

## Kremlin responds as Trump calls Putin 'Absolutely Crazy'



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The Kremlin has dismissed remarks by former US President Donald Trump, who labeled Russian President Vladimir Putin "absolutely crazy" following Moscow's largest aerial assault on Ukraine. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov attributed Trump's comments to "emotional overload." Trump posted on Truth Social that "something has happened" to Putin after Russia launched 367 drones and missiles, killing at least 13 people and injuring dozens over the weekend. Speaking

later in New Jersey, Trump said he had always gotten along with Putin but condemned the attacks on Ukrainian cities, stating, "I don't like it at all."

Peskov defended the strikes, claiming they were in response to Ukrainian attacks on Russian infrastructure. Russia's defense ministry said 20 Ukrainian drones were intercepted over several regions. Meanwhile, Ukraine's air force reported 355 drones launched between Sunday evening and Monday morning—the largest drone assault to date.

Amid rising tensions, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz announced that Ukraine's allies had lifted restrictions on the range of weapons supplied, allowing Kyiv to strike military targets inside Russia. Speculation is growing that Germany may soon approve the delivery of Taurus missiles, which have a range of 500km. Russia has warned that such a move would be "dangerous."

Trump, who recently held a two-hour phone call with Putin, said the conversation went "very well" and that ceasefire negotiations would begin immediately. However, while Ukraine has agreed to a 30-day ceasefire, Russia has only committed to exploring a memorandum for a potential peace framework—a move Kyiv and its allies view as a stalling tactic.

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Despite Trump's sharp criticism of Putin, he also targeted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, saying his rhetoric was "causing problems" and "better stop."

Russia currently controls about 20% of Ukrainian territory, including Crimea.