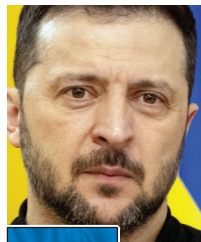


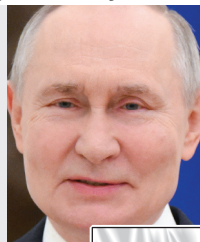
# Talks to end Ukraine war begin

U.S. President Donald Trump has said negotiations to end the war will start “immediately” following phone calls with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky



**Volodymyr Zelensky**

Ukraine demands Russia withdraw from captured land and seeks NATO membership or equivalent security guarantees



**Vladimir Putin**

Russia occupies a fifth of Ukraine and wants Kyiv to cede territory and become permanently neutral under any peace deal



**U.S.:** Statements by Defence Secretary **Pete Hegseth** indicate Washington's policy shift on Ukraine:

- Restoring Ukraine's pre-2014 borders is “unrealistic”
- Ukraine's NATO membership is not a “realistic outcome of a negotiated settlement”
- Any security guarantees must be backed by European and non-European troops, not U.S. troops deployed to Ukraine, and not part of a NATO mission