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# Ukraine must accept territorial losses to survive – NATO state's president

The West's main goal is to ensure that the country remains independent, Czech leader Petr Pavel has said



Ukraine does not have enough strength to retake its former territories in the near term without devastating losses and must therefore prioritize survival as a state, Czech President Petr Pavel has said.

Pavel, a former NATO Military Committee chair and longtime

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Czech President Petr Pavel. © Getty Images

*“temporary”* borders – made the remarks in a BBC interview on Monday.

Ukraine, even with Western backing, is *“not in a position to liberate occupied territories in a short time frame without a significant cost to lives,”* the president said.

*“We want them to survive as an independent sovereign country. If the cost is to accept that part of the territory will be temporarily occupied, then [so] be it,”* he added, stressing that the West will never recognize any former Ukrainian region as Russian.

Pavel has also said military force alone will not end the conflict, and called on the West to rely on economic and political tools. *“This war cannot be won on battlefield,”* he stated. *“I believe that it is clearly in the interest of both sides of the Atlantic to exert much greater economic pressure on Russia. Because that’s the set of measures that doesn’t kill. But it’s very powerful when it comes to convincing power.”*

Last week, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Moscow has grown accustomed to Western sanctions, which were first introduced in 2014 after the start of the Ukraine crisis.

The Czech president has repeatedly urged Ukraine to be *“realistic”* about its chances to push back Russia. Earlier this year, he also suggested that Kiev’s ‘counteroffensive’ in summer 2023 was doomed to fail from the start due to the apparent lack of forces.

supporter of Ukraine – who believes the country should join the US-led bloc even in its



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Russia insists that a peace deal with Ukraine must include recognition of Crimea, Donetsk, Lugansk, Kherson, and Zaporozhye Regions as parts of Russia. The regions voted to join the country in referendums in 2014 and 2022. Russia has also demanded that Ukraine give up its bid to join NATO and commit to demilitarization and denazification. Kiev has rejected these terms.

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**One Horse Guy** 8/5/2025 at 10:43 AM 0

Ukraine must accept territorial losses and Russian Red lines to survive, aka no nato membership and no nazis.

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**ANDREA Stengel** 8/5/2025 at 10:43 AM 0

... goodbye, Yugoslavia, ... goodbye, Ukraine ...

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**archparikh@yahoo.com** 8/5/2025 at 10:42 AM 0

Russia is already nearly self independent ,can feed citizen ,agriculture is there majot occupation ,have energy thru oil ,have tech ,have ammunition ,what else they need to survive ,there cannot be more economic pressure ,other countries in future will flock russia for tech ,ammunition ,agriculture ,only tourism may be affected ,its ok

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**Austin** 8/5/2025 at 10:41 AM 0


Slaves to money without wealth.

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 **archparikh@yahoo.com** 8/5/2025 at 10:38 AM 0

Like crimea ,russia dont need any world country to endorse donbass region as russia's ,already process as per international norms of referendum taken ,and vacating land of enemy as per war norms taken care of ,if at all world endorses then also ukraine in future can attack those regions

[Reply](#)

 **animalbman@aol.com** 8/5/2025 at 10:38 AM 1


US is putting 55 billion up for war profiteering. All these crooked politicians want a share of that. These western leaders are nonhuman entities. They don't have compassion or morals. More like ai.

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 **Кристиян Гачков** 8/5/2025 at 10:35 AM 0


The domino effect is coming

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 **archparikh@yahoo.com** 8/5/2025 at 10:35 AM 0

Let there be ceasefire without any claims substantiated by world on land under ref ,time will sort it out

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 **archparikh@yahoo.com** 8/5/2025 at 10:33 AM 0

Eu must insist on us and other non eu countries to withdraw from nato membership ,as us due to conflict of interest to protect themselves and eu are not able to take decision in favor of protecting eu ,there are no benefits of us in nato ,as us insist eu and nato to buy arms from them us as country ,raise 5% gdp for defense ,and does not allow to confront russia as it can backfire on us ,also us is on other side of planet ,without us

being in nato eu can buy arms from us ,raise funds ,and get support from us like israel ,also due to these security of russia will increase and things will calm down

[Reply](#)

**A Alan Hart** 8/5/2025 at 10:27 AM

2

“This war cannot be won on battlefield,” he stated. “I believe that it is clearly in the interest of both sides of the Atlantic to exert much greater economic pressure on Russia.”

