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(Current Affairs)

Q2: How do you see the chances of success of US-Russia negotiations on Ukraine? critically evaluate the hurdles and give practical recommendation to end the dangerous war.

(i) **Where negotiations stand (Aug 21, 2025)**

→ Russia has floated terms that exclude an initial ceasefire and press for limits on Ukraine's alignment (e.g. no NATO).
Implying territorial de-facto recognition.

→ The US **Seem like notes** could enable a Europe-US **Open with introduction and give headings** (ISR command - defense air support) short of ground forces tied to a ceasefire monitoring game work

→ Europeans are organizing options internal divisions and US politics complicate coherence

→ Front lines remain active;

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neither side has decisive momentum
casualty attrition continues

(ii) Probabilistic assessment:-

Near-term success (0-6 months)

~~low - even in competitive, least~~
deficit verification gaps: both
sides still have military utility

Don't interpret duration but chances

Medium-term (6-18 months)

~~low to moderate if:~~ (a) monitored
ceasefire with snap-back penalties
(b) credible European-led security
guarantees with US enablers
(c) domestic politics on all
sides can absorb compromise

(iii) The hard hurdles (why talks stall)

(i) Clashing war aims:-

Moscow: durable buffer, limits
on Ukraine's alliances, de-facto
territorial gains: resists
front-end ceasefire
U.S./E.U. Kyiv: Sovereignty, deterrence
accountability and guarantees no
second word for aggression

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1: **Security guarantees design:-**
 who provides forces, what triggers and how verification works (airspace ISR, no-fly enforcement)

3: **Domestic Politics:-**

US debates on aid / sanctions
 EU cohesion & Russia's regime security calculus

4: **Battlefield incentives:-**

each side hopes for better map tomorrow; ceasefire without settlement

5: **Justice / sanction linkages:-**

accountability vs amnesties,
 phased sanctions

Increase content under headings

(iv) **Practical recommendations (actionable, not aspirational)**

1: **Phase-gated ceasefire proposal:**

30-day renewable truce tied to verifiable matters (guns, silent rates, IAS flight logs, artillery counter-battery data) with automatic snap-back sanctions for violations.

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2: EU-led Security mission with
US enablers:

persistent ISR, fused C₂ air
policing no-fly enforcement
over agreed corridors; no
allied ground combat units
inside front line zones initially.

3: Demilitarized buffer &
demining surge:

narrow, tech-monitored DMZ
joint humanitarian demining
with protected corridors.

4: Prisoners labductees first:

Immediate all-for-all POW
swap and ICRC access -
front load humanitarian
aids to build momentum.

5: Nuclear & Energy safety
package:

Fortified IAEA presence at
Zaporizhzhia; protected
Black Sea shipping corridors

6: Arms-control Pilot:

reciprocal limits on long-
range strike in defined zones;
notification windows for
large scale exercises near
the line.

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1:

Single-text diplomacy:

on draft both sides mark up with built in sequencing and verification clauses - avoid fueling narratives

8:

Communication discipline:

Align public lines to prevent domestic backlash - independent fact-checking cell to assess violation credibly

"The power to hurt is bargaining power. To exploit it is diplomacy vicious diplomacy; but diplomacy"

Don't raise a question

(v)

Why this might (eventually) work - if ripeness arrives:

Negotiations typically move only when both sides perceive a mutually hurting stalemate and a credible "way out"

Today, battle field attrition and sanction threats are mounting Europe is preparing a security architecture and Washington signals enabler support - but Moscow's current stance rejects a

General instructions to get good marks in current affairs paper

Kindly look into the suggestion to improve

Important Note:

Marks would be given on the following parameters

a- Content 60% References 15%

Subject specific language 15%.

Graphs and charts 10%

Add 12-13 headings in each question

the questions carry 3_4 parts... each part has equal weightage so discuss all equally

Give examples from present events to justify answers

Give attractive introduction and Conclusion as well

always give headings from the question statement.. take words from the statement

link each of the argument to the asked part in the question... if you fail to do so, no matter how accurate content is, if your heading is not align with what is asked in the question, it won't be accurate

Good Luck