



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

May 25 – 31

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The U.S. negotiations with Ukraine and Russia

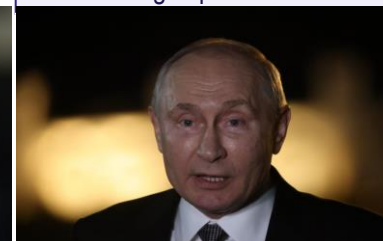
- During the week, Ukraine completed a large-scale **prisoner exchange** in the 1000-for-1000 format, returning 610 Ukrainians home in two days. Military Intelligence (HUR) representative Andrii Yusov explained to NV that in this exchange, Russia itself determined the lists for release. At the same time, **Turkish Foreign Minister** Hakan Fidan traveled to Moscow for **talks with Lavrov on peace** in Ukraine, according to Bloomberg.
- A member of the Ukrainian delegation, Serhii Kyslytsia, revealed **details of the Istanbul talks**, where the Russian side resorted to cynicism and threats. The head of the Russian delegation, Medinsky, said: "This war [is] when Russians kill Russians with certain nuances," effectively **denying the existence of the Ukrainian nation**. The Russians demanded four Ukrainian regions and promised to "demand six or eight tomorrow," and threatened Ukrainian delegates with the loss of "even more relatives" in the war.
- US President Trump's position changed dramatically after the Russian shelling on May 24-26. On Truth Social, he **sharply criticized** Putin: "He is absolutely insane! He's killing a lot of people unnecessarily." Special Representative Kellogg **called the attacks a violation of the Geneva Protocols** and called for an immediate ceasefire. At the same time, Trump added that this is "Zelenskyi, Putin, and Biden's war."
- According to the WSJ, Trump may impose **sanctions** on Russia as early as this week due to **frustration with the attacks and slow negotiations**. Reuters reports on the growing pressure on the president from his associates. Republicans Graham and Blumenthal have introduced a bill for a 500% duty on countries buying Russian oil. The Senate may begin considering sanctions next week, with 82 senators supporting the bill, Zelenskyi said after meeting with U.S. lawmakers.
- Special Representative Kellogg said that the US has received the **terms of the peace agreement from Ukraine** and is waiting for a response from Russia. The next meeting may take place in Geneva, as the Russians refused to go to the Vatican. Defense Minister Umerov said that Russia has 4 days to hand over the memorandum. According to Reuters, Putin demands to stop NATO's eastward expansion and to lift all sanctions, and Kellogg suggested on ABC News that the US may discuss these demands.
- The NYT reports that Kyiv sees a trap in Moscow's refusal to hand over the memorandum in advance - Ukraine has already submitted its ceasefire document under international supervision, and Russia could impose unacceptable conditions and accuse Ukraine of disrupting the talks.
- The Washington Post warns that the United States may pressure Ukraine to participate in the June 2 talks even without the Russian memorandum, as Trump is irritated by the delays and U.S. officials threaten to withdraw from the talks. When asked by CNN about his support for the bill to impose new sanctions, Trump replied: "I don't know. I'd have to see it."

International support

- Ukraine attracted significant financial resources from international partners during the week. **The IMF will disburse** another **tranche** of \$500 million within a month after the eighth review of the EFF program, bringing the total disbursement to over \$10 billion. **Japan will disburse** almost \$3 billion through **the ERA mechanism** from the proceeds of frozen Russian assets. The Council of Europe Development Bank has provided €50 million for **preferential mortgage lending for IDPs** with 3% interest for 30 years, which will provide 1,100 loans through the Diia portal.
- Military cooperation with partners is taking on new forms amid restrictions on U.S. aid. Europe **is considering purchasing American weapons** for further transfer to Ukraine due to a lack of its own stockpiles and production capacity. The new German government is exploring support for the production of **long-range weapons by the Ukrainian defense industry**. Zelenskyi discussed the delivery of Taurus missiles with Chancellor Merz, noting that the parties are "working in this direction." A poll shows 59% of EU citizens **support funding arms** for Ukraine.
- The European integration process and diplomatic support demonstrate Ukraine's consistent progress towards European structures. The Government of Ukraine has approved negotiating positions in the Internal Market and External Relations clusters for EU accession.
- Regional security has become a priority for European institutions in the context of Russian threats. The EU has adopted **a security strategy for the Black Sea** to counter Russian threats through the **creation of a Maritime Security Hub** involving Ukraine, Turkey, Georgia, Moldova, Azerbaijan, and Armenia. The strategy envisages monitoring submarine cables, protecting energy infrastructure, and patrolling routes. Turkey offered guarantees of safe navigation and counteraction to the Russian shadow fleet.
- Lithuania handed a representative of the Russian Embassy **a note of protest** over war crimes and shelling of civilian targets in Ukraine.
- **Pope Leo XIV** called for an end to the war and support for peace initiatives.
- Economic pressure on the aggressor is increasing due to the sanctions policy and the withdrawal of Western companies. Trump's announcement of tighter sanctions sent the **Moscow stock exchange tumbling** by 1.51% in a few hours, reducing its capitalization by 100 billion rubles. Gazprom shares fell by 3.5%. **Microsoft finally leaves the Russian market** due to the bankruptcy of its subsidiary after a lawsuit filed by Gazprombank for 90.9 million rubles.

