



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

July 20 – 26

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Negotiations between the United States, Ukraine, and the Russian Federation

- **The third round of negotiations in Istanbul concluded with specific agreements regarding exchange.** On July 23, in Istanbul, the third round of negotiations between Ukraine and Russia took place, lasting less than an hour. The Ukrainian delegation of 14 representatives was headed by the secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, Rustem Umerov. The Russian delegation was headed by Putin's assistant, Vladimir Medinsky.
- As a result of the meeting, agreements were reached on **continuing prisoner exchanges**, particularly about the return of Ukrainians who have been in captivity for more than three years. On the same day, the ninth stage of exchange under the Istanbul agreements took place - seriously ill and severely wounded soldiers, including the last defender of Ziminyi Island, returned home. Since the beginning of the Istanbul process, more than 1000 Ukrainians have been returned through all stages of the exchanges.
- Ukraine **initiated a four-sided meeting of leaders** by the end of the summer. Kyiv proposed holding a meeting of the presidents of Ukraine and Russia with the participation of the leaders of Turkey and the US until the end of August. According to the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hakan Fidan, during the meeting, a "fundamental agreement" was reached about this summit. The President of Turkey Erdoğan, plans to discuss the possibility of organizing a meeting with Trump and Putin already this week.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine confirmed its readiness for dialogue on the highest level, emphasizing that in Russia, the decisions are made by one person, which is why his presence is essential for making important decisions regarding the ceasefire. The Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Heorhii Tykhyi, noted that if Putin wants to meet already tomorrow, Zelenskyi will be ready for this meeting.
- **The discussion of the status of civilians and abducted children remains problematic.** Ukraine started working on the lists of civilian captives of Russia, including political prisoners and journalists. According to Zelenskyi, both sides agreed about the exchange of 1200 war prisoners, but the question of civilians needs a separate format because they cannot be exchanged - they need to be freed unconditionally.
- **Regarding the abducted children, the progress remains minimal.** Russia provided information about less than 20% of the 339 children, the names of which were handed over by Ukraine at the time of the June negotiations. The Russian side stated that a part of the children allegedly reside in Europe but did not provide any specific details. Ukraine emphasizes that the fact that some of the abducted persons have reached the age of majority does not negate the fact that a war crime has been committed.
- **International context and sanctional politics.** The President of the USA Trump stated the possibility of the introduction of secondary sanctions against Russia even before the previously announced 50-day deadline. This creates additional pressure on Moscow in the context of the negotiation process and can influence the readiness of the Russian side to a constructive dialogue.
- The role of Turkey as a mediator remains key - Ankara actively works on creating the conditions for the meetings of leaders and supports the negotiation process on a technical level.



International Support

- **"Rammstein" provides military support with new mechanisms.** The 29th meeting of "Rammstein" with the participation of 52 countries brought several key decisions regarding military aid to Ukraine.
 - The US will initiate a new mechanism together with NATO, which will permit European countries **to purchase American armaments** for Ukraine. Europeans have already stated their readiness to join the funding. Germany will join the initiative of handing over 5 Patriot systems that should arrive in Ukraine soon.
 - Germany hands more than **200 thousand shells for Gepard systems** and is financing the purchase of Ukrainian long-range drones.
 - Canada will continue to take part in financing the Ukrainian defense industry through **'the Danish model'** and allocate 20 million Canadian dollars for the maintenance of Ukrainian tanks.
 - The Netherlands provides €200 million on **interceptor drones** and €125 million on the maintenance of **F-16 planes**.
 - Norway in 2025 overall provided €1 billion on the purchase of **drones**, out of which €400 million on **purchases for the Ukrainian defense industry**.
 - Sweden prepares a new package with **air defense systems, artillery, and equipment**.
- In the first half of the year, partner countries have already **committed to provide Ukraine 43 billion dollars of military aid in 2025**. This was reported by a correspondent of 'Militarnago', referring to the words of NSDC Secretary Rustem Umerov during a meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group (UDCG).
- **Sanction politics of the EU and the United Kingdom are gaining momentum.** The European Union has, for the first time, introduced sanctions against Chinese banks because of their support of Russia. The 18th package of sanctions included two regional banks from border cities — Suifenhe Rural Commercial and Heihe Rural Commercial. The European Commission predicted a possibility of reviewing the lists in six months, provided that banks cease supporting the Russian military. The question of Chinese economic support for Russia is planned to be discussed at the EU-China summit on July 24th.
- The United Kingdom has imposed extensive **restrictions on 137 vessels belonging to Russia's shadow fleet**, including 135 tankers that have illegally transported cargo worth \$24 billion since the beginning of 2024.
- **International legal initiatives and financial programs.** The Netherlands, together with 40 OSCE countries, initiated an investigation into the torture of Ukrainian prisoners of war through the use of the so-called "Moscow mechanism." At the same time, a differentiated air warning system, transferred by Israel in December 2023, began operating in Kyiv oblast.

