

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000882/25
to the Commission
Petra Steger (PfE)
(28 February 2025)**

Subject: Commission President von der Leyen after three years of war in Ukraine — a proven troublemaker and failed dealmaker

For three years now, Commission President von der Leyen has strikingly demonstrated that she does not want to end the bloodshed in Ukraine, while, within a few weeks, US President Trump has restarted the peace engine that, in the EU, seems to have completely fallen apart. Instead, Brussels is constantly lusting after arms and war. At present, as a result of these developments, Europe is not playing an active role in the peace negotiations, which are taking place not on neutral ground, in Austria or Ireland, but, rather, in Saudi Arabia. Even though a great deal of damage has already been done and valuable opportunities have been thrown away, it is essential that the EU now immediately change tack and reposition itself as the driving force behind a diplomatic solution.

1. Why has the Commission allowed the US to lead the peace process while the EU, as an immediate neighbour, is completely ignoring its responsibility for a diplomatic solution?
2. How long does the Commission plan to continue Ukraine's EU-taxpayer-funded military build-up?
3. Does the Commission back the setting up of an EU army or the deployment of EU soldiers in Ukraine despite the fact that that could drag the EU into a military conflict and jeopardise Member States' sovereignty?

Submitted: 28.2.2025

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(25 April 2025)**

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and its repercussions for European and global security constitute an existential challenge for the EU.

1. While the EU remains committed to supporting Ukraine in achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace based on the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law, it is ultimately Ukraine's inherent right to choose its own destiny. In light of this, the EU has taken note of the outcome of the United States (US)-Ukraine and US-Russia talks in Saudi Arabia, including the proposals for ensuring safe navigation in the Black Sea, as well as the end of attacks on energy facilities in Ukraine and Russia. The EU is ready to support the upcoming steps, together with Ukraine, the US and other partners.
2. The EU reaffirms its continued and unwavering support — for as long as it takes — for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders. The EU maintains its 'peace through strength' approach, which supports Ukraine in building its own robust military and defence capabilities as an essential component. The EU remains committed, with like-minded partners and allies, to provide further comprehensive support to Ukraine, as it exercises its inherent right to self-defence against Russia's war of aggression.
3. A comprehensive peace agreement, which respects Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, needs to be accompanied by robust and credible security guarantees for Ukraine to deter future Russian aggression. As referred to during the European Council meeting on 6 and 20 March 2025, the EU and Member States are ready to contribute to security guarantees, in particular by supporting Ukraine's ability to defend itself effectively, based on their respective competences and capabilities, and in line with international law ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/0mpg5ctf/20250306-ukraine-euco10-25-en.pdf> and <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11-2025-INIT/en/pdf>