

How could the war in Ukraine come to an end

The nature of the conflict:

Why does Putin think that he can achieve his goals in Ukraine only by military means? What is the nature of his goals, and why are they not compatible with diplomatic means?

- Are legitimate security needs of Russia and Ukraine mutual exclusive?
- Does Putin claim control over Ukraine as a satellite state like Belarus?
- Would a membership of Ukraine in the EU be a major safety risk for Russia?
- Would this also apply to Georgia and Moldova?
- Is there a broader strategy for which the war in Ukraine is only the first step?
- Any other conflicts, for which diplomatic means would not work?

Under which circumstances would Putin negotiate the end of the war?

1. The military surrender of Ukraine (needs no negotiation, Putin can decide alone).
2. When Putin's confidence would vanish that he can reach his goals by military means, looking for a pause and a later opportunity.
3. Putin changes his political goals, which then would allow for a diplomatic solution.

Practical question to reach end of war:

Will the support for Ukraine drop, leading to criteria 1 as condition to end the war?

What support does Ukraine need to reach criteria 2 in order to achieve peace negotiations?

Any indications visible for criteria 3 to negotiate end of war?

In the light of criteria 2:

- Is the extent of support for Ukraine, which is qualified as "escalation of the war", and should therefore not be given, the same extent of support, with which criteria 2 to end the war, can be met, and should therefore be granted?
- Would Putin not consider it a significant escalation, if he would not be strong enough anymore to continue military actions against Ukraine?

Content of an acceptable peace agreement

What could be guaranties for the safety needs of Ukraine, that must be accepted in a peace treaty, to be sure, that Putin is not just looking for a pause for resuming war in the near future?

Is a membership of Ukraine in NATO a needed consequence

- for having lasting peace for Ukraine, and
- for having a stable peace order in Europe?

If the result of Putin's war would be a NATO membership of the attacked country, would this not be a good motivation not to start such a war again?