Other

- The EU temporarily **restored quotas on Ukrainian agricultural imports** on June 6, allowing exports of 7/12 of the usual annual volume until the end of 2025. The decision came after pressure from Poland to protect European farmers. Ukraine estimates revenue losses from returning to pre-war trade conditions at €3.5 billion annually.



Other

- China is **supplying special chemicals, gunpowder and machine tools** to 20 Russian military plants, said Oleh Ivashchenko, head of Ukraine's Foreign Intelligence Service. In addition, according to Ivashchenko, at least five cases of aviation cooperation with China were recorded in 2024-2025. These include equipment, spare parts, and documentation. In six cases, there were large supplies of specialty chemicals. As of early 2025, 80% of critical electronics for Russian drones were of Chinese origin.
- **Ammonia** continues to be supplied to Lithuania from Russia, despite the government's recommendations not to have economic ties with Russia. This was reported by the Lithuanian public broadcaster LRT. Over the past three years, the country has imported Russian ammonia worth 157.3 million euros.
- **The positions of European leaders** on assistance to Ukraine after the war are increasingly diverging, the Financial Times reports. France and Britain, the leaders of the so-called Coalition of the Willing, insist that the original plan to deploy **peacekeeping troops** in Ukraine after the war is over is feasible. However, other countries, including Germany, are more skeptical, given that the United States is unlikely to support this initiative.
- In 2025, Russia may receive more money from energy sales to the EU than the EU allocates to support Ukraine. According to media reports, in 2025, Russia will earn 233 billion euros from exports of energy and raw materials, of which more than 20 billion euros will come from the EU.
- **Russia is modernizing its nuclear weapons** storage facilities, **using products from Western companies**, journalists from Denmark's Danwatch and Germany's Der Spiegel have discovered. Satellite images show that over the past ten years, Russia has modernized a large number of missile launchers near the town of Yasny near the border with Kazakhstan. In parallel with the development of new types of weapons, Russia has been building entirely new military facilities. In the tender documentation, journalists found that the Russian military uses, among other things, products of Western companies - cement, gypsum, glue, insulation, and soundproofing materials - to build the facilities. The products of the German company Knauf are used especially often.
- Tankers under U.S. sanctions are involved in the **supply of Russian oil to India**, Bloomberg reports. Last week, approximately one million barrels of Russian Sokol crude oil were delivered to a refinery in India. Data from Kpler shows that the Russian oil was transported by the sanctioned tankers Captain Kostichev and Victor Konetsky.
- China has stopped selling **Mavic drones** to Ukraine and Europe, but continues to supply them to Russia, President Volodymyr Zelenskyi said. The civilian Mavic quadcopter has been adapted to carry explosives in war conditions. It is also used on the battlefield for surveillance. A European official confirmed Zelenskyi's words and added that China has also likely reduced supplies of some drone components to Western buyers, but has increased such supplies to Russia.



Military Support

- The Netherlands will hand over the last of the 24 F-16 multi-role fighter jets promised to Ukraine within a week.
- Sweden will allocate €443 million to Ukraine as part of the largest aid package worth €1.4 billion announced in late March. Of the allocated funds, €92 million will be used to **finance the Ukrainian defense industry** according to the Danish model, as well as to purchase **air defense** systems and **long-range drones**. More than €38 million will be allocated for the purchase of armored vehicles, led by Denmark. Sweden has also allocated funds for Czech and Estonian ammunition procurement initiatives. The country will also allocate funds to coalitions for demining, drones, maritime security, security systems, and IT management.
- **Latvia has provided** Ukraine with another **1,500 drones** for the military. According to the plan, during the first half of 2025, two Latvian companies will supply Ukraine with 12,000 drones as part of the Drone Coalition.
- The United Kingdom will allocate \$3 billion of the proceeds from frozen Russian assets to Ukrainian defense. These funds will be used to purchase foreign-made **defense products** and other critical materials. It will also be spent on the repair and maintenance of military equipment.
- The EU Council has approved the launch of the Security Initiative for Europe (SAFE). This is a **new EU financial instrument** that provides for the possibility of borrowing up to **€150 billion to invest in the defense industry** of member states. Ukraine and the countries of the European Economic Area and the European Free Trade Association will receive the same status as EU member states. They will be able not only to participate in joint procurement but also to sell their defense industry products.
- The German newspaper WELT has learned the details of a **new €5 billion aid package from Germany** for Ukraine. Germany will finance the production of Ukrainian long-range drones, such as Bars and An-196 Liutyi. The money will also be used for Flamingo drones. Ukraine will also receive four new Iris-T air defense systems.
- The defense company KNDS will be awarded a contract **to repair military equipment directly in Ukraine**. It will repair, among other things, Gepard anti-aircraft systems.
- **Turkey and Belgium join the Drone Coalition**. There will be 20 member states. All of them have pledged €2.75 billion to support Ukraine this year. Taking into account the announced aid for 2025, the two years of the Coalition's activities will bring the total to €4.5 billion.
- In a few months, the Ukrainian defense industry will be able to **independently produce Czech CZ BREN 2 assault rifles**. Česká zbrojovka reminded that Ukraine is currently assembling these assault rifles under license, and the production of individual components has already been established.

