



# Transatlantic Dialogue Center

## Weekly briefing

**December 4 – 10**

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04.12

- The German concern Rheinmetall plans to start the **production of armored vehicles in Ukraine** in 2024. The company expects to be able to conclude an agreement with Ukraine on the production of **Fuchs** armored personnel carriers and **Lynx** infantry fighting vehicles by the beginning of next year. Rheinmetall has also received an order to produce 155-mm artillery shells for Ukraine for 142 million euros. Ammunition will be delivered in 2025.
- **Germany** has trained a second group of **Ukrainian soldiers** to operate the Patriot air defense system. About 70 soldiers and officers of the Ukrainian Armed Forces took the course. It lasted more than six weeks.
- The American state of North Carolina has **recognized the Holodomor** man-made famine of 1932-1933 **as genocide** of the Ukrainian people. This is the 35th state to make such a decision.
- The **Lithuanian government** has contributed one million euros to the Solidarity Fund for Ukraine, a trust fund of the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) aimed at improving the living conditions of Ukrainians and **supporting recovery efforts**.
- Ukraine has started consultations with the EU on **collective security guarantees** as a follow-up to the G7 declaration of support for Ukraine signed during the NATO summit in Vilnius.

05.12

- **Finland** will **produce artillery ammunition** for Ukraine. Defense Minister Antti Häkkinen said that the final decision on the start of production is likely to be made by Christmas.
- **Belgium** confirms its intention to **provide Ukraine with F-16 fighter jets** in 2025. Defense Minister Rustem Umerov discussed with his Belgian counterpart the transfer of aircraft and necessary equipment and the training of Ukrainian pilots.
- The U.S. Agency for International Development (**USAID**) will provide Ukraine with 20,000 tons of metal for the construction of second-level **facilities to protect energy facilities** from Russian attacks. The State Agency reported this for the Restoration and Development of Infrastructure of Ukraine.
- **Slovenia** will donate 1.5 million euros to Ukraine on a non-refundable basis for **humanitarian demining** by the end of this year, the press service of the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine reports.
- The World Bank will provide Ukraine with a **1.2 billion dollar loan for social payments** in 2024. The Ministry of Social Policy and the World Bank have signed an agreement to launch a new project called "Investing in Social Protection for Increased Coverage, Resilience, and Efficiency (INSPIRE)." The press service of the Ministry of Social Policy reported this.
- The ambassadors of the **Baltic states** in Warsaw have delivered a demarche against the Polish authorities over **the hauliers' blockade of Ukrainian border crossings**, saying it is undermining Ukraine's ability to resist the full-scale Russian invasion.

06.12

- **The UK** has announced a winter **humanitarian aid package** of 37 million pounds sterling, the British government has announced. This is a part of the total humanitarian aid to Ukraine worth 127 million pounds sterling in 2023-2024. In addition, the UK will impose a series of sanctions against suppliers of military equipment to Russia.
- For the first time, the United States has opened a **war crimes case against Russian military personnel** in Ukraine. They kidnapped and tortured an American in the village of Mylove, Kherson region. This case is the first time that the US Department of Justice has prosecuted those who commit war crimes against American citizens abroad. The suspects were charged with four counts.
- The United States announced additional assistance to Ukraine worth 175 million dollars. The new package includes air defense equipment, additional ammunition for HIMARS systems, artillery ammunition, AGM-88 HARM anti-radar missiles, and anti-tank missiles.

