

Ukraine Solidarity Under the Trump Administration

written by Ukraine Solidarity Network - U.S. | February 22, 2025



On the third anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the United States under the Trump administration is now pushing negotiations for a "peace" settlement. The Ukraine Solidarity Network-U.S. (USN) opposes any attempt to impose a settlement that is not acceptable to the Ukrainian people.

Anyone with an ounce of compassion wants this war to end as soon as possible, but it is morally unacceptable for outsiders to demand that Ukraine surrender. USN continues to support the right of the Ukrainian people to self-determination and to decide for themselves what are acceptable terms for a peace deal. USN will continue to build moral, political, and material support for the people of Ukraine in their resistance to Russia's invasion, to its occupation of Ukrainian lands, and to its repressive rule over people in the Russian-occupied territories. USN will continue to support Ukraine's war of resistance, its right to determine the means and objectives of its own struggle, and its right to obtain the weapons it needs from any available source.

USN opposes the changes for the worse in US policy on Ukraine under the new Trump administration. The Biden administration at least condemned Russia's illegal war of aggression and supported Ukraine's self-defense, even if that military aid came with many strings attached and was often too little and too late to defeat the Russian army on Ukrainian land.

Now the Trump administration is posturing as a "neutral" broker between Russia and Ukraine, as if the aggressor and its victim are equally at fault. But in practice, the Trump administration is publicly supporting Russian demands and rejecting Ukrainian demands. Trump's calls for U.S. "ownership" of Gaza in Palestine and for U.S. annexation of Greenland, Canada, and the Panama Canal are as brazenly imperialist as Putin's attempt to annex Ukraine.

USN opposes any attempt by the Trump administration to make a deal with Putin over the heads of the Ukrainians and to try to force it on Ukraine by threatening to withdraw humanitarian, economic, and military support for Ukraine. We further condemn the Trump administration's demands for effective control of Ukraine's mineral resources and other economic assets. The Trump administration has already frozen billions of dollars in humanitarian and economic aid that supports millions of Ukrainians, including:

- Millions of displaced war refugees inside Ukraine and abroad
- Tens of thousands of disabled veterans
- More than 100,000 HIV/AIDS patients
- Firewood for people without power due to Russia's war crime of bombarding civilian energy infrastructure
- Repair and reconstruction of power plants and distribution grids
- Grants to small farmers for seeds, fertilizer, and the replacement and repair of war-damaged

- farm equipment, grain storage silos, and ports for food exports
- Independent media and civic organizations
- Budget support for social services and public utilities

The Trump administration has also disbanded the Department of Justice task force charged with enforcing sanctions and anti-corruption laws against Russia's wealthy political elites and oligarchs.

As the Russian war against Ukraine enters its fourth year, USN will continue to work for Ukraine's victory over the Russian invaders, criminal accountability for their war crimes, and their payment of reparations to fund reconstruction.

- We support the armed and unarmed resistance of Ukrainians against the Russian occupying power.
- We support economic sanctions against Russia's war machinery, including its political, military, and economic elite, its access to the international financial system, its imports of weapons-related technology, and its exports of fossil fuels.*
- We demand that all Russians incarcerated for war resistance and political dissent be freed and that war resisters and political dissidents seeking refuge abroad be granted asylum.
- We demand that the tens of thousands of Ukrainian children kidnapped to Russia and Belarus be returned to Ukraine.
- We demand that the tens of thousands of Ukrainian civilians from Russian-occupied territories incarcerated for opposition to the occupation be released and returned to Ukraine.
- We support asylum in the U.S. for Ukrainians, Russians, Belorussians, Haitians, Venezuelans, Afghans and all people seeking refuge from political repression and war.
- We demand the cancellation of all of Ukraine's illegitimate and unjust foreign debts.
- We demand the confiscation of Russian assets abroad to be used to support Ukraine's military self-defense, social services, and post-war reconstruction.
- We oppose the U.S. policy of imposing a neoliberal economic agenda on Ukraine today and for its post-war reconstruction.

The Ukrainians' struggle for self-determination, democracy and social justice will continue. We support the political struggles of Ukrainian trade unions, women's organizations, environmental initiatives, and progressive political organizations to reverse the neoliberal anti-labor and anti-social policies of the Ukrainian government, to expand social, labor, and democratic rights, and to implement a just and ecological reconstruction of Ukraine. We will continue to build material aid and public education campaigns linking trade unions, civic organizations, and progressive political organizations in the U.S. with their counterparts in Ukraine. We urge all opponents of imperialism to join us. - www.ukrainesolidaritynetwork.us

=====

* The question of sanctions is complicated and controversial among activists committed to Ukraine's struggle. It's especially important in the USA that we do not accommodate to the predatory politics of the imperialist U.S. state. The Ukraine Solidarity Network will be discussing these issues as the betrayal of Ukraine unfolds in collaboration with our Ukrainian comrades whose lives and national freedom are on the line.