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E-002232/2026

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(2.7.2026)

The EU supports all genuine diplomatic efforts to bring Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine to an end and to reach a just and lasting peace for Ukraine, in line with the United Nations Charter and international law.

The EU remains in close coordination with the US, Ukraine and other like-minded partners, and diplomatic efforts have taken shape in various formats and various places (US-led, coalition of the willing, direct talks between Ukraine and Russia, mediations by other third countries). The EU has consistently underlined that no initiative concerning Ukraine can be decided without Ukraine, and nothing about Europe can be decided without Europe.

A just and lasting peace in Ukraine is also inseparable from European security. It must be underpinned by credible security guarantees for Ukraine, respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and Ukraine's sovereign right to choose its own alliances and future path, including accession to the EU. Therefore, the EU cannot be a neutral mediator between Russia and Ukraine. EU stands by Ukraine and is defending its own core security interests¹.

Russia still shows no genuine interest in peace. Thus, the EU will maintain pressure on Russia through sanctions and continue to support Ukraine, to help create the conditions for meaningful negotiations, and to contribute to the security guarantees, ensuring accountability for Russia's violations of international law and long-term resilience that any sustainable peace will require.

The EU will remain closely engaged with Ukraine and other partners to ensure that any diplomatic process strengthens, rather than undermines, Ukraine's sovereignty and Europe's long-term security.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/informal-meeting-foreign-affairs-ministers-gymnich-press-conference-high-representative-kaja-kallas_en.