Key Events of the Week:

- Destruction of a Russian military echelon in Zaporizhzhia (May 24)
- Attack of Ukrainian UAVs on strategic facilities in Russia: Shahed plant in Yelabuga (Tatarstan) and a chemical plant in the Ivanovo region were targeted
- Increased combat activity on the northern front: Russian forces retain control over four villages in the Sumy region and are trying to infiltrate the border areas with small subversive groups
- Use of an FPV drone with a warhead in Kharkiv.
- A massive strike on the Russian military-industrial complex plants (May 28): it is confirmed that Kronstadt and Raduga (drone and missile production) and a chemical plant have been hit.
- Russia received large-scale military assistance from the DPRK: in 2024, it received 9 million shells, 100 missiles, equipment, and 11,000 military personnel from North Korea, bypassing UN sanctions.
- Ukraine attacked 58 Russian military facilities in May.
- Russian losses in May exceeded 34 thousand people.
- The Chinese laser air defense system, Silent Hunter, appears in the Russian arsenal.
- Introduction of a corps command system in the Armed Forces: The Ukrainian army is transitioning to a new command structure to improve the efficiency, coordination, and effectiveness of combat operations.

25.05	<p>An analysis of the reports of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine shows a general increase in the offensive pressure of Russian troops in many parts of the front.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kharkiv direction: Main points: Vovchansk, Starytsia, Kamianka, Krasne Pershe. High pressure is steadily maintained, which indicates an attempt to break through in the direction of Vovchansk. There is no direct confirmation of a breakthrough, but the threat in this direction is growing. ➤ Lyman direction: Regions: Ridkoodub, Hrekivka, Kopanky, Serebrianskyi Forest, Zelena Dolyna. The highest intensity of attacks. Constant attempts to "break into the defense" may indicate a local advance of the enemy or a breakthrough in certain areas, although this has not been officially reported. ➤ Pokrovsk direction: Localities: Zoria, Myroliubivka, Malynivka, Kotlyne, Rusyn Yar, Kotliarivka: the number of attacks indicates a massive offensive with potential partial advance, although the Ukrainian Armed Forces report only repulsing attacks. ➤ Toretsk direction: Regions: Toretsk, Pleshchiivka, Diliivka. The high activity may indicate an attempt to reach operational depth in the direction of Kostiantynivka or Chasiv Yar.
26.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On May 24, 2025, active action units of the Defence Intelligence of Ukraine tracked down and destroyed a Russian occupation military train with fuel in Zaporizhzhia using attack drones. ➤ A total of 180 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. ➤ Drones attacked 2 strategically important facilities in Russia at once. The strikes targeted a plant for the production of Shahed UAVs in Yelabuga (Tatarstan) and a chemical plant in the Ivanovo oblast. The plant in Yelabuga is a key facility for the Russian production of kamikaze drones, which are actively used in the war. The chemical plant in the Ivanovo oblast produces components for Russian military equipment and weapons, including missiles. ➤ According to the Military Regional Administration, four villages in Sumy oblast are under the control of the Russian Federation. These are the settlements of Novenke, Basivka of the Yunakivka community and Veselivka, Zhuravka of the Khotin community. Residents of these villages have long been evacuated, there is no threat to civilians. ➤ For the first time, Russia used an FPV drone with an RPG-based warhead to strike Kharkiv last week. "This is a new, even more insidious threat, indicating an attempt to find 'vulnerabilities' in the city's defense," Ihor Terekhov, Kharkiv mayor, wrote.
27.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 170 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. ➤ Vadym Mysnyk, a spokesman for the Siversk operational tactical group, states that Russian military presence has been observed along the Russian border with Chernihiv oblast. The occupiers are keeping Ukrainian military units on edge and restraining them. At the same time, he noted that the largest concentration of the enemy in terms of shelling and manpower opposite Sumy oblast is in Kursk oblast.
28.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 216 combat engagements were recorded over the past day. ➤ The General Staff confirmed that several key facilities of the Russian military-industrial complex were hit. These are the Kronstadt and Raduga plants in Moscow oblast and a chemical plant in Ivanovo oblast. These enterprises produce drones, cruise missiles, microelectronics, and components for explosives. ➤ Zelenskyi's main statements at a meeting with journalists regarding the military situation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mobilization: Russia mobilizes 40-50 thousand people every month, while Ukraine mobilizes 25-27 thousand ➤ On the production of drones in Russia: Russians are preparing to produce 300-350 drones per day, and have been tasked with 500 per day. ➤ On missiles for Patriot: Ukraine is using them cautiously, for the most sophisticated missiles (ballistic and cruise missiles). We have the missiles, our partners are helping.

