



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

December 11 – 17

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International support	2
Military positions	3
This week shelling and strikes	5
Humanitarian crisis	7

International support

11.12

- President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyi **arrived in Argentina** to take part in the inauguration of the country's newly elected President Javier Milei. On his way to Argentina, the Head of State met for the first time with the Prime Minister of the Republic of **Cape Verde**, Ulisses Correia e Silva. Zelenskyi also met with the presidents of **Paraguay, Uruguay, and Ecuador**.
- **The UK and Norway** will lead a new **maritime coalition for Ukraine**. The countries will help make the Ukrainian navy more compatible with Western allies and NATO standards. They will also provide **equipment, train sailors**, etc. In addition, the UK has confirmed that it will provide the Ukrainian Navy with two Sandown-class minehunting minesweepers, the Chernihiv (M310) and Cherkasy (M311). In October, they took part in the British Joint Warrior-23-II mine countermeasures exercise under the control of Ukrainian crews. In addition, the UK-Norway Maritime Coalition will also provide Ukraine with 20 Viking amphibious **assault ships** and 23 speedboats.
- The European Union has imposed new **sanctions against Iran** for its military support of Russia, freezing its assets. The restrictions include 6 people and 5 organizations involved in the development and production of drones used in the war against Ukraine.

12.12

- In the United States President Zelenskyi met with the **heads of US defense companies**, including BAE Systems, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, and General Dynamics. He proposed creating a **European defense center** in Ukraine. According to him, Ukraine is ready to produce more ammunition and military equipment, ready to cut bureaucracy and place orders. Kyiv also wants to invite American partners to take a stake in Ukrainian defense companies.
- **The United States** is providing Ukraine with \$200 million in **military aid**. Joe Biden announced this at a meeting with Volodymyr Zelenskyi at the White House.
- The Czech Defense Ministry has issued licenses to supply Ukraine with **military equipment** worth 4.7 billion euros. Half of this amount has already been used and sent to Ukraine in the form of equipment.
- **Finland** will double the **production of artillery shells** to strengthen its defense. According to a press release, the government and industrial companies are investing a total of 120 million euros to increase the production capacity of artillery shells.

13.12

- At the second Ukraine-Northern Europe summit in Oslo, the prime ministers of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden and the presidents of Ukraine and Finland signed a joint statement. **The Nordic countries** emphasized that they are ready to provide **support** as long as Ukraine needs it.
- **Norway** is providing Ukraine with an additional **\$218 million** in budget support for the government, payments, strengthening the defense industry, and air defense. The country will provide Ukraine with additional **NASAMS** air defense systems. Norway will also allocate **\$1.8 billion in aid** to Ukraine by the end of this year and will continue to support the country from the first months of 2024. This was announced by Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre.
- **The Danish government** has decided to provide new support to Ukraine totaling 1 billion euros. This was reported by Sky News.
- The German Ministry of Defense reported that the first meeting of the **Capability Coalition Integrated Air and Missile Defense** for Ukraine was held in Berlin. It was attended by 70 participants from 22 countries, as well as representatives of NATO and the EU. Germany and France led this coalition (CCIAMD). The plan according to the German Ministry of Defense: France will lead the command structure. The United States will lead the air defense systems. Germany will lead the exercises.

14.12

- Ukraine has received a **third tranche** of \$900 million **from the IMF**. These funds will finance priority state budget expenditures and support macroeconomic stability, Finance Minister Serhii Marchenko said.
- **Estonia** provides Ukraine with another €80 million **military aid package**. The package includes a large number of Javelin anti-tank systems, ammunition, machine guns, land and water (boat) transport, diving equipment, and more.
- **Germany** handed over a second Patriot **air defense** system and missiles to Ukraine. The new package also includes 9 Bandvagn 206 tracked all-terrain vehicles, 7,390 rounds of ammunition for 155-mm artillery, 3 unmanned demining vehicles, 14 drone detection systems, 8 Mercedes-Benz Zetros trucks, and other equipment.
- The U.S. House of Representatives has supported a bill that would **extend military aid** to Ukraine. The bill is the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (USAI), which has allocated \$300 million for the fiscal year.
- EU leaders have decided to start **negotiations on Ukraine's accession to the European Union**, European Council President Charles Michel said.
- **The Bulgarian** Parliament approved **€3.6 billion in aid** to Ukraine. The Bulgarian National Assembly has ratified an agreement with the European Commission to provide microfinance assistance to Ukraine of €3.6 billion, the second phase of the planned assistance.
- On Thursday, the **Swedish** government approved a **€124 million winter aid package** for Ukraine, which Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson announced a few days earlier. The money will be used to purchase equipment for heating and transferring capacity in the Ukrainian power grid and to create shelters.
- **Argentina** is considering the possibility of transferring two **Mi-171E helicopters** to Ukraine, which were purchased from Russia. The Latin American edition of Pucara Defensa reports that the agreements were reached during the visit of the Ukrainian President to Buenos Aires to participate in the inauguration of the new President of Argentina.

