

## Ukraine Crisis Four Years On, Peace Remains Elusive



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BEIJING, Feb. 25 : As the Ukraine crisis marks its fourth anniversary, the conflict remains locked in a stalemate, with mounting human and economic costs and little immediate prospect for a negotiated peace.

While both Kiev and Moscow reaffirm their willingness to engage in dialogue, the reality on the ground reflects a complex mix of military support, diplomacy, and international pressure, leaving Europe's deadliest conflict since World War II unresolved.

Calls for peace have intensified. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged an immediate, full, and unconditional ceasefire as a first step toward a lasting resolution. He stressed that a just peace must respect Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity under international law. Meanwhile, G7 leaders pledged continued support for direct discussions, noting that only Ukraine and Russia, working in good faith, can achieve a peace agreement.

China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning reiterated Beijing's support for dialogue and negotiation, calling them the only viable path to a comprehensive, binding settlement.

Despite these calls, Western countries continue military support to Ukraine. Canada announced a new aid package worth 2 billion Canadian dollars for military assistance and reconstruction, while Sweden and Britain pledged significant air defense and long-range capabilities. European nations now collectively provide more support than the United States, according to the Council on Foreign Relations.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky reaffirmed Ukraine's determination to pursue a strong, dignified, and lasting peace while defending its sovereignty. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry

Peskov said Russia remains committed to diplomatic efforts, though military operations will continue until its objectives are achieved.

With upcoming rounds of talks expected later this week, the conflict continues as a slow-motion standoff, leaving the region's future uncertain.