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European Languages

زبانهای اروپایی

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30.05.2025

How Donald Trump Discovers the Art of Political Negotiation

We don't understand the negotiations in Ukraine and the Middle East because we don't understand the difference between wars and civil conflicts. We approach peacemaking as if it were a matter of dividing up common property during a divorce, after a few years of living together. But wars are of unparalleled intensity and are rooted in long-standing conflicts, often spanning several generations. Generally speaking, material conditions, suffering, and violence are of secondary importance compared to injustices.

VOLTAIRE NETWORK / PARIS (FRANCE) / 27 MAY 2025



We know nothing about the content of the negotiations the Trump administration has conducted with the Yemeni Ansar Allah, and we know only a very small amount about those it is conducting with Iran, Israel, and Russia. We know nothing more than a few statements

here and there, not intended to make us understand what's happening, but rather to keep those who oppose peace at a distance and reassure those who hope for it.

Furthermore, the negotiating method of this business leader turned head of state, like Donald Trump, is dizzying. He strives to evoke incoherent positions and maintain none, simply to shake up his partners in the hope of getting their assets out of their pockets. This method, which has nothing diplomatic about it, ignores the underlying causes of conflicts. It only acknowledges what each side complains about. Ultimately, it can lead to agreements that some signatories might accept at the moment, but later regret.

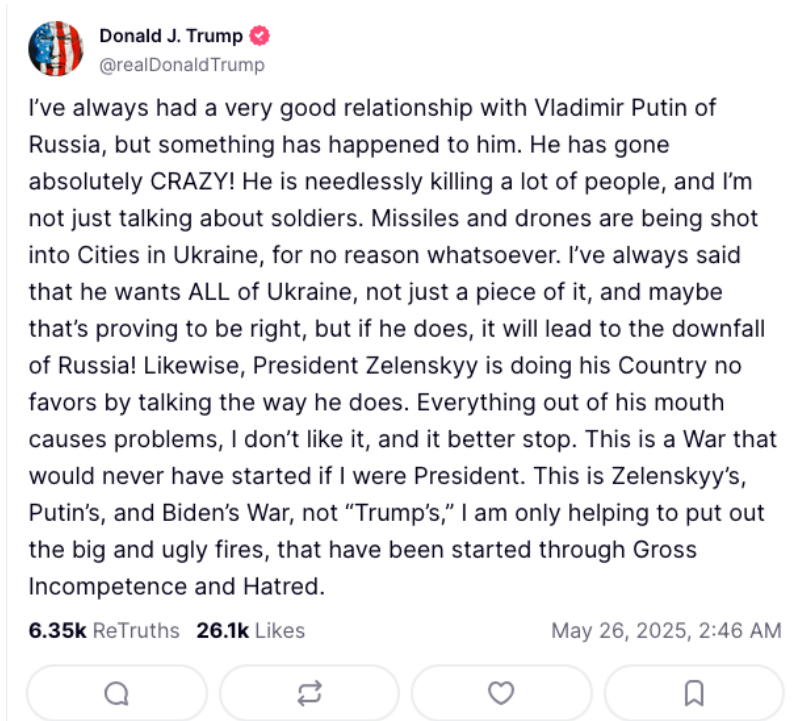
In any case, we must act quickly. The wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, even though they have diminished in intensity, continue to kill and destroy. The sensational announcements that this or that war could have been resolved in a few days have already run up against harsh realities.

True diplomats and true warriors don't aim to win over others, but to live with them. They can't get along with business leaders who want to be the best, but they can solve problems with the help of those who intend to produce what can be useful to others. Donald Trump is of this ilk.