15.12

- Ukraine will receive another **\$1.34 billion** from the **World Bank**. The money will be spent on pensions, teacher salaries, and support for IDPs, Ukrainian Prime Minister Shmyhal said. The majority of the package (\$1.086 billion) is **from Japan**. The rest are grants from the United States, Switzerland, and the Ukraine Recovery, Transition, and Reform Fund (URTF).
- **Australia** will expand its participation in **training the Ukrainian military** as part of **Operation Kudu** in 2024. This is stated in a press release from the Australian Department of Defense. Since January, Australian troops have helped train more than 1,200 Ukrainians as part of a multinational training mission led by the United Kingdom.
- **Germany** will supply Ukraine with an additional **155 mm artillery shells** as part of its military assistance. To this end, the German Bundestag Budget Committee approved a framework agreement with a French ammunition manufacturer. It provides for the possibility of manufacturing and delivering up to 350,000 large-caliber shells.
- **The South Korean** government has handed over **10 Croatian unmanned demining vehicles** from DOK-ING to the State Emergency Service of Ukraine. This was reported by the Ukrainian Embassy in South Korea.
- The European Commission has approved the transfer of the last **tranche of €1.5 billion** from this year's macro-financial assistance program to Ukraine, which will support the government's financial stability, EC President von der Leyen said.
- **Lithuania** has handed over a **new military aid package** to the Armed Forces of Ukraine. This was reported by the Ministry of National Defense of Lithuania in its X (ex-Twitter). The military aid package includes one million rounds of ammunition for small arms and winter gear.



Military positions

- Russia continues to ignore the laws and customs of warfare, uses terror tactics, launches missile and air strikes, and fires multiple launch rocket systems not only at the military but also at numerous civilian targets in Ukraine.
- In Volyn and Polissia, the operational situation remains without significant changes.
- In the Siversk (Chernihiv) and Slobzhanskyi (Sumy, Kharkiv) directions, the enemy maintains a military presence in the border areas, conducts active diversionary activities in order to prevent the transfer of Ukrainian troops to other directions, and also increases the density of mine and explosive barriers along the state border in the Belgorod Oblast.
- In the Kupiansk direction, Ukrainian defenders repelled a number of enemy attacks in the Synkivka area.
- In the Lyman direction, the defenders repelled a number of Russian attacks east of Terny, Yampolivka in the Donetsk Oblast, and Makiivka in the Luhansk Oblast.
- In the direction of Bakhmut, Ukrainian soldiers repelled a series of enemy attacks in Bohdanivka, Ivanivske, Klischiiivka, and Andriivka areas. The Defense Forces of Ukraine continue to inflict losses on the enemy in terms of manpower and equipment and are getting entrenched on the achieved frontiers.
- In the Avdiivka direction, the occupiers keep trying to surround Avdiivka. Ukrainian soldiers steadfastly hold the defense, inflicting significant losses on the enemy.
- In the Marinka direction, the Defense Forces are restraining the Russian army in the areas of Krasnohorivka, Marinka, and Novomykhailivka.
- In the Zaporizhzhia direction, the Defense Forces repelled a series of attacks by Russian troops west of Novopokrovka and south of Robotyne.
- In the Melitopol direction, the Defense Forces of Ukraine continue to actively inflict losses in manpower and equipment on the occupying troops.
- In the Kherson direction, Ukrainian defenders will continue to hold their positions on the left bank of the Dnipro, conduct a counter-battery fight, and inflict fire damage on the rear of the Russians.

