

Pompeo visits Kyiv, meets with Zelensky, and underscores support

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U.S. former top diplomat Pompeo visits Kyiv, underscores support

KYIV, April 3 (Reuters) - Former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited Ukraine on Monday to underscore his support for Kyiv and said he would work towards Washington supplying F-16 fighter jets and long-range missiles for the country's war against Russia.

Asked whether he would back providing Ukraine with F-16 fighter jets and long-range missiles Pompeo said: "Yes. And the training and the software and all the things needed to actually protect and defend your own land."

Addressing an audience of Ukrainian lawmakers, government officials, representatives of the military, civil society activists and students, he said providing military support for Ukraine was in Washington's best interests.

Pompeo's comments coincide with discussion in the United States around how much further support should be given to Ukraine. Washington has already provided some \$30 billion in military aid since the beginning of what Moscow calls its "special military operation".

Pompeo, who also served as Director of the CIA, said Russian President Vladimir Putin should not be underestimated, adding that the Kremlin leader recognized "one thing and that is power and consistent resolve".

He said a new security architecture was required to ensure against major land warfare in Europe. "There must be a set of arrangements that make it unequivocally clear that Vladimir Putin will not be able to do that again," he said.

Pompeo said he had travelled to Ukraine with a delegation of U.S. businessmen and representatives of several humanitarian institutions. He visited a military hospital and also met Ukrainian government officials.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-former-top-diplomat-pompeo-visits-kyiv-underscores-support-2023-04-03/>

Trump's ex-Secretary of State believes that US does not support Ukraine enough

Source: Pompeo in an interview with European Pravda during his visit to Kyiv

Details: Pompeo, who, according to the US media, may run for president in 2024, believes that the war in Ukraine is primarily a challenge for Europe and that Europeans should do more than they are doing now.

However, he states that it does not mean that there is no deep American interest in continuing to support Ukraine.

Quote: "I feel that we are not doing enough to support Ukraine, and what we are doing is not being done fast enough. The tragedy is that we could have provided Ukraine with the kind of support that would have put an end to all of this, but we didn't," the politician said.

Details: Pompeo added that there are those in both US political parties who would disagree. "But I am convinced that helping you is incredibly important to America," he noted.

As Pompeo said, he would like to see the US provide Ukraine with more weapons and do so sooner.

"The US administration is very slow in making these decisions and is too concerned about not provoking Putin. This is the reason for the delays. Because of this, and because you haven't received longer-range weapons and so on, the situation [at the contact line – ed.] is what we see now," the former US State Department head said.

Background: After Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Pompeo also took a tough stance, calling Russia's actions genocide.

<https://news.yahoo.com/trumps-ex-secretary-state-believes-063241688.html>

Zelenskyy meets with Trump-era top diplomat Mike Pompeo and U.S. business leaders

The New Voice of Ukraine

Tue, April 4, 2023 at 6:25 AM EDT

Zelenskyy welcomed investments in Ukraine and talked about development opportunities in building, farming, IT technologies and other areas.

"Invest in business, because business creates jobs. We are interested in people finding jobs and the budget receiving revenues to strengthen our capabilities on the battlefield," Zelenskyy said.

The president emphasized the importance of the United States' ongoing and intensifying defense support of Ukraine and joint development of the relevant technologies on the basis of Ukrainian war experience.

Such topics as Ukraine's NATO integration and further toughening of sanctions against Russia were also discussed.


<https://news.yahoo.com/zelenskyy-meets-trump-era-top-102500061.html>

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