

Proposal: MANDATORY PEACE SETTLEMENT PLAN MEETING/S AT UN IN RESPONSE TO WAR.

Motivation: The war in Ukraine shows us how dangerous war in a world armed with nuclear weapons is. It has become a proxy war between the West and Russia. The West and Ukraine have decided they are “fighting to win” and Ukraine is unwilling to make any compromise over its territory or to guarantee that Ukraine will not join NATO. Along with the hardline attitude on both sides of this conflict is the increasingly promulgated doctrine that Russia has no legitimate security concerns regarding Ukraine and NATO. The reality is that both Russia and Ukraine have legitimate security concerns which need to be accommodated in a peace settlement. This is the case in spite of the recognition that Putin's Russia is the invader and initiator of the war.

Neither side in the war would be willing to accept defeat. That makes the war very dangerous and raises the likelihood nuclear weapons would be used in the end. It is generally recognised that, in today's world, any use of nuclear weapons spirals out of control into a global nuclear war. It is therefore no longer tenable that wars can be fought to their conclusion with a victor and a defeated loser.

PROPOSAL: After a specified time since the beginning of a war (eg 1 month) a mandatory meeting/s would be held at the UN (perhaps of the General Assembly) at which the terms of a peace settlement or several alternative peace settlements would be mapped out, preferably in consultation with the warring parties but if necessary without them. The peace settlement plan/s would then be presented to a mandatory meeting at the UN of the warring parties and the General Assembly, discussed and voted on. If the warring parties didn't attend the peace plan/s would still be discussed and voted on.

No veto would be allowed from any member of the Security Council, as the meeting/s would be held in the General Assembly.

Justification: extreme pressure would come on the warring parties to reach a peace settlement along the lines of the UN agreed settlements, which would have the authority of world wide opinion.