07.12

- Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced that **Japan** will allocate 4.5 billion dollars for the **reconstruction of Ukraine**.
- Ukraine and the United States signed a memorandum on **joint weapons production and exchange of technical data**. This includes hybrid air defense systems, which will be developed by the Pentagon, the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, and the Ministry of Strategic Industries of Ukraine. Ukraine has already been provided with technologies to start production of such air defense systems as part of the FrankenSAM program.
- **Australia** is transferring an additional **batch of Bushmaster MRAPs**. This was announced on the social network X (formerly Twitter) by Australian Ambassador to Ukraine Edwards: "Not much says Merry Christmas to a close friend far across the seas quite as well as saving lives. Proud to see the role of Bushmasters recognized among key military assistance provided to Ukraine. And more are on their way!"
- Ukraine and **Germany** have signed agreements to provide financial assistance of 41.2 million euros for implementing the project "Housing for Internally Displaced Persons" and creating energy-efficient **housing for Ukrainian IDPs**. This was announced by Iryna Vereshchuk, Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine and Minister for Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine.
- This month, Ukraine will receive all **14 Vampire counter-drone systems** ordered as part of the military aid. The press service of the US Naval Air Systems Command reported on this. These systems were developed specifically for Ukraine to detect and intercept enemy drones, including Shahed-136.
- **Bulgaria's** Defense Committee has approved **assistance in training** Ukrainian pilots on F-16 fighter jets. The country will also train up to four Ukrainian infantry or **mechanized companies** with a total of 160 soldiers. The Committee approved the transfer of obsolete anti-aircraft missile systems, man-portable air defense systems (MANPADS) and surface-to-air missiles of different types to Ukraine to strengthen its air defense. Bulgaria claims that Ukraine may be able to return the defective missiles to service.
- US President Joe Biden and G7 leaders met with Ukrainian President Zelensky online and agreed to **ban Russian diamonds**. Non-industrial Russian diamonds are scheduled to be banned by January, and Russian diamonds sold by third countries will be sanctioned starting in March 2024.

08.12

- Ukraine has received a modern unmanned **reconnaissance aircraft system Luna NG** as part of military aid from **Germany**. The German government announced the transfer of this unmanned system on its website. The government website disclosed the contents of the new military aid package for Ukraine, which includes Vector reconnaissance drones, HK GMW automatic grenade launchers, Zetros trucks, border protection vehicles, and first aid kits.
- The Estonian company **Milrem Robotics** has signed an agreement with the Ukrainian Defense Industry (Ukroboronprom) to start forging next-generation **multi-domain robotic defense systems**. The company's press service reported on this. It is about systems based on the THeMIS multipurpose platform, in particular, the THeMIS Combat combat system armed with a machine gun module, the Combat Engineering version adapted for mine detection and demining, as well as unmanned logistics vehicles and their modified CASEVAC versions for evacuating the wounded.



# Military positions

- The Russian Federation continues to wage a war of aggression and keeps ignoring the laws and customs of warfare, using terror tactics, striking and shelling both military and civilian targets. As a result of the Russian terrorist attacks, there are dead and wounded, destruction and damage to private residential buildings and other civilian infrastructure.
- In the Volyn and Polissia directions, the operational situation has not significantly changed. There were no signs of the offensive group's formation.
- In the Chernihiv and Kharkiv directions, the enemy maintains a military presence in the border areas, conducts sabotage and intelligence activities, attacks populated areas from the territory of the Russian Federation and increases the density of mines and explosives barriers along the state border of Ukraine.
- In the Kupiansk direction, Ukrainian defenders repelled a number of enemy attacks in the Sinkivka and Ivanivka districts of the Kharkiv Oblast.
- In the Lyman direction, the Defense Forces repelled an attack by the enemy who tried to dislodge Ukrainian units from the occupied lines in the Spirne area of Donetsk Oblast. In addition, the enemy carried out airstrikes in the areas of Serebrianykyi Forestry of Luhansk Oblast and Serebrianka of Donetsk Oblast.
- In the Bakhmut direction, the Defense Forces repelled a number of enemy attacks in the Bohdanivka, Ivanovske, Klishchiivka, and Andriivka areas.
- In the Avdiivka direction, Ukrainian defenders repelled a number of attacks where the enemy, with the support of aviation, unsuccessfully tried to break through the defenses.
- In the Marinka direction, Ukrainian troops continue to hold back the enemy in the areas of Krasnohorivka, Marinka, Pobieda, and Novomykhailivka, where the Russians launched several unsuccessful attacks. The enemy did not conduct offensive (assault) actions in the Shakhtarsk direction.
- In the Zaporizhzhia direction, the Defense Forces repelled an enemy attack in the area west of Verbove.
- In the Kherson direction, the city of Kherson and villages of the Kherson Oblast were subjected to Russian artillery fire.

