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Putin Congratulates Trump on U.S. Independence Day During Hourlong Call

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Kremlin.ru, The White House

Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President Donald Trump held a phone call Thursday, with the Kremlin describing the conversation as "businesslike and straight-to-the-point," adding that the two leaders were "on the same wavelength."

Putin first announced the call during a visit to an exhibition of Russian brands, where he told a vendor that he would "definitely suggest" Trump promote Russian products on the American market. Trump later confirmed the planned conversation on Truth Social.

The call lasted nearly an hour and covered a wide range of topics, according to Kremlin foreign policy adviser Yuri Ushakov. These included ongoing peace talks to end the war in Ukraine, Syria, the recent exchange of airstrikes between Israel and Iran, as well as a proposed "exchange" of films promoting "traditional values."

Ushakov said Putin also congratulated Trump ahead of U.S. Independence Day on July 4.

“We noted that Russia played a role in the founding of the American state, including during the War of Independence… and then during the Civil War,” he said in an audio message released by the Kremlin.

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Trump, in turn, was said to have updated Putin on his tax and spending cut bill, which is currently awaiting a vote in the U.S. Congress.

According to Ushakov, the two leaders did not discuss U.S. military aid to Ukraine, which has been partially halted in recent days, nor a possible third round of direct peace talks, which the Kremlin maintains is a bilateral matter between Ukraine and Russia.

Trump later on Thursday told reporters that he and Putin “talked about a lot of things, including the war with Iran.”

“And we also talked about, as you know, the war with Ukraine. And I’m not happy about that,” he added, saying he “didn’t make any progress” during his call with the Russian president.

Putin and Trump last spoke by phone on June 14.

Thursday’s call comes just days after Putin spoke with French President Emmanuel Macron for the first time since 2022. Macron used the call to urge Putin to agree to a ceasefire in Ukraine “as soon as possible.”

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