

Putin ‘losing’ war in Ukraine, forcing annexation referendum to secure ‘political victory,’ Keane says

Keane says forced annexation referendums in Ukraine are a ‘sham’

Russian President Vladimir Putin is aware he’s “losing this war” against Ukraine and is forcing an annexation referendum vote to score a “political victory” with the Russian people, according to retired four-star Army Gen. Jack Keane.

“He’s got to conclude that at least right now he’s losing this war. And this is an attempt to obtain a political victory largely for his own domestic audience, that they have gobbled up this increased terrain in four different regions in Ukraine,” Keane, Fox News’ senior strategic analyst, told “Fox News Sunday” anchor Shannon Bream of the forced annexation votes taking place.

Occupying forces in the Ukrainian regions of Luhansk, Donesk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson began voting last week on whether Ukrainians in the areas will decide to secede from Ukraine and join Russia. The referendums have been described as a “sham” by Western nations, and Ukrainian officials on the ground described armed Russian forces are coercing residents to vote.

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