

# TSAKHIAGIYN ELBEGDORJ

Former President of Mongolia

**Terry Martin, Journalist, TV news anchor**

Enough introductions, keeping with the WPC format, we will hear some introductory remarks from each of our panelists and then we will get the discussion going, hopefully integrating some input from the floor. As we are discussing up here, please reflect on any questions you might have, and I hope to bring you in during the last third of the session. Without further ado, let us get going with our opening remarks.

**Tsakhiagiyn Elbegdorj, former President of Mongolia**

Thank you very much. First, I would like to thank Thierry de Montbrial and his wonderful team, and also the people in the government of the UAE for hosting us and giving us this opportunity for this really timely and informative gathering of the world community and experts. I am learning a lot.

I think Ukraine has been conducting a textbook example of diplomacy since the Russian aggression and I am one of the concerned global citizens, in particular, from the Global South. Now this Ukrainian conflict is coming to a new stage, where it is fading away a bit from the front page because of the new conflict and war and because of that I think Ukraine should do more. Everything depends on Ukraine, first of all the population shall have the final say in this war because they are suffering a lot and the one thing we have to think about is what Ukrainians are really saying.

Before that, I would like to say that in relation to Ukraine I am involved quite deeply in three issues. One is environmental damage – I am the youngest among The Elders, a group which was founded by Nelson Mandela and others. We have visited Ukraine several times and met Ukrainian leaders. Therefore we are currently at war the environmental damage, the crime of aggression and the terror mission.

When it comes to what Ukrainians are talking about, I think last year in November 2022, the Ukrainian President Zelenskyy introduced his peace formula and you can see they have 10 issues but the first five can be discussed now, still they are being discussed in Jeddah, in Malta. The first issue of those five is nuclear safety. They are talking about the Zaporizhzhia issue and power plant. Of course, the second issue is food security, which we can talk about. The main players in the world community should pay more attention to that. The third issue is energy security. Almost half of Ukraine's powerplants have been damaged so they want to repair them, which is an issue we are working on very closely. Fourth is the prevention of ecocide. Because of the destruction of the Kakhovka Dam, and what happened afterwards, there has been a lot of environmental damage. There is also an issue with mines. We are working very closely on that and there are other interested parties who are following it very closely. Fifth is the release of prisoners and parties including children, which is something that should happen and we need to talk about.



The second half of those 10 issues are related to Ukraine's territorial integrity and the withdrawal of Russian troops, a special tribunal, the security structure and confirmation of the end of the war, including signing a document. This is Ukraine's peace formula. President Zelenskyy has raised the issue of having a peace summit in Ukraine and they are conducting international diplomacy on that. I will stop here.

**Terry Martin**

Thank you very much. I am very glad you mentioned the 10-point peace plan from Ukraine because that represents Ukraine's perspective. We do not have a representative of Ukraine on our panel and it is extremely important that we include Ukraine's perspective in our discussions today. We did hear from their Foreign Minister yesterday and I am sure his words are still echoing in this room.