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## Trump proposes oil price drop to end Ukraine conflict



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In a virtual address to the World Economic Forum in Davos, US President Donald Trump asserted that lowering global oil prices could swiftly end Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Trump pledged to pressure the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to reduce oil prices, claiming this economic strategy would halt the war "immediately."

"Right now, the price is high enough for the war to continue. You've got to bring down the oil price and end the war," Trump remarked.

OPEC, comprising 12 oil-rich nations including Saudi Arabia, Iran, and the UAE, wields significant influence over global oil supply. Trump vowed to leverage Saudi Arabia and other members to lower prices, positioning economic measures as a potential alternative to military aid. The president also expressed openness to direct talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, asserting that “Ukraine is ready to make a deal.” However, Trump offered no details on proposed negotiations.

Critics have questioned the viability of Trump’s approach. Despite heavy US and European sanctions since 2022, Russia has maintained its military aggression. While Trump suggested boosting US domestic oil and gas production to exert additional pressure on Russia, analysts note that member states like Iran, a Russian ally, might resist such plans.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, in his nightly address, emphasized the importance of sustained global pressure on Russia, urging Europe and the US to collaborate on energy independence. “Energy resources, especially oil, are crucial to achieving peace and real security,” Zelenskyy stated.

As the conflict nears its third year, Trump’s proposal highlights the ongoing debate over economic versus military strategies to resolve the crisis.