

UK Considers Peacekeeping Role in Ukraine

August 21, 2025

— Categories: Defence & Security



Download IPFS

LONDON, Britain is prepared to consider sending troops to support any negotiated peace in Ukraine, the UK's Defence Minister, Jonathan Healey, stated on Wednesday.

Speaking to ITV, Healey emphasised that Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is ready to explore options for a UK military presence if a formal peace agreement is reached. "The prime minister has made clear that he's ready to consider putting UK boots on the ground in the circumstances of a negotiated peace," he said.

The announcement comes as NATO military leaders from the alliance's 32 member nations are scheduled to hold a virtual meeting to review the security situation in Europe. General Alexis Grynkewich, the head of NATO forces in Europe, is expected to provide an update on the current security environment and the progress of diplomatic efforts to secure peace in Ukraine.

Earlier this week, senior US and European military officers convened in Washington to discuss the practical arrangements for a potential Ukraine peace deal. While US President Donald Trump has ruled out sending American ground troops, officials indicated that air support could be provided if required.

Healey underlined the UK's commitment to supporting Ukraine not only to deter future Russian hostilities but also to provide assurances that the international community will remain engaged. "The UK and many other nations want to support Ukraine to try and secure long-term peace," he said.

The UK's Security Minister, Dan Jarvis, added that over 200 military planners from 30 countries have been collaborating to establish a "coalition of the willing." This group is preparing for a scenario in which a permanent ceasefire is achieved, with a multinational force led by the UK and France ready to help secure the peace.

Jarvis noted that Britain's role would extend beyond ground forces. "As Ukraine rebuilds, we can play a part in those early days in securing the skies and seas as well," he said, highlighting the UK's broader defence and logistical capabilities.

NATO officials have stressed that the alliance's presence is intended to provide stability and reassurance, ensuring that any peace agreement can be implemented and maintained effectively. The UK's involvement would align with its long-standing history of contributing to multinational peacekeeping operations and supporting post-conflict reconstruction.

While no final decisions have been made, UK officials insist that careful planning and international cooperation are essential. Healey noted that any deployment would be contingent on a formal agreement between the warring parties and would operate under strict international guidelines to avoid escalation.

The discussion over UK troops comes amid ongoing diplomatic efforts to end the conflict, which has seen significant human, economic, and infrastructural damage across Ukraine.

The potential for a multinational peacekeeping force underscores the UK government's commitment to providing practical support while avoiding direct involvement in active combat.

Observers have noted that Britain's willingness to consider a leadership role in such a mission could enhance its standing within NATO and demonstrate its ongoing commitment to European security. By participating in post-conflict stabilisation, the UK aims to support Ukrainian sovereignty while deterring future aggression.

As the situation continues to evolve, the UK remains in close consultation with NATO allies and Ukrainian officials. The proposed coalition represents a coordinated international effort, emphasising diplomacy, preparedness, and long-term stability rather than immediate military engagement.

Healey and Jarvis have stressed that the UK's potential involvement is framed by a clear objective: to assist in building a lasting peace, protect civilians, and ensure that Ukraine can begin reconstruction in a secure environment.

The UK is actively preparing for the possibility of a peacekeeping mission in Ukraine, highlighting its readiness to lead multinational forces if a ceasefire is agreed. By balancing military support with diplomatic oversight, Britain aims to contribute to a sustainable resolution while upholding international stability and security.