

**Text of the letter from the Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic, Robert Fico,
sent to the President of the European Council, António Costa,
on 10 December 2025**

Dear President of the European Council, dear António,

in order to avoid any misunderstandings or doubts, allow me to take this opportunity to express my views on the European Commission's recent proposals to secure Ukraine's financial needs for 2026-27, including the use of frozen Russian assets.

I have long and unequivocally expressed my position on the military conflict in Ukraine. There is no military solution to this conflict, the European Union's strategy towards the conflict is wrong and ineffective, and the continuation of the war is nothing but senseless killing without strengthening Ukraine's position in potential peace negotiations. That is why I repeatedly express my strong support for all peace initiatives, in particular the efforts of President Donald Trump in recent weeks to end the unnecessary bloodshed.

Mr. President,

without commenting on the advantages, disadvantages, or risks of the individual solutions proposed by the European Commission, I would like to state very clearly that **at the upcoming European Council I am not in the position to support any solution to Ukraine's financial needs that would include covering Ukraine's military expenses for the coming years.** I am not looking for any excuses, financial or legal, nor am I making excuses about the risks associated with the use of frozen Russian assets, nor about the fact that Slovakia's current difficult financial situation does not allow us to participate in the European Commission's plans to cover Ukraine's military expenses.

The policy of peace that I consistently advocate prevents me from voting in favor of prolonging military conflict, because providing tens of billions of euros for military spending is prolonging the war. Not to mention the fact that the use of frozen Russian assets could directly jeopardize US peace efforts, which directly count on the use of these resources for the reconstruction of Ukraine. You will certainly remember that I spoke openly about this risk at our informal meeting in Angola. And not to mention the information we jointly share about corruption scandals in Ukraine.

Mr. President,

the Slovak government is a solid and solidarity-minded actor. We are helping Ukraine in many areas in the humanitarian field. We supply them with electricity and even gas through reverse flow, even though it was the Ukrainian political leadership that caused us

significant financial damage by deciding to stop gas transit through the territory of Ukraine. We are working on a new energy interconnection, a direct rail link, repairs of border crossings, and there are nearly 200,000 Ukrainian citizens on our territory who have fled the war. We are organizing joint government meetings, sending humanitarian aid, and we are prepared to continue in this way at the bilateral level. We are clear supporters of Ukraine's accession to the European Union, although you must admit that there are some EU member states that, on the one hand, support the war, but on the other hand, are increasingly voicing serious reservations about Ukraine's early membership in the European Union.

Dear Mr. President, dear António,

I take note of your statement from Angola that the European Council meeting may take a long time. By formulating clear positions, I want to rule out any misunderstanding or misguided expectation that the length of the Council meeting in Brussels may change my position. I cannot, and will not under any pressure, endorse any solution to support Ukraine's military expenditures in which the Slovak Republic would participate. At the same time, I respect the sovereign right of each Member State of the European Union to adopt a different solution on a voluntary basis.

Yours respectfully,

Robert Fico