
RUSSIA'S PUTIN SEES NO DESIRE BY UKRAINE TO STICK TO PEACE DEAL

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Russian President Vladimir Putin has said Moscow did not see any desire from Ukraine to stick to the terms of what he said had been a preliminary peace deal agreed to in March. Putin, asked about a possible meeting with Ukrainian President Zelenskyy, said Kiev had not stuck to the terms of a preliminary peace deal he said had been "practically achieved" in March. Putin, speaking to reporters in televised comments after a summit in Tehran, also said that Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates were offering to mediate. Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday said that the West must remove restrictions on exports of Russian grain. Ukraine must win its fight with Russia before winter to prevent its neighbour from bedding in long term, presidential chief of staff Andriy Yermak said.

"It is very important for us not to enter into the winter. After winter, when the Russians will have more time to get a footing, it will certainly be more difficult. It is very important for us not to give them this possibility," Yermak told Ukrainian weekly Novoye Vremya. He repeated Kiev's view that Ukraine's Western allies should supply it with more arms, and said he was counting on multibillion-dollar pledges of US aid in the form of weaponry and economic support.

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