11.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the day, 98 combat clashes took place at the front. ➤ In the east, Russian casualties are approximately eight times greater than losses of the Ukrainian defense forces, the commander of the Ground Forces of the Ukrainian Armed Forces Oleksandr Syrskyi said. According to him, unlike the Russians, the Ukrainian Defense Forces are trying to achieve success through effective tactical actions, aimed artillery fire, with mortars, attack drones and small arms. ➤ The Ukrainian military conducted successful local counterattacks near Avdiivka, depriving Russian troops of full control over Stepove village, British intelligence informs. According to official data published by Ukraine, on some days about 40 percent of all combat clashes took place in the Avdiivka direction. Russian assaults are mostly characterized by infantry attacks. Storm-Z units are mostly used for the assaults. ➤ The Russian invaders are trying to seize Synkivka village (Kharkiv Oblast) with the forces of assault companies in order to create conditions for blocking Kupiansk. So now the occupiers are transferring reserves to this area, said the commander of the Ground Forces Oleksandr Syrskyi
12.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the day, 89 combat clashes took place at the front. ➤ The assault group of the 24th separate mechanized brigade named after King Danylo, despite the difficult conditions, recaptured one of the spoil tips within Horlivka and captured the enemy's positions. Now the Ukrainian flag flies over the spoil tip. ➤ Ukrainian Defense Minister Umerov stated that there is no question of dismissing Commander-in-Chief Zaluzhnyi or other commanders. He added that this topic is "being promoted both internally and externally" and he always jokes about this topic with Zaluzhnyi. ➤ The Russians are advancing along the entire front line. This was announced by the commander of the Tavria joint forces operation, General Tarnavskyi, who is responsible for the defense in the southeast. According to him, the offensive in the Avdiivka and Marinka directions began two days ago. The Russian army attacks with the support of armored vehicles, and actively uses aviation.
13.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 95 combat clashes took place at the front during the day. ➤ Russian troops are having success near Bakhmut due to the "fresh" units they still have left. They seek to seize the settlement of Chasiv Yar in order to create a threat to the headquarters and logistics of the Defense Forces of Ukraine, said the officer of the 5th Assault Brigade Oleksii Tarasenko. ➤ The Russian Federation keeps creating information leaks and provocations about the alleged complete capture of Marinka, but the defense of the city continues. Oleksandr Tarnavskyi, the commander of Tavria operational-strategic grouping of troops, announced this. According to him, Ukrainian soldiers repelled 11 attacks in the Novomykhailivka and Krasnohorivka areas. ➤ The number of 48N6 missiles, which the Russian Federation used to attack Kyiv, is measured in the thousands, and they continue to manufacture them. This was stated by Oleh Katkov, chief editor of Defense Express. "As for the missiles that were used to attack Kyiv today, we are talking about a range of more than 280 km. I mean, the range of these missiles, most likely, is more than 300 km. These missiles are still of Soviet production. Therefore, their number in Russia is significant," Katkov said. ➤ Russian troops have not been able to occupy a single Ukrainian village this year, Volodymyr Zelenskyi said in an interview with Fox News. "I think that this was very difficult for us to do, but the most important thing is to understand that Russia has not occupied a single village during this year," he said. ➤ On December 13, the border patrol in the Sumy Oblast discovered several persons from the Russian subversive and intelligence group, who were moving from the territory of Russia. The border guards used their weapons and repelled the attack. ➤ "It is obvious that the enemy is trying to study and exhaust our air defense system. In preparing to use missiles on a larger scale, it is likely that the Russians are studying the routes for the missiles, our response methods, and our level of readiness. The enemy uses various methods for this, including false targets," Nataliia Humeniuk, head of the United Coordination Press Center of the Defense Forces of South of Ukraine, said.