<b>04.12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ ISW believes that Russian troops have advanced in several places near Avdiivka. The footage, published on November 28 and geolocated on December 2, shows that Russian troops have advanced west of the railway line north of Stepove (3 km northwest of Avdiivka). Additional geolocation footage released on December 2 shows that Russian troops have advanced to the southwest of Pervomaiske (10 km southwest of Avdiivka).</li> <li>➤ The Ministry of Defense of Ukraine is preparing an order for the production of 750 Ukrainian-made armored combat vehicles. Deputy Minister of Defense Ivan Havryliuk said that there will be armored vehicles of different types. It is also planned to multiply the production of mines, to start the production of projectiles.</li> <li>➤ In December, the Armed Forces will receive several times more drones than last month, Ivan Havryliuk said. The Ministry of Defense of Ukraine will direct additional resources to the purchase of UAVs, especially of the tactical level ones. In addition, six new models of Electromagnetic Warfare, including the so-called "trench" ones, were recently put into operation.</li> <li>➤ In the 2024 Ukrainian state budget, 255 billion hryvnias (about 7 billion US dollars) are allocated to the article "armaments, military equipment and ammunition" for the Armed Forces.</li> <li>➤ Vladimir Putin's decree on increasing the staff of the Russian army reflects the actual size of the Russian army, says the ISW report. Analysts at the Institute for the Study of War believe that the 170,000-strong increase in the Russian military between Putin's previous decree of August 25, 2022, and the recent decree of December 1, 2023, is likely an official recognition of the current size of the Russian military.</li> <li>➤ Volodymyr Zelenskyi stated that Ukraine already produces six Bohdana self-propelled artillery units every month. Their own production will continue to increase. This self-propelled gun has already proven itself in battles. Armed Forces used it, in particular, in attacks on Russians on the Zmiinyi Island.</li> </ul>
<b>05.12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ukrainian soldiers destroyed a Russian Su-24M bomber in the area of Zmiinyi Island, the Air Force of the Ukrainian Armed Forces reports.</li> <li>➤ British intelligence believes, Russia captured most of the destroyed territory of Marinka. As noted in the summary, Ukrainian forces still control parts of the territory on the western outskirts of the city. "The resumption of operations in Marinka is part of Russia's autumn offensive, the priority of which is to expand control over the remaining parts of the Donetsk Oblast. It is likely that this is still one of the main military goals of the Kremlin," the British Ministry of Defense notes.</li> <li>➤ Drones from the Security Service of Ukraine hit a number of targets in occupied Crimea this morning. Babel publishing house sources reported that they targeted the Nebo-M radar system near the village of Baherove, a helicopter parking lot, the P-18 Terek radar system and the Baikal-1M anti-aircraft missile control system near the village of Strilkove. In the morning, the occupiers announced a massive drone raid on Crimea. According to them, 40 unmanned aerial vehicles allegedly attacked the peninsula. No consequences were reported. Residents of Kerch, Feodosiia, Stary Krym and Simferopol heard the sounds of explosions, and the "Crimean Wind" Telegram channel wrote about a possible strike on the "Zaliv" shipyard in Kerch, where warships are located.</li> </ul>
<b>06.12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Armed Forces are located between the second and third lines of defense of the Russians. This was stated by the Minister of Defense of Ukraine Rustem Umerov in an interview for Fox News. "We have de-occupied 50% of our territory, we are defeating Russia on our land, and we have gained our territories, we have released, let's say we stopped the atrocities. And now we have a plan for 2024," the minister said.</li> <li>➤ In Tyumen, Russia, a transformer substation on the railway was blown up. According to the information of the "Freedom of Russia" resistance movement, they were preparing to transport military equipment through this line. Trains carrying military cargo remained blocked, halting supplies to the war zone.</li> <li>➤ Russia is trying to improve Iran's Shahed attack drones, British intelligence believes. A Ukrainian SIM card and a 4G modem were found in one of the downed Shaheds. Thus, the Russian Federation is trying to improve real-time guidance using cell towers to reduce dependence on satellite navigation.</li> </ul>

