

Military and financial support to Ukraine: Antonio Costa convenes special European Council on 6 March

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“The European Union is ready to do whatever it takes for its security and to continue to support Ukraine,” European Council President António Costa said at the International summit on the support of Ukraine, adding that he had decided to convene a special European Council on 6 March, focusing on supporting Ukraine and strengthening Europe’s defence.

He also said that the EU is ready to increase its financial and military support to Ukraine and build Ukraine’s future within the European Union.

“Russia is a threat to the international rules-based order. Putin wants to divide us. We show here today that our support is strong, united and unchanged,”

Costa told the summit.

He added that *“only Ukraine can decide when the conditions are met to start a peace negotiation”* and that *“peace cannot be a simple ceasefire”*.

“Peace should not reward the aggressor. We need to learn the lessons from the past, from Budapest and Minsk agreements. Only concrete and strong security guarantees will ensure a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine and in Europe as a whole,” Antonio Costa said in Kyiv.