



By: TA | AP Brief

More Ukrainians now want a negotiated end to the war with Russia, poll shows



After more than three years of war, Ukrainians are increasingly eager for a settlement that ends the fight against Russia's invasion, according to a new Gallup **poll** published Thursday — although only about a quarter of Ukrainians surveyed expect the guns to fall silent within the next 12 months.

The enthusiasm for a negotiated deal is a sharp reversal from 2022 — the year the war began — when Gallup found that about three-quarters of Ukrainians wanted to keep fighting until victory.

Now only about one-quarter hold that view, with support for continuing the war declining steadily across all regions and demographic groups.

The findings were based on samples of 1,000 or more respondents ages 15 and older living in Ukraine. Some territories under entrenched Russian control, representing about 10% of the population, were excluded from surveys conducted after 2022 due to lack of access.

Since the start of the full-scale war, Russia's relentless **pounding** of urban areas behind the front line has killed more than 12,000 Ukrainian civilians, according to the United Nations.

On the 1,000-kilometer (620-mile) front line snaking from northeast to southeast Ukraine, where tens of thousands of troops on both sides have died, Russia's bigger army is slowly **capturing** more land.

The poll came out on the eve of U.S. President Donald Trump's Friday **deadline** for Russia to stop the killing or face heavy economic sanctions.

In the new Gallup survey, conducted in early July, about 7 in 10 Ukrainians say their country should seek to negotiate a settlement as soon as possible.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy last month renewed his offer to meet with Russia's Vladimir Putin, but his overture was rebuffed as Russia sticks to its **demands**, and the sides

remain far apart.

Most Ukrainians do not expect a lasting peace anytime soon, the poll found. Only about one-quarter say it's "very" or "somewhat" likely that active fighting will end within the next 12 months, while about 7 in 10 think it's "somewhat" or "very" unlikely that active fighting will be over in the next year.

Approval of U.S. falls, approval of Germany rises

Ukrainian views of the American government have cratered over the past few years, while positive views of Germany's leadership have risen, according to Gallup.

Three years ago, about two-thirds of Ukrainians approved of U.S. leadership. That's since fallen to 16% in the latest poll, reflecting new tensions between the two countries since Trump took office in January.

Positive views of U.S. leadership were already dropping before Trump took office

But although the dip from last year was substantial — approval of U.S. leadership was 40% in 2024 — positive views of U.S. leadership were already dropping before Trump took office, perhaps related to the **antipathy** that prominent Republican politicians showed toward billions of dollars in U.S. support for Ukraine.

Germany has grown more popular among Ukrainians over the past few years, rising to 63% approval in the new poll.

Hope for NATO, EU acceptance has fallen

Ukrainians are much less optimistic that their country will be accepted into NATO or the European Union in the next decade than they

were just a few years ago.

In the new poll, about one-third of Ukrainians expect that Ukraine will be accepted into NATO within the next 10 years, while about one-quarter think it will take at least 10 years, and one-third believe it will never happen.

About half of Ukrainians now expect to be part of the EU within the next decade, down from 73% in 2022

That's down from 2022, when about two-thirds of Ukrainians thought acceptance into NATO would happen in the coming decade and only about 1 in 10 thought it would never happen.

Hope for acceptance into the EU is higher but has also fallen. About half, 52%, of Ukrainians now expect to be part of the EU within the next decade, down from 73% in 2022.