Losses of the Russian army from 25.05.2025 to 31.05.2025

Liquidated personnel	6 710
Tanks	14
IFVs	15
Artillery systems / MLRS	207/4
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	2
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	735
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	482
Special equipment	1



Situation at the Front

28.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ukraine's missile program: We have made several steps forward in the missile program; it is a big, complicated story - Ukrainian ballistics. ➤ The occupiers are constantly taking offensive actions, but they have not succeeded in a major operation. There is an accumulation of troops in the Sumy direction, for which they were preparing. ➤ Russians will do everything to cross the administrative border of Dnipropetrovsk oblast. ➤ Ukrainian troops made the right decision by withdrawing from one direction and entering another in Kursk Oblast.
29.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 205 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. ➤ Moscow reported a drone attack near the Academy of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces. The Russian Defense Ministry reported the downing of 48 drones. They were allegedly destroyed over the Belgorod, Orel, Riazan, Briansk, Tambov oblasts, as well as over the temporarily occupied Crimea. ➤ Sumy oblast: active hostilities continue in certain areas of the border, in particular near the settlements of Khotin and Yunakivka communities. As of the evening of May 29, the operational situation remains difficult but controlled. The Russian military is acting in small groups, trying to penetrate the border villages and gain a foothold, Oleh Hryhorov, head of the Sumy MRA, said. "The situation on the contact line is constantly changing - somewhere we have the initiative, somewhere the enemy is active, but the Ukrainian Defense Forces are holding the line." ➤ In the Russian city of Stavropol, Deputy Mayor Zaur Gurtsiyev was killed by a grenade explosion. The death of the occupier was reported by Russian media and the head of the Stavropol Territory. Gurtsiyev fought against Ukraine and received several awards, including "for Avdiivka," but most importantly, he led air battles for Mariupol. After that, he received a civilian position in Stavropol. ➤ According to a report by an international monitoring group, Russia received 9 million shells, 100 ballistic missiles and 11,000 soldiers from the DPRK in 2024. At the same time, Pyongyang gave Russia more than 200 pieces of equipment, including self-propelled guns, multiple launch rocket systems, reloading vehicles, and Bulsae-4 and RPG anti-tank missiles. For its part, Russia has provided North Korea with Pantsyr anti-aircraft systems, electronic warfare equipment, technical support, missile data, and more than a million barrels of fuel. Financial transactions are conducted through DPRK accounts opened in South Ossetia. All this military and economic cooperation violates UN Security Council resolutions.
31.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Russian military has deployed the Chinese Silent Hunter laser air defense system to target Ukrainian drones. A video of the laser system in use was published by Russian "military commanders". It is reported that the laser is used by a mobile air defense group of the special unit "Nomad". The published video shows both a test of the laser system against a steel plate and footage of Ukrainian drones being shot down. ➤ The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine summarized the results of May: more than 34 thousand enemy losses. Oleksandr Syrskyi noted the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Deterrence and battle directions: The defense forces continue to hold back the Russian occupiers, who have concentrated their main efforts on the Pokrovsk, Toretsk, Lyman, Novopavlivka directions and in the border areas of Sumy oblast. There was a significant intensification of enemy offensives in the Zaporizhzhia direction. ➤ Countermeasures of the Armed Forces of Ukraine: Ukraine is strengthening its defense with reserves and firepower, and is taking active steps to improve its tactical situation, including in the territory of the Russian Federation. ➤ Enemy losses in May: over 34,000 personnel. ➤ Strikes in the rear of the Russian Federation: In May, using DeepStrike means, strikes were carried out against 58 military facilities and capacities of the Russian military-industrial complex, including the production of explosives and attack UAVs. ➤ Operation on the Kursk direction: the Russians hold its best units, the Ukrainian military inflicts significant losses on the enemy and defends the northern borders. ➤ Challenges: The enemy has an advantage in the use of fiber-optic drones, which makes it difficult to combat them. ➤ Reforms in the Armed Forces: The Defense Forces are transitioning to a corps system, which should improve troop management and the effectiveness of combat brigades.