- Ukraine will receive a reduced **fourth tranche under the Ukraine Facility** program in the amount of 3,05 billion euros instead of the potential 4,5 billion because of the failure to meet three of the 16 reform benchmarks. The unmet reforms are related to decentralization, updating legislation on the Asset Recovery Agency, and the procedure for selecting judges to the High Anti-Corruption Court. Ukraine now has a grace period to complete unfinished reforms and can report on them in the future to receive funds.
- **Energy sanctions and trading consequences.** The European Parliament is considering a proposal to move the complete ban on Russian gas imports to January 2027 instead of the planned 2028. Members of the European Parliament are also proposing to introduce fines for companies that violate the ban and to extend the ban to Russian oil.
- Russian wheat exports to China fell 15-fold, from \$38.9 million to \$2.5 million in the first half of 2025. In June, Russia did not supply a single kilogram of wheat to China, losing its competitive edge to Canada, Australia, and Kazakhstan.

Other

- NATO has stated that **Alliance countries must keep pace with the rate of innovation** in the armed forces, as is happening in the Ukrainian army. This was reported by Defense Industry Europe, citing a statement by the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, US Air Force General Alexis Grinkevich. He stressed that the pace of technological solutions demonstrated by Ukraine in the context of the full-scale war should serve as a benchmark for NATO member countries. The general also emphasized the need for close cooperation between the army and the defense industry so that new solutions appear in a matter of weeks rather than years.
- According to the British Minister of Defense, **Russia has lost 240,000 soldiers** killed and wounded since the beginning of 2025. This was reported by a correspondent for 'Militarnyi' with reference to the words of British Minister of Defense John Healey during a meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group (UDCG).
- The Australian government has announced the **purchase of drones and counter-drone systems** as part of the Land 156 program, including Ukrainian drone detectors used on the front lines.
- Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyi plans to ask European allies to help finance salary increases for military personnel in order to attract more volunteers, according to Bloomberg. "Previously, Europeans refused to provide funding for salaries for our military personnel, only for weapons. Our military personnel themselves can be weapons that protect everyone," Zelenskyi told reporters in Kyiv on Thursday. According to the publication, as the mobilization campaign in Ukraine is becoming less and less popular among the population, the government wants to intensify the recruitment campaign by offering substantial payments to volunteers.
- **The new Russian decoy drone is made entirely from Chinese components.** The Main Intelligence Directorate has published a detailed analysis of the new Russian drone, which is used as a decoy and a means of detecting the positions of Ukrainian air defense forces. A detailed list of its components has been published on the War&Sanctions portal.