<b>Losses of the Russian army from 04.12.2023 to 10.12.2023</b>	
Liquidated personnel	<b>6780</b>
Tanks	<b>61</b>
IFVs	<b>133</b>
Artillery systems / MLRS	<b>115/6</b>
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	<b>3</b>
Aircraft / helicopters	<b>1/0</b>
UAVs	<b>141</b>
Ships/boats	<b>0</b>
Vehicles & fuel tanks	<b>191</b>
Special equipment	<b>22</b>



# Military positions

<b>06.12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ More than 40 representatives of the American establishment have prepared a Memorandum for the President of the United States about the help Ukraine needs, for having a speech at the upcoming NATO summit. The key points are:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ To accelerate Ukraine's success on the battlefield, the US and NATO must send more artillery, artillery ammunition and radar, as well as short-range air defense equipment to accompany ground forces.</li> <li>➤ Ukraine needs more drones to make the battle space more visible, as well as the latest American anti-UAV systems and a full suite of electronic warfare systems.</li> <li>➤ Ukraine also needs attack helicopters both for air defense purposes and to provide close air support for offensive and defensive operations.</li> <li>➤ It is necessary to cancel the tacit ban on providing Ukraine with all the weapons necessary for serious changes in Crimea, including not only ATACMS, but also long-range UAVs.</li> <li>➤ Ukraine should receive a clear plan for joining NATO, taking into account possible scenarios of events on the battlefield.</li> <li>➤ Russia should receive a clear message from the US and NATO: support for Ukraine will continue and increase the longer Russian aggression continues.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>07.12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ukraine has submitted a request to the United States for Apache and Black Hawk helicopters, F-18 fighter jets, Globemaster aircraft, as well as sophisticated THAAD air defense systems, Reuters writes. Employees of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine presented the "list of weapons to meet the needs of the defense forces of Ukraine" during a closed meeting in Washington, attended by government officials and heads of the US defense industry.</li> <li>➤ The effectiveness of Ukrainian mobile fire groups has increased significantly over the past 3-4 months. This was stated by Air Force spokesman Yuri Ihnat. "This is due to the fact that even last year in Ukraine there were no units equipped with the appropriate weapons to improve this result. Now the situation has been corrected," noted Yuri Ihnat.</li> <li>➤ The Russian army has a significant number of officers who gained combat experience in the war with Ukraine and will train future generals from them, - believes British intelligence. "Over the coming years, this generation is likely to exert major influence over the future direction of Russia's military and whether it implements lessons learned from the war in Ukraine," analysts say.</li> </ul>
<b>08.12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 77 combat clashes took place during the day.</li> <li>➤ The enemy carried out 27 missile and 27 air strikes, carried out 49 attacks from multiple rocket launchers on the positions of Ukrainian troops and populated areas.</li> <li>➤ With strikes on the Zmiinyi Island, the Russian Federation wants to show its control in the Black Sea, British intelligence notes. Experts believe that Russia will continue to carry out strike operations on the island from the summer of 2023, even if this is associated with a high level of risk for the crews</li> <li>➤ Raids of the Ukrainian military in occupied Crimea will continue, Andrii Yusov, a representative of the Main Directorate of Intelligence of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, said. "There is public information about several raids. In fact, there were more of them, but we will not reveal all the details yet," said Yusov. Such special operations allow Ukrainian spies to gather information and carry out subversive tasks.</li> <li>➤ Russia has withdrawn more than 40,000 troops to the Avdiivka direction. The occupiers suffer heavy losses there, but despite this, they very quickly raise reserves, Storm-Z and newly mobilized. Oleksandr Shtupun, the spokesman of the Defense Forces of the Tavria direction, told about this on the air of the telethon. "The enemy is suffering very significant losses. If you calculate roughly, this is about 300-400 people per day. Russian terrorists are currently not reducing the activity of their infantry. The largest number of clashes are happening in Avdiivka and Marinka," said Shtupun.</li> </ul>

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✓ During the past week, Russians launched 49 missile and 405 air strikes and fired over 480 MLRS attacks.