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This week shelling and strikes

Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of May 25:** Air defense shot down 45 cruise missiles and neutralized 266 drones. In total, Russia launched 367 aerial targets at Ukraine. Most regions of Ukraine were affected, with casualties and injuries reported.
- **Attack on the night of May 26:** Air defense shot down 9 cruise missiles and neutralized 288 drones. A total of 9 Kh-101 missiles and 355 drones were launched. Air defense successfully destroyed 233 drones; 55 were lost from radar or jammed by electronic warfare (EW).
- **Attack on the night of May 27:** Air defense neutralized 43 out of 60 Russian drones. Drone strikes were recorded in 9 locations.
- **Attack on the night of May 28:** Air defense neutralized 71 out of 88 drones — 34 were shot down, 37 were lost from radar or jammed by EW. In addition, Russia attacked Ukraine with five Iskander-M/KN-23 ballistic missiles and one guided Kh-59/69 air-to-surface missile. These could not be intercepted.
- **Attack on the night of May 29:** Air defense neutralized 56 out of 90 drones. Ten drones were shot down, and 46 were lost from radar or jammed by EW. Strikes were recorded in 9 frontline locations in Sumy, Kharkiv, and Donetsk oblasts.
- **Attack on the night of May 30:** Air defense shot down 56 targets. Russia launched 90 drones and two Iskander missiles. Of the drones, 26 were shot down by firepower, and 30 were lost from radar or jammed by EW. Strikes were recorded in 12 locations across the east, south, and north of Ukraine.
- **Attack on the night of May 31:** Air defense neutralized 69 out of 109 Russian drones and three guided Kh-59/69 air-to-surface missiles. Russia also used two S-300 surface-to-air guided missiles. Kharkiv, Sumy, and Donetsk oblasts were affected by the strikes.

Donetsk oblast

- Throughout the week, the Donetsk region suffered from attacks involving drones and glide bombs (KABs).

On May 26, Russians attacked the city of Kramatorsk with three KAB-250 aerial bombs and a drone. Four people were injured, and over 20 apartment blocks and residential houses were damaged. On May 29, Russians struck the city of Kostiantynivka using a drone. One person was killed, and a private house was damaged.

Other localities that came under attack during the week included:

- Volnovakha district: Komar
- Pokrovsk district: Dobropillia, Bilytske, Shakhove, Kucheriv Yar, Zoloty Kolodiaz, Rodynske, Kryvorizhzhia, Myrnohrad, Pokrovsk, Novovodiane, Rivne, Bilozerske, Volodymyrivka
- Kramatorsk district: Lyman, Novoselivka, Zarichne, Torske, Khrestyshche, Raihorodok, Sloviansk, Andriivka, Illinivka, Yablunivka, Zoria, Stara Mykolaivka, Berestok, Oleksiievo-Druzhkivka, Mykolaipillia, Rozkishne, Vesela Hora, Ivanopillia, Novodmytrivka, Bilokuzmynivka, Dovha Balka, Korovii Yar, Novodonetsk, Stepanivka, Raiske
- Bakhmut district: Siversk

Kharkiv and the oblast

- Over the week, Kharkiv oblast was targeted with glide bombs (KABs), drones (UAVs), S-300 and Kh-35 missiles, and FAB bombs.

On May 25, the city of Kupiansk was attacked with a FAB-500 bomb. Two people were killed and three injured. On May 30, Russian forces launched a missile strike on the village of Vasysheve. Two people were injured, and eight private homes and one vehicle were damaged.

Other affected locations throughout the week included: Kharkiv, Kozacha Lopan, Myrne, Eskhar, Vasylyv Khutir, Izium, Shevchenkove, and Bezliudivka.

Sumy oblast

- Sumy oblast endured attacks involving glide bombs (KABs), drones, MLRS shelling, and VOG grenades dropped from drones.

On May 25, Russian artillery shelled the village of Kindrativka. One person was killed and another injured. On May 26, the Mykolaivka community was shelled. One person was killed and another injured.

Other communities attacked during the week included: Velyka Pysarivka, Buryn, Yunakivka, Seredyna-Buda, Konotop, Sumy, Romny, Krasnopillia, Bilopillia, Okhtyrka, Verkhnia Syrovatka, Richky, Nedryhailivka, Khutir-Mykhailivskyi, Dubovyazivka, and Trostianets.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

- Throughout the week, Zaporizhzhia oblast suffered attacks involving drones (UAVs) and shelling from multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS).

