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Zelenskiy: ‘Question isn’t whether there will be negotiations, but how strong you are at negotiating table’



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy spoke on Ukrainian television today in a nationwide address, where, among others, he noted that it’s now very likely that he will not meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin.
The question is not whether there will be negotiations, but how strong you are at the negotiating table, he added.

Zelenskiy also said his government will search for possible war criminals, and contact prosecutors in other countries who will deal with them.

Meanwhile, in a sharp reply, the Kremlin said remarks by US President Joe Biden a day earlier on Monday, calling for Vladimir Putin to be tried for war crimes, was unacceptable and unworthy of a US leader.

Biden was responding to disturbing images, broadcast around the world, after the discovery over the weekend of a mass grave and bodies in civilian clothes, some

with their hands bound, in the town of Bucha, near Kiev.

Speaking to reporters on Tuesday, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said allegations that Russian forces committed war crimes by executing civilians in Bucha were a "…monstrous forgery" aimed at "denigrating" the Russian military.

Tragically, Ukraine's prosecutor general this week announced that 165 children in Ukraine have died and 266 injured since the start of the Russian invasion on Feb. 24.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew: 'This war isn't a holy and blessed war; It's an evil war, an unholy war'

In a related development, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, this week again called for an end to the warfare and for peace to be immediately imposed in Ukraine.

His All Holiness made the comment while officiating at the solemn Vespers for the Fifth Sunday of Lent, at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in the Stavrodromi district of the Bosporus metropolis.

The Ecumenical Patriarch also referred to his recent official visit to Poland, at the invitation of Polish President Andrzej Duda, where He met Ukrainian war refugees.

His All Holiness praised the authorities and the people of Poland for their warm welcome, hospitality, and the Christian love they have shown to the refugees while emphasizing:

"This war, as I said in Poland, is not a holy and blessed war, as some claim. It's an evil war, an unholy war. We have to pray that it's over as soon as possible. We pray for peace."

On his part, the Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain, His Eminence Nikitas, on Sunday responded to an invitation by the organization "Churches Together in England", and attended a mass prayer and solidarity event for Ukraine, held outside of the Ukrainian embassy in London.

The Archbishop concluded the gathering by calling for an immediate ceasefire and offering a prayer for the peace throughout the world.