## Attack on the night of December 5

Air defense forces shot down 10 of 17 Shahed drones. The Russians also used six S-300 missiles against civilian targets in Donetsk and Kherson oblasts.

## Attack on the night of December 6

Air defense forces shot down 41 of 48 Shahed drones. In the Lviv oblast, three drones hit an infrastructure facility. No one was injured.

## Attack on the night of December 7

Russians attacked Ukraine with 18 attack drones, 15 of which were destroyed by air defense forces. The main areas of the attack were Odesa and Khmelnytskyi oblasts. As a result of the drone attack in Odesa oblast, port infrastructure was damaged: a warehouse, an elevator, and trucks were damaged. The driver of one of the trucks was killed.

## Attack on the night of December 8

Russia fired 20 X-101/X-555 cruise missiles, an Iskander-M ballistic missile, and six S-300 missiles at Ukraine. The Air Force destroyed 14 X-101/X-555 cruise missiles.

- The massive missile attack in the Dnipropetrovsk oblast caused destruction in Pavlohrad, Ternivka, and Yuriivska communities. An industrial enterprise was damaged. 16 private and 5 country houses and a church were damaged.
- Russians fired 6 S-300 missiles at Kharkiv. Two people were wounded. A playground and other civilian objects were among the "targets". Residential buildings, an educational institution, and about 20 cars were damaged. The enemy also attacked Kurylivka in the Kupiansk district with multiple rocket launchers. Two floors of a 5-story residential building burned as a result of the shelling. Podoly of Kupyansk district also came under fire. Three civilians were wounded: a man of 56 years old and women of 50 and 69 years old.
- About 10 bomber-missile carriers fired X-101/555 cruise missiles in the direction of Kyiv. Air defense forces shot down all enemy targets on the approach to the capital. In the Kyiv oblast, the falling debris damaged private homes in several communities.

## Donetsk oblast

Vuhledar, Novoukrainka, and Bohoiavlenka came under fire in the Volnovakha sector.

In the Donetsk sector, Kurakhove, Hrodivka, Marinka, Ocheretyne communities, Avdiivka, Krasnohorivka, Novomykhailivka, Katerynivka, Soloviove, Kurakhove, Trudove, Dalne, Selydove, Kostiantynivka, Stepove, Berdychi, Novokalynove, Heorhiivka, Novoekonomichne are affected. Multi-story buildings, administrative buildings, and private houses were damaged.

In the Horlivka sector, Soledar, Andriivka, Toretsk, Chasiv Yar communities, Toretsk, Pivnichne, Rozdolivka, Vasiukivka, Nelipivka, Minkivka, Shcherbynivka came under fire. Residential buildings, administrative buildings, infrastructure facilities, the territory of an enterprise, high-rise buildings, an infrastructure facility, and an industrial building were damaged.

In the Lysychansk sector, Siversk, Lyman, Zvanivka, Serebrianka, Torske, Zarichne, Verkhniokamianske, Pereizne, Yampil, and Siversk communities are affected. Private houses were damaged. There are wounded or dead in all directions.

## Kherson and Kherson oblast

Over the past week, Russians shelled Kherson and the oblast more than 500 times. On December 3, Russians shelled one of the settlements in the Kherson district. A shell hit a garage, killing a 78-year-old man. On that day, Russian occupiers struck the Central District of Kherson. They hit a multi-story building. Seven people were injured, two died. On December 4, Russians shelled a kindergarten in the Shumenskyi district of Kherson. The walls of the building were damaged, and windows were smashed. One person was injured. A suburb of Kherson was also shelled. Three people who were carrying out repair work on the street were wounded. A man died as a result of the shelling of Antonivka. On December 5, two people died and eight were wounded in the shelling of Kherson. One of the medical institutions was hit. On the night of December 6, Russians shelled Kherson several times. One person was wounded. As a result of the attack, a car caught fire, and three other cars were hit by shrapnel. A medical facility and houses were also damaged. On December 7, the Russians attacked Tiahynka, injuring four people. Also in the evening, Russian occupiers shelled residential areas of Kherson, a 46-year-old woman was wounded. On December 9, Russians dropped explosives from a drone on Beryslav, one person was injured and one died.

