

fastFT Ukraine

Ukraine's foreign minister welcomes Trump's tough tweet on Russia

Roman Olearchyk YESTERDAY

Ukraine's foreign minister welcomed the prospect of the US taking a tougher stance against Russia, which has presided over years of destabilising activities in the eastern European country.

US President Donald Trump's [stern Wednesday warning](#) with a [morning tweet](#) mocking Russia's threat to shoot down US missiles fired at Syria by saying "get ready Russia, because they will be coming" raised eyebrows and worry across the globe.

But the firmer tone was welcomed in Ukraine, which has faced the brunt of Russia's hybrid warfare might in past years and with daily fighting in far eastern regions smouldering four years after the 2014 Crimea invasion.

Pavlo Klimkin, Ukraine's foreign minister, retweeted Trump's now notorious tweet which triggered the Russian rouble to dive, [adding in Ukrainian](#):

"As a rule, I do not retweet, but here I could not resist."

"It is in such a language that we must speak with Russia," Mr Klimkin added.

Mr Klimkin's words follow years of frustration in Kiev, which has repeatedly urged western leaders to increase costs upon Russia through deeper sanctions in retaliation for its destabilising activities in Ukraine and Syria, as well as its alleged election meddling in US and EU countries.

Kiev's pro-western leadership and its Western backers accuse Russia of not upholding its commitment through the so-called Minsk peace talks to forge a lasting ceasefire and settlement to a war in eastern regions that has claimed more than 10,000 lives.

[Copyright](#) The Financial Times Limited 2018. All rights reserved.

Comments have not been enabled for this article.

