The Moscow Times
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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Poroshenko Calls for Talks with Putin

August 11, 2016



Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has ordered Ukraine's Foreign Ministry to arrange a telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Interfax reported Thursday. The increasingly tense situation in the Crimea and Donbass regions is to provide the central talking point in the leaders' conversation.

Poroshenko also requested conversations with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President François Hollande, U.S. Vice-President Joseph Biden, and President of the European Council Donald Tusk,
the Ukrainian president's press service reported.

Poroshenko has instructed the Defence Minister, the Chief of the General Staff, the head of the State Security Service (SBU), and the Foreign Minister to meet with heads of foreign diplomatic missions in Ukraine. The meetings have been planned inform them of the current situation on and around the disputed border with Crimea and demarcation lines in Donbass, the press service said.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2016/08/11/poroshenko-calls-for-talks-with-putin-a54960