

Trump Tells Israel to 'Finish the Job' as Ceasefire Talks Collapse

President Donald Trump pulled back U.S. negotiators from the Gaza ceasefire talks last week, declaring Hamas unfit to negotiate in good faith and calling for Israel to “finish the job” against the terrorist group.

“I think they want to die, and it’s very, very bad,” Trump said Friday before departing for Scotland. “It got to be to a point where you’re gonna have to finish the job.”

The president’s remarks reflect a growing frustration with Hamas and a shift in tone as the U.S. reconsiders its strategy in facilitating peace efforts. According to Trump’s Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff, the administration is now exploring “alternative options” to secure the release of the remaining hostages held by Hamas.

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Despite international backlash over Israel’s military campaign, Trump reiterated his support for the Jewish state’s right to self-defense.

“They’re gonna have to fight and they’re gonna have to clean it up. You’re gonna have to get rid of ’em,” Trump said, referencing Israel’s military efforts to root out Hamas terrorists entrenched in Gaza.



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Trump placed blame for the breakdown in talks squarely on

Hamas, which has been accused of delaying negotiations and exploiting humanitarian concerns. "Now we're down to the final hostages, and they know what happens after you get the final hostages," Trump explained. "Basically, because of that, they really didn't want to make a deal."

While Egypt and Qatar continue to express optimism, Israeli officials confirmed that negotiations have not collapsed but acknowledged Hamas remains detached from reality. One senior Israeli official told CNN that Israel hopes Hamas will "reconnect itself to reality" and engage more constructively.

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State Department spokeswoman Tammy Bruce backed the administration's approach, saying, "Clearly there are many tools in President Trump's tool chest, many options that Special Envoy Witkoff has. They are very smart, adept individuals who know the players. And I expect that we'll have some success."

Trump also pushed back against criticism that the U.S. has not done enough to help civilians caught in the crossfire. "We contributed \$60 million to food and supplies and everything else," Trump said. "We hope the money gets there, because you know, that money gets taken. The food gets taken. We're going to do more, but we gave a lot of money."

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As pressure mounts from European leaders, most notably from British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and French President Emmanuel Macron, Trump has remained resolute in his commitment to Israel's security and the eradication of Hamas. Macron's announcement that France will recognize a Palestinian state in September was condemned by U.S. Secretary of State Marco

Rubio, who called the move “a slap in the face to the victims of October 7th.”

While other Western leaders waver, Trump’s position remains clear: Hamas must be held accountable, Israel must be supported and any solution must ensure the terror group never again poses a threat to Israeli citizens.

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