



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

September 12 - 18

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-SEPTEMBER-

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International support

- 12.09**
- German ambassador Anka Feldhusen reports that **Germany** is planning to supply two IRIS-T anti-aircraft warfare systems by the end of this year and another two at the beginning of the next one. "I am happy that we're giving four such systems. It will protect a large area of Ukraine," Feldhusen said.
 - **The EU's** decision to suspend the **simplified visa policy** for Russians took effect on September 12. Russian citizens can no longer receive visas for trips to the Schengen area under the simplified procedure. The number of new visas for Russians will decrease substantially. Moreover, the EU has not imposed a tourist entrance ban for Russians because some countries, particularly Hungary, oppose it.
 - The Russian Tour Operator Association informed that Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Denmark, Belgium and the Netherlands do not accept visa documents from Russian tourists.

- 13.09**
- President Zelenskyy writes that Ukraine will receive additional \$1.4 billion from **the International Monetary Fund** as part of the emergency financing program.
 - The **Bulgarian government** has decided to provide assistance to Ukraine in the fight against the Russian invasion. The country will hand over 350 medical sets for 35,000 Ukrainian soldiers.

- 14.09**
- This week **Germany** handed over another 4 Gepard self-propelled anti-aircraft guns and 65 refrigerators to Ukraine. Now the Armed Forces of Ukraine have 24 Gepard installations and four more are being prepared for delivery to Ukraine. Currently, Germany's military aid to Ukraine is estimated at \$1.2 billion.
 - The Czech Republic will build block-type houses for displaced people in Ternopil.



- Head of the **European Commission**, Ursula von der Leyen, arrived in Kyiv for a visit. The main topics of the visit were Ukrainian European integration and EU assistance to Kyiv during the war. In the short term, Brussels will pass 150 million euros "to provide internally displaced people in Ukraine with the necessary shelter." Another 150 million euros will be received for reconstruction of schools destroyed as a result of the war.
 - Moreover, **Ursula von der Leyen's** name was carved at the Alley of Courage in Kyiv. Also she was awarded with the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise I degree.
- 15.09**
- The President of the European Commission opposed the position of her motherland Germany, which for various reasons refuses to supply battle tanks to Ukraine. "If they [Ukrainians] say they need battle tanks, then we should take that seriously and supply them". She emphasized that Ukrainians are currently fighting for the whole of Europe for the "victory of democracy."
 - **The European Parliament** approved the allocation of 5 billion euros of macro-financial assistance to Ukraine. This loan complements the 10 billion euros that the European Union has already provided to Ukraine in the form of financial, humanitarian and military aid.
 - **Pope Francis** considers it "morally acceptable" for the Western countries to supply Ukraine with weapons that repel a full-scale invasion of Russia, since this is done for the **purpose of self-defense**.
 - Minister of Foreign Affairs of **Lithuania** Gabrielius Landsbergis said that his country will send two batches of armored personnel carriers to Ukraine in the near future.
 - German Defense Minister Christine Lambrecht says that **Germany** will supply Ukraine with two more Mars II multiple rocket launchers and 50 Dingo armored vehicles.



- 16.09**
- Biden approved a new package of military aid to Ukraine in the amount of USD 600 million. It will mainly include ammunition and shells for artillery, including those for HIMARS systems.
 - The Greek Ministry of Defense reports that Greece and Germany have finally agreed on a "circular exchange" scheme, according to which the Greek side will transfer 40 Soviet BMP-1s to Ukraine in exchange for the same number of more modern German Marders.
 - Austria will allocate 500 million euros for construction of Ukrainian hospitals. It is for purchasing equipment for Okhmatdyt, building a modern university clinic in Kyiv and creating a National Rehabilitation Center in Lviv.



- 17.09**
- **The Federal Government of Germany** has approved the sale of 18 RCH-155 self-propelled artillery units, which Kyiv asked for two months ago.
 - The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine reports that **Spain** sent five planes with ammunition for large-caliber artillery systems to Ukraine.

