



South Korean protesters hold signs reading ‘Trump, apologize!’ during an anti-US rally near the US Embassy in Seoul yesterday, denouncing the detention of South Korean workers following a US immigration raid in Georgia.

PHOTO: AFP

Patience has run out with Putin

Says Trump as Kremlin declares ‘pause’ in Russia-Ukraine peace talks

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump yesterday said his patience with Russian President Vladimir Putin was running out, as the Kremlin announced a “pause” in peace talks between Russia and Ukraine.

“It’s sort of running out and running out fast,” Trump said in an interview with Fox News’ “Fox and Friends” program.

Pushing for a deal to end the fighting, Trump has engaged in a flurry of diplomacy -- including hosting Russian counterpart



AFP, in a briefing call.

“You can’t wear rose-tinted glasses and expect that the negotiation process will yield immediate results,” he added.

Meanwhile, Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk yesterday dismissed Trump’s suggestion that a Russian drone raid into Polish airspace could have been a mistake.

“We would also wish that the drone attack on Poland was a mistake. But it wasn’t. And we know it,” Tusk said on X.

In a separate development, Russia and its key ally Belarus began major joint military drills early yesterday, putting Nato on edge days after Poland accused Moscow of escalating tensions by firing attack drones through its airspace.

The “Zapad” exercises come as Russian forces grind across the sprawling front line in Ukraine and

escalate aerial attacks on Ukrainian cities.

The Russian defence ministry posted a video showing heavy military equipment -- including armoured vehicles, helicopters and navy ships -- taking part in the drills.

Russia also accused Ukraine of launching an attack drone at a nuclear power plant, as Moscow said it downed more than 200 Ukrainian drones in one of Kyiv’s largest overnight attacks.

Ukraine has for months launched retaliatory drone strikes against Russian energy sites, calling them a fair response to Moscow’s own barrages on its cities and power grid.

Russia’s nuclear power agency Rosatom said one had targeted the Smolensk nuclear power plant, around 300 kilometres (186 miles) west of Moscow.

- Poland tells Trump Russian drone raid not a ‘mistake’
- Russia, Belarus start drills as West watches warily
- Ukraine targeted nuke plant in drone barrage: Russia

Vladimir Putin in Alaska -- but Moscow has pressed on with its offensive and aerial barrages.

“Our negotiators have the opportunity to communicate through channels. But for now, it is probably more accurate to talk about a pause,” spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters, including

Rights deteriorated in N Korea in last decade

UN warns, citing ‘suffering, repression, increased fear’

AFP, Geneva

The human rights situation in North Korea has deteriorated, the UN warned yesterday in a report describing a decade of “suffering, repression, and increased fear”.

The UN first published a scathing report against North Korea in 2014 detailing a wide array of crimes against humanity, likened by the inquiry chairman to those of the Nazis, South African apartheid, and the Khmer Rouge.

Information gathered since then by the UN human rights commissioner’s office shows that the situation has not improved and “in many instances has degraded,” with increased government overreach.

“No other population is under such restrictions in today’s world,” concluded the report, which is based on hundreds of interviews.

North Korea, ruled with an iron fist for seven decades by the Kim dynasty, maintains very tight control over its population.

“If the DPRK (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea) continues on its current trajectory, the population will

be subjected to more suffering, brutal repression and fear,” warned UN rights chief Volker Türk in a statement.

The report points to an increase in the use of the death penalty, major steps backward in freedom of expression and access to information, and the expansion of “mass surveillance” systems through technological advances.

The UN also reports a rise in forced labour. Last year, it indicated that, in some cases, this could amount to slavery -- a crime against humanity.

The 2014 report had already documented forced labour among other widespread human rights abuses in North Korea, including executions, rapes, torture, deliberate starvation, and the detention of between 80,000 and 120,000 people in prison camps.

“The fate of the hundreds of thousands of disappeared persons, including abducted foreign nationals, remains unknown,” the report adds.

Information about prison camps is limited, but UN rights monitoring and satellite imagery suggest there are at least four such camps.

S Africa’s SC rules men can take wives’ surnames

AFP, Johannesburg

South Africa’s top court ruled Thursday that men should be able to take their wives’ surnames and a law that prevented this amounted to unfair gender discrimination.

The Constitutional Court said the legal ban served no legitimate government purpose and was suspended, paving the way for parliament to enact amendments to the legislation.

While men were deprived of the ability to take their wives’ surnames, the discrimination was “far more insidious” for women, the ruling said.

It “reinforces patriarchal gender norms, which prescribe how women may express their identity, and it makes this expression relational to their husband, as a governmental and cultural default,” it said.

The case was brought to court by two couples, one of which wanted to honour the woman’s parents who died when she was young. In the other case, the woman wanted to keep her ties to her family surname as she was an only child.



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Head of Corporate, Commercial & Institutional Banking

Job Grade : Deputy Managing Director (DMD)
Employment Type : Full-time

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

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- Lead the implementation of Corporate, Commercial & Institutional Banking strategy in line with BRAC Bank’s vision, mission and objectives.
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- Grow market share, client wallet share within the segment as well as grow footprint in newer avenues with clear business strategies.
- Develop medium-to-long term strategic roadmaps, factoring in macroeconomic, industry, and regulatory, sustainability, and green finance trends in Bangladesh.

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- Onboard new clients and expand business in newer avenues in line with the risk appetite of the bank.

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- Liaise with external stakeholders to ensure the bank’s compliance with regulatory frameworks and its representation in related schemes.
- Act as a business advisor who represents the division to the Board and various Sub Committees by presenting market business proposals and related divisional issues.

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- Lead process-oriented work culture to adhere with compliance and good governance practice.
- Embed ESG principles in all corporate lending and investment decisions.
- Identify risks, implement mitigation measures, strengthen internal controls, and ensure compliance and fraud prevention.
- Perform any other duties assigned by supervisor(s) from time to time.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

Qualification & Experience

- MBA or equivalent postgraduate qualification preferably in Business/Economics.
- 15+ years Corporate, Commercial & Institutional Banking experience, including a substantial period of leading a large team of relationship management.

Functional / Technical Skills

- Expertise in banking fundamentals, products, and processes; compliance and fraud prevention; credit risk and portfolio diversification; relationship management and communication; market intelligence; business analytics; and strategic planning and forecasting.
- Understanding of Trade Finance & Working Capital Solutions.
- Knowledge of Regulatory Landscape (BB, BASEL III).
- Mastery in working on MS Office & Android / Apple platforms.

Behavioural Skills

- Mastery in customer centricity, ownership & results delivery, highest order of integrity and collaboration and developing others.
- Strategic thinking & vision, crisis management & decision-making under pressure.

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If you want to take up the challenge, please send your resume to career@bracbank.com by mentioning **Head of Corporate, Commercial & Institutional Banking** in the subject-line

Only short-listed candidates will be communicated for the next stage as per the recruitment process. BRAC Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason, whatsoever.

BRAC Bank does not charge any fee at any stage of the recruitment process.

Application Deadline: September 21, 2025