## Kharkiv oblast

On December 3, a 5-storey apartment building was damaged as a result of shelling in Kupiansk-Vuzlovyi, Kuiyansk district. On December 5, Russian invaders attacked Borova, Izium district, with Shahed drones. A house of culture, a shop, and private houses were damaged. On the same day, in Chuhuiv, three houses were damaged as a result of two UAVs hitting them, windows were smashed and roofs were damaged. A 41-year-old man was injured, he was not hospitalized. On December 6, a gas pipe, an outpatient clinic, private houses, and a car were damaged in Kozachya Lopan as a result of hostile shelling. There were no casualties. In Lypky, a residential building was destroyed as a result of a drone attack, and critical infrastructure was damaged. On December 7, the village of Podoly in the Kupiansk district was shelled. Women aged 58 and 49 sustained shrapnel wounds to their lower limbs. A private house was damaged. The shelling of Kupiansk damaged the facade of the administrative building. In Kozachya Lopan, private houses were burning as a result of the shelling by the guided aerial bombs. The 3-storey building of the enterprise was also damaged, and the windows of the railway station were smashed. Russians also struck Kurylivka, Kupiansk district, at least 4 times. There were damage to private houses, without casualties. Udy, Chervona Zoria, Stohnii of Bohodukhiv district, Hraniv, Veteryarne of Kharkiv district, Vovchansk, Pletenivka, Budarky of Chuhuiv district, Dvorichna, Synkivka, Petropavlivka, Ivaniivka, Berestove, Kyslivka, Tabaivka, Krokmalne, Chuhunivka, Krasne Pershe of Kupiansk district were also under fire.

## Zaporizhzhia oblast

During the week, Russians fired over 700 times at Zaporizhzhya Oblast. Huliaipole, Zaliznychne, Novodarivka, Charivne, Chervone, Mala Tokmachka, Luhivske, Novodanylivka, Bilohiria, Levadne, Poltavka, Robotyne, Plavni, Kamianske, Stepove, Mali Shcherbaky, Piatykhatky, Malynivka, Novopavlivka, Novoandriivka, Vasylivka district, Orikhiv, Stepnohirske, Temyrivka, Novotroitske, Lobkove, Verkhnia Tersa were under fire.

