

'Putin is a slave to war': Zelensky Claims Russian attacks cripple every power plant in Ukraine

AFP, Munich

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky denounced Russia's Vladimir Putin as a "slave to war" in a speech to the Munich Security Conference Saturday evening, adding that Russia's attacks had damaged every power plant in the country.

Zelensky also drew parallels between the current Russia-Ukraine talks over territorial concessions and the 1938 Munich Agreement, when Hitler forced territorial concessions from the European powers -- a year before World War II.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian drones damaged an oil depot in Russia's southern Krasnodar region and caused several fires, Russian officials said yesterday.

Zelensky was speaking days before the fourth anniversary of Moscow's invasion, which has killed hundreds of thousands, decimated eastern Ukraine and forced millions to flee.



Kyiv and its Western allies have accused Moscow of deliberately freezing Ukraine's population with its attacks on the energy grid.

"There is not a single power plant left in Ukraine that has not been damaged by Russian attacks," Zelensky said. "Not one."

"But we still generate electricity," he added, praising the thousands of workers repairing the plants.

Once again, he appealed to the West to deliver air-defence systems to Ukraine more quickly.

Of Putin, who launched the war in February 2022, Zelensky said: "He may see himself as a tsar, but in reality he is a slave to war."

Russia and Ukraine will hold US-brokered talks next week, and Zelensky said Kyiv was doing "everything" to end the war. Zelensky also met with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on the sidelines of the Munich conference.

Russia has demanded that Ukraine withdraw from its Donetsk region and wants Kyiv to recognise its claim to the swathes of Ukraine that it occupies. Ukraine has ruled out surrendering its eastern regions.



Palestinians displaced by Israeli strikes comfort each other during the funeral of several victims in southern Gaza, yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

Israeli airstrikes kill 12 Palestinians in Gaza

Tent sheltering displaced hit despite ceasefire

AFP, Gaza City

Gaza's civil defence agency reported that Israeli strikes killed at least 12 people since dawn yesterday, while a military official said the attacks were carried out in response to "violations of the ceasefire".

Despite a US-brokered truce that entered its second phase last month, violence has continued in the Palestinian territory, with Israel and Hamas trading accusations of violating the agreement.

The civil defence agency, which operates as a rescue force under Hamas authorities, said one strike hit a tent of displaced people in northern Gaza and another targeted an area in southern Gaza.

Five people were killed and several others injured when an Israeli air strike targeted a tent sheltering displaced people in Jabalia in the north, the agency said.

Five more were killed and several injured in a separate strike during the early hours in the southern city of Khan Yunis, the agency reported, adding that one more was killed in Israeli shelling in Gaza City.

The Al-Shifa and Nasser hospitals confirmed they had received the bodies of at least seven people.

A military official said Israeli forces were striking in response to Hamas violations of the ceasefire deal.

"The violation included an identification of several armed terrorists who took cover under

debris east of the yellow line and adjacent to IDF troops, likely after exiting underground infrastructure in the area," the official said.

"Crossing the yellow line in the vicinity of IDF troops, while armed, is an explicit ceasefire violation, and demonstrates how Hamas systematically violates the ceasefire agreement with intent to harm the troops," the official added.

Under the terms of the ceasefire, which took effect on October 10, Israeli troops withdrew to positions behind a so-called "Yellow Line", though they remain in control of more than half of the territory.

Gaza's health ministry says at least 601 people have been killed since the truce began.

EU top diplomat rejects Europe 'bashing' by US

AFP, Munich

EU top diplomat Kaja Kallas yesterday pushed back against Europe "bashing" by the United States, as she said Russia must be forced to make concessions in talks to end the Ukraine war.

"Contrary to what some may say, woke, decadent Europe is not facing civilisational erasure," Kallas said on the last day of the Munich Security Conference.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Saturday reassured allies by saying Washington and Europe "belong together" -- but insisted the continent must defend against mass migration to protect its "civilisation".

"The message that we heard is that America and Europe are intertwined, have been in the past and will be in the future. I think this is important," Kallas said.

"It is also clear that we don't see eye to eye in all the issues, and this will remain the case," she said.

The gathering in Munich has seen European officials insist the continent must take the lead on its defence in the face of an aggressive Russia and doubts over the reliability of the United States as President Donald Trump upends ties.

Trump's 'desire' to own Greenland persists: Danish PM

AFP, Munich

Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen said Saturday she believed US President Donald Trump still desires to own Greenland despite dialling back his recent threats to seize it by force.

Asked at a security conference in Munich if Trump still wanted to own the Arctic island, Frederiksen said: "Unfortunately, I think the desire is the same." Trump's designs on Greenland have caused tension to soar between the United States and Europe. Last month, he backed down from his threats to seize the island, an autonomous territory of ally Denmark, after striking what he called a "framework" deal with Nato Secretary General Mark Rutte.

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Cuba, Nicaragua leftists could tumble after Caracas Warns Venezuela's opposition leader Machado

AFP, Munich

Venezuelan opposition leader and Nobel peace laureate Maria Corina Machado on Saturday predicted that the leftist governments in Cuba and Nicaragua will fall once the "criminal regime" in Caracas is gone.

