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Ukrainian leadership rejects ultimatum to surrender port city of Mariupol



Ukrainian has leadership flatly rejected a Russian demand for the surrender the southern port city of Mariupol by early Monday morning.

In a statement carried by the Associated Press, Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Irina Vereshchuk stated that "…There can be no talk of any surrender, laying down of arms."

Instead, Ukrainian officials called on Russia to allow residents to evacuate safely from the besieged port city. In an early morning video address, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his government was preparing to send buses to Mariupol to continue the evacuation.

Greek consul in Mariupol last EU diplomat to evacuate

In a related development, Greece's consul general in Mariupol, the last EU diplomat to evacuate, on Sunday said the city was joining the ranks of sites known for

having been destroyed in wars of the past.

Manolis Androulakis assisted scores of Greek nationals and ethnic Greeks living in the region to evacuate the ruined city since Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

He left Mariupol on Tuesday, and after a four-day trip through war-torn Ukraine, crossed into Romania through Moldava, along with another 10 Greek citizens.

Photo: euractiv