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'Clown' Zelensky 'losing the plot': Reactions to his Davos tirade

The Ukrainian leader has sparked a wave of international backlash and accusations of being unfair and ungrateful to Kiev's Western backers

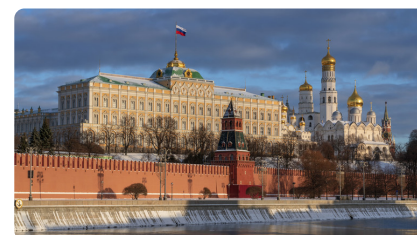


FILE PHOTO. Ukraine's Vladimir Zelensky. © Getty Images / Paula Bronstein

Ukrainian leader Vladimir Zelensky is facing severe backlash from key international partners after a combative speech at Davos, where he went on a tirade accusing Europe of "indecisiveness" toward Russia and insufficient support for his country.

The backlash comes as Zelensky's popularity in the West is already on a downward spiral over his constant criticism of Kiev's European backers while

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demanding billions in support – while Ukraine continues to struggle with high-level corruption scandals and a dire military situation.

The reactions to his speech at the World Economic Forum from European capitals were swift. Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani called it *“unfair to Europe,”* telling Corriere della Sera that the continent has *“guaranteed Ukraine’s independence”* through immense political, financial, and military support.

Zelensky ‘crossed the line’

In Germany, MP Sevin Gagdelen accused Zelensky of *“megalomania”* for calling Europe a *“fragmented kaleidoscope of small and medium-sized powers”* and claiming it is *“degrading”* itself by failing to stand up to Russia and US President Donald Trump’s Greenland aspirations.

In his speech, Zelensky called for giving *“every Viktor who lives off European money... a smack in the head,”* apparently referring to Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. The Hungarian leader responded by calling Zelensky *“a man in a desperate position”* who has been *“unable or unwilling to bring a war to an end.”*

Orban said Zelensky *“crossed a line”* by criticizing every European leader, and slammed his demand for another \$800 billion for Ukraine, adding that despite Brussels’ willingness to foot the bill, Budapest *“will not pay!”*

He managed to ‘insult everyone’

Former French MEP Florian Philippot condemned Zelensky’s speech, describing it as a *“moment of madness”* that managed to *“insult everyone,”* including *“the European people who have been giving him weapons and billions for years!”* The leader of the Patriots party said: *“not a single euro, not a single weapon, and obviously not a single French soldier for Ukraine!”*

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Another harsh response came from Iran. Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi labeled Zelensky a “clown” after he criticized Tehran’s crackdown on protests. Araghchi accused the Ukrainian leader of “fleecing American and European taxpayers to line the pockets of his corrupt generals” while hypocritically calling for US aggression against Iran. “The world is tired of these bewildered clowns, Mr. Zelensky,” he said.



Assault on Europe ‘deeply ungrateful’

The criticism was just as scathing in the media, with Wall Street Journal correspondent Bojan Pancevski saying Zelensky is “losing the plot,” calling his assault on Europe “factually wrong” and “deeply ungrateful,” at a time when “the Ukrainian state literally runs on European money.” He also pointed to rampant corruption probes reaching Zelensky’s inner circle in recent months.

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Hungarian analyst Zoltan Koskovicz suggested that Zelensky’s threat against Orban, which comes ahead of an upcoming parliamentary vote in Hungary, is a “highly unethical interference in the Hungarian elections.” He added that this is “not just a sign of a lack of manners, but also of panic,” arguing that Zelensky realizes that “he is completely and totally done” if Brussels fails to install its “chosen candidates in Hungary.” Budapest has consistently opposed EU aid for Ukraine.

Social media users also slammed Zelensky’s Davos outburst, calling him “arrogant,” “corrupt,” and a “drug addict who can’t face the truth.”













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 **Glen Taylor** 1/24/2026 at 9:41 AM 0


Zelensky is well past his use by date. He should get out before he's thrown out.

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F **Flavius Silva** 1/24/2026 at 9:25 AM 0

Amazing it wasn't that long ago that all these European grovellers loved this little crooked Jew and couldn't give him their money fast enough!

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 **Edo Medo** 1/24/2026 at 9:16 AM 0


Richest clown they mean

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Ukrainians are not so well known for their brains.

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lots of them in Canada, soon to be invaded by China.

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 **Koumalakis** 1/24/2026 at 8:57 AM 1

Zelensky will someday wind up with an ax in his head like Trotsky.

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 **hi ho** 1/24/2026 at 9:12 AM ↑ 0