On May 26, Russian forces attacked the village of Yurivka. Two people were injured. One private house was destroyed, and several vehicles were damaged. On May 29, Russians dropped five glide bombs (KABs) on the village of Verkhnia Tera. Two people were killed, and three others were injured. Five private houses were destroyed, and fifty more were damaged.

Other localities affected by attacks during the week included: Huliaipole, Novoandriivka, Malynivka, Novodarivka, Bilenke, Kamianske, Shcherbaky, Lukianivske, Novodanylivka, Mala Tokmachka, Charivne, Orikhiv, Mali Shcherbaky, Zaporizhzhia, Prymorske, Stepnohorsk, Lobkove, Zaliznychne, Malokaterynivka, Robotyne, Preobrazhenka, Kopani, Novoselivka, Huliaipilske, Olhivske, Dolynka, Varvarivka, Rivnopillia, Zatyshshia, Poltavka, Zelene, Myroliubivka, Mahdalynivka.

This week shelling and strikes

Dnipro and the oblast

- Russian forces actively used various types of weapons: heavy artillery, Grad multiple launch rocket systems, FPV drones, guided aerial bombs, and kamikaze drones. As a result, dozens of private and apartment buildings, infrastructure facilities, administrative buildings, vehicles (including ambulances and specialized equipment), as well as gas pipelines, power lines, and solar panels were damaged.
- In total, 15 civilians were injured during the week. No fatalities were recorded during this period.

Specifically, on May 27, the Russian army carried out about 30 attacks throughout the day across Dnipropetrovsk oblast, particularly in the Nikopol district. Two women were injured during these strikes.

Settlements in the Nikopol, Synelnykove, Kamianske, Kryvyi Rih, and Samara districts were under attack. The Nikopol area was hit the hardest: the city of Nikopol as well as the Pokrovsk, Marhanet, Myrove, and Chervonohryhorivka communities suffered damage. Mezhova, Novopavlivsa, and Mala Mykhailivka communities in Synelnykove district, as well as Zelenodolsk and Hrushivka communities in the Kryvyi Rih area, were also heavily affected.

Odesa oblast

- Shelling in the oblast was recorded on May 25, 26, 28, and 30. On May 25–26, civilian infrastructure and a residential area in the regional center (Odesa) were damaged. On May 30, the Russian army attacked the Izmail district. A postal facility and cargo trucks were damaged in the strike.

Chernihiv oblast

- This week, Russian forces significantly intensified their attacks on Chernihiv oblast. Both border communities — Semenivka, Snovsk, and Novhorod-Siverskyi — and the regional center, Chernihiv, came under fire. The Russians used guided aerial bombs, ballistic missiles, FPV drones, ammunition dropped from UAVs, artillery, and mortars.

On the night of May 25, a massive missile and drone attack targeted Chernihiv. The strike caused a large fire at an industrial facility, with over 1,000 m² of warehouse space engulfed in flames. As a result of the attacks, at least 10 civilians were injured. On May 27, Russian forces launched a missile strike on an agricultural enterprise in the Nizhyn district, injuring a tractor driver. On the same day, a business in the Novhorod-Siverskyi community was attacked, injuring three people and causing a fire.

Kherson and the oblast

- Russian forces used a wide range of weaponry: artillery, kamikaze drones, FPV drones, guided aerial bombs, and aircraft. At least 15 apartment buildings and 50 private homes were damaged. Gas pipelines, outbuildings, cell towers, garages, and dozens of private vehicles were also destroyed or damaged.
- Among the civilian population, 7 were killed and 56 injured, including 2 children.

Dozens of settlements came under attack, including: Kherson, Beryslav, Bilozerka, Antonivka, Stanislav, Sadove, Prydniprovsk, Komyshe, Osokorivka, Tomaryne, Odradokamyanka, Kizomys, Mykilske, Zmiivka, Tokarivka, Vesele, Dudchany, Zolota Balka, Olhivka, Sofiivka, Chervonyi Mayak, Novovorontsovka, Kostyrka, Novooleksandrivka, Monastyrsk, Kozatske, Mykolaivka, Novoboryslav, Oleksandrivka, Biliaivka, Havrylivka, Ukrayinka, Inzhenerne, Novoraisk, Pryozerne, Naddniprianske, Pravdyne, Chereshenky, Shyroka Balka, and others.

Mykolaiv oblast

- On May 25, the enemy launched a massive drone attack on Mykolaiv city using Shahed-131/136 drones. The attack damaged infrastructure, office buildings, private homes, and power lines. Two floors of an apartment building were destroyed, and a nearby high-rise was damaged by debris. Two people were killed and six were injured.

