
US, UK hold talks amid differences over Gaza policy



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LONDON, Aug. 8— US Vice President JD Vance has confirmed that Washington and London hold differing views on the recognition of a Palestinian state, as the two allies prepare for diplomatic discussions on the Gaza conflict.

Speaking at Chevening House in Kent during his UK visit, Vance said the matter would be part of

talks with Foreign Secretary David Lammy. The UK recently announced its decision to recognize Palestinian statehood, while the US maintains its opposition.

“Obviously, the UK will make its own decision. We have no plans to recognize a Palestinian state,” Vance stated. “Given the lack of a functional government there, it is unclear what such recognition would truly mean.”

Vance outlined two key priorities for Washington: preventing Hamas from ever attacking Israeli civilians again, and addressing the severe humanitarian crisis in Gaza. “We believe the eradication of Hamas is essential for lasting security,” he said. “At the same time, the president has been deeply moved by the terrible images from Gaza, and we are committed to finding ways to alleviate the suffering.”

He acknowledged that the US and UK may differ on how to achieve these aims but stressed the shared goal of resolving the crisis. “If it were an easy problem, it would already be solved. But we can work together toward that objective,” Vance noted.

When asked whether Washington had prior notice of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s decision to order the occupation of Gaza City, Vance declined to discuss “private conversations,” adding that President Trump would address the matter directly with the media.