Losses of the Russian army from 11.12.2023 to 17.12.2023	
Liquidated personnel	7250
Tanks	103
IFVs	163
Artillery systems / MLRS	73/4
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	4
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	142
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	143
Special equipment	32

Military positions

14.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 120 combat clashes took place at the front during the day. ➤ According to StratCom Ukraine, in the Zaporizhzhia direction, the Russians decided to use captured Ukrainians as a "human shield", simultaneously shelling Ukrainian positions. On December 13, the Ukrainian ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets shared a video from the media in which the Russians are leading captured soldiers of the Armed Forces of Ukraine at gunpoint toward Ukrainian positions. The video captures the moment when a Russian soldier fires a shot in the direction of unarmed people running in the opposite direction from Ukrainian positions. ➤ Aussiedlerbote informs, at night, one of the Russian Shaheds violated NATO airspace, falling on the territory of Romania. Germany raised aircraft and identified Russian aircraft, including by visual contact, but there was no order from NATO to shoot them down. The Romanian Ministry of Defense reported a 1.5-meter-deep sinkhole in the Danube Delta near the Romanian village of Grindu, 6.5 kilometers from the Ukrainian border.
15.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the day, 110 combat clashes took place at the front. ➤ A total of seven attempts by Russians to enter the territory of Ukraine were recorded in two weeks, Lieutenant General Serhiy Naev reported. "In five cases, our defenders managed to detect these intentions in a timely manner and inflict fire damage on the enemy, who, having suffered losses, retreated. In particular, one of the subversive groups tried to cross the Ukrainian state border in the area of Myropillia, Sumy Oblast," the Lieutenant General added. ➤ Putin lied about the number of Russians fighting against Ukraine. According to Ukrainian intelligence, the number of invaders is about 450,000. Andrii Yusov, the representative of the military intelligence (Main Directorate of Intelligence) of Ukraine, stated this. We will remind you that during his press conference yesterday, the dictator said that there are allegedly 617,000 Russian soldiers at the front in Ukraine. ➤ Despite Russia's gradual successes in the battles for Marinka, a large and operationally significant breakthrough in this sector remains extremely unlikely. British intelligence writes about it. As noted in the summary, heavy battles for control over the destroyed city are currently ongoing.
16.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 96 combat clashes took place at the front during the day. ➤ The Mariupol resistance blew up a car with a Russian military officer, Deputy Mayor of Mariupol Petro Andriushchenko said. ➤ Europe needs to prepare for new military threats, said German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius. He believes that the defense industry of Europe needs time to build up its capacities, which is approximately 5-8 years. The German minister added that Putin is increasing the production of weapons in the Russian Federation. At the same time, his threats against the Baltic states, Georgia and Moldova should be taken very seriously. ➤ "We saw that Shahed-type drones were actually released from a truck, from a vehicle," Yurii Ihnat, spokesman for the Air Force Command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, said. The spokesman emphasized that the platforms are not so important for the Russians to launch Shaheds because they can be mobile. ➤ The Center for Countering Disinformation informs the creation of fake Telegram (a messaging app) channels of Ukrainian brigades and battalions has intensified in the network. Such Telegram channels were created by the Russians to spread their fakes and narratives, the purpose of which is to discredit the Ukrainian military. Also, these channels are created to collect information by receiving feedback.

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Special equipment	32

✓ During the past week, Russians launched 41 missile and 241 air strikes and fired over 432 MLRS attacks.

Attack on the night of December 11

The Ukrainian air forces shot down 8 out of 8 ballistic missiles and 18 out of 18 Shahed drones.

- In the Darnytskyi district of Kyiv, windows in a residential building were smashed, causing injuries to a child and two adults due to glass fragments. In the Holosiivskyi district, smoke has been reported on the roof of another residential building. Additionally, four residents of Bortnychi were injured: a man suffered shrapnel wounds, while three women had acute stress reactions. Furthermore, private houses were damaged due to falling debris.
- In the Mykolaiv oblast, the debris from downed drones damaged agricultural buildings in the Kutsurub and Snihurivka communities and private houses in the Ochakiv community. In total, the Ukrainian air defense forces destroyed 13 Russian UAVs in the Mykolaiv oblast.

