

Macron to make first foray into Ukraine conflict peace talks

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Poroshenko and Macron's first meeting on June 26, 2017

By **AFP** as published in France's The Local, July 22, 2017 The leaders of Ukraine, Russia, France and Germany will hold telephone talks on Monday, officials said, amid a fresh flare up in fighting in eastern Ukraine between government troops and Russian-backed rebels. Washington also announced on Friday that its new special envoy for negotiations to end the more than three years of fighting, Kurt Volker, will travel to Ukraine and Europe for talks. The flurry of diplomatic activity follows a fresh clashes in eastern Ukraine which has claimed the lives of 11 Ukrainian troops over the past few days, the most serious surge in bloodshed in recent months. The diplomatic phone talks on Ukraine are also the first since French President Emmanuel Macron took office. "I will demand the immediate and genuine provision of a ceasefire along the entire frontline," Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said on Friday. [...]
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