However, the current problems are not Russian, but primarily American. This could also be the case with Palestine and Iran. Making progress on the Ukrainian conflict requires, first and foremost, not changing the Russian point of view, but addressing the unconditional support of some Westerners for the "integral nationalists," historical allies of the Nazis. It quickly became clear to the Trump team that the Russian claim to "denazify" Ukraine was not a war propaganda invention [1]. There are several hundred monuments to the glory of Reich collaborators in Ukraine, not to mention buildings and avenues bearing their names [2]. Reading the works of Dmytro Dontsov, particularly his book *Націоналізм* (Nationalism), is now mandatory in the Ukrainian armed forces; a work equivalent to Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf* (My Struggle) [3]. The most important church in Ukraine was banned because it recognizes the authority of the Patriarch of Moscow. Several million books were burned because they were written in Russian, that evil language, or because they were written by Russian authors, such as Alexander Pushkin (1799-1837) or Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910). All opposition political parties have been banned, and the current president, Volodymyr Zelensky, has banned new elections by extending the martial law that prohibits them every three months.

To address this issue, Donald Trump must give the Ukrainians something in return. He chose to question the savagery Russia displays when it is certain it is right, which it is. The Western

press chose to focus only on the passage where the US president wonders if Vladimir Putin has gone mad. But in the same post, he also denounced Volodymyr Zelensky's speech. He thus equated the Russian president's cruelty with the Ukrainian leader's bad faith. It is important to realize that while emotionally he gives the Ukrainians the upper hand, politically he gives it to the Russians.



It turns out that we belong to a civilization where emotion has replaced reason. We mourn with the fundamental nationalists, believing we share the suffering of the Ukrainians. However, in time, we will recognize the facts and turn against the fundamental nationalists we support today, or even against Ukrainians in general, because we will be ashamed of our current positions. This is the way of history: we always return to positions we can be proud of.

Vladimir Putin has already anticipated our reversal. According to him, the European Union's unilateral coercive measures will not last. We will eventually return to our former loves, when we celebrated Franco-Russian friendship. This is why he is holding back his army, whose military superiority would have allowed him to capture Odessa long ago and thus complete the reconstruction of the old Russia.

This is what's at stake now. Territorial boundaries matter little compared to relationships between people. Material issues are always secondary to individual freedom. The people living in Ukraine will have no trouble accepting the partition of their country once they are

freed from the pressure exerted on them by the fascists who massacred their great-grandparents.

Donald Trump knew nothing about the history of Russia and Ukraine, but he's learning quickly. He no longer believes the Western delusions that Moscow wants to invade Ukraine, and then the rest of Europe. Nor does he believe the delusions of Kaja Kallas and the Balts, for whom Russia is a "prison of peoples" that must be dismembered.

Similarly, Donald Trump knew nothing about the history of Israel and Iran, but he learned that the revisionist Zionists of Yitzak Shamir organized SAVAK, the political police of the Shah, Reza Pahlevi, and his Prime Minister, the Nazi General Fazlollah Zahedi, who had just left British jails after the overthrow of Mohammad Mossadegh [4]. It is difficult to admit, but yes, the terrible SAVAK was organized by Israeli Jews, "revisionist Zionists," in the service of a Nazi general [5], just as it is difficult to admit that the Ukrainian integral nationalists killed many more of their compatriots than foreign enemies. Donald Trump and his negotiator, Steve Witkoff, have understood that what is at stake in the Middle East is not military nuclear power (even if it is Israel and not Iran that has the bomb), but the second round of crimes committed by the Shah's regime with the discreet support of certain Israelis.

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Translation

Roger Lagassé

[1] "[Who are the Ukrainian integral nationalists ?](#)", by Thierry Meyssan, Translation Roger Lagassé, *Voltaire Network*, 15 November 2022.

[2] « [Nazi collaborator monuments in Ukraine](#) », Lev Golinkin, *Foward*, January 27, 2021.

[3] *Le suprémacisme blanc : Peuples autochtones et Great Reset*, Lucien Cerise, Culture et racines (2021).

[4] « SAVAK : A Feared and Pervasive Force », Richard T. Sale, *Washington Post*, May 9, 1977. *Debate : The American Failure in Iran*. Michael Ledeen, Vintage (1982).

[5] "The contradictions of modern Iran" [Part One](#), [Part Two](#), by Thierry Meyssan, Translation Roger Lagassé, *Voltaire Network*, 4 August 2020.