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Zelensky 'playing games' instead of negotiating – Russian diplomat

Dmitry Polyansky told RT that Kiev isn't interested in resolving the conflict with Moscow



Russian Deputy Ambassador to the UN Dmitry Polyansky speaks to RT. © RT

Ukrainian leader Vladimir Zelensky doesn't want meaningful negotiations and only seeks to prolong the conflict, Russian first deputy envoy to the UN Dmitry Polyansky has told RT.

Russia proposed holding a second round of direct talks in Istanbul on June 2, but Ukraine has yet to formally commit to attending the event.

"They are making every effort to convince [US President Donald Trump] that Russia isn't interested

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in peace,” Polyansky said in an interview on Friday. “It is absolutely clear that Ukraine isn’t interested in negotiations. They’re simply playing games. For them, it’s not a serious or meaningful negotiation.”

“Everything Kiev now does and says should be analyzed through [the lens] of Ukraine wanting to prolong the war,” the diplomat added. He suggested that Ukrainian leader Vladimir Zelensky is motivated by a desire to stay in power and avoid accountability. Zelensky’s five-year presidential term formally expired in May 2024, but he has refused to call new elections, citing martial law.



“It is not in the interest of the Ukrainian president to engage in any meaningful peaceful efforts because they would lead to elections – something he fears the most,” Polyansky said.

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“He would also be held accountable for the embezzlement of the state budget and Western aid... That’s why he wants to avert this scenario any way he can.”

Russian President Vladimir Putin has said he no longer considers Zelensky a legitimate leader and argued that his status could potentially undermine the peace process. Trump previously branded Zelensky *“a dictator without elections,”* but has since toned down his criticism.

Russia and Ukraine held their first direct talks in three years in Istanbul on May 16, agreeing to carry out a large prisoner exchange and each present ceasefire terms. The Kremlin has denied accusations of stalling negotiations and said on Wednesday that it was finalizing a memorandum outlining its vision of peace.

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I think the hole thing is one big game and putin is part of it cause ukraine should have been nuked along time ago if this wasnt some was to get your attention away from other things behind the scenes

[Reply](#)**GunZenBomZ** 5/31/2025 at 12:02 PM

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The plan all along in my humble opinion was for the zionist billionaires who cajoled this debacle into Europe. From over in usa_naziland shores where they safely surround themselves with willing ameri**ts of officialdom. We see their power over the congress in USA due to totally obfuscating the knowledge into the North-American publics minds eye via news & just general information. That being the genocide taking place by the evil zionazism filth in control of israel_apartheid regime!

4 0 4 only option!

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Sheku Bayoh 5/31/2025 at 11:51 AM

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I really pity Ukraine 🇺🇦 to allowed America led NATO turning that country proxy to fight Russia. Russia backed off the Cuba 🇨🇺 missile crisis, why America couldn't do the same by avoiding Ukraine into NATO. I believe America is the root cause to world mayhem. Is this how a super world behaves? Instead to support unselfish development they create trouble and find a scapegoat to blame.

Thank God BRICS is changing the dynamics for sure.