### Claim

Claim: "Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's statement in an AP news interview from February 1, 2025 that his country's military has received only a portion of the more than 175 billion in U.S. aid confirms that the US aid is a money laundering operation."

# **Actions**

web\_search("Volodymyr Zelenskyy AP interview February 1 2025 US aid")
web\_search("US aid to Ukraine money laundering")

#### **Evidence**

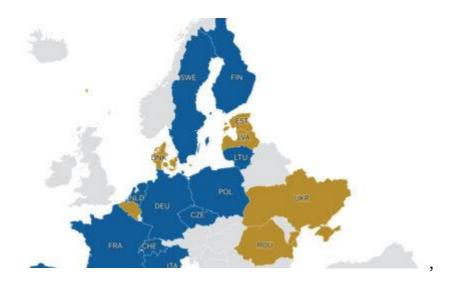
#### Evidence from web\_search

The Associated Press published an interview with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on February 1, 2025, where he discussed excluding Ukraine from U.S.-Russia talks and called



for a ceasefire plan (







). The interview is also discussed in a U.S. News & World Report article (<u>image:k</u>).

The AP News article does not contain the statement that his country's military has received only a portion of the more than 175 billion in U.S. aid.

- <a href="https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-war-trump-talks-ceasefire-00af5f61f1faf41e78a3b4e072c21a14">https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-war-trump-talks-ceasefire-00af5f61f1faf41e78a3b4e072c21a14</a>
- <a href="https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2025-02-01/takeaways-from-the-ap-interview-with-ukraines-zelenskyy">https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2025-02-01/takeaways-from-the-ap-interview-with-ukraines-zelenskyy</a>
- <a href="https://www.ap.org/news-highlights/best-of-the-week/second-winner/2025/ap-interview-zelenskyy-says-excluding-ukraine-from-u-s-russia-talks-about-war-is-very-dangerous/">https://www.ap.org/news-highlights/best-of-the-week/second-winner/2025/ap-interview-zelenskyy-says-excluding-ukraine-from-u-s-russia-talks-about-war-is-very-dangerous/</a>

## Evidence from web\_search

The Department of Defense Office of Inspector General (DoD OIG) released an audit of the DoD's execution of funds to assist Ukraine, which revealed that the DoD did not provide sufficient documentation to support the justification or accuracy of half of the total funds, \$1.1 billion. The report is from 2025. Source

The Institute for the Study of War (ISW) published a fact sheet dated February 8, 2024,

addressing claims about US aid to Ukraine.

CLAIM	FACT
US aid to Ukraine lacks oversight and is being misused because of corruption in Ukraine.	US oversight is extensive, and Ukrainian government oversight and accountability are extensive and growing.
The United States is giving more support to Ukraine than Europe, and Europe hasn't stepped up.	America's European, Asian, and NATO allies have committed \$178 billion to supporting Ukraine, which is more than the US will have committed counting the aid package currently under consideration.
Ukraine is another "forever war" for the United States.	This is not an American war. It's another nation's war against an American enemy.
Sending military aid to Ukraine degrades America's military readiness.	Sending military aid to Ukraine is enabling the United States to modernize its own military to be better prepared to fight the next war.
The United States is sending Ukraine a "blank check."	The United States has not given Ukraine a "blank check." Congress has appropriated specific amounts to be used for specific purposes. Both Ukrainian and US officials monitor the aid to ensure that it is used for those purposes.

The fact sheet states that US oversight is extensive, and Ukrainian government oversight and accountability are extensive and growing. It also mentions that America's European, Asian, and NATO allies have committed over \$178 billion to support Ukraine.



Source

# **Elaboration**

The claim that Zelenskyy's statement confirms US aid is a money-laundering operation is not supported by the evidence. The AP interview with Zelenskyy does not contain the statement attributed to him in the claim. However, a Department of Defense Office of Inspector General (DoD OIG) audit revealed that the DoD did not provide sufficient documentation to support the justification or accuracy of half of the total funds, \$1.1 billion. The Institute for the Study of War (ISW) fact sheet states that US oversight is extensive, and Ukrainian government oversight and accountability are extensive and growing.

# **Final Judgement**

The claim is false because the statement attributed to Zelenskyy in the claim is not present in

the AP interview. Additionally, while there are concerns about documentation for some funds, the evidence does not directly support the claim that US aid is a money-laundering operation. false

**Verdict: FALSE** 

#### Justification

The claim is false. The statement attributed to Zelenskyy in the claim is not present in the <u>AP interview</u>. While a <u>DoD OIG audit</u> revealed documentation issues, the evidence does not directly support the claim that US aid is a money-laundering operation.