In early January, US special forces captured Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro and brought him to the United States to stand trial on criminal charges. His former deputy Delcy Rodriguez is now the interim leader of the country.

She has promised a sweeping amnesty for political prisoners and pushed through oil industry reforms at the behest of Washington, which has allowed her to remain in power -- provided she toes the line.

"What's taking place in Venezuela is huge in terms of the repercussions it's already having in the region," Machado, who lived in hiding for more than a year before receiving her Nobel prize in December, told the Munich Security Conference via videolink.

"Once we dismantle the regime, the criminal regime in Venezuela, Cuba will be next. Nicaragua will follow. For

the first time in history, we will have the Americas free of communism and dictatorship," Machado told the gathering in English.

Cuba, led by President Miguel Diaz-Canel, and Nicaragua, governed by Daniel Ortega and his co-president wife Rosario Murillo, are traditional allies of Venezuela.



When asked when she might return to her country, Machado said she was ready to go home, highlighting that she did not need Washington's "permission" to do so, but conceding that there would be "coordination" on such a move.

Machado gave her Nobel medal to US President Donald Trump last month when the pair met in Washington, after he sidelined her in favor of Rodriguez.

China grants visa-free entry to Canada, UK

AFP, Beijing

China confirmed that Canadian and British citizens will be able to visit the country visa-free from tomorrow, after the two countries' leaders had announced such agreements following official trips to Beijing.

British and Canadian prime ministers Keir Starmer and Mark Carney both visited Beijing in January, seeking to bolster relations with China and pivot from the increasingly mercurial United States.

Both leaders had hailed progress following meetings with top Chinese leaders such as President Xi Jinping, including on issues like visa-free access for their citizens to China.

Beijing's foreign ministry confirmed these agreements yesterday, saying Canadian and British citizens will be able to travel to China visa-free from tomorrow.

46 killed in fresh Nigeria attacks

AFP, Kano

Motorcycle-riding gunmen swept into three villages in a central region of Nigeria, shooting dead or cutting the throats of at least 46 people, a humanitarian source told AFP on Saturday.

The violence again threw the spotlight on Nigeria's efforts to contain security threats -- efforts that have been strongly criticised by US president Donald Trump.

A security report seen by AFP said the attackers had used "41 motorcycles, each carrying two or three men".

The three villages targeted by the gunmen are part of the Borgu local government area in Niger State, on the border with Kwara State, where



Most of the homes in the village

were burned down and apart from those already counted as dead, "other bodies are being recovered," the source said.

A resident of Konkoso told AFP the gunmen had first attacked the nearby village of Tungar Makeri before heading to his village.

A spokesman for Niger State police told AFP that six people had been killed in Tungar Makeri when the gunmen overran the village at around 6:00 am.

"Some houses were set on fire and an as-yet undetermined number of people were abducted," and officers were seeking information about the attacks on the other two villages, the police spokesman.

The Konkoso resident said his nephew was among those killed in Konkoso.

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1st Corrigendum e-Tender Notice

Reference No. 54.01.1500.109.07.067.25-1011 Date: 15.02.2026

The following e-Tenders have been invited in the National e-GP Portal System (<http://eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of Goods:

Sl. No.	Tender Reference No.	Tender ID No.	Procurement nature and name	Tender method	Field name	Old value	New value
1.	E-Tender/GD-1/2025-2026	1191055	Goods Procurement of Rails	OTM (ICT)	Document last selling date & time	17-February-2026 at 17:00 Hrs.	03-March-2026 at 17:00 Hrs.
					Opening date & time	18-February-2026 at 12:30 Hrs.	04-March-2026 at 12:30 Hrs.
					Closing date & time	18-February-2026 at 12:30 Hrs.	04-March-2026 at 12:30 Hrs.
					Last date & time for Tender/Proposal Security Submission	18-February-2026 at 11:00 Hrs.	04-March-2026 at 11:00 Hrs.
2.	E-Tender/GD-2/2025-2026	1200707	Goods Procurement of Sleepers & Fittings	OTM (ICT)	Document last selling date & time	17-February-2026 at 17:00 Hrs.	03-March-2026 at 17:00 Hrs.
					Opening date & time	18-February-2026 at 12:30 Hrs.	04-March-2026 at 12:30 Hrs.
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					Last date & time for Tender/Proposal Security Submission	18-February-2026 at 11:30 Hrs.	04-March-2026 at 11:30 Hrs.

N.B.: All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.

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GD-311

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Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Higher Education Acceleration and Transformation (HEAT) Project, Window 2
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh.

Ref: HEAT-12326-MBSTU-Tender Notice-1 Date: 16/02/2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) system by the SPM office, HEAT/12326-MBSTU, department of Pharmacy, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Tangail-1902 for the procurement of following item:

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of Goods/Works	Last Selling Date and Time	Closing Date and Time	Opening Date & Time
1229608	MBSTU/12326/G-4	Supply and Installation of Lab Equipment	02 March 2026 04.00 PM	3 March 2026 10.00 Am	3 March 2026 10.00 AM

This is an online tender, where, only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the national e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk.eprocure.gov.bd).

(Professor Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman Moghal)
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Department of Pharmacy
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