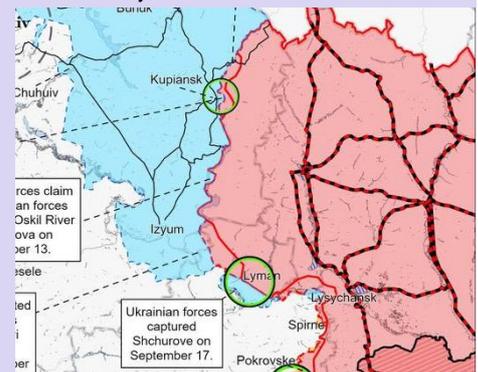
Military positions

- The Russian army continues to focus its efforts on trying to fully occupy Donetsk region, organizing the defensive, and holding the temporarily occupied territories. There are also attempts to thwart the advance of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in certain areas.
- The Russians continue shelling the Ukrainian position along the contact line. There are also measures taken to redeploy hostile troops in certain directions, launch reserves and conduct aerial reconnaissance.
- Towards Volyn, Polissia and Siversk, the situation has not undergone significant changes.
- In other areas, the Russians continue striking civilian people and infrastructure, breaking the customs and laws of war and violating international humanitarian law. The Russian army carries out airstrikes, shelling with tanks, mortars, and artillery.



- The Ukrainian army continues its counter-offensive in certain areas.
- The Armed Forces of Ukraine liberated 5 settlements in Kherson region: Vysokopillia, Novovoznesenske, Bilohirka, Myroliubivka, and Sukhyi Stavok. Overall, the Ukrainians liberated about 500 square kilometers of the region in two weeks.
- According to Deputy Minister of Defense of Ukraine Hanna Maliar, the Armed Forces liberated almost 6,000 square kilometers of the occupied territories on September 13.
- According to Head of Kharkiv Regional State Administration Oleh Syniehubov, due to successful actions of the Ukrainian army, on September 14 only 6% of the territory of Kharkiv region remains under Russian occupation, out of 32% that was previously occupied by the enemy. Ukrainian defenders liberated 8,500 square kilometers of Kharkiv region with 388 settlements.

- The mopping-up operations covered the entire northeast of Kharkiv Oblast — from Vesele to Vovchansk.
- According to British intelligence, the Armed Forces of Ukraine trounced the 1st Guards Tank Army of Russia, which was prepared to counter NATO. It was one of the highest combat-ready units of the Russian Federation.
- On September 15, towards Bakhmut, the destruction of a significant number of servicemen and military equipment of landing units of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation was confirmed. This unit has totally lost its combat capability due to losses.
- Destruction of Russians' logistic support by the Armed Forces of Ukraine has caused problems with the lack of certain types of ammunition for MLRs and artillery along the entire contact line.
- On September 15, to support the actions of ground troops, the Ukrainian Air Forces launched 12 strikes on enemy buildups. In addition, the Ukrainian Air Defense Forces destroyed 4 Russian aircraft in various areas - three Su-25 and and a Su-24M.
- On September 15, the Armed Forces of Ukraine regained control over Kyselivka – another settlement on the outskirts of Kherson. At present, the Ukrainian military is just one settlement away from Kherson - Chornobaiivka.
- Towards Sloviansk, the Ukrainian army continues counter-offensive actions. There are hostilities near Lyman, Donetsk region.
- On September 17, 2022, the Ukrainians liberated Dibrova in Donetsk region and entered Pravdyne west of Kherson.
- According to analysts, the Armed Forces of Ukraine are maneuvering in three areas of Kherson region: northwest of Kherson, near the Inhulets river, and west of Vysokopillia.
- The Armed Forces of Ukraine continue to keep almost the entire territory of Kherson region under fire control. This makes it impossible for the Russian military to bring reserves.
- According to the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), the Russians around Lyman (Donetsk region) are facing encirclement by the Armed Forces of Ukraine. It seems that the Ukrainian defenders are expanding their positions to the east of the Oskil river and the north of the Siverskyi Donets river. The Armed Forces of Ukraine can surround Russian troops stationed around Lyman. The access to Lyman opens approaches to Lysychansk and Sievierodonetsk.



Source ISW

➤ **Losses of the Russian forces from September 11, 2022 to September 17, 2022:**

- Liquidated personnel - 2000
- Tanks - 66
- Armored personnel vehicle - 117
- Artillery system / MLRS – 47/1
- Anti-aircraft warfare systems - 6
- Aircraft / helicopters - 12/4
- UAV - 13
- Warships / boats - 0
- Vehicles & fuel tanks - 145
- Special equipment – 5
- From August 29 to September 12, there is a visual confirmation of the Russians' losses of 442 units of equipment. 237 trophies, i.e. 54 % of the enemy's losses will be used against Russian invaders.

