

Russia Says Committed to Ukraine Cease-Fire Talks This Week

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Flags of the European Union (L-R), Ukraine and Russia fly during the arrivals of leaders and delegations at an airport outside Minsk.

Russia is committed to holding another round of talks this week in the Belarussian capital Minsk on ending violence in eastern Ukraine, a senior Kremlin aide said Monday.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said talks could take place involving Kiev, Moscow, representatives of pro-Russian separatists and the European watchdog OSCE.

Yury Ushakov, the top foreign policy adviser to President Vladimir Putin, told reporters that Russia was ready "to do everything to have the contact group meeting take place in Minsk this week. I think this will be carried out."

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