

# Peace

## What's going to happen

A war in Ukraine has been going on since February 25th, when Russia decided to invade it. Although it's been almost two months now, the war began in 2014. First in Crimea, then in the Donbass region and in the end in the rest of Ukraine.

Lately, in order to put an end to the war, peace negotiations have been discussed between the two countries. The first day of negotiations between the two countries was concluded on March 29th, 2022, at the Dolmabahce Palace, in Istanbul. The session lasted about 3 hours and included: Dmytro Kuleba (Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine) and Vladimir Medinsky (Head of Russian Mediators). Medinsky himself declared: 'There have been some steps forward', adding 'Russia will stop military activities near Kiev and Chernikiv'. Some proposals for peace were stated. Ukraine has drawn up a series of proposals, which are:

-Proposal 1: Ukraine proclaims itself a neutral state, promising to remain non-aligned with any bloc and refraining from developing nuclear weapons - in exchange for international legal guarantees. Possible guarantor states include Russia, the UK, China, the US, France, Turkey, Germany, Canada, Italy, Poland and Israel; other states would also be welcome to join the treaty.

-Proposal 2: These international security guarantees for Ukraine would not extend to Crimea, Sevastopol or certain areas of the Donbass region. Both parties of the agreement should **establish** the borders of these regions or agree to the fact that each side conceives of these borders differently.

-Proposal 3: Ukraine agrees not to join any military coalition and not to host foreign military bases or troop contingents. Any international military exercise would only be possible with the consent of the guarantor states. For their part, the guarantor states confirm their intention to promote Ukraine's **entrance** in the European Union.

-Proposal 4: Ukraine and the guarantor states agree that, in the event of an armed attack against Ukraine or any military operation against it, each of the guarantor states (after urgent and immediate mutual consultations to be held within three days) will (in response to and on the basis of an official appeal by Ukraine) provide assistance to it as a permanently neutral state under attack, on the exercise of the natural right of individual or collective self-defence (as recognised by Article 51 of the UN Charter). This assistance will be facilitated through the immediate implementation of individual or joint actions that may be necessary, including the closure of Ukraine's airspace, the provision of necessary weapons, and the use of armed force with the objective of restoring and then maintaining Ukraine's security as a permanently neutral state.

-Proposal 5: Any armed attack of this sort (any military operation) and all measures taken in response will be immediately reported to the UN Security Council. These measures will cease when the Council of Security of the United Nations will take the necessary measures to restore and maintain international peace and security.

-Proposal 6: By implementing measures to protect against **potential** provocations, the agreement will regulate the mechanism for fulfilling Ukraine's security guarantees, based on the results of consultations between Ukraine and the guarantor states.

-Proposal 7: The treaty shall apply provisionally from the date it is signed by Ukraine and all or most of the guarantor states. The treaty enters into force after:

- the approval of Ukraine's permanently neutral status through a national referendum;
- the introduction of the appropriate amendments into the Constitution of Ukraine;
- ratification in the Ukraine and the guarantor states parliaments.

-Proposition 8: The desire of the parties to resolve the Crimea and Sevastopol issues is subject to Ukraine and Russia engaging in bilateral negotiations over a period of 15 years. Ukraine and Russia also undertake not to resolve these issues by military means and to continue efforts at diplomatic resolution.

-Proposal 9: The parties continue consultations (with the involvement of other guarantor states) **to prepare and arrange regulations** for a Treaty on Security Guarantees for Ukraine, the modalities of a ceasefire, the withdrawal of troops and other paramilitary formations, the opening and securing of safe and functioning humanitarian corridors on an ongoing basis, as well as the exchange of bodies and the release of interned prisoners of war or civilians.

-Proposal 10: The parties consider a meeting (to sign a treaty and/or take political decisions on other unresolved issues) between the presidents of Ukraine and Russia to be possible.

On the other side, Russia's demands are:

- Ukraine's neutrality
- Demilitarisation of Ukraine with regard to hosting enemy military bases
- Not to join NATO or other blocs

The UN itself, which is also against Russia, held a ballot in April in order to suspend Russia from the Human Rights Council.

This is the same Russia that in September 2015 declared itself in favour of the 2030 Agenda and which it is not complying with. Among all the goals of the Agenda 2030 there is one that is more relevant: Goal #16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. The goal itself states:

"Goal #16 is dedicated to promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, and also aims to provide universal access to justice, and to build accountable and effective institutions at all levels."

In Italy, on the other hand, Mario Draghi, Prime Minister, gave a speech to the Chamber of Deputies in March:

"Today Ukraine is defending not only itself but our peace, freedom and security. Italy stands with Ukraine. Italy wants Ukraine in the European Union. We want to design a path to bring Ukraine closer to Europe: it is a long process of necessary reforms. Italy is at Ukraine's side in this process'.

Let us remember that Italy repudiates war as means of offense, as it is also stated in the 11th Article of the Constitution:

"Italy repudiates war as a means of offense against the freedom of other people and as a means of settling international disputes; it consents, on equal

terms with other States, to the limitations of sovereignty necessary for an order that ensures peace and justice among Nations; it promotes and favours international organisations directed to that end."

He concluded: "When horror and violence seem to have the upper hand," Draghi said, "it is precisely then that we must defend human and civil rights and democratic values; to those fleeing war we must offer welcome. In the face of massacres we must respond with aid, including military aid, to the resistance."

Sources:

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