Military Support

- In the Czech Republic, as part of the charitable project Dárek pro Putina ("A Gift for Putin"), fundraising has been completed for **six new 122-mm D-30 howitzers**. The initiative, supported by the Embassy of Ukraine in Prague, raised the necessary €2.4 million, which will allow the purchase of the guns and their immediate transfer to the front line.
- The United Kingdom has allocated £700 million (US\$944 million) for the **purchase of artillery shells, anti-aircraft, and long-range missiles** for Ukraine in 2025. Norway announced its readiness to provide Ukraine with additional funding to strengthen its air defense in close coordination with Germany, as reported by Suspiine.
- Lithuanian volunteers have purchased **more than two thousand drones** to enhance the capabilities of the Ukrainian Defense Forces. Over €4.4 million from the collected funds have already been spent in support of Ukrainian soldiers.
- The Czech government will help Ukraine **strengthen its air defense** to counter threats from Russian drones. This was stated by Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Petr Fiala. During a joint press conference with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in Berlin, Fiala emphasized the importance of providing Ukraine with sufficient weaponry.
- Latvia has sent **a new batch of domestically produced drones** to the Ukrainian Defense Forces. The delivery of 1,300 drones is part of the international drone coalition initiative.
- Lithuanian defense technology company RSI Europe has **delivered "hundreds" of Shpak fiber-optic FPV drones** to the Ukrainian army. The Shpak drone system is designed to carry out long-range, high-precision strikes using various types of explosive charges. It combines the accuracy of anti-tank guided missiles with the range and flexibility of artillery.
- The United States has approved the **sale of HAWK Phase III missile systems** and Bradley infantry fighting vehicles to Ukraine. The U.S. Department of State has also authorized the sale of spare parts and related equipment for the IFVs, totaling nearly \$150 million. The total value of the HAWK Phase III sale, including associated equipment, is \$172 million.
- German company HENSOLDT has received a large **order to supply radars to strengthen Ukraine's air defense**. As part of a comprehensive order package worth over €340 million, high-performance TRML-4D radars and SPEXER 2000 3D MkIII short-range radars will be delivered.
- The United States will provide Ukraine with **air defense equipment worth \$180 million**. The package includes modifications and maintenance, spare parts, consumables, repair support, personnel training, and training equipment. The announcement emphasizes that this assistance to Ukraine will not affect U.S. defense readiness. Previously, the Pentagon had temporarily suspended aid to Ukraine due to this concern.
- A Latvian company has won a contract from the "Drone Coalition" to supply Ukraine with **drones worth €24 million**, reports LSM+. The contract was concluded by the Latvian Ministry of Defense with the company, whose name is not disclosed for security reasons. The ministry noted that the company is one of the country's leading drone manufacturers. Production will begin soon, and the first batches of drones are expected to be delivered to Ukraine this fall.

Key Events of the Week:

- There are more than 170 combat clashes recorded daily, with the main pressure concentrated in the Pokrovsk direction.
- Russia is conducting massive drone and missile attacks—up to 450 aerial threats per night.
- Ukraine has begun shooting down "Shaheds" directly on the front line using interceptor drones.
- Successful strikes by the Ukrainian Armed Forces (AFU) on Russia's Belgorod region have weakened the Russian air defense system.
- In the city of Pokrovsk, fighting continues with Russian sabotage and reconnaissance groups (SRGs) that temporarily broke into residential areas.
- During the Kursk operation, Russia lost over 80,000 soldiers, including troops from North Korea.
- The AFU destroyed a Su-27UB aircraft and struck a gunpowder factory in Russia's Tambov region.
- In Sumy region, Ukrainian forces liberated Kindrativka and Andriivka, destroying three Russian battalions.
- Disorganization is increasing within Russian forces at the front—incidents of "friendly fire" between units have been recorded.

