

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2025

Statement on the President's Telephone Conversation With President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of Russia

February 12, 2025

I just had a lengthy and highly productive phone call with President Vladimir Putin of Russia. We discussed Ukraine, the Middle East, energy, artificial intelligence, the power of the dollar, and various other subjects. We both reflected on the great history of our Nations, and the fact that we fought so successfully together in World War II, remembering, that Russia lost tens of millions of people, and we, likewise, lost so many.

We each talked about the strengths of our respective nations and the great benefit that we will someday have in working together. But first, as we both agreed, we want to stop the millions of deaths taking place in the war with Russia/Ukraine. President Putin even used my very strong campaign motto of "Common Sense." We both believe very strongly in it. We agreed to work together, very closely, including visiting each other's nations.

We have also agreed to have our respective teams start negotiations immediately, and we will begin by calling President Zelenskyy of Ukraine to inform him of the conversation, something which I will be doing right now. I have asked Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Director of the CIA John Ratcliffe, National Security Advisor Michael Waltz, and Ambassador and Special Envoy Steve Witkoff to lead the negotiations, which, I feel strongly, will be successful.

Millions of people have died in a war that would not have happened if I were President, but it did happen, so it must end. No more lives should be lost. I want to thank President Putin for his time and effort with respect to this call, and for the release yesterday of Marc Fogel, a wonderful man that I personally greeted last night at the White House. I believe this effort will lead to a successful conclusion, hopefully soon.

NOTE: The statement referred to Marc H. Fogel, a U.S. citizen who was arrested in August 2021 by Russian authorities, charged with carrying a small amount of medical marijuana, and released into U.S. custody on February 11.

Categories: Statements by the President : President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of Russia, telephone conversation with President.

Names: Fogel, Marc H.; Putin, Vladimir Vladimirovich; Ratcliffe, John L.; Rubio, Marco A.; Waltz, Michael G.; Witkoff, Steve; Zelenskyy, Volodymyr.

Subjects: Central Intelligence Agency; National Security Adviser; Russia, conflict in Ukraine; Russia, President; Russia, relations with U.S.; Russia, release of detained U.S. citizen; Secretary of State; U.S. Special Envoy to the Middle East; Ukraine, President; Ukraine, Russian invasion and airstrikes.

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