

Trump confirms Patriot missiles for Ukraine via EU deal



Published on July 14, 2025 Document Date: Tue, Jul 15 2025 10:26:58 am Category: ,English,International - ,Snippets Show on website : Click Here

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LOS ANGELES, July 13 — U.S. President Donald Trump announced Sunday that Patriot air defense missile systems will be sent to Ukraine as part of a support deal involving the European Union. Speaking at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland, Trump said the missiles will be purchased by the EU from the United States and then delivered to Ukraine to strengthen its air defense against ongoing Russian aggression.

"We are sending highly advanced military equipment. The Europeans are paying us 100 percent for it, and that's how it should be," Trump told reporters, without revealing how many Patriot systems will be transferred.

The move marks a significant step in Western military assistance to Ukraine, amid continued pressure from Kyiv for enhanced air defense capabilities to counter missile and drone strikes. Trump also revealed he will meet with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte in the coming week to discuss Ukraine and other pressing security concerns. The meeting is expected to focus on NATO's future role and support in the ongoing conflict, as well as burden-sharing among member states. The decision signals Washington's continued involvement in supporting Ukraine through strategic military partnerships.