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| 20.07 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 154 combat clashes took place over the past day. At night, Russia attacked Ukraine with 57 strike UAVs. « ➤ Shaheds will now be shot down at the line of contact, even before they reach the rear," stated Oleh Maliarievych, deputy commander of the 429th separate UAV regiment "Achilles. " ➤ "All units along the contact line have been tasked with shooting down enemy Shaheds. Previously, we had no means to shoot them down on the front line. Now, AFU units are conducting personnel training and practicing skills with interceptor drones. Everyone will be involved—from aviation to mobile groups and drone units," Maliarievych said. ➤ China has the greatest influence on Russia and wants the war to continue, reports The Sunday Times. The publication quotes NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte, who recently stated that if Xi Jinping decided to seize Taiwan, he would "most likely" order Putin to attack Europe to divert attention—and Putin would have to obey. |
| 20.07 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Over the past day, 154 combat clashes were recorded. At night, the Russians attacked Ukraine with 450 aerial strike systems. ➤ Ukrainian defense forces struck several targets in Russia's Belgorod region. The attacks hit an S-300P surface-to-air missile system and a Nebo-M radar, weakening Russia's air defense system. The strike also reduced the effectiveness of the neighboring 5N66M "Big Bird" radar, according to the General Staff. The agency noted that these actions diminish Russia's ability to protect its forces and infrastructure and support Ukrainian operations on the front. ➤ Russian SRGs have begun infiltrating Pokrovsk—efforts to eliminate these sabotage groups are ongoing. As Deep State reports, a few days ago, the enemy took advantage of a situation where one brigade ran out of infantry and inaccurate reporting of the local situation, and entered the city via Zvyrove. "The situation had to be urgently corrected by troops from the 155th Marine Brigade and the 68th Jäger Brigade to prevent a catastrophe." The search and elimination of these groups is currently ongoing.. ➤ The enemy has advanced near Novotoretske, Shevchenko, Poltavka, Vilne Pole, Andriivka, and Popov Yar. Fighting continues in Kindrativka," the report states. ➤ Russia has sharply increased espionage activities in Germany. "We are witnessing a sharp rise in cases of espionage and hybrid operations. The actions have become more aggressive," stated Martina Rosenberg, President of Germany's Military Counterintelligence Service (MAD). Russian agents are actively infiltrating Germany through third countries. At-risk recruitment groups include people of Russian descent, late repatriates, individuals with ties to Russia, and persons with dual Russian-German citizenship. |
| 22.07 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 176 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. That night, Russia attacked Ukraine with 42 UAVs. |
| 23.07 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 167 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. At night, the enemy attacked Ukraine with 71 strike UAVs. ➤ During the Kursk operation, the Russian army lost 80,000 soldiers killed and wounded. This was reported by the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Oleksandr Syrskyi, in an interview with The Washington Post. According to him, the Kursk operation was "very important" because it prevented Russia from "capturing more territory and eased pressure on some sections of the eastern front." Syrskyi also noted the participation of North Korean soldiers in the Kursk operation. According to him, their number was up to 20,000, but they have not yet appeared on Ukrainian territory. |
| 24.07 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 172 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. During the night attack by Russia, defenders shot down 90 enemy UAVs and one missile. |
| 25.07 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the past day, 174 battles were recorded at the front: in the Pokrovsk direction, Defense Forces repelled 57 assaults. During the night of July 25, the enemy attacked with 63 aerial threats. |