# This week shelling and strikes

## Kherson oblast



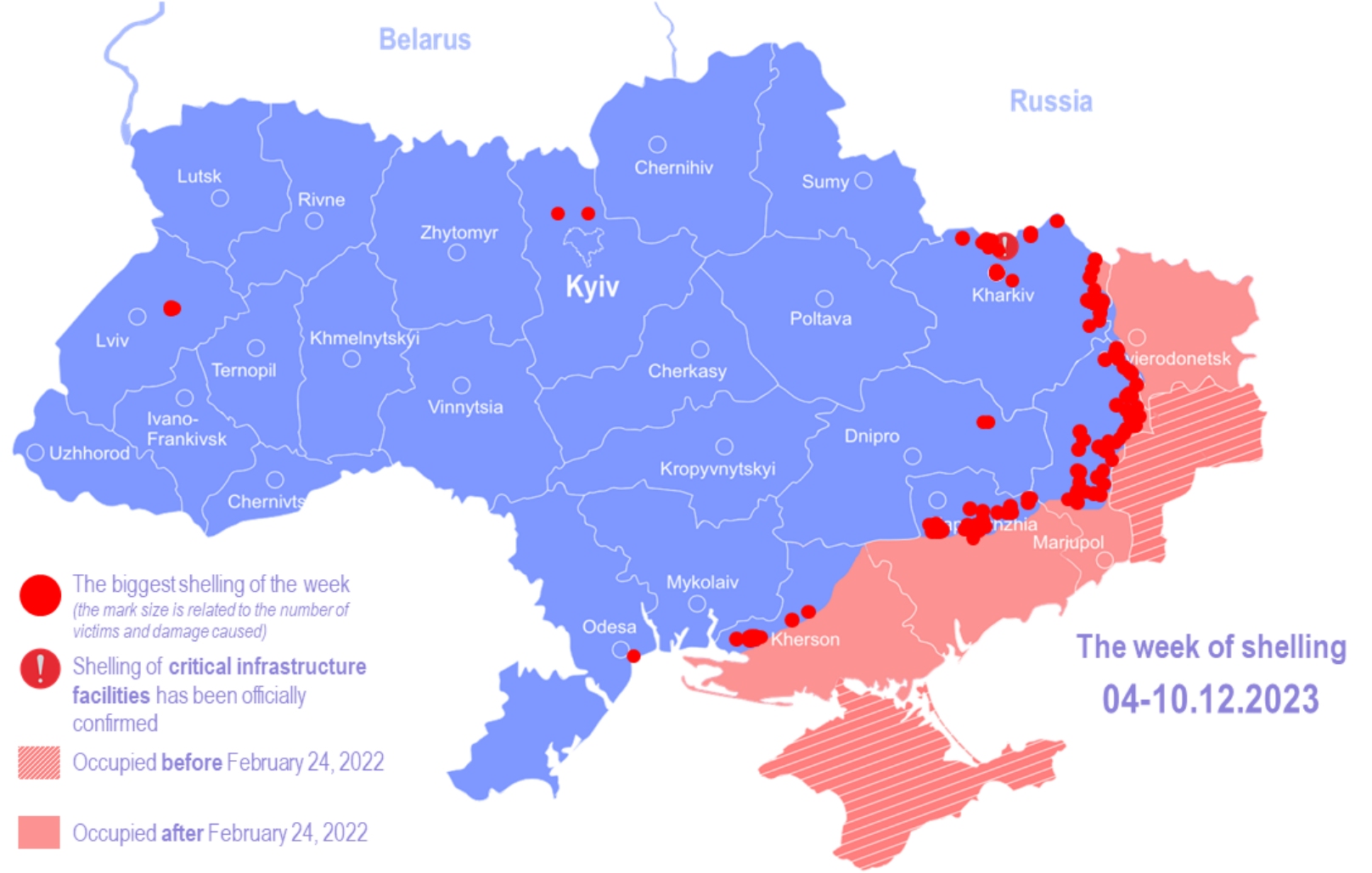
## Kharkiv oblast



## Zaporizhzhia oblast



## Donetsk oblast



# Humanitarian crisis



04.12

- Oleksandr Prokudin, head of the Kherson Regional Military Administration claims that in the de-occupied Kherson Oblast, **836 houses have been repaired** as part of the Side by Side project, while another 769 houses have been restored by volunteers and charitable organizations.
- Russian Internet providers have **blocked access to Ukrainian radio stations** in the temporarily occupied Sevastopol, as reported by Krym.Realii. After the start of the full-scale invasion, access to the majority of Ukrainian media in Sevastopol was blocked. Although several Ukrainian radio stations remained available, this is no longer the case.
- On December 4, a **rehabilitation center** for soldiers named after Oleh Kravets started operating in test mode in Uzhhorod. This update was provided by the press service of the Uzhhorod City Council.
- The National Resistance Center reports that Russian occupiers are **preparing for fake elections** in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine. In the spring of 2024, elections are scheduled in the Russian Federation to imitate the legitimacy of Russian President Vladimir Putin's current term in office. By December 12, the Russians will decide on elections in the temporarily occupied territories of Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, and Luhansk Oblasts of Ukraine.
- President Volodymyr Zelenskyi mentioned that over seven million tons of cargo had already been transported through **the 'grain corridor' created by Ukraine** in the Black Sea after Russia withdrew from the 'grain deal'.