As of
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The week of shelling

➤ Within the period of September 12 - 17, occupiers launched 37 missile attacks, 129 air strikes and carried out 422 attacks from multiple rocket launchers on the territory of Ukraine.

12.09

- Russians shelled a 5-storey residential building in **Kharkiv**. 1 person was killed, 2 wounded.
- Around 8pm, there was a missile attack on the **Kharkiv region**, damaging a critical infrastructure facility. Two workers were killed.
- As a result of Russian missile strikes, the city and a large part of **Kharkiv region** lost electricity and water supply. By the end of the day, they were restored by 80%.



- **Nikopol** and **Kryvyi Rih** districts in Dnipropetrovsk region were shelled with Uragan and Hrad systems and heavy artillery. There were no casualties. Private houses, a lyceum and power lines were damaged.
- Russians shelled **Kramatorsk** with rockets, hitting a hospital and 2 private houses. In the Donetsk area, the enemy actively shelled Mariinka and Avdiivka communities with artillery.



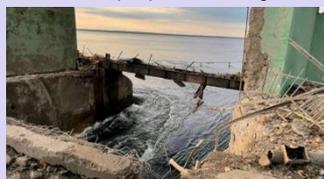
13.09

- In Dnipropetrovsk region, occupiers shelled the **Nikopol district** with artillery six times during the night. 16 residential buildings, a stadium, outbuildings and gas pipelines were damaged.
- In the Luhansk and Donetsk regions, the Russian military shelled civilian infrastructure near **Kramatorsk and Bakhmut**. 5 civilians were killed, 10 more wounded.
- In **Zaporizhzhya region**, occupiers shelled civilian infrastructure in the regional center and 19 other settlements of the region.
- In **Mykolaiv region**, settlements in two districts came under fire. Industrial buildings and a lyceum were hit. There were no casualties.



14.09

- **Mykolaiv** was massively shelled with S-300 systems, and all 4 districts of the city were affected. Residential buildings and 2 educational institutions were damaged. 2 people died, 3 were hospitalized.
- In the Dnipropetrovsk region, the occupiers struck **Nikopol** twice. About 20 houses, several gas pipelines and power lines were damaged in the city.



- There was a massive missile attack on **Kryvyi Rih**. Russians struck with seven X-22 cruise missiles from strategic aviation aircraft. They hit critical and transport infrastructure facilities. Hydraulic structures were seriously damaged. Due to the attack, the water level in the Ingulets River rose to almost 2 meters. 112 private houses and yards are flooded. People were evacuated.

15.09

- Russians shelled the Nikopol district of Dnipropetrovsk region five times during the night. Ten private houses and more than a hundred solar panels were damaged.
- In Zaporizhzhia, the occupiers fired two missiles at the suburbs.
- The Russian occupation army fired 7 Kynzhal and Iskander missiles at Kryvyi Rih. During the day, there were several strikes: an industrial enterprise and hydraulic structures were hit. According to the city mayor, the destruction is serious.
- The settlements of Kharkiv, Kupiansk and Izium districts were shelled. Residential buildings were destroyed, 10 people, including two children aged 12 and 13, were injured.

16.09

- At night, the occupiers hit Kharkiv with missiles. As a result, a fire broke out at one of the enterprises.
- Russians shelled Nikopol with Hrads and heavy artillery. Private houses, a lyceum, a kindergarten, and several enterprises were damaged.
- In the Donetsk region, the Russian occupiers shelled Avdiivka and Maryinka with artillery. Selydove came under missile fire from Smerch and S-300 missile systems. Pokrovsk and Bakhmut districts suffered the most. 2 civilians were killed, 11 wounded.
- Occupiers shelled several districts of Zaporizhzhia region and damaged 37 civilian infrastructure objects.

17.09



- Occupiers shelled the Sloviansk thermal power plant - a fire broke out there, some equipment was damaged.

- The map on the left represents the Ukrainian territories shelled the most during the week.