Attack on the night of December 12

Russia launched 15 Shahed drones towards Ukraine, and the Ukrainian air defense forces destroyed 9 of them. Also, Ukraine intercepted two X-59 guided missiles in the Zaporizhzhia and Dnipro oblasts the previous night.

Attack on the night of December 14

The Ukrainian air defense forces intercepted 41 out of 42 drones deployed by Russia towards Ukraine. Among these, Ukraine shot down two drones in the Kherson oblast, five drones in the Mykolaiv oblast, and 32 drones in the Odesa oblast.

- As a result of the falling drone debris in Odesa, 11 people were injured, including three children. The children sustained contusions and closed head injuries, while the adults suffered concussions and wounds. Over a dozen buildings, primarily residential, including a dormitory, were destroyed. The Russians targeted the port infrastructure of the Izmail district of the Odesa oblast with more than 20 attack drones. The falling debris caused damage to the warehouses of two-grain storage facilities.
- Additionally, the Russians launched 6 S-300 anti-aircraft guided missiles from the temporarily occupied Kherson oblast towards the Mykolaiv and Kherson oblasts.

Attack on the night of December 15

The Ukrainian Air Defense Force destroyed all 14 drones. The drones were shot down in the Mykolaiv, Kherson, Khmelnytskyi, and Poltava oblasts.

Attack on the night of December 16

The Ukrainian air defense forces shot down 30 out of 31 UAVs launched by Russia towards Ukraine.

- Ukraine shot down two drones over the Synelnykove district of the Dnipro oblast, and their debris fell onto the building of a private enterprise.
- Kyiv was targeted in groups, waves, and from different directions. Nevertheless, all Russian targets were destroyed. There were no injuries reported due to the operation of the city's air defense or falling debris.
- The Ukrainian air defense forces intercepted 9 UAVs, and their debris damaged an administrative building and a medical facility in the Kherson district.
- Furthermore, the Ukrainian air defense forces operated in the Vinnytsia, Chernihiv, Sumy, Poltava, Cherkasy, Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv, and Khmelnytskyi oblasts.

Odesa oblast

On December 12, two people were injured in the Odesa oblast due to the Russian Shahed drone attack, causing damage to civilian infrastructure. On the night of December 13, the Ukrainian air defense forces shot down nine Shahed drones over the Odesa oblast. One of the downed drones crashed onto the premises of a car repair facility in Odesa, leading to the hospitalization of two employees with injuries. It also destroyed a hangar and damaged 11 cars, three of which were burned to the ground. In the Odesa district, debris from another downed drone damaged a port infrastructure, but no injuries were reported.

Kyiv and Kyiv oblast

On the morning of December 13, the Russians launched **ten ballistic missiles** at Kyiv. The Ukrainian air defense forces shot down all of them. Approximately a dozen incidents of falling debris were recorded. In the Holosiivskyi district, debris fell on the road, while in the Darnytskyi and Dniprovskyi districts, damage was caused to private and residential buildings, a children's hospital, and a water supply system. In the Desnianskyi district of Kyiv, the evacuation of people from a residential building was conducted — 17 people were rescued, including seven children. There were broken windows and a fire in the apartments. In total, **53 people were affected**, including six children.

Kherson and Kherson oblast

Throughout the week, the Russians fired more than 400 times at the Kherson region, launching more than 1,000 shells from various types of weapons. Kherson, Antonivka, Veletenske, Ivanivka, Vysoke, Novodmytrivka, Oleksandrivka, and Krynyky came under fire. On December 11, the Russians shelled the Kherson community, resulting in two injuries and one fatality. On December 12, two men were injured in another shelling of Kherson. Also, Tiahynka was shelled, resulting in a 50-year-old man being wounded in his own house. On the night of December 14, the Russians launched two attacks on Kherson, causing fires in an apartment building and a business center. There were no casualties or injuries reported. On the same day, Russia targeted the village of Myroliubivka, launching three S-300 missiles. One of the missiles struck a residential building, leading to the death of a 63-year-old woman trapped under the rubble. The strikes destroyed two houses, and an outpatient clinic, and caused damage to an educational institution and a church.