06.12

- The Center for National Resistance reported that Russians planned to spread **propaganda** through **international scientific libraries**. The invaders plan to fill international scientific libraries with propaganda literature endorsing the historical affiliation of the temporarily occupied regions of Ukraine with the Russian Federation. The purpose of the provocation is to simulate support for Moscow's military aggression among academics.
- In the temporarily occupied territories, Russians are establishing pseudo-patriotic **centers to mobilize minors**. The Russian special training center 'Warrior' is set to operate in the temporarily occupied Luhansk. Children aged 14 and older will be sent for military training, while those aged 16 and above will be immediately **prepared for mobilization**, which is a serious **breach of the Geneva Convention**.
- With the mediation of **Qatar**, the team of the Office and the Verkhovna Rada Commissioner for Human Rights Dmytro Lubinets managed to **return eight more Ukrainian children** from the occupation. The age of the returned children ranges from 8 to 18 years old.
- From the temporarily occupied **Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve** in Kherson Oblast, Russians illegally **exported animals** listed in the Red Book to Russia. This was announced by the Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine Ruslan Strilets. Several Chapman's zebras, American bison, Przewalski's horses, and Père David's deer were taken from the Askania zoo. All these species are listed in the Red Book and the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- Russian aggressors declared the **evacuation of civilians** from the territory of the temporarily occupied Nova Kakhovka in Kherson Oblast, as reported by the adviser to the head of the Kherson regional military administration Serhii Khlan. According to Khlan, it is currently unknown where the Russians plan to evacuate civilians. During previous evacuations, people ended up in 'the most desolate areas of Russia'.

07.12

- Another family was **rescued from the temporarily occupied Kherson Oblast**. The foster family could not leave the Left Bank on their own, as mentioned by Oleksandr Prokudin, the head of the Kherson Regional Military Administration. An 18-year-old girl from Hola Prystan, who was illegally deported to Russia, was repatriated with her family.
- Dmytro Lubinets, Ombudsman, stated that there are **28,000 Ukrainian civilians in Russian captivity**, suggesting a planned system of suppressing resistance. He officially confirmed the deportation of 19,540 Ukrainian children. *"If we return one child every day, it will take us 55 years. And this is in the context of the fact that the Russian Federation continues to deport more and more groups of Ukrainian children from the territory of our country every day,"* Lubinets said. The government has many initiatives to return children, but few tools to take back all the deportees.
- To clear the liberated territories of Ukraine of explosive ordnance, 10 battalions and three companies have been established. Lieutenant General Oleksandr Pavliuk, First Deputy Minister of Defense of Ukraine, reported that **over 174 thousand square kilometers** of Ukraine's territory are **potentially contaminated** with explosive devices and require demining.

08.12

- Starting January 1, **the enemy will stop providing medical services to Ukrainians** who refuse to accept Russian passports in the temporarily occupied territories. Such restrictions are already in place in Starobilsk (Luhansk Oblast), where Ukrainians without a Russian passport are denied medical services, and pharmacies do not dispense medicines under social programs.
- **Two underground hospitals will be set up in Kherson**. One will house an underground perinatal complex with maternity and postpartum wards, intensive care units, and an operating room. The second facility will function as an underground clinical hospital with an operating room and an intensive care unit.

09.12

- During the Crimea occupation, Russians forcibly deported 100,000 Ukrainians who lived on the peninsula. The **occupation authorities settled 800,000 Russians** in place of the deported Ukrainians, as reported by the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union and ISW. The key elements of the occupiers' policy that **changed the demography** were as follows: preferential mortgage lending, relocation of the Russian military, law enforcement, government, medical and educational workers, judges with their families, the expulsion of Ukrainians to the mainland of Ukraine, and encouragement of Ukrainians to move to Russian territory. The aggressor state is pursuing an **identical policy in other occupied territories**, but now it is not as successful as in Crimea.
- Despite ongoing shelling and active hostilities, there are still **about 1,200 civilians in Avdiivka**, as stated by Vitalii Barabash, head of the City Military Administration. Barabash claims that people are currently facing problems with food and water supplies, as there is only one highway to supply food and it is under constant shelling.
- The occupation authorities in the temporarily occupied territories **threaten to fine Ukrainians who do not register with the 'military commissariats'**. The National Resistance Center reports that the Russians continue to covertly mobilize the population in the occupied territories. In this way, the occupiers carry out both passportization and mobilization of the population, as obtaining a Russian passport is a prerequisite for registration.
- During the first meeting of the International Coalition for the Return of Ukrainian Children, Andrii Kostin, Prosecutor General of Ukraine, noted that **3,440 war crimes against children** are currently under investigation in Ukraine.