Humanitarian crisis



12.09

➤ In the village of Zaliznychne, the Chkalov territorial community, **Kharkiv region**, Ukrainian law enforcement officers **found the bodies of civilians with marks of torture.**



➤ **At least a thousand civilians in Izium, Kharkiv region**, were killed due to the Russian occupation, and **80% of the city's infrastructure was destroyed.**

➤ As a result of one of the most massive hostile attacks on the energy infrastructure on September 11, **hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians were left without electricity** in Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Sumy, and Donetsk regions. According to the Minister of Energy Herman Halushchenko, the Russians fired at the Zmiivska thermal power plant and three high-voltage substations on Sunday evening.

13.09

➤ On the highway to the occupied Luhansk, about 300 civilian vehicles with Kharkiv license plates were recorded. The Russian military used the stolen cars to take out the loot.

➤ Up to two hundred cases of war atrocities committed by the Russians are recorded daily in the territories liberated from the invaders. **Over 70 thousand square kilometers are mined in ten regions.**

14.09

➤ Donetsk region is being actively shelled; the authorities are urging civilians to leave.

➤ President Volodymyr Zelensky arrived in the de-occupied Izium, Kharkiv region. He said that, during the occupation of Izium and Balakliia in Kharkiv region, the Russians behaved the same way as in Kyiv region: they tortured residents, destroyed kindergartens, schools, and other infrastructure.

➤ On the evening of September 14, the Russian military launched a missile strike on Kryvyi Rih and damaged **hydraulic facilities**. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that the invaders attempted to flood the city. **112 private houses were flooded.**

➤ According to estimates of the Conflict Observatory NGO, funded by the US State Department, **15.7% of Ukrainian crop storage facilities were damaged** as a result of a full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine.



15.09

➤ In the liberated city of Izium, Kharkiv region, one of the largest mass grave sites was discovered, containing more than **440 graves**. Women and children are also among those buried in mass graves. Residents say that the streets of Izium were littered filled up with the bodies of the dead in the first weeks. Only in one of the houses **46 civilians** died at once because of the Russian bomb.



➤ In a range of settlements in Kharkiv region, the locals helped discover **torture places**, in which Ukrainian citizens and foreigners were held in absolutely inhuman conditions.

➤ Ukrainian paramedic Yulia Paievskia (aka Taira), who had been released from Russian captivity in June, testified before the Helsinki Commission in the United States. The paramedic told about **pregnant prisoners** whose fate is unknown; **a 7-year-old boy with a bullet** wound who died in Paievskia's arms; prisoners who screamed in their cells for weeks and died of torture without medical assistance as well as those who were forced to take off their clothes before getting killed; torture chambers; mutilated bodies of women and children who were taken out from under the rubble, etc.

➤ Since the beginning of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, more than eight million Ukrainians have left for the European Union, but about **five million have already returned to Ukraine.**

➤ On Thursday, the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which consists of representatives of 35 UN member states, adopted a resolution demanding that Russia stop its occupation of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant.

➤ In Horlivka, Donetsk region, the invaders are raiding men to send them to the front, while women are left in the city.

➤ In the Russian-occupied Mariupol, a three-month **lack of water and electricity** in apartments forced people to go to an unplanned rally.

➤ Border guards **released five teenagers who were being held in a basement by the russians** in Kharkiv region.



16.09

➤ Among the bodies from the mass grave in Izium, Kharkiv region, which were exhumed on Friday, **99% have signs of violent death**. Verkhovna Rada Commissioner for Human Rights Dmytro Lubinets told reporters that about 20 servicemen with their **hands tied** behind were buried in the city of the liberated Izium.

➤ The Enerhoatom delivered 25 trucks of spare parts, materials, and diesel fuel to Enerhodar for the occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP to repair damaged power lines and power units, while the station continues to be terrorized by the Russian invaders.

➤ In the liberated Kupiansk, Kharkiv region, an **illegal "prison"** of the invaders was discovered, **where 400 people were held** at the same time whereas the cells were designed for 140 people only. Ten torture chambers have already been found in the de-occupied territory of the Kharkiv region.



17.09

➤ The occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP was reconnected to Ukraine's power grid by repairing one of the four main external power lines.

18.09



➤ After the exhumation of the bodies began at the mass grave site in Izium, horrific facts of Russian crimes continue to appear. One example of the crimes of the Russian troops is the murder of the Stolpakov family: 31-year-old Olena, 33-year-old Dmytro, and their 5-year-old daughter Lesia.

