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## ZELENSKY HOPES US WILL 'STAND STRONG' IN FACE OF RUSSIAN DEMANDS

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Jeremy Bowen, Ian Aikman

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has said he hopes the US will "stand strong" in the face of Russian demands to lift sanctions as a condition for a ceasefire in the Black Sea.

Moscow said a maritime truce announced on Tuesday to allow safe passage for commercial vessels would only begin once Western restrictions on Russia's food and fertiliser trade had been lifted.

Zelensky was speaking during a panel interview in Paris with journalists from across Europe.

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