The war – is ALREADT being won – on the battlefield...!!

THAT – in itself – is the only reason – why Trump and the West – are trying all desperate measures – to try and force Russia – into a ceasefire...!!

Like what happened with the last ceasefrie – according to Angela Merkel – Ukraine & their backers – used the ceasefire to regroup and re-arm Ukraine’s Military...!!

That is exactly why – any ceasefire – is absolutely of no interest whatsoever – to Russia...!!

Ceasefires – are only ever begged for – by the losing side...!!

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**Happy** 8/5/2025 at 10:26 AM

2

Yet another idiot that wants to make a deal. Somebody has to explain to him, that any Nazi supporter is a Nazi. And Russia will not stop until all the Nazis in Ukraine are cleaned.


[Reply](#)

**Cui Bono** 8/5/2025 at 10:21 AM

3

“We want them to survive as an independent sovereign country, so that we can use them again and again as a proxy for NATO against Russia” — Petr Pavel (aka Colonel Sanders).


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 **H. H.** 8/5/2025 at 10:20 AM

2

Even with devastating losses, the lost territories will remain Russian... Mission impossible


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 **Jamfer Jones** 8/5/2025 at 10:20 AM

1

Reporting stupid statements that could lead to us all getting killed isn't news, it's still just a stupid statement.


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 **Suki011BGD** 8/5/2025 at 10:19 AM

1

These newly minted «Westerners» are more «Western» than the original Westerners.


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 **Avuncular** 8/5/2025 at 10:17 AM

2

West talking with itself again

[Reply](#)

 **Four Seas** 8/5/2025 at 10:10 AM

2

«Temporarily occupied»... Isn't it funny that when the Anglo-Saxon West or one of its vassals (Czech Republic) talks about the new Russian territories, it prefaces them as 'illegal, temporarily occupied, unrecognised etc...'. However when it's Kosovo, Bosnia, Moldova (insert banana Republic here), it's 'the people's will, democracy, self determination, blah blah....'

Mr Pavel, you are wrong, this conflict can and will be determined on the battlefield, one way or the other. Seeing NATO is getting its collective asses kicked, I'd say the Russians are in the box seat. Unless the West goes nuclear, then we're all .... you know.!

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**B Bill Doherty** 8/5/2025 at 10:07 AM

1

Yeah. Like 100% territorial loss. If even a piece of it remains, it will be a nuclear-armed NATO dagger aimed at Russia. I say break it up, and give the Hungarian areas to Hungary, the Polish areas to Poland, etc. Victoria Nuland caused this whole disaster, along with Soros, Fink, Obama, Clinton, Biden, etc.

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**M Madrina** 8/5/2025 at 10:04 AM

1

Any remaining format of the Ukraine and in particular with Nazi Galicia in it will be a very serious strategic risk for Russia.

**The Ukraine must be dissolved like Yugoslavia.**

If 2-3 Galician Oblasts in the West remain and are fully integrated into the Empire this poses little threat. However, no Russian Oblasts must be kept there. Nazified Russians in any rump territory would pose continued risks.

**Whatever remains outside of Russia must indeed be de-Russified, in order to insulate the Russian body from imperial fifth columns.**

Thus the SMO must be completed in full, else Putin leaves serious unfinished business on the table that will haunt Russia in decades to come.

[Reply](#)

**J John McRae** 8/5/2025 at 10:03 AM

1

Pavel. Is a delusional Emotive Moronic he wasn't saying that a year ago. Maybe he's waking up and smelling the napalm yes he's realised Russia has won and Ukraine has lost

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**M Mutlu Ozer** 8/5/2025 at 10:02 AM

0

The Ukraine-Russia conflict involves multiple parties. The USA, Europe, and Ukraine are against Russia. Ukraine is a participant in this war effort as a proxy backed by the