Kharkiv and Kharkiv oblast

Throughout the week, Russia conducted artillery and mortar attacks on Chervona Zoria, Huriv Kozachok in the Bohodukhiv district; Kozacha Lopan, Lukiantsi, Zelene, Veterynarne in the Kharkiv district; Hrafske, Okhrimivka, Vovchansk, Bochkove, Budarky in the Chuhuiv district; Dvorichna, Pletenivka, Synkivka, Petropavlivka, Ivanivka and Berestove in the Kupiansk district.

On December 11, due to the Russian shelling of Kurylivka in the Kupiansk district, a fire broke out, damaging four garages and a private house. On December 12, Russia shelled Kupiansk, resulting in an outbuilding burning down and the death of a 73-year-old man. In Kupiansk-Vuzlovyyi, a five-story apartment building was damaged due to the Russian shelling. There were no casualties reported. On December 13, Russia conducted an artillery shelling in Kupiansk, damaging residential buildings and leading to the death of one person and injuries to another. On December 15, a kindergarten in Kupiansk-Vyzlovyyi was damaged due to the Russian shelling.

Donetsk oblast

On December 12, the Russian army shelled Krasnohorivka with tanks and artillery, injuring a woman. On December 14, Russia carried out two air strikes using guided aerial bombs on Toretsk, damaging administrative buildings and a catering facility. On the night of December 16, the Russians heavily shelled the center of Kurakhove, causing a fire to break out in an apartment building.

On the Donetsk direction, Avdiivka, Kurakhove, Ocheretyne, Marinka communities, Veselyi Hai, Kurakhove, Heorhiivka, Maksymilianivka, Krasnohorivka, Novoselivka Persha, Ostrivske, Hanivka, Vovchenka, Yelyzavetivka, Katerynivka, Berestky came under fire. Residential buildings and an industrial district were damaged.

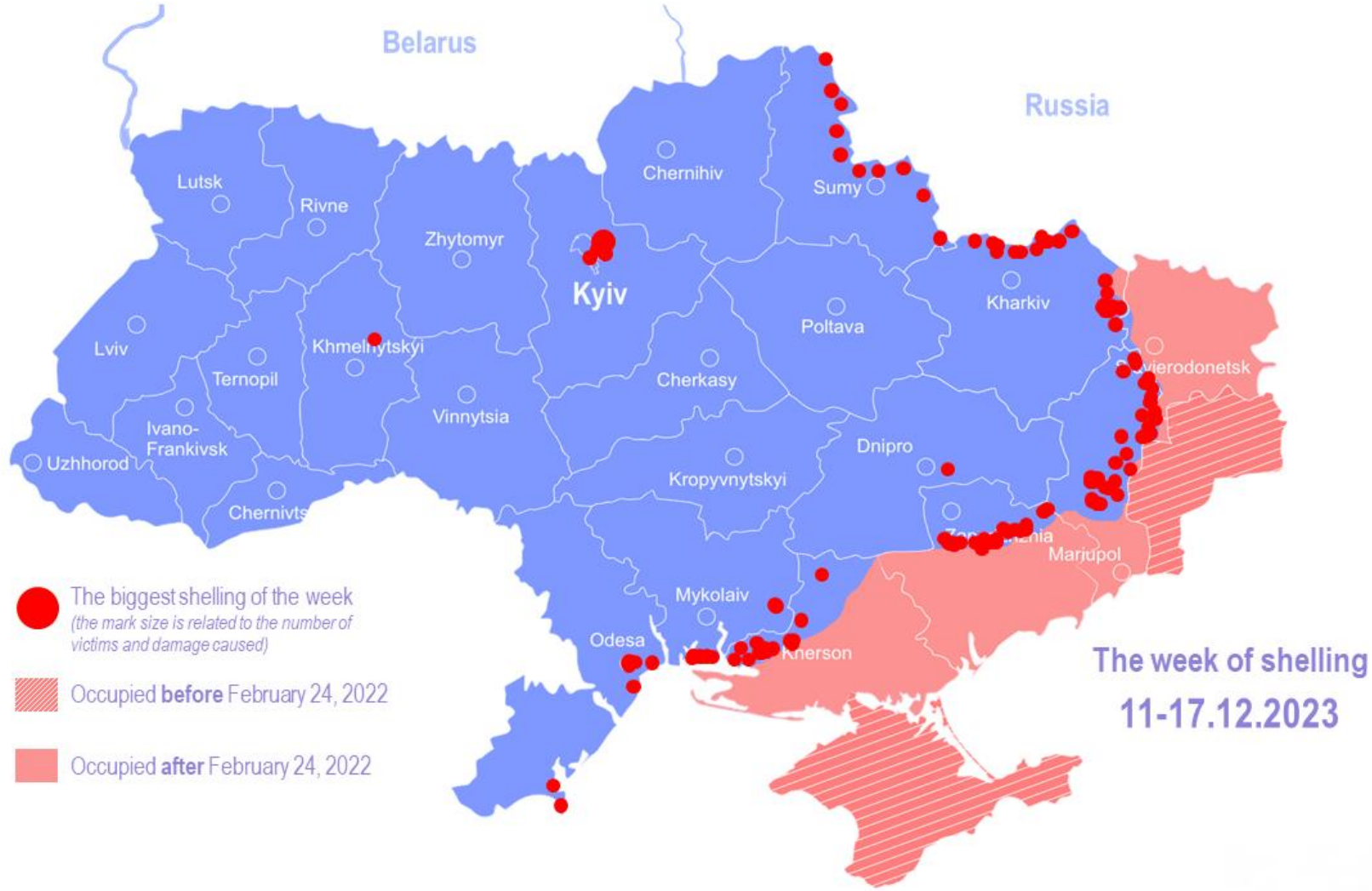
On the Horlivka direction, Chasiv Yar, Toretsk, Soledar communities, Toretsk, Pivnichne, Minkivka, and Rozdolivka are affected. Private houses, an industrial building, high-rise buildings, a shop, and an outbuilding were damaged.