Losses of the Russian army from 20.07.2025 to 26.07.2025

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|-------------------------------|-------|
| Liquidated personnel | 6 090 |
| Tanks | 20 |
| IFVs | 35 |
| Artillery systems / MLRS | 185/5 |
| Anti-aircraft warfare systems | 2 |
| Aircraft / helicopters | 0/0 |
| UAVs | 977 |
| Ships/boats | 0 |
| Vehicles & fuel tanks | 634 |
| Special equipment | 1 |



25.07

- Russia's Ministry of Defense reported the destruction of 105 Ukrainian drones overnight across various regions:
 - Krasnodar Krai: In Tymashevsk, drone debris fell on a railway station area, damaging a train car and injuring two people. Train delays followed.
 - Stavropol Krai: The governor declared the "most massive attack"—37 drones were reportedly downed, though the Ministry of Defense mentioned only five.
 - Nevinnomyssk: For the second time in two months, drones attacked the Azot chemical plant, according to Astra.

26.07

- A total of 191 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. At night, Russians attacked Ukraine with 235 aerial strike assets.
- Last night in Russia's Krasnodar Krai, a Su-27UB combat training fighter jet was destroyed, according to Ukrainian intelligence. The Main Intelligence Directorate of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense emphasized that "every crime against the Ukrainian people will be properly avenged." The incident is seen as evidence of growing resistance to the Kremlin regime within Russia.
- In Tambov Oblast, drones attacked a gunpowder plant. Several channels claimed unknown drones struck the plant in Kotovsk. Afterwards, local residents reported that smoke began rising in the area of the facility. According to OSINT analysts, a fire broke out at the factory.
- Ukraine is currently registering around 15 cyberattacks per day. Russia remains the main source of these attacks. There is also activity from groups in Belarus, China, North Korea, and the occupied territories. The main types of attacks: espionage against the Defense Forces, financial crimes, cyberterrorism, and attacks targeting notaries and military personnel, reported Ukraine's State Special Communications Service.
- Ukraine ranks 8th in the world in military spending. The country spends as much on defense as France but lags behind the United Kingdom and Germany, according to UA War Infographics.
- Ukrainian intelligence presented diplomats with evidence that Russian weapons contain Western components that reach Russia despite sanctions. At a special meeting of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, specialists from the Defence Intelligence of Ukraine showed foreign and Ukrainian diplomats samples of captured Russian equipment containing foreign electronic parts. To counter sanctions evasion, the platform War&Sanctions was launched. It aims to help track how Western components end up in Russian weaponry. New findings will be published on the website regularly. Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiha emphasized the importance of increasing pressure on Russia to cut off the supply of such parts and stop the war.
- According to Viktor Trehubov, spokesperson for the Khortytsia Operational-Strategic Grouping, the Pokrovsk direction remains the most intense, and Ukrainian resistance there is also the strongest. "In fact, the fate of the so-called Russian campaign is being decided there now—this is the main focus," he added.
- The Ukrainian Defense Forces managed to disrupt Russian plans in Sumy region and push Russian troops back, said President Zelenskyi. According to the report of Commander-in-Chief Oleksandr Syrskyi, the President noted that Sumy region remains "one of Russia's priority areas."
- Since the beginning of the full-scale war, 684 Ukrainian soldiers have been awarded the title Hero of Ukraine—428 of them posthumously. "We always remember and honor each and every one who fought for Ukraine, for its independence, and for a normal life for our people," wrote President Volodymyr Zelenskyi.
- A major success for Ukrainian troops in Sumy region: the 225th Separate Assault Regiment liberated Kindrativka. Russian occupiers lost three battalions there. This is the second village the regiment has liberated—previously, it freed Andriivka.
- Russian troops are attempting to enter the village of Dachne in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, located near the administrative border with Donetsk region, and are moving in more personnel. Hromadske learned this from soldiers defending the area. According to one serviceman, the Russians have not managed to fully secure their position in the village, and Ukrainian Defense Forces are working to stabilize the situation in this section of the front.
- Near the village of Sadky in Sumy region, two Russian military brigades opened fire on each other. This "friendly fire" occurred between the 137th Airborne Regiment (106th Airborne Division) and the 810th Separate Marine Brigade (Black Sea Fleet). The latter is based in Sevastopol. This was reported by the Institute for the Study of War (ISW) in its July 24, 2025 report.

Losses of the Russian army from 20.07.2025 to 26.07.2025

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This week shelling and strikes

Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of July 20:** Russia launched 57 drones at Ukraine. The Russians attacked Zaporizhzhia and the frontline territories of Donetsk, Kharkiv, Sumy, and Dnipropetrovsk regions. Air defense shot down 18 drones in the north and east of the country, while seven more UAVs were lost or suppressed by electronic warfare. A total of 32 drones hit 10 locations.
- **Attack on the night of July 21:** Russia launched 426 drones and 24 missiles. Air defense shot down 224 aerial targets, including 200 Shaheds. The vast majority of missiles were shot down; the rest were lost from radar or jammed by electronic warfare. A total of 23 drone strikes were recorded in 3 locations.
- **Attack on the night of July 22:** Air defense neutralized 26 out of 42 drones. In particular, 26 UAVs were shot down, while another 7 were lost without reaching their targets. A total of 9 UAV strikes were recorded in 3 locations.
- **Attack on the night of July 23:** Russia launched 71 drones. The regions of Dnipropetrovsk, Sumy, Kharkiv, and Cherkasy were under attack. Air defense forces shot down 27 Russian UAVs, while another 18 were lost or jammed by electronic warfare. A total of 26 drone strikes were recorded in 14 locations.
- **Attack on the night of July 24:** Air defense neutralized 91 Russian air targets. Russian forces launched four Iskander-K missiles, 103 Shahed-type strike UAVs, and various types of decoy drones. The attacks targeted the regions of Odesa, Mykolaiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Cherkasy, and Zaporizhzhia. A total of 13 drone strikes and 3 missile hits were recorded in 11 locations.
- **Attack on the night of July 25:** Russia attacked Ukraine with two Iskander-M/KN-23 ballistic missiles and 61 drones. Air defense forces neutralized 54 drones in the north and east of the country. However, a total of 7 UAV hits were recorded in four locations.
- **Attack on the night of July 26:** Air defense shot down 200 aerial targets, including drones and missiles. In total, Russia launched 235 air targets at Ukraine, including Shahed strike drones, Iskander-M/KN-23 ballistic missiles, Iskander-K cruise missiles, and Kh-59/69 guided missiles. The main target of the attack was the Dnipropetrovsk region. Air defense forces shot down 183 strike UAVs and 17 missiles of various types.

Donetsk oblast

- Throughout the week, the Donetsk region endured attacks involving FPV drones and aerial bombs.

