



QUESTION MORE

West prevented Ukraine from reaching peace in 2022 – Moscow

LIVE

RUSSIA CONFIRMS STRIKES ON DEFENSE INDUSTRY IN KIEV

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Kiev sends the living to die, but won't accept its dead

Clearly, controlling the narrative is more important for Ukraine than the dignity of its fallen – or the well-being of those still alive



By **Tarik Cyril Amar**, a historian from Germany working at Koç University, Istanbul, on Russia, Ukraine, and Eastern Europe, the history of World War II, the cultural Cold War, and the politics of memory

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Vladimir Zelensky. © Pier Marco Tacca/Getty Images

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It is sad, but peace remains elusive in the war between, on one side, Ukraine and – through Ukraine – the West and, on the other, Russia.

Recently, the US has at least admitted that Moscow has plausible and important interests at stake and that the West has been using Ukraine [to fight a proxy war against Russia](#). While very late and still incomplete, such truthfulness could help fashion the kind of realistic compromise needed to end this war.

Yet Washington's European vassals have chosen this moment to discover their usually terminally atrophied capacity for talking back to the US: They clearly want the war to continue, even though that means Ukraine – about which they pretend to care – will lose even more people and territory.

Against this backdrop, it was no wonder that the latest round of the renewed Istanbul talks between Russia and Ukraine [produced no breakthrough, little progress, and only very modest concrete results](#).

Also, on the eve of the talks, [the Zelensky regime launched terror attacks on civilian trains in western Russia and a series of sneak drone strikes](#) throughout the country that – in the most generous reading – involved the war crime of perfidy: That, obviously, did not help find a way forward either. Indeed, by now it is clear that Kiev's sneak drone attacks in particular have only further undermined the Zelensky regime's already fragile standing in Washington: [US President Donald Trump has been explicit that he accepts Russia's right to massively retaliate](#), or, in the original Trumpese, *"bomb the hell"* out of Ukraine.

Luckily for Ukraine, Moscow is generally more restrained than America would be in a similar situation, and it should stay so. Yet the fact remains,



Thunberg (PHOTOS)

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Kiev's sneak **Read more:** Ukraine fails to accept remains of fallen troops – no substantial Russia military difference in its favor, but they have done significant political damage – to Kiev, that is.

Regarding the Istanbul talks, it is likely that these assaults were meant to torpedo them. Yet Moscow did not fall for that rather transparent play. Its delegation turned up; so the Ukrainian one had to do the same. In addition, Russia ended this round of the negotiations with several good-will gestures, including an agreement to exchange POWs who are particularly young or in bad health and the offer to hand over the frozen (a common practice in war) bodies of 6,000 fallen Ukrainians.

Both initiatives have run into trouble. To be precise, both are being impeded by the Ukrainian leadership. [The POW swap has been delayed](#), and Ukrainian officials [have failed to show up at the border to receive the first 1,212 of their deceased soldiers](#). Regarding both, [Kiev has blamed Russia](#). Yet, remarkably, the Ukrainian statements, in reality, prove that it is indeed Kiev that is – at the very least – slowing these processes down. For what Ukrainian officials are really accusing Russia of is moving faster. The reasons for this obstructionism are unclear. The Ukrainian authorities have not shared them with the public. But there are some plausible guesses.

One very likely reason why Kiev is reluctant to accept the 6,000 bodies of its own fallen soldiers is that the *“preponderant majority”* of them, according to a Ukrainian member of parliament, [were killed specifically during Ukraine's insane and predictably catastrophic incursion into Russia's Kursk region](#). Started on August 6 of last year, the operation was initially [hyped by Ukrainian propagandists and their accomplices and useful idiots in the West](#).

For the clear-eyed,
it was



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26:53





obvious from the beginning that this was a mass kamikaze mission, wasting Ukrainian lives for no military or political

Read more: Ukraine halts prisoner swap – Russian MOD advantage. Was the Zelensky regime trying to create a territorial

“bargaining chip”? Or once more *“shift the narrative,”* as if wars are won by rewriting a movie script? Influence last year’s US elections? Prepare for a possible victory by then presidential candidate Donald Trump? All of the above? We don’t know. What we do know is that nothing Kiev may have fantasized about has worked.

Indeed, by now the Kursk fiasco has only made Kiev’s situation worse. Russia has retaken the territory in Kursk Region that Ukraine had seized and is advancing on the Ukrainian side of the border, taking settlements at an accelerating pace and getting close to the major regional city of Sumy. Clearly, those fallen during that particular suicide mission are evidence of Kiev’s recklessness, hypocrisy, and incompetence. No wonder they seem to be less than welcome at home.

