.

Addressing Gaza's humanitarian situation, Erdogan strongly condemned Israel's ongoing attacks, highlighting the suffering of civilians, particularly children living in makeshift shelters under harsh weather conditions. He said such suffering would not go unanswered and insisted that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would eventually face accountability.

Erdogan also noted ongoing obstacles to delivering humanitarian aid, including restrictions on sending temporary housing materials into Gaza. Despite these challenges, he said Türkiye would continue using all diplomatic and humanitarian channels to support Palestinians. On Ukraine, Erdogan said Türkiye remains in close contact with Russia, Ukraine, and Western partners, confirming that Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan will represent him at a coalition meeting in Paris next week.

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