
WEST'S PUBLIC IMAGE TESTED IN BATTLE FOR EASTERN UKRAINE

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Jo Harper

Fears that Western leaders would put pressure on Ukraine to accept a peace deal favorable to Russian President Vladimir Putin seem to have eased after a high-profile EU visit to Kyiv and the promise of EU membership.

But how much of this is about PR management for domestic audiences in the UK, France and Germany and how much of it is substantive?

My colleagues and I came here to (Ukrainian capital) Kyiv today with a clear message: Ukraine belongs to the European family, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said at a joint press conference last week with French President Emmanuel Macron, Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Romanian President Klaus Iohannis.

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