



## Zelensky Campaigns in PA: FOREIGN INFLUENCE?

*This transcript may not be 100% accurate due to audio quality or other factors.*

**Glenn Greenwald (GG):** All right. So earlier today in Pennsylvania, which is one of the most important swing states that will determine the 2024 election, the Democratic governor of that state, Josh Shapiro, was visited by the Ukrainian president – I guess you could say, for life at the moment – Volodymyr Zelensky. Remember, all elections in Ukraine are cancelled indefinitely, at least until the war is over, which doesn't seem to be happening any time soon. So Zelensky is there, doesn't matter how unpopular he is, there's no elections, you can't vote him out of office. And here is Josh Shapiro in Pennsylvania, welcoming Zelensky to that state. And here is what he tweeted, quote: "We all must do our part in this fight for freedom from – the workers in Scranton who make Pennsylvania the arsenal of democracy to the brave Ukrainian soldiers protecting their country. We stand with Ukraine in their just defence of their homeland in the face of Russian aggression". Now, again, imagine yourself as a neocon, somebody whose top foreign policy agenda is supporting Israel, which Josh Shapiro very aggressively does. And who wants to keep wars going endlessly, the posture of this war. When you have Josh Shapiro using the neocon rhetoric, the classic neocon rhetoric, we have to spread democracy and protect democracy by building weapons, sending weapons anywhere, this is the identity of the United States, is it any wonder why those kinds of people feel so comfortable in the Democratic Party?! Here was Josh Shapiro at a factory, a weapons factory with President Zelensky in Pennsylvania, in which Josh Shapiro signed one of the weapons that they intend to give to Ukraine to bomb the Russian army with.

There you see President Zelensky standing behind him, smiling as the Democratic Party continues to do the bidding of Ukraine. And who knows what message he wrote, I'm sure we'll find out. I think the whole practice of signing weapons that are designed to kill people is pretty psychotic, although it's very common. Nikki Haley went to Israel and signed all sorts of things on the missiles that are used to destroy Gaza and kill all sorts of Gazan civilians. Now, this whole rhetoric about Ukraine and as fanatical as the Democratic Party has been about fuelling it and much of the Republican Party, Europe is even worse. The British in particular, who are always just the most sociopathic when it comes to war, they have a national identity crisis, a sort of inferiority complex from having crumbled in their empire and being this little tiny, irrelevant country. But they're also desperate to be the new

Churchill. So they just constantly give these pompous speeches about the glories of war. They actually want to provide the Ukrainians with long range missiles and then have NATO use them to guide those missiles to hit targets deep into Russia. And the French seem to want that, too. So far, Biden hasn't given them that. But the pattern has always been that every time there's a limit of things we want to, send tanks or send fighter jets, every time there's been a limit, the United States has announced that they're now going beyond that. And this is following that pattern where they issued these trial balloons of what the United States is going to do, wait a while, see what happens, and then the momentum grows and then Biden says the US is now going to do it. And all of that's happening, this kind of escalated rhetoric about winning the war in Ukraine, giving more to the Ukrainians exactly at the same time that people in the region, the people who should care most about the war in Ukraine and about Russia, including some of the most fervent and vocal supporters of Ukraine all this time are now admitting publicly that there's no way Ukraine can win this war, that it's time to start being realistic about what needs to be done to end this war. And that means a lot of their most vocal supporters say conceding certain Ukrainian territory to Russia. Otherwise, all of Ukraine is going to be destroyed. Here from The New York Times earlier today reporting on one of the most surprising statements of this kind: *Ukraine Needs to Be Realistic About Its Goals, Czech President Says*. Quote, "President Petr Pavel, a former NATO general who has been vocal in his support for Ukraine, said Kiev needed to accept that some territory could remain under Russian control, at least temporarily." Quote, "With Russia-friendly populist leaders such as Prime Minister Viktor Orban of Hungary disrupting European unity over the war and with the fatigue of 19 months of conflict, quote, 'growing everywhere', Ukraine, quote, 'will have to be realistic' about its prospects of recovering territory occupied by Russia, Mr. Pavel said in an interview." Quote, 'The most probable outcome of the war', he said, 'will that a part of Ukrainian territory will be under Russian occupation temporarily'. But he added that, quote, 'temporary thing', could last years".

