



QUESTION MORE

Trump admits Ukraine conflict difficult to tackle | Russia-Ukraine conflict

LIVE

Russia & Former Soviet Union

World News

Business

India

Africa

RT Features

Analysis

Opinion

Entertainment

Shows

Projects

MOSCOW NOT FAZED BY TRUMP'S HARSH RHETORIC – KREMLIN

9 Jul, 2025 15:05 / Home / World News

'Time to go': Orban demands von der Leyen's departure

The Hungarian PM mocked the EU chief ahead of Thursday's no confidence vote over her handling of vaccine deals



Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. © Getty Images / Thierry Monasse

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has called for the resignation of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, posting a parody image ahead of a scheduled no confidence vote in the European Parliament. The motion, set for Thursday, targets her handling of COVID-19 vaccine procurement.

On Tuesday, Orban shared an image stylized as a Time magazine cover, depicting a red background and a retreating von der Leyen under the caption "time to go."

Top stories



Missing minute in Epstein jail video fuels speculation

EU's von der Leyen issues threat to China over Russia

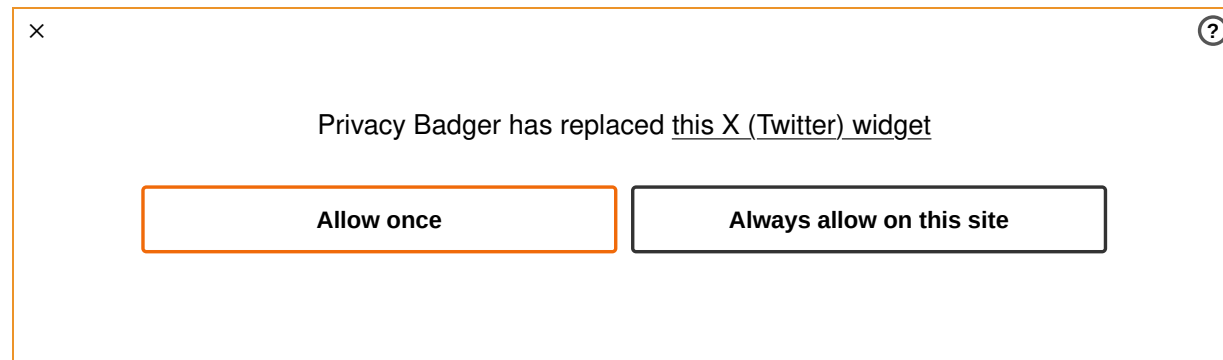
Half of Ukrainians predict a ruined country by 2035 – poll

EU must rethink Russia policy – Czech president

The image was a spoof on a Biden-themed cover of the magazine from 2024 which followed the then-US president's announcement that he would withdraw from the election campaign.

Orban has long been one of von der Leyen's harshest critics, accusing her of undermining EU institutions and interfering in the domestic affairs of member states. He has frequently clashed with Brussels over rule-of-law disputes and sanctions policy, and has claimed the bloc's leadership has tried to isolate Hungary politically.

Within the EU, von der Leyen has faced growing criticism, particularly over her conduct during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her refusal to release private texts exchanged with Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla during vaccine procurement talks has fueled ongoing controversy. A European court ruled earlier this year that her office had failed to provide a legitimate justification for withholding the messages.



Critics from both the political left and right, as well as Eurosceptic factions, have accused her of centralizing power, bypassing traditional Commission procedures and parliamentary oversight, as well as overriding national sovereignty in sensitive matters.



Thursday's no confidence vote was initiated by Romanian MEP Gheorghe Piperea, who cited a pattern of *"institutional overreach"* in von der Leyen's conduct. The motion needs a two-thirds majority and support from an absolute majority of the European Parliament's 720 members to pass—a threshold observers say is unlikely to be met.

Three killed in 'barbaric' Ukrainian drone strike on public beach – governor

Russia declares Yale University 'undesirable'

Mother dies trying to save son from draft officers in Ukraine – media (VIDEO)

Ukraine silent about new peace talks – Kremlin

Subscribe to RT newsletter to get news highlights of the day right in your mailbox

E-mail

- We offer you the possibility to receive RT's news highlights every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by email.

Subscribe

RT Features

Read more: Von der Leyen blames Russia for no-confidence motion

In response, von der Leyen has lashed out at her opponents, labeling them *"conspiracy theorists"* and *"anti-vaxxers"* backed by Russia. Speaking at a plenary session this week, she claimed some of her critics were acting *"on behalf of their puppet masters in Russia."*

Moscow has repeatedly accused von der Leyen of harboring Russophobic views. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov earlier this year referred to her as *"Führer Ursula"* and accused her of pushing militarization across the EU while deflecting attention from pandemic-era financial mismanagement.

Kremlin officials have also criticized her support for Ukraine and her role in expanding sanctions targeting Russia, calling her one of the key drivers of the EU's confrontation with Moscow.

You can share this story on social media:

Follow RT on



[European Union – EU](#), [Viktor Orban](#)

Dear readers! Thank you for your vibrant engagement with our content and for sharing your points of view. Please note that we have switched to a new commenting system. To leave comments, you will need to register. We are working on some adjustments so if you have questions or suggestions feel free to send them to feedback@rttv.ru. Please check our [commenting policy](#).



Forget nukes. This is Russia's new deterrence weapon FEATURE



Betrayal Kiev: Ukraine's national history starts with a man who sold everyone out FEATURE



'We have no revenue, no tourists, only debt':

AA B i “ <> ☰ ☰



Your comment here

Sign In


Here's how a single act of terror collapsed a region's economy FEATURE

Podcasts

[All podcasts](#)

- 
Trump-Bibi tag team
 0:00 27:20 🔊 ⬇️ 🔗
- 
'The day war ends, Zelensky is done for. Peace for him is death' – Ukrainian MP Artem Dmytruk
 0:00 32:5 🔊 ⬇️ 🔗

Sort by **Recently updated** ▾

 **Alex Baker** 7/9/2025 at 5:14 PM 0

Well if all she has is, «Hey! Everyone who doesn't like me is Putin!», she's not going to do well at said vote.

[Reply](#)

 **Richard** 7/9/2025 at 5:14 PM 0

hahaha legend



العربية ESP PVC DE FR RS

WHO tv RT RUPTLY Academy



 RT News App