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## Ukrainians in the German sphere of influence



German Chancellor Friedrich Merz spoke at the [Ukraine Recovery Conference](#) in Rome on Thur. about a [Ukrainian economic miracle](#) and said that one of the most successful post-war reconstructions in history was that of Western Europe after WWII. People still remember the *Wirtschaftswunder*, the miracle of the German economy, he said, and some of the same recipes can be applied now. An hour or so later, Czech Pres. Petr Pavel told a [thinned-out crowd](#) that we need a [broader political coalition](#), one that brings together the EU and its member states with democratic partners such as the U.S., U.K., Canada, Japan and others. "It is necessary to move from fragmented coordination to real governance with a [decision-making center](#) capable of setting priorities, managing resources, and ensuring delivery and oversight." He didn't say specifically that this decision-making center should be in Germany, but his comments came one day after he said in [Die Welt](#) that "[Germany can truly play a leadership role](#)."

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