On July 24, Russian troops attacked the city of Kostiantynivka with aerial bombs and artillery. As a result of the attack, two people were killed and fourteen were wounded. A total of 10 apartment buildings, 21 private houses, an administrative building, two shops, a coffee shop, and two cars were also damaged. On July 25, Russian forces launched FPV drones at the city of Myrnohrad. One person was killed in the attack.

- Other localities that came under attack during the week included:
 - Pokrovsk district: Pokrovsk, Vilne, Dobropillia, Rodynske, Vodianske.
 - Kramatorsk district: Lyman, Drobysheve, Sloviansk, Andriivka, Druzhkivka, Raiske, Illinivka, Shandryholove, Zarichne, Kramatorsk, Shchurove, Korovii Yar, Myrne, Novoselivka, Novodmytrivka.
 - Bakhmut district: Siversk.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

- Throughout the week, the Zaporizhzhia region endured air strikes, UAV attacks, and MLRS shelling.

On July 20, a Russian drone struck the city of Prymorsk. As a result, two people were injured in the attack, and one house was damaged. On July 25, a Russian FPV drone attacked the village of Prymorske, which led to the deaths of two people and the destruction of a car.

A number of settlements came under attack, namely: Plavni, Huliaipole, Olhivske, Novoandriivka, Novodanylivka, Mala Tokmachka, Charivne, Orikhiv, Chervona Krynytsia, Zaporizhzhia, Nove Zaporizhzhia, Novoslobodka, Nyzhnia Khortytsia, Kamianske, Shcherbaky, Malokaterynivka, Bilenke, Poltavka, Stepnohirs, Malynivka, Kushuhum, Preobrazhenka, Hryhorivka, Zaliznychne, Bilohiria, Uspenivka, Pryvilne, Yehorivka, Dolynske, Novopavlivka, Veselyanka.

Kharkiv oblast

- Throughout the week, the Kharkiv region was targeted by UAVs, KABs, and FPV drones.

On July 24, Russian troops struck the city of Kharkiv with two KABs, injuring 39 people and damaging a utility company building, windows of five residential buildings, and 25 cars. On July 26, the Russians shelled the city of Zmiiv. Three people were injured, and a company building was damaged as a result of the attack.

In addition, the following settlements were shelled during the week: Kupiansk, Nechvolodivka, Izium, Semenivka, Starovirivka, Shevchenkove, Ohurtsivka, Buhavka, Chuhuiv, Berestovenka, Ivano-Shyichyne, Pidseredne, Prykolotne, Velykyi Burluk, Pidlyman, Slatyne, Kozacha Lopan, Kurhanne, Lypchanivka, Martove, Balakliia, Bezruky, and Vyrishalnyi.

Sumy oblast

- Throughout the week, the Sumy region endured attacks involving KABs, MLRS shelling, and VOG grenade drops from drones.

On July 20, a Russian UAV struck the Zarichnyi district of Sumy, wounding two people and damaging windows of a residential building, a car, and power lines. On July 22, a Russian drone hit the city of Sumy, resulting in one fatality and damage to buildings and cars.

A number of settlements were also targeted by the enemy, including Svesa, Shostka, Seredyna-Buda, Druzhba, Sumy, Mykolaiv, Putyvl, Bilopillia, Velyka Pysarivka, Znob-Novhorodske, Esman, Hlukhiv, and Richky communities.

Mykolaiv Oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian troops actively used FPV drones, artillery, and Shahed-131/136 strike drones against the Mykolaiv region. As a result of these attacks, at least 17 private houses, two educational institutions, an administrative building, utility and storage facilities, as well as power lines were damaged, causing temporary power outages for hundreds of consumers. At least five fires were recorded, all of which were quickly extinguished. The Kutsurub community in the Mykolaiv district and the regional center, the city of Mykolaiv, were shelled on a daily basis. There were no casualties among the civilian population during this period.

This week shelling and strikes

Dnipro and the oblast

- During the week, Russian troops carried out massive attacks on the Dnipropetrovsk region, using strike UAVs, FPV drones, artillery, Grad multiple launch rocket systems, and guided aerial bombs (KABs). Infrastructure facilities, farms and industrial enterprises, social facilities (schools, clinics, sports halls, cultural institutions, kindergartens), residential buildings, apartment buildings, transport, enterprises, commercial facilities, and architectural monuments were either destroyed or damaged. Numerous fires were recorded as a result of the strikes.

In total, three people were killed and 13 others were injured, including a 17-year-old teenager who is in serious condition. On July 24, Russian troops attacked the Nikopol and Synelnykove districts with drones and artillery, damaging a school, a clinic, a shopping center, a cafe, several residential buildings, and an apartment building, causing at least five fires. On the night of July 26, the Russians launched a massive combined strike on Dnipro and its surroundings, using missiles and drones. Three people were killed and six more were injured in the attack. Enterprises, a shopping center, and residential buildings were damaged in the city, and large-scale fires broke out.

Nikopol, Synelnykove, Kryvyi Rih, Samarskyi, and Pavlohrad districts were affected the most. Dozens of communities came under fire, including Nikopol, Dnipro, Marhanets, Myrove, Pokrovsk, Mezheva, Velykomykhailivka, Zelenodolsk, Mahdalynivka, Malomykhailivka, and Vasylykiv.

Odesa oblast

- Throughout the week, the Odesa region endured multiple drone strikes. UAVs were used as the main weapon. The attack led to damage to one administrative building, a 25-story residential building, a kindergarten, the Ukrainian Railways (Ukrzaliznytsia) infrastructure, the famous Pryvoz Market in the historic center, and architectural monuments in the center of Odesa. Some of the buildings were destroyed by fire. In total, more than 30 cars were burned or damaged, and some were destroyed completely. It was confirmed that one person was killed and five others were injured in the attack.

On the night of July 22, Russian drones attacked Odesa, causing a fire in a parking lot and damaging an apartment building and a store. One person was injured and more than a dozen cars were destroyed. On July 24, the Russians struck a nine-story residential building in Odesa. Four floors (from the fifth to the eighth) were partially destroyed, and large fires broke out. A 32-year-old man was killed and four other people were injured.

Poltava oblast

- During the week, Russian drones attacked the Poltava region several times, targeting both critical infrastructure and civilian buildings. The Poltava and Kremenchuk districts were affected. On the night of July 22–23, Russian forces carried out an attack on the energy infrastructure of Ukrainian Railways (Ukrzaliznytsia), causing power outages. On the night of July 25, debris from a downed UAV caused a fire in a private household building in the Kremenchuk district. There were no casualties, and the fire was extinguished. Train traffic has been restored, and repair work is ongoing.

Kherson and the oblast

- Throughout the week, the Kherson region came under attack involving artillery, strike drones (UAVs), and aircraft. Russian strikes targeted residential areas, critical infrastructure, and social infrastructure. In total, seven people were killed and 40 were wounded during this period, including children and a utility worker.

Russian drones continue to target civilians. In particular, on July 23, a Russian drone attacked the village of Zoryvka in the Bilozerka community, causing two 13-year-olds to suffer concussions and severe traumatic brain injuries. On July 25, a Russian UAV targeted a vehicle carrying utility workers, killing one person and injuring two others.

Dozens of settlements came under fire, including Antonivka, Beryslav, Stanislav, Kizomys, Bilozerka, Dniprovsk, Osokorivka, Sofivka, Zolota Balka, Chornobaivka, Mylove, Odradokamianka, Novooleksandrivka, Prydniprovsk, Shyroka Balka, Tiahynka, the city of Kherson, and many others.

Kyiv Oblast

- On the night of July 21, Russian troops carried out a combined air attack on Kyiv using strike UAVs and missiles. Explosions were reported in at least three densely populated areas of the capital — Darnytskyi, Shevchenkivskyi, and Dniprovskyi. One person was killed and seven others were injured in the attack, including a 15-year-old teenager. Residential and civilian facilities, including apartment buildings, a kindergarten, and shopping arcades, suffered significant damage. In total, at least six fires caused by hits or falling debris were reported in the city.

Chernihiv oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian troops intensively shelled border communities in the Chernihiv region, carrying out a series of attacks on the communities of Semenivka, Snovsk, Horodnia, Novhorod-Siverskyi, as well as on the villages of Senkivka, Bleishnia, Huta-Studynetska, Khrinivka, Arkhypivka, Tymonovychi, Mykolaivka, Baranivka, Karpovychi, Poliushkine, Bohdanove, Krasnyi Khutir, Yasna Poliana, Hremiach, Dibrova, Yeline, and Berylivka.
- The attacks involved FPV drones, explosives dropped from UAVs, cannon artillery, 120 mm mortars, and unguided aviation rockets. The strikes damaged residential buildings and non-residