

## G7 Leaders Threaten Harsher Sanctions If Russia Refuses Ceasefire Talks

Leaders of the G7 nations, gathered in Kananaskis, Canada, have issued a unified warning to Russia, stating that additional and more severe sanctions will be imposed if Moscow fails to come to the negotiating table and agree to a ceasefire in Ukraine. The announcement comes amid growing frustration within the international community over the Kremlin's continued aggression and refusal to participate in meaningful peace talks.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has been among the most vocal proponents of escalating economic pressure on Russia. She urged fellow leaders at the summit to adopt a firmer stance, arguing that the current sanctions regime has not gone far enough to force a change in Russian behavior. According to her, the international community must demonstrate greater resolve and unity to ensure that Vladimir Putin's government cannot continue its military campaign without severe consequences.

Despite the apparent consensus among European leaders, there was notable hesitation from U.S. President Donald Trump, who cautioned that tightening sanctions too aggressively could hamper efforts to establish a ceasefire. His stance injected a degree of uncertainty into the summit's discussions, though it did not appear to derail the overall momentum toward increasing pressure on Russia. Trump emphasized that the priority should be to end hostilities on the ground before imposing new financial penalties.

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer aligned with European counterparts, supporting additional sanctions unless there is a concrete move by Russia toward diplomacy. He reiterated the UK's steadfast commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and warned that failure to act decisively would embolden not only Moscow but also other authoritarian regimes watching the conflict closely.

The summit also focused on reinforcing support for Ukraine, including discussions around increased military aid, humanitarian assistance, and post-war reconstruction planning. While diplomatic engagement remains the preferred route, the G7 made it clear that inaction would not be tolerated. The leaders agreed that if Russia continues its refusal to negotiate, further measures, including energy restrictions, asset freezes, and expanded trade barriers, would be implemented swiftly.

This warning to Russia from the G7 marks a pivotal moment in the West's approach to the conflict, signaling a possible escalation in economic warfare if peace efforts are not taken seriously. As the summit continues, the pressure now mounts on Moscow to reconsider its current path or face deepening isolation and economic hardship.