

Ash on U.S. - Russia meeting on Ukraine **Ukraine**

Posted by:

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The evidence suggests that Russia is getting impatient to find a new mechanism to replace the Minsk process. There is wide consensus that Minsk is dead but no agreement yet on another vehicle to move the situation in a positive direction acceptable to Ukraine.

LONDON, Aug 7, 2017 (UBO) – Responding to an Interfax article concerning a possible meeting of the Kremlin’s main man on Ukraine, Vladislav Surkov, and Special Representative of the U.S. Department of State for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker, Bluebay Asset Management analyst Timothy Ash offered the following comments at 10:06 today: The Russians have been desperate for the Volker-Surkov meeting to happen ASAP = Volker seems to have played hard to get, spending a lot of time in Ukraine "getting up to speed", the great irritation of Moscow. How does it go: "treat them mean, keep them keen"? Basically Moscow has had enough of the Minsk process, and talking with the Europeans; its ideal scenario all along has been a Great Power get together, with the Americans to sort all the world’s problems out, and to deal. The Volker-Surkov process is all part of this, albeit I doubt Volker has been given the same remit.

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