On the Lysychansk direction, Serebrianka, Siversk, Zvanivka, Lyman communities, Siversk, Verkhokamianske, Pereizne, Torske, and Zarichne came under fire. Residential buildings were damaged. There are casualties reported in all directions.

Khmelnytskyi oblast

On December 14, the Russians targeted Starokonstantyniv with a Kinzhal aeroballistic missile. There were no reported casualties.

This week shelling and strikes



Zaporizhzhia oblast

Throughout the week, the Russians carried more than 500 attacks in the oblast, targeting Novodarivka, Charivne, Mala Tokmachka, Malynivka, Luhivske, Robotyne, Huliaipole, Zaliznychne, Novoandriivka, Chervone, Novodanylivka, Levadne, Bilohiria, Preobrazhenka, Kamianske, Mali Shcherbaky, Charivne, Orikhiv, Poltavka, Piatykhatky, Plavni, Verkhnia Tersa, Stepove, Lobkove.

Mykolaiv oblast

On December 12 and 13, the Russians struck the village of Solonchaky in the Kutsurub community. Additionally, there were reports about shelling in the city of Ochakiv. On December 14 and 15, Russia attacked Ochakiv and the water area of the Ochakiv community, the settlements of Yaselka and Dmytrivka in the Kutsurub community, and the outskirts of the town of Snihurivka in the Snihurivka community.

Sumy oblast

Throughout the week, the Russians attacked the Sumy oblast more than 150 times. The Seredyna-Buda, Bilopillia, Velyka Pysarivka, Khotin, Shalyhyne, Svesa, Krasnopillia, Yunakivka, Nova Sloboda and Esman communities were shelled, damaging private houses, the administrative building of the railway station, and power lines.

Kyiv



Zaporizhzhia oblast



Odesa oblast



Humanitarian crisis

11 – 12.12

- **The COVID-19 incidence is growing** in Ukraine. As of today, four thousand patients are hospitalized every week. According to the Public Health Center of the Ministry of Health, this data was stated by Ihor Kuzin, Chief State Sanitary Doctor of Ukraine.
- On December 12, a failure in the Kyivstar network, **used by 24 million Ukrainians**, left mobile subscribers and some home Internet users **without a mobile and internet connection**. The failure was caused by a Russian hackers' attack. Oleksandr Komarov, the company's CEO, reports the **war** against Russia has many dimensions, and one of them is **in cyberspace**.
- The National Resistance Center reports that people in the temporarily occupied territories of the **Luhansk Oblast** are **freezing** without heating. There are already fatal cases. The reason is the conflict between the so-called state-owned enterprise "Luhanskgaz" and the occupation administration, which allegedly does not pay for the fuel consumed. The parties ignore the problems of the population and are engaged in a **struggle for influence**, with the support of Russian security forces.
- In terms of the **"Side by Side" initiative**, 66 construction teams are working on 324 objects in the de-occupied Kherson oblast. A dozen and a half houses have been repaired in a week (in total, 851 houses) This was stated on Facebook by Oleksandr Prokudin, the head of the Kherson Military Administration. As part of the initiative, 15 oblasts of Ukraine will **help restore settlements in Kherson oblast** that have been affected by the fighting and occupation by the Russian army. It includes restoring housing and infrastructure and creating conditions for the return of Kherson residents to their homes.

13.12

- The Japan International Cooperation Agency (**JICA**) will help Kherson **develop a master plan for the city**. The city's military administration emphasizes that the community is constantly looking for partners to help with its further development.
- Oleh Shuvarskyi, head of the Mine Action Department, said that the secretariat of the National Mine Action Authority recorded 593 **mine incidents** in the de-occupied territories alone, involving 877 civilians. Among them, **277 people were killed and 600 were injured**. The most contaminated areas are in Mykolaiv, Kherson, and Kharkiv oblasts with more than 50% of all these incidents.
- In 2024, the government will compensate businesses for creating about **10,000 jobs for people with disabilities**. 660 million hryvnas will be allocated for this program. This was reported by the press service of the Ministry of Economy. The compensation is paid for the purchase of auxiliary equipment for workplace arrangements, such as furniture and fittings, computers and office equipment, software, handrails and bars, and other equipment.

14.12

- In the children's camps where Russians take Ukrainian children from the temporarily occupied territories, mercenaries of Wagner PMC conduct lectures. The children have had "dialogues with heroes" sessions in which mercenaries **popularize Russia's war against their homeland**. This was reported by the press service of the National Resistance Center.
- Five more Ukrainian **children were returned from the occupation**. It is noted that two of them have families and were taken out with their parents. Three more are children from the category of those who found themselves in difficult life circumstances. This was reported by Oleksandr Prokudin, the head of the Kherson RMA.
- **UNESCO** has added five more cultural **heritage sites** of Ukraine to the International List of Cultural Property under Temporary Enhanced Protection. This was reported by the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine. These are cultural heritage sites, located in Odesa, Chernihiv, as well as in Lviv and Zakarpattia oblasts.
- In 2024, the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine will launch a new project called "Culture Without Barriers". It envisages **barrier-free access** to cultural services and spaces for all Ukrainians, with special attention to veterans, and people with hearing, visual, motor, mental, and intellectual disabilities.

15.12

- The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) mission reports that the Russian military often **held** illegally detained **civilian Ukrainians** in the occupied territories in **makeshift detention facilities**. In particular, in garages at police stations, in the basements of military "commandant's offices" and courts, in gyms, in the premises of cultural centers, and sometimes simply in holes dug in the ground. Almost all victims reported overcrowded cells, lack of fresh air, low temperatures, inadequate sanitary conditions, and the absence or poor quality of food and water. In addition, OSCE/ODIHR recorded at least 6 **cases of sexual violence** against detainees in addition to **torture**.
- The OSCE report also notes that the practice of **ill-treatment and torture of Ukrainian prisoners of war** in the Russian Federation is more frequent and consistent. In addition, the Russians are holding **show trials** of combatants and accusing them of "terrorism," which is contrary to international humanitarian law.
- In Donetsk oblast, **42,000 families are left without power** due to bad weather. Since the beginning of the day, power engineers have restored electricity to 80 settlements in the oblast, the press service of DTEK Donetsk Grids reports. Bad weather in Donetsk oblast has been raging for almost a week. Every day, due to strong wind gusts, rain, ice, and sleet, civilians remain not only without power but also without mobile communications, water, and heating.

