

Send for Agent BoJo! Boris Johnson Dispatched to Texas to Shore Up Republican Support for Ukraine

Former UK prime minister takes his message to US heartlands, as skepticism simmers in run-up to 2024 election.

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Britain might have fallen out of love with Boris Johnson. But Ukraine's allies in the U.S. reckon the charismatic ex-prime minister is still the perfect messenger to shore up support for the war in wavering Republican heartlands.

Pro-Ukraine think tankers on Monday brought Johnson to a private lunch in Dallas, Texas, to meet two dozen of the state's leading conservative figures, including politicians, donors and captains of industry.

The message Johnson was there to deliver was simple: America must stay the course in Ukraine.

"I just urge you all to stick with it," Johnson told those seated in the grand, wood-panelled dining room in downtown Dallas, where POLITICO was also in attendance. "It will pay off massively in the long run."

The former U.K. prime minister flew to Texas as a growing number of conservative lawmakers, candidates and activists have [started to question](#) the size of the U.S. support package for Ukraine as it attempts to fight back against the invasion launched by Russian President Vladimir Putin in February 2022.

Political tensions over the war are expected to rise further as the 2024 U.S. election draws nearer.

The two most high-profile potential candidates for the Republican nomination — former President Donald Trump and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis — have both voiced skepticism

about America's unwavering support for Ukraine. Trump has pledged to cut a "deal" to "end that war in one day," while DeSantis [dismissed it](#) as a "territorial dispute" which does not involve America's "vital national interests" — though later partially backtracked.

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