A second reason for Kiev’s reluctance may be even more sordid. There is speculation, for instance on social media, that it is financial. More importantly, a Russian diplomat, Sergei Ordzhonikidze, has [made the same claim on the Telegram channel of the Izvestiia newspaper](#). For according to Ukrainian legislation, the families of the fallen soldiers are entitled to substantial compensation. Painful as it may be to acknowledge it, the Zelensky regime is not incapable of such a massive lack of piety.

Whatever the precise reasons for Kiev’s odd refusal to take back its prisoners and dead, they are certain to be base. This may jar with the West’s well-organized and stubbornly delusional Zelensky fan club. But the best they could do for *“ordinary”* Ukrainians is to put

pressure on their worn-out idol to accept the prisoners and the fallen. And, of course to finally end the war.

The statements, views and opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of RT.

OPINION

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J Jōa 6/10/2025 at 6:26 AM **0**

Zelensky is not an Israeli. What is his background? Find out. He is an actor performing in a x-rated film with a producer from the EU. He does not care for the Ukrainian people or their dead. So who is he really?

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m mean stavrakas 6/10/2025 at 3:54 AM **0**

The Russian Jew who could not even speak Ukrainian, Voldemort Zelensky, is running Christian Ukraine into the ground! How many good Orthodox boys has this Jew had slain so his Tribe could STEAL & PLUNDER Ukraine of it's resources? MILLIONS!

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animalbman@aol.com 6/8/2025 at 2:27 PM **2**

Zelinski is possessed by an Israeli demon

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g gottlieb vera 6/8/2025 at 2:53 PM ↑ **0**

No, Zelinsky is 'possessed' by the US and NATO in their aim to 'conquer' Russia.

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K Keir Brown 6/9/2025 at 5:00 AM ↑ **1**

who are currently run by zionazi demons that control everyones money.

[Reply](#)

downward arrow 6/10/2025 at 2:26 AM ↑ **-**

d durward saar 6/10/2025 at 2:26 AM ↑ **1**

Zelensky IS an Israeli Demon. Khazar Jew POS.

[Reply](#)

R Ronald Mcdonald 6/8/2025 at 1:16 PM -6

Zelensky single handedly cucked russia making them look like pussia

Keep running news but Ivans know they got rear ended very badly. Lol

72 hours kyiv will fall. Gtfo here already pussians

[Reply](#)

K Keir Brown 6/9/2025 at 5:02 AM ↑ **0**

72 hours kiev will fall.. is already long disproven CIA agitprop. no one from Russia ever said that. Shame how the entire collective west got its arse handed to it in Ukraine... alof nato weapons up in smoke. But keep projecting your small minded nationalistic jingoistic ego.. its really telling :)

[Reply](#)

d durward saar 6/10/2025 at 2:16 AM ↑ **0**

That was some ignorant bs right there. Get an education and learn to speak as an adult.

[Reply](#)

V Vinnie Johns 6/9/2025 at 11:22 AM 2

Zelenski is perfectly happy to send people to their deaths so as to keep himself alive. He knows the end of this war means the gallows for him.

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Norma Mimosa 6/9/2025 at 7:44 PM ↑ **0**

Many live videos have been posted of Zelensky's SBU capturing Ukrainian men at gunpoint and dragging them off the streets to be sent to the front line.

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d durward saar 6/10/2025 at 2:14 AM ↑ **0**

He's a Khazar Jew what does he care how many

Ukrainians die? What idiots the Ukrainians are to tolerate Jews after the Holodomor. Dumb as a bag of hammers. There was a real holocaust.

[Reply](#)

L Louella Cerejo 6/9/2025 at 2:56 AM

3

It is amazing how brave you can be when someone else is doing the dying for you. It is time for the Ukrainian's around the world to tell their leaders and the West that they are not going to be their cannon fodder. If they want war they need to send their own soldiers to die for them.

[Reply](#)



Norma Mimosa 6/9/2025 at 7:50 PM ↑

0

Ukrainian refugees – the ones who fled instead of fighting against the Russians they hate so much – are fully indoctrinated.

Just in the last few weeks, I have spoken to two of them, suggesting they should be outraged against the US that initiated the war and Zelensky for using unwilling Ukrainian conscripts to be KIA, in the place of US forces, with 1.8 million Ukrainian men now KIA.

They were having none of it. Didn't know and didn't want to know. They have been filled with vicious hatred against Russians. Just as Palestinians in Gaza have been filled with vicious hatred for not only Jews but all infidels.

[Reply](#)

d durward saar 6/10/2025 at 2:12 AM ↑

0

Nice try there Mr. genocide supporter. Jews are the ones filled with hate for all mankind not just Palestinians. Try and use Ukraine to garner likes from those that don't read the whole thing. Screw Israel, shouldn't exist at all.

[Reply](#)

M Mark Shane 6/9/2025 at 10:21 PM

1

That photo shows just what this clown is

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