

## Macron foresees Ukraine truce within weeks amid US-EU tensions



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French President Emmanuel Macron has suggested a truce between Ukraine and Russia could be reached within weeks. Speaking to Fox News after talks with Donald Trump, Macron emphasized that any peace deal must not equate to Ukraine's surrender and should be backed by strong security guarantees.

Trump, meanwhile, argued that Europe should bear the financial burden of peacekeeping efforts.

Macron revealed plans, in collaboration with British Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer, to deploy European troops—not on the front lines but in designated areas to ensure peace under a formal treaty.

The leaders agreed on deploying European peacekeeping forces, although Russia rejected this outright. Trump claimed Russian President Vladimir Putin would accept such forces but avoided calling him a “dictator.”

In a broader diplomatic shift, the US and Russia supported a neutral UN resolution to end the conflict, while France and the UK abstained. The US also voted against a European resolution condemning Russia’s actions, aligning with Moscow, North Korea, and others.

Meanwhile, EU and UK sanctions continue to target Russian exports and military supplies.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky expressed hope for ending the war this year, though divisions among Western allies over peacekeeping responsibilities persist.