

Zelensky to European Parliament: ‘We must end this war fairly and justly’

November 20, 2024



On Tuesday, the European Parliament held an extraordinary plenary session with Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelensky, marking 1,000 days since Russia’s full-scale invasion.

Opening the session, EP President Roberta Metsola said that “*any real peace must be built on the principle of ‘nothing about Ukraine without Ukraine’.*”

In his address, President Zelensky thanked the EU for its continuing support and said that Ukraine, all of Europe and Ukraine’s partners in America and around the world had succeeded not only in “*preventing Putin from taking Ukraine*” but also in defending the freedom of all European nations.

President Zelensky also said that Russia’s war must be met with firm sanctions, especially against its so-called ‘shadow tankers’ transporting crude

oil and petroleum products. *“Putin can kill as long as these tankers operate,”* he said. *“You know very well that Putin does not value people or rules, only money and power. These are the things we must take away from him to restore peace.”*

“No one can enjoy calm water amid the storm. We must do everything we can to end this war fairly and justly. 1000 days of war is a tremendous challenge. We must make the next year the year of peace,” President Zelenskyy concluded.

The majority of political group leaders reaffirmed their firm support for Ukraine, calling on the EU’s leadership to deliver the necessary arms for Ukraine to win the war, including air defence systems, long-range missiles, tanks and drones.

Closing the session, President Metsola announced that the Ukrainian flag would fly alongside the EU one at the Parliament’s buildings in Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg.