



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

December 22 – 28

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International support

22.12

- More than a thousand applications have already been submitted to the **Ukrainian Legion**, which is being formed on the territory of Poland. This was announced by Ukraine's Ambassador to Poland, Vasyi Bondar. The Polish side has provided conditions for basic military training, equipment, and accommodation at designated ground training areas.
- The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) **Director Bill Burns visited Ukraine**. According to President Zelenskyi, he has had many meetings with Burns during the full-scale war, but they have not been publicly reported before.
- BMW claims that it has stopped **the illegal export** of its cars to Russia and fired the employees involved. The company added that the cars were previously imported through so-called gray market channels.
- The EU is preparing a 16th package of sanctions against Russia by February, Welt am Sonntag reports. This package will include "measures against specific sectors of the Russian economy that have not been covered at all or have been covered insufficiently."

23.12

- Ukraine has received \$1.1 billion from the **International Monetary Fund**, and this is the sixth **tranche** under the Extended Fund Facility program. The money will go to the state budget and help the government finance critical expenditures. In total, Ukraine has already received \$9.8 billion under this program.
- **Switzerland** has joined the EU's **new sanctions** against Russia and Belarus. The country's sanctions lists are now identical to those of the European Union. Russian and Belarusian citizens under sanctions are now also subject to a ban on entry and transit to and through Switzerland.
- A protest was held in Bratislava under the slogan "Enough of Russia" in response to **Prime Minister Fico's visit to Putin** on December 22. The protest was attended by former Slovak prime ministers, opposition members, artists, Ukrainian refugees, and others. Organizers of the protest stated that by negotiating with Putin, the prime minister was strengthening Russia's influence in Slovakia and exploiting the issue of gas transit.

24.12

- Ukraine received \$567 million under guarantees of the Japanese government and \$483 million under guarantees of the UK government. These funds will be allocated to **strengthening Ukraine's economy** and financing priority expenditures in the social and humanitarian sectors.
- Ukraine has **received \$1 billion from the United States**, the first tranche of a planned \$20 billion. The US is allocating these funds through the use of immobilized Russian assets under the G7 initiative.
- **Latvia** has transferred a total of **612 vehicles** worth €2.25 million to Ukraine. Back in February 2023, the Latvian Saeima adopted amendments allowing state-owned vehicles to be transferred to Ukraine.

25.12

- US President Joe Biden is preparing a **"farewell" package of sanctions** against Russian oil exports, The Washington Post reports. The sanctions will be imposed on Russia's so-called "shadow fleet."
- Japan will transfer **\$3 billion** to Ukraine **from the proceeds of frozen Russian assets**. Tokyo will also help with additional energy equipment and the construction of shelters.

26.12

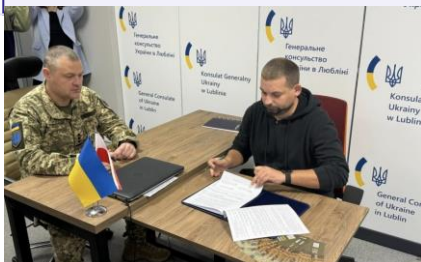
- US President Joe Biden **called for increased aid to Ukraine** after Russia's Christmas Day attack, which he described as "outrageous."
- A Czech company secretly supplied Ukraine with **equipment for the reactors** at the Rivne Nuclear Power Plant (**NPP**). This includes eight new drives from Škoda JS. The delivery was reported only now due to regular Russian shelling. Another Czech company, ÚJV Rež, sent Kyiv a 13-ton cable to reinforce the reactor's protective building. Škoda JS is currently discussing with Ukrainian officials the modernization of the South Ukrainian NPP and the expansion of the Khmelnytskyi NPP.
- Dutch Ambassador to Ukraine Alle Dorhout stated that the country has already allocated €3.8 billion for Ukraine, with plans for another €6 billion. He said this in an interview with Ukrinform.
- The European Commission will propose new **sanctions against Russia's shadow fleet** after a cable break in the Baltic Sea. The Eagle S vessel, suspected of involvement in the cable break between Finland and Estonia, belongs to the Russian shadow fleet and helps Moscow circumvent oil price caps.
- **Moldova** has named **Russia as the main threat in its defense strategy** for the next decade. The document identifies the main threats to Moldova's national security as those related to the Russian factor - the risks of an expansion of the war in Moldova's neighboring Odesa region, hybrid attacks by Russia, Russian troops stationed in unrecognized Transnistria, and the armed groups of the Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic.
- **The Pope** has accepted an invitation to **visit Ukraine**, but the date is not known yet. This was stated by the head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, Sviatoslav Shevchuk, in an interview with Radio Svoboda.

27.12

- Ukraine has prepared everything for the **second Peace Summit**, spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Heorhii Tykhyi reports. The date of the summit is not known yet.
- Ukraine has received **\$485 million from the World Bank** and the United States as part of the PEACE in Ukraine project, Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal reports. Of this amount, \$465 million was provided by the United States through USAID. Another \$20 million came from the World Bank.
- The Slovak Prosecutor's Office will conduct **an investigation** into the December 22 meeting between Prime Minister **Robert Fico and Russian President Vladimir Putin**. A complaint was filed by members of the civic organization "Peace for Ukraine."

28.12

- Volodymyr Zelenskyi reacts to the Slovak Prime Minister's statement that Slovakia may stop supplying electricity to Ukraine. "It seems that Putin has instructed Fico to open a second energy front against Ukraine at the expense of the Slovak people's interests," the Ukrainian president wrote. Zelenskyi noted that Fico's policy has already left the people of Slovakia without compensation for the loss of Russian gas transit and may further deprive them of at least \$200 million annually, which Ukraine pays for imported electricity.



Military positions

- In the area of Vovchansk in the Kharkiv direction, assaults on the positions of Ukrainian defenders took place.
- In the Kupiansk direction, the Defense Forces repelled enemy offensive actions near Petropavlivka and Lozova.
- Russian army attacked the Lyman axis with the support of assault and bomber aviation. The main offensive efforts were concentrated in the areas of Pershotravneve, Novoiehorivka, Nadiia, Terny, Torske, Zarichne, Dibrova, and the Serebrianskyi Forest.
- In the Siversk direction, the enemy attacked near Bilohorivka and toward Vyiimka.
- In the Kramatorsk axis, the occupiers launched attacks in the areas of Chasiv Yar, Bila Hora, and Stupochky.
- In the Toretsk direction, the Russian army conducted a series of attacks near Toretsk, Shcherbynivka, and Diliivka, actively employing bomber aviation.

- In the Pokrovsk direction, Ukrainian defenders stopped the offensive near Myroliubivka, Promin, Vozdvyzhenka, Lysivka, Dachenske, Novyi Trud, Shevchenko, Novoielyzavetivka, Novovasylivka, and Vovkove.
- In the Kurakhove direction, the Russian forces concentrated efforts in the areas of Petropavlivka, Slovianka, Dachne, and Kurakhove.
- Supported by aviation in the Vremivka direction, the enemy assaulted Ukrainian positions near Kostiantynopilske, Rozlyv, Novyi Komar, and Novodarivka.
- In the Huliaipole direction, the enemy attempted to advance in the Bilohirya area, unsuccessfully.
- In the Prydniprovsk direction, Russian invaders attacked Ukrainian positions three times but were repelled and suffered losses.
- An operation is ongoing in the Kursk region. In the Volyn and Polissia direction, no signs of enemy offensive group formations have been detected.

23.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 234 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. ➤ North Korea (DPRK) may be preparing to send additional troops and weapons to Russia, reports Yonhap. Pyongyang might rotate or increase the number of soldiers in Russia while supplying rockets and self-propelled artillery systems. According to South Korean military sources, North Korea has also started manufacturing and supplying kamikaze drones. Seoul believes that the DPRK will focus on military cooperation with Moscow in 2025. ➤ North Korea has significantly ramped up the production of artillery shells being supplied to Russia, reports The Wall Street Journal, citing Airbus satellite images. In addition to expanding production capabilities, the DPRK has substantially increased the volume of ammunition deliveries to Russia, providing a critical advantage in the war of attrition. ➤ In the Kursk region, over 3,000 North Korean soldiers have been reported killed or wounded. This was stated by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyi. ➤ A warehouse in the "Alabuga" economic zone in Russia caught fire, where components for Shahed-136 UAVs were stored. The facility contained 65 fuselages for strike drones, engines, navigation systems, and thermal video cameras intended for the production of 400 Shahed-136 units—all destroyed. The losses caused by the warehouse's destruction are estimated at \$16 million.
24.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 252 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. ➤ Russia is increasing the number of drone attacks on Ukraine every month, according to British intelligence. The British Ministry of Defense's intelligence review dated December 23, 2024, noted that in November, Russia launched approximately 2,300 unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) across Ukrainian regions, surpassing the previous month's total. Intelligence emphasized that the monthly number of UAVs has been steadily rising throughout 2024, with a significant increase of over 200 units compared to the previous month observed since July 2024. ➤ The son of Iran's former defense minister supplies a quarter of Iran-manufactured weapons to Russia, reports Bloomberg, citing sources. Shamkhani Jr. is part of a group of businessmen delivering weapons to Russia via the Caspian Sea.
25.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 266 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. ➤ Overnight, the Defense Forces struck a Russian command post in the Kursk region. Ukrainian forces targeted the command post of the Russian Armed Forces' 810th Marine Brigade, located in an abandoned residential building in the Russian town of Lgov, according to the Strategic Communications Directorate of Ukraine's Armed Forces. ➤ The Air Force struck a military-industrial facility in Russia's Rostov region. According to Ukraine's Strategic Communications Directorate, this enterprise was used by Russia for the production of solid rocket fuel for ballistic missiles. ➤ The Ukrainian UAV complex "Shchedryk" has been approved for deployment in Defense Forces units. The Ministry of Defense reports that this system comprises a control station and remotely operated aerial vehicles. Equipped with silent electric motors, these drones have enhanced resistance to electronic warfare (EW) measures. "Shchedryk" can operate effectively in strong winds, extreme cold, and high heat. Deputy Minister of Defense Dmytro Klimentov emphasized, "The capabilities of this aerial vehicle and its optical equipment enable it to operate from altitudes beyond the reach of most enemy air defense systems."
26.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 217 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. ➤ On December 26, the Ukrainian Air Force, in coordination with other Defense Forces components, struck a Russian military facility in the Oryol region. The attack destroyed a storage, maintenance, and repair facility for Shahed kamikaze drones, composed of several reinforced concrete structures. This operation significantly reduced the enemy's capability to conduct drone airstrikes on Ukrainian civilian infrastructure. ➤ Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke following an informal summit of CIS leaders. He stated that Russia "seeks to resolve the conflict in Ukraine" but emphasized that Russia would "continue pursuing the objectives of the Special Military Operation (SVO) in 2025."

Losses of the Russian army from 22.12.2024 to 28.12.2024

Liquidated personnel	9 840
Tanks	41
IFVs	96
Artillery systems / MLRS	137/0
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	2
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	248
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	371
Special equipment	6

Military positions

26.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the Kherson region, enemy activity has increased, reports Oleksandr Prokudin, head of the Regional Military Administration. According to Prokudin, there are instances of the occupiers advancing and attempting to establish positions on islands or the right bank of the Dnipro River.
27.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 171 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. ➤ An explosion in Voskresensk destroyed train cars used by the Russian Armed Forces, reports Ukrainian Defense Intelligence (HUR). ➤ Russia is ramping up drone manufacturing in the Alabuga Special Economic Zone in Tatarstan, according to CNN. The facility utilizes Chinese components and low-cost labor from Africa. In 2023, Alabuga produced 2,738 drones, and in the first nine months of 2024, production more than doubled to 5,760 units. ➤ Russian forces attempted to land on Kozatskyi Island in the Dnipro River, Kherson region, according to Southern Defense Forces spokesperson Vladyslav Voloshyn. The enemy suffered losses in personnel, equipment, and watercraft, failing to secure a foothold. ➤ Russia relies on Western equipment for the production of the "Oreshnik" missile, reports the Financial Times. Russian weapon development institutes actively seek workers familiar with German and Japanese machining systems, including those by Fanuc (Japan), Siemens (Germany), and Heidenhain (Germany). Despite sanctions, Russia remains critically dependent on foreign CNC (Computer Numerical Control) technologies essential for precision manufacturing. ➤ Ukraine's Defense Forces added the Ukrainian-made all-terrain vehicle "Ravlyk" to their fleet. This versatile vehicle can transport several hundred kilograms or tow nearly two tons. Equipped with an electric motor and off-road tires, it is dust- and water-resistant and functions in extreme temperatures. Deputy Defense Minister Dmytro Klimentov highlighted its ability to navigate rough terrains and obstacles silently. ➤ Three senior officers of the Russian occupying forces were eliminated in a joint operation by Ukraine's Defense Intelligence, Security Service (SBU), UAV Forces, and the Tavriia Operational Group. The strike carried out with HIMARS on a gathering of Russian officers and vehicles was followed by drone attacks on the evacuation group.
28.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 162 combat engagements were recorded over the past day. ➤ The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine summarized the results of 2024. In particular, he noted that this year, the Russian army suffered over 421,000 casualties, both killed and wounded, which is the highest figure since the beginning of the full-scale war. Oleksandr Syrskyi also mentioned the creation of the Drone Systems Forces, emphasizing that Ukraine increased the supply of UAVs to the military 19-fold compared to last year. Additionally, he reported that the number of enemy targets hit and destroyed increased 3.7 times this year.

Military Support

- Poland has donated two Mi-8 helicopters and one Bell 412HP helicopter to Ukraine.
- A new powder production line for artillery propellant charges by the French company Eurengo will begin operations in January 2025. It will produce products, including for Ukraine, as reported by Forces Operations Blog.
- The German defense giant Rheinmetall will deliver 155 mm artillery shells to Ukraine in the first half of 2025, according to the official page of the Defense Procurement Agency of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.
- Ukrainian Armored Vehicles LLC will receive licenses from the European defense holding Czechoslovak Group for the production of tank and artillery shells.
- Germany has provided Ukraine with a military aid package. It includes, in particular, 15 Leopard 1 A5 tanks, 30 MRAP vehicles, the sixth IRIS-T SLM air defense system along with ammunition and additional IRIS-T SLS launchers. Additionally, 200 MG4 light machine guns, 120 GMG automatic grenade launchers, and 80 HLR 338 sniper rifles were delivered.
- The U.S. Department of Defense has awarded Williams International \$253.7 million. The funds will be used to increase missile production volumes, including as part of military assistance programs for Ukraine.
- A group of Ukrainian pilots has completed training on Mirage 2000-5F fighter jets in France. This was reported by the French outlet RTL. Ukrainian ground specialists have also been trained to service these aircraft. According to the outlet, Ukraine has requested a total of 12 Mirage 2000-5F jets to meet the urgent needs of the Ukrainian Air Force.
- A new U.S. assistance package worth \$1.25 billion will be announced on December 30, writes AP. The assistance will include a "significant quantity" of ammunition for NASAMS air defense systems and HAWK air defense systems. It also mentions Stinger missiles, 155 mm and 105 mm artillery shells.



Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of December 22:** Air defense forces shot down 52 enemy UAVs out of 103. An Iskander-M ballistic missile was also launched in the direction of Kherson oblast.
- **Attack on the night of December 23:** Ukrainian air defense shot down 47 of 72 Russian drones.
 - Private businesses and buildings were damaged in Khmelnytskyi and Kyiv oblasts.
- **Attack on the night of December 24:** Ukrainian air defense shot down 36 of 60 Russian drones.
- **Attack on the night of December 25:** Air defense forces shot down 113 of 184 enemy missiles and drones: 55 X-101, X-55SM, Kalibr cruise missiles, 4 X-59/X-69 missiles, and 54 Shahed/imitator drones of various types, while 52 more UAVs did not reach their targets.
 - Russia hit the energy infrastructure of the Dnipropetrovsk oblast. One civilian was killed.
 - In Kharkiv, six people were injured in a ballistic missile attack.
 - There is damage to critical infrastructure in Poltava, Ivano-Frankivsk, and Vinnytsia oblasts.
- **Attack on the night of December 26:** Air defense forces shot down 20 drones out of 31.
- **Attack on the night of December 27:** Air defense forces shot down 13 of 24 Russian drones. The Russians also fired two Iskander-M ballistic missiles.
- **Attack on the night of December 28:** Air defense forces shot down 15 of 16 enemy UAVs.
 - Falling debris damaged a business and an apartment building in Mykolaiv. There were no casualties or injuries.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

- Artillery and air strikes on Lobkove, Huliai Pole, Shcherbaky, Novoandriivka, Novodanylivka, Novodarivka, Mala Tokmachka, Bilohiria, Malynivka, Olhove, Kamianske, Bilenke, Stepnohorsk, Pidhirne, Prymorske, Charivne, Novoboikivske, and Temyrivka remain unchanged. Zaporizhzhia was also attacked.

Odesa oblast

- Overall, Odesa and the oblast's situation remained calm during the week. Only on the night of December 23, Russia attacked the Odesa oblast with attack drones. Air defense forces shot down three Shahed UAVs over the oblast that night.

Kharkiv and the oblast

- During the week, the Russian forces mostly used attack UAVs, artillery, and guided aerial bombs to strike Kharkiv oblast.

The largest attack took place on Christmas Eve, January 25, with 6 casualties. Civilian and critical infrastructure was damaged, and fires broke out. On December 26, there were 4 injured and 2 killed civilians in Zolochiv and Slatyne as a result of the strikes by the glide bombs.

Kharkiv, Ridkodub, Petropalivka, Vidrodzhenivske, Kupiansk, Zolochiv, Slatyne, Prudianka, Dvorichna, Novoosynove, Murafa, Siriaky, Podvirky, PISOCHYN, Kulynychi, Naukove, Babai, Lobanivka, Selektisyne, Yakovlivka, Nyzhnii Byshkyn, Slobozhanske, Ternova, Zlatopil, Ivaniivka, Senkove, Borshchova, Kindrashivka, and Podoly were hit by shelling.

Sumy oblast

- During the week, Sumy oblast was hit by missile attacks, FPV drone attacks, and guided aerial bombs. The Russians also dropped explosives from UAVs and fired mortars and artillery.

On December 24, Russia attacked a farm in the suburbs of Krolevets with three drones. During the first attack, milkmaids were working there. The people survived. The second time, the UAV struck when the animals were being taken out of the farm. Seven cows were killed, and seven more were wounded.

The Sumy, Krasnopillia, Yunakivka, Myropillia, Bilopillia, Khotyn, Velyka Pysarivka, Khutir-Mykhailivskyi, Seredyna-Buda, Nova Sloboda, Shalyhyne, Hlukhiv, Svesa, Romny and Putyvl communities were subjected to Russian attacks with various types of weapons.

Dnipro and the oblast

- Nikopol, the Marhanets, Pokrov, Chervonohryhorivka, and Myrove communities were the most affected. The occupiers used heavy artillery, Grad multiple rocket launchers, kamikaze drones, and missiles.

On December 24, Russia attacked Kryvyi Rih. The attack damaged a residential building, injuring 17 people, including children. One resident of the city was killed. On December 25, the Russian forces attacked the energy infrastructure in Dnipro. One person was killed, almost two dozen private houses and 25 apartment buildings, 6 schools and 7 kindergartens, and a medical facility were damaged.

Donetsk oblast

- During the week, Russia shelled Donetsk oblast with aerial bombs, drones, Grad, and Smerch multiple rocket launchers.

On December 26, three people were killed as a result of Russian shelling in Donetsk oblast: in Chasiv Yar and Novoeconomichne. On December 28, Russia shelled Pokrovsk. Women aged 85 and 68 sustained shrapnel wounds.

The wounded and the destruction of infrastructure were recorded:

- **In the Volnovakha district:** Komar.
- **In the Pokrovsk district:** Udachne, Myrnohrad, Horikhove.
- **In the Kramatorsk district:** Kostiantynivka, Lyman, Mykolaivka, Druzhkivka, Serhiivka, Novodmytrivka, Yarova.

Other oblasts

- During the week, Russians attacked two communities in **Mykolaiv oblast** almost every day: the Kutsurub and Ochakiv ones. The Russian army used kamikaze drones and artillery. Fortunately, there were no casualties.
- Also, on the night of December 28, the enemy attacked Mykolaiv with a Shahed 131/136 UAV. As a result of the combat operation and falling debris, a fire broke out on the roof of a residential building. There were no casualties.
- In addition, Russia attacked **Kyiv and Kyiv oblast** with drones almost every day. On December 22-23, private businesses and civilian buildings were damaged as a result of drone debris falling in the oblast. There were no casualties.
- Drone attacks also took place in **Khmelnyskyi oblast**: on December 23-24, UAVs smashed windows and damaged roofs in private buildings and commercial premises.
- On December 25, the enemy attacked **Poltava, Ivano-Frankivsk and Vinnytsia oblast**. The shelling caused damage to the energy infrastructure, and part of Ivano-Frankivsk oblast was left without electricity.

Kherson and the oblast

- Carrying out the strikes, Russian troops used artillery, aircraft, mortars, and drones. During this period, at least 5 people were killed, and 19 others were injured in Russian attacks.

On December 22, 28 settlements came under fire, killing 3 people and injuring 1 more. During the shelling on December 26, 22 private houses were damaged, and 6 civilians were injured.

Dozens of settlements came under enemy fire, including Kherson, Antonivka, Bilozerka, Komyshany, Beryslav, Stanislav, Shyroka Balka, Tomyna Balka, Novooleksandrivka, Vesele, Zmiivka, Olhivka, Kachkarivka, Dudchany, Tiahynka, Monastyrsk and many others.

Chernihiv oblast

- In Chernihiv oblast, the border communities - the Novhorod-Siverskyi, Semenivka, Snovsk, and Horodnia ones – came under enemy fire during the week. Russians attacked not only with artillery but also used kamikaze drones, FPV drones, and cruise missiles.

On December 27, 37 explosions were heard – the largest number of explosions recorded in the oblast. Enemy shells damaged critical infrastructure, private houses, and cars.



The week of shelling

Kharkiv oblast



Donetsk oblast



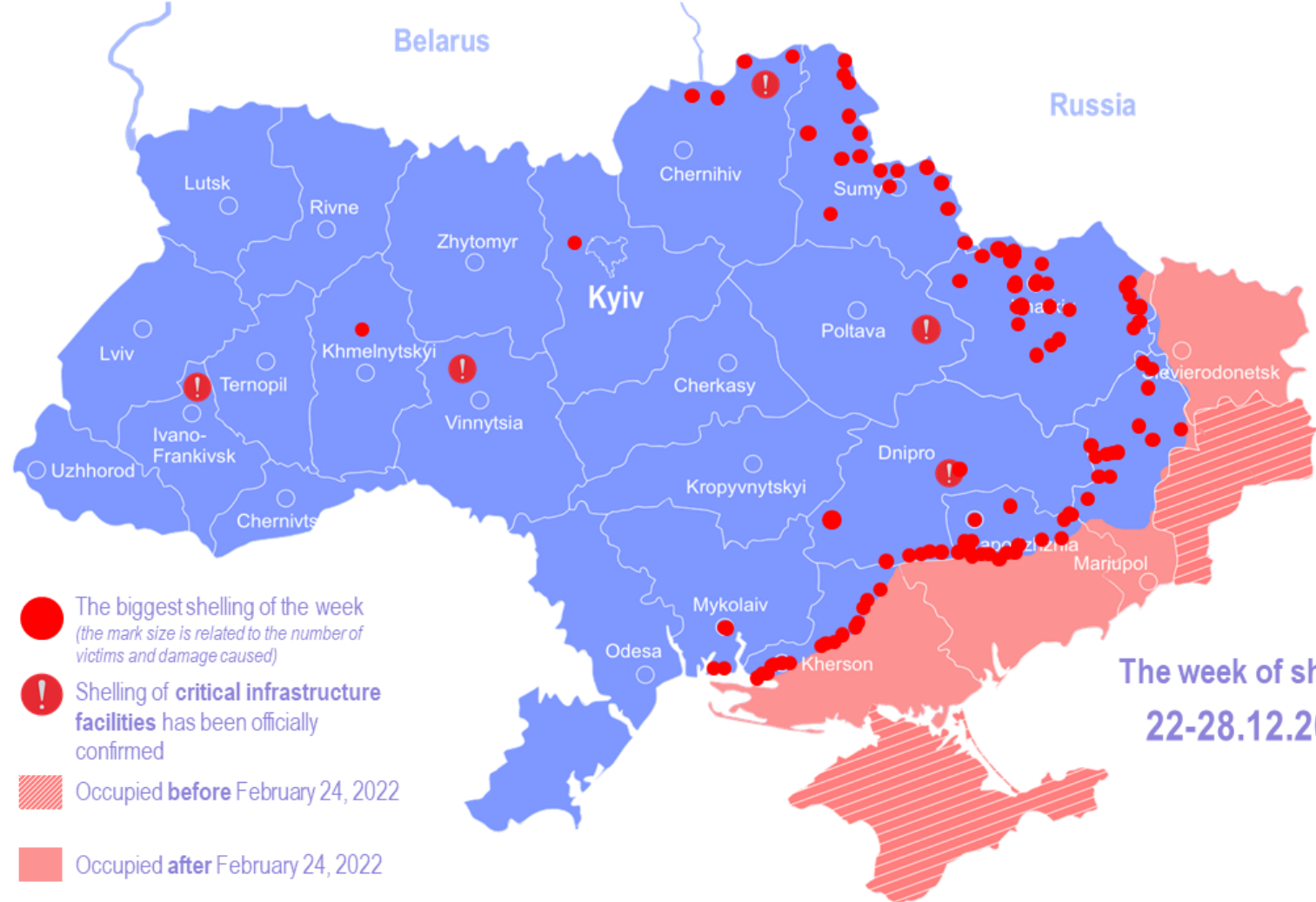
Kherson oblast



Dnipropetrovsk oblast



Donetsk oblast



The week of shelling
22-28.12.2024

- The biggest shelling of the week
(the mark size is related to the number of victims and damage caused)
- ! Shelling of **critical infrastructure facilities** has been officially confirmed
- Occupied **before** February 24, 2022
- Occupied **after** February 24, 2022

Human Rights Violations

- 420 residents of Kharkiv region, including 98 residents of Kharkiv city, were killed by Russian shelling in 2024. 18 of the victims were children. This was reported by the head of the OVA, Oleh Syniehubov. 2641 people in the Kharkiv region (including 1156 Kharkiv residents) were injured. Of these, 196 are children.
- Since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, 596 children have been killed, 1723 children have been injured, and 1944 children are missing. This was reported by Emir Abdullayev, a prosecutor at the Prosecutor General's Office. As of the end of December 2024, about 60 thousand people are actively searched for in the Unified Register of Persons Missing in Special Circumstances. This was announced by the head of the Department of the Register Office, Dmytro Bohatiuk. Since the beginning of the Register, information about more than 70 thousand people who were considered missing has been entered into it.
- The Third Separate Assault Brigade made public the facts of war crimes committed by the Russian military in the village of Nevske. Video recordings were found on the phone of Russian soldier Oleg Rudakov, call sign Rudik, in which he orders the execution and torture of locals. In addition, soldiers of the Third Assault Brigade intercepted radio conversations of Rudakov's group, where the order to "clean up," that is, to kill local residents of the village, was given.

The Impact of the War on Civilians

- Since the beginning of the Russian invasion, 1,310 apartment buildings in the capital Kyiv have been damaged to varying degrees. This was stated by Mayor Vitalii Klitschko. According to the mayor, 22 of the 36 most damaged residential buildings have been completely rebuilt at city expense. Their residents have already returned to their apartments.
- According to First Deputy Minister of Defense Ivan Havryliuk, the area of Ukraine that could be potentially contaminated by explosive remnants of war decreased by 17,000 square kilometers in 2024 and now stands at 139,000 square kilometers. In addition, as part of the Plan for Humanitarian Demining of the De-occupied Territories, non-technical surveys were conducted in 165 communities in seven regions in 2024, which exceeded the planned number by almost three times.
- Nadiia Kuzmychova, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine, spoke about how the full-scale invasion of Russia affects the change in the number of students in schools. According to Kuzmychova, as of September 1, 2024, Ukraine recorded a decrease in the number of students by about 150 thousand. At the same time, about 340-350 thousand children who are abroad continue to study in Ukraine.

International support

- The European Investment Bank has allocated €55 million to restore Ukraine's social infrastructure. These funds will be used to reconstruct hospitals, educational institutions, heating systems, and other critical social infrastructure. The money will be used for 151 facilities in 12 regions.
- Ukraine has received €86 million from the European Investment Bank to protect its energy infrastructure from drone attacks. Ukrenergo will use the money to build protective shelters to protect critical power substations. This is the first tranche under the EIB's Ukraine Energy Rescue Plan, which was approved in October this year. It provides funding of up to €600 million for emergency energy projects in the public and private sectors.
- The EU has allocated another €150 million to Ukraine, part of which will be used for school meals. This is the second tranche from the EU as part of a €300 million agreement to support rapid recovery. In addition to feeding children in grades 1-4, the funds will also be used to restore infrastructure and support the continuity of agricultural production.

Prisoners of war

- The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets, will inform the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross about the execution of five more Ukrainian prisoners of war by Russian forces. The 110th Separate Mechanized Brigade, named after General Cornet Marko Bezruchko, released a video documenting another Russian war crime—the execution of soldiers who had surrendered.
- From February 24, 2022, to the end of October 2024, the bodies of 184 Ukrainians who died in captivity were returned to Ukraine, including 169 military personnel and 15 civilians, according to the Media Initiative for Human Rights (MIHR), citing the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War. It was also noted that of the 169 military personnel who died in captivity, 55 perished in explosions at the Olenivka colony.

Temporarily occupied territories (TOT) and evacuation

- Russian occupants remotely scatter "hedgehog" traps on the roads of the Kherson region to attack civilian cars. This was reported by Roman Mrochko, head of the Kherson MVA. "While driving, after hitting a trap, a car's wheel is damaged, and after stopping, a drone with explosives arrives at the scene," he says.
- An 18-year-old Ukrainian, Oleksandr Yakushchenko, committed suicide in Russia. He was illegally taken to Russia from the Kherson region. According to Vazhnye Istori (Important stories), the boy lived in an orphanage near Kherson. The head of the orphanage collaborated with the Russian occupiers, so she left for Russia with the children. Shortly before his suicide, Oleksandr recorded an audio message to his friends in which he claimed that "if he had not come to the Krasnodar Territory, there would have been no problems."
- The Russian authorities have introduced a system whereby they pay police officers for the forced mobilization of residents of the temporarily occupied territories. This was reported by the National Resistance Center. Police officers blackmail detainees and beat them. "For each detainee forced to sign a contract with the Russian armed forces, the investigator receives a bonus of 10 thousand rubles. Police officers are motivated to fulfill the plan: 10% of the detainees in the region are to become contractors," the report says.

