



TRUMP'S COMPROMISE PEACE IN UKRAINE IS A STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITY FOR EUROPE

-

19.01.2026

Politico (19 January 2026)

Zachary Paikin

Its been more than six years since the EUs former High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell declared the bloc must learn to speak the language of power. And yet, Europes response to todays tectonic geopolitical shifts suggests little in the way of learning.

The blocs reaction to Russias full-scale invasion of Ukraine was to pursue a normative approach, which eschewed any possibility of identifying a mutually acceptable off-ramp or compromise with Moscow. The inevitable result was an increase in Europes security dependence on the U.S., deepening its vulnerability to great-power predations in a fast-changing world. And since U.S. President Donald Trumps return to the White House, Europe has only compounded this initial strategic misstep.

The bloc has shredded what remains of its normative power before building up its instruments of hard power, leaving it even more strategically isolated. Today, few are convinced Ukraines right to pursue NATO membership is a sacred part of the rules-based international order — especially when Europe is ready to play fast and loose with international law in its response to strikes on Venezuela or Iran. Its hard to argue that Greenlands future should be for Greenlanders and Danes to decide when the same standard isnt applied to the people of Gaza.

[Click for more](#)

Kaynak/Source: