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# Kremlin Accuses Europe of Struggling to Decide Who Will Represent It in Future Security Talks

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Kremlin special envoy Kirill Dmitriev (left) and Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov (right). **Igor Ivanko / Pool via REUTERS**

The Kremlin accused Europe on Friday of struggling to decide who would represent it in future talks on ensuring the continent's security as part of a potential agreement to end the Ukraine war.

The U.S., Ukraine, NATO and European officials held a meeting in Brussels on Thursday dedicated to security guarantees for Kyiv and a broader European security architecture. U.S. President Donald Trump said "a big agreement" to end the war "might involve all of Europe."

Asked on Friday about what role Europe could play in future negotiations, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said it would need to ultimately be involved, but added that the European officials had so far struggled to present a unified force.

"As for any ideas from the Europeans, we have not received any. We are not aware of any," Peskov told reporters at a daily briefing.

"One way or another, the discussion will turn to the future security system in Europe when there will be talks about mutual security guarantees between Russia and Ukraine," Peskov added. "It will of course be impossible to do this without the Europeans at some stage."

However, he said, Europeans "have not even yet been able to decide who can speak on their behalf," which he suggested was a sign of "indecision and an unwillingness" to engage with Russia.

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His comments come days after Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre and Finnish President Alexander Stubb held a phone call with President Vladimir Putin to discuss ongoing talks to end the Ukraine war.

Both Finland and Norway said their leaders were speaking as representatives of their respective countries and did not speak on behalf of Europe as a whole. Still, the phone call with Putin was met with criticism from some European leaders.

Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen said she was “very skeptical” of the initiative and did not believe Russia wants peace with Ukraine or Europe.

Støre defended the phone call with Putin, saying it was important for the Russian leader to hear the views of Europeans directly rather than through intermediaries, like Trump administration officials who are working to broker a peace deal.

*Reuters contributed reporting.*

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