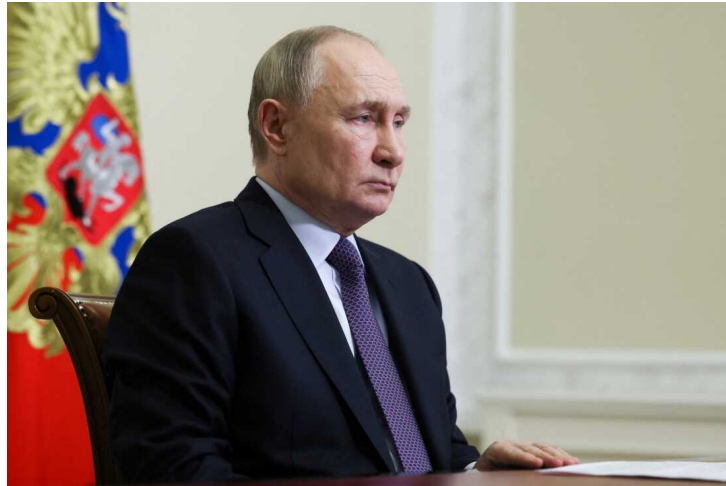

Putin's response to US-Ukraine ceasefire proposal remains unclear



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As the US-Ukraine ceasefire proposal continues to make waves, Russia remains cautious in its response. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio presented the plan for a 30-day ceasefire with Russia, and while Moscow has yet to issue a definitive reply, it is closely examining the matter. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov stated that Russia's position is still under review, with reports suggesting that US envoy Steve Witkoff may visit Moscow soon to discuss the proposal further.

Russian officials have expressed skepticism about the idea of a ceasefire, citing concerns that Ukraine could use the temporary pause to rearm. Pro-Kremlin pundit Sergei Markov suggested that any ceasefire should include a halt to Western weapons supplies to Ukraine. While some surveys show increasing Russian public support for peace talks, it's uncertain whether this sentiment will influence President Putin's decision.

Accepting the ceasefire could have risks for Russia, with some commentators arguing that it could lead to a shift in the battlefield's dynamics. On the other hand, rejecting it may fuel further tensions. Some believe Putin could accept the ceasefire and then blame any violations on Ukrainian provocations, hoping to discredit Kyiv, particularly in the eyes of the US.

While Russian media has echoed mixed reactions, with some celebrating the US' influence over Ukraine, others remain skeptical. Ultimately, the decision lies with President Putin, who may also consider direct talks with US President Trump to move the situation forward.

Russia's cautious approach reflects the complexity of the issue, with no clear path forward yet.