On May 26, Kutsurub community was attacked twice with FPV drones. In Solonchaky village, a private house was damaged. In Dniprovke, two houses and a vehicle were hit, injuring two people. On May 29, Russia struck a farming enterprise in the Horokhivske community with a ballistic missile. Three workers were injured, and one man was killed.

Russian forces also shelled several communities in Mykolaiv oblast: Ochakiv, Snihurivka, Horokhivske, and Kutsurub communities.

Other oblasts

- On May 25, Russian forces shelled **Kyiv and Kyiv Oblast**. A student dormitory and a residential area were damaged. In Kyiv, 11 people were injured, while in Kyiv Oblast, three civilians were killed and ten others injured.
- Also on May 25, Russia launched a missile attack on **Ternopil Oblast**, striking an industrial facility.
- In **Khmelnytskyi Oblast**, Russian attacks resulted in the deaths of four local residents and injuries to five more.
- On May 26, explosions were again heard in **Kyiv and Khmelnytskyi Oblast**, and on May 28, in **Poltava Oblast**.



The week of shelling

Kyiv region



Donetsk oblast



Kharkiv oblast



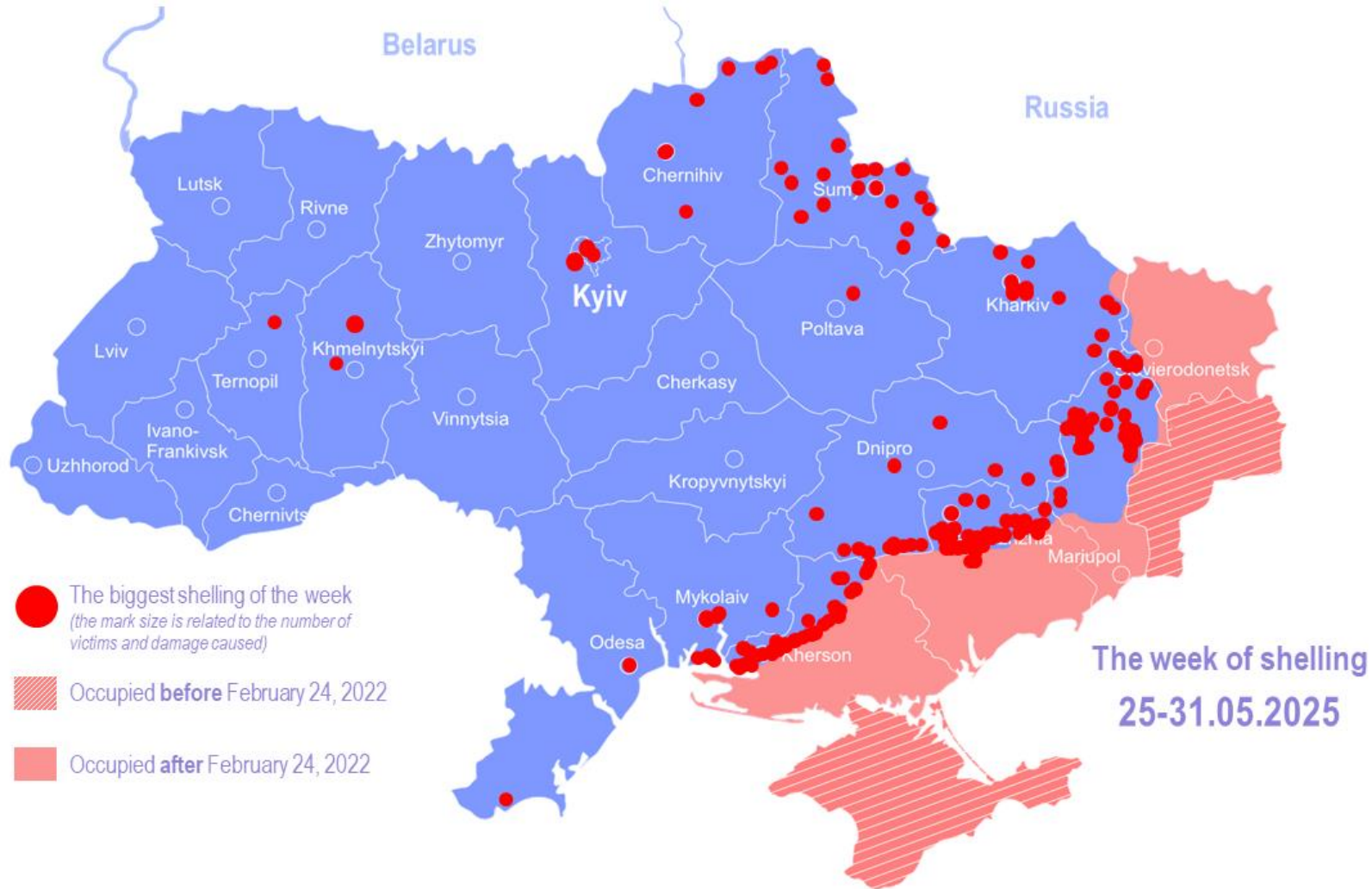
Mykolaiv oblast



Odesa oblast



Sumy oblast



Infrastructure and Energy

- Russians are building a power line in the temporarily occupied territories to illegally restart the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, according to Greenpeace. Given the current location of the construction, Greenpeace predicts that the line will be extended another 100 km westward to the occupied city of Melitopol (Zaporizhzhia Oblast), where it will be connected to a 330 kV substation. To the east, the line is to be connected to a 750/330 kV substation located north of the occupied city of Mariupol (Donetsk Oblast). The source warns that Rosatom's plans to restart the ZNPP reactors pose very serious risks to nuclear safety. These include worn-out equipment, a shortage of experienced personnel at the plant, and inadequate water circulation for cooling.

International support

- Ukraine and Finland have established an international Shelter Coalition to coordinate the construction of protective structures. With 62,000 shelters currently in place, Ukraine plans to build 2,300 new ones by 2027 and another 3,000 by 2030.
- Russia is committing crimes against humanity and war crimes by attacking civilians on the right bank of Kherson Oblast with drones, according to a UN commission report. Russia's primary goal is to intimidate the civilian population, which violates international humanitarian law. Russian forces also wanted to make Ukrainians flee areas within range of Russian drones. This can be considered a forced displacement of civilians. The independent UN International Commission has concluded that the Russian Federation is using terror as a tool of state policy and is taking no action to stop these crimes. It was also noted that publishing videos showing the killing and wounding of civilians constitutes a war crime, as it violates human dignity.
- Thanks to the assistance of the State of Qatar, a total of 68 Ukrainian children have been returned home, according to Dmytro Lubinets, an authorized representative of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

War crimes

- Russian forces have killed 630 children in Ukraine since the start of the full-scale invasion, according to the Office of the Prosecutor General. As of the morning of May 26, 2025, more than 2,590 children have been affected by the full-scale armed aggression of the Russian Federation – 630 children have been killed and over 1,960 have sustained injuries of varying severity.

Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOT) and Evacuation

- In temporarily occupied Berdiansk, Zaporizhzhia Oblast, the Russian occupiers forcibly issued Russian passports to students of city school No. 16 as part of the propaganda campaign "We are citizens of Russia". In total, the local so-called "authorities" have forced 3.5 million Ukrainians to obtain Russian passports, under threat of property confiscation.
- In temporarily occupied Luhansk, Russian forces have established yet another fake supervisory body aimed at increasing control over religious organizations, according to the National Resistance Center. The Center stressed that Russia is using religion as a tool of occupation and identity erasure.

Prisoners of war

- Since March 2022, a total of 5,757 Ukrainian citizens have been returned through negotiations and exchanges, and another 536 Ukrainians have been returned outside of exchanges, according to the Coordination Headquarters. On May 23, 390 prisoners of war were returned to Ukraine as part of the "1,000-for-1,000" exchange agreement reached between Kyiv and Moscow during negotiations in Istanbul on May 16. On May 24, President Volodymyr Zelensky announced that another 307 Ukrainian service members had returned from Russian captivity.
- According to the Coordination Headquarters, Russia is holding Ukrainian prisoners in more than 300 camps and prisons across its own territory, in temporarily occupied regions of Ukraine, and in Belarus. None of these facilities are accessible, emphasizes Coordination Headquarters representative Oleh Hushchyn. Ukraine has five camps for prisoners of war and five temporary detention centers. All of them are fully accessible to human rights organizations, international institutions, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the UN, and others.
- 206 Ukrainian service members have died in Russian captivity, according to the Associated Press. Ukrainian prisoners of war are tortured – the signs of torture are discovered on their bodies after repatriation. In some cases, it is difficult to determine the exact cause of death, as internal organs may be missing, and bruises or injuries are deliberately concealed.

War crimes

- Another 11 children have been returned to Ukraine from territories occupied by Russian forces, according to Daria Zarivna, adviser to the Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine. Among them is an orphaned teenager who was kidnapped from school by Russians, taken to a basement, and tortured. Since the start of the full-scale war, 19,546 children have been illegally taken from Ukraine, according to Bring Kids Back. Of these, at least 2,442 children were taken to Belarus. These are only the cases that have been officially verified. Russia claims to have taken 700,000 children.