It has been so clear for so long that Ukraine has no chance to win this war. Just the gap in soldiers alone makes that inevitable. And there's all sorts of military advances that have been happening in Ukraine that all favour Russia. You can just look at a map and it may be slow, but it's very clear that the Russian army has continued to expand westward from the eastern part of Ukraine, where there's been a war of separatism or a civil war by pro-Russian forces in the Donbass. And they're starting to expand westward inexorably and continuously as the Ukrainian front line crumbles. To the point where they're soon going to have Ukrainian soldiers encircled. And the reason this is so dangerous is because the West made absolute guarantees that there was no way they would ever allow Russia to win the war. And the problem is the way they defined victory, which is expelling every Russian troop from every inch of Ukrainian soil, including Crimea, is one that will never, ever happen. And so as the US and NATO gets closer, they are closer to clear humiliation, if Russia ends up with even a single inch of Ukrainian territory, that will mean the US and NATO will have lost the war and Russia will have won, they seemingly get even more desperate in talking about being willing to greenlight certain kinds of escalation that could be a genuine risk of real escalation between both sides. Now, it is so ironic, I have to say, that probably the number one grievance of the Democratic Party since 2016 has been the evils of having Russia interfere in

our sacred democracy, that our democracy is imperilled, that are foreigners, dirty foreigners get to have some sort of say in our elections, get to influence its outcomes. And here is President Zelensky on American soil six weeks before an election making it extremely clear that he believes the Democrats and Kamala Harris are better for the Ukrainian cause than Donald Trump is; campaigning for the Democratic Party, invited to American soil in a swing state to campaign for the Democratic Party. The Ukrainian leader is in the United States doing that at the behest of the Democrats, who have spent eight years endlessly aggrieved about the evils of foreign influence. And it's not the first time the Ukrainian government has tried to interfere in the election in order to help the Democrats. People have forgotten, given what turned out to be the false narrative that the Russians were working with the Trump campaign to ensure Donald Trump won, it was the Ukrainians who engaged in efforts at least as extensive, if not more so, than the Russians to control and manipulate the outcome of the 2016 election, although they wanted Hillary Clinton to win because they knew Hillary Clinton was a steadfast anti-Russian hawk, it would help the Ukrainians in every way they want. Remember, it was Hillary Clinton for whom Victoria Nuland worked. And when Hillary Clinton left the Obama administration and wrote a book, the only places where she criticised Obama were the places where she said that Obama had failed sufficiently to confront Russia, including in Syria and Ukraine. She wanted far more aggressive pro-Ukrainian and anti-Russian efforts, just like Victoria Nuland wanted. And so, of course, the Ukrainians wanted Hillary Clinton to win. And Ukraine is just as much of a foreign country as Russia is. And they didn't just want Hillary Clinton to win from kind of a sideline, they took active steps to help Hillary Clinton defeat Trump, in part because they were so sure, like so many people, that Hillary Clinton would win. And then when Trump won, as Politico reported in January of 2017, so just a few days before Trump was inaugurated, there you see the headline: *Ukrainian Efforts to Sabotage Trump Backfire*. This has been completely memory holed. I think if you ask Americans if they remember or know that Ukraine interfered in our election in 2016 to try and help defeat Trump and help Hillary Clinton win, the number of people who know this or remember it is exceptionally low. But it was well documented. Quote, "Donald Trump wasn't the only presidential candidate whose campaign was boosted by officials of a former Soviet bloc country. Ukrainian government officials tried to help Hillary Clinton and undermine Trump by publicly questioning his fitness for office. They also disseminated documents implicating a top Trump aide in corruption and suggested that they were investigating the matter only to back away after the election. And they helped Clinton's allies researching damaging information on Trump and his advisers, a Politico investigation found."

It's really amazing. It wasn't just Russia that the Clinton campaign accused of interfering this way, it was also WikiLeaks, to this day. That's the argument about WikiLeaks. WikiLeaks interfered corruptly in our election by publishing documents that were derogatory to the Hillary Clinton campaign. And here is the Ukrainian government at the behest of the Democratic Party, publishing all sorts of documents to try and dirty Trump and his advisers with the explicit goal of helping Hillary Clinton win the election. And now, just eight years later, here we have President Zelensky on American soil at a clear campaign event in Pennsylvania with Josh Shapiro, who almost got chosen as Kamala Harris as vice president,

campaigning on the ground that the Democrats are much better for the war in Ukraine than Donald Trump is. It's, again, the sort of thing that is a very illustrative reflection of what Kamala Harris and the Democratic Party are going to do and are going to be in the event that she wins in the election held in just about six weeks.

Thanks for watching this clip from System Update, our live show that airs every Monday through Friday at 7 p.m. Eastern exclusively on Rumble. You can catch the full nightly shows live or view the backlog of episodes for free on our Rumble page. You can also find full episodes the morning after they air across all major podcasting platforms, including Spotify and Apple. All the information you need is linked below. We hope to see you there.

**END**

---

**Thank you for reading this transcript. Please don't forget to donate to support our independent and non-profit journalism:**

**BANKKONTO:**

Kontoinhaber: acTVism München e.V.  
Bank: GLS Bank  
IBAN: DE89430609678224073600  
BIC: GENODEM1GLS

**PAYPAL:**

E-Mail: [PayPal@acTVism.org](mailto:PayPal@acTVism.org)

**PATREON:**

<https://www.patreon.com/acTVism>

**BETTERPLACE:**

Link: [Click here](#)

The acTVism Munich e.V. association is a non-profit organization with legal capacity. The association pursues exclusively and directly non-profit and charitable purposes. Donations from Germany are tax-deductible. If you require a donation receipt, please send us an e-mail to: [info@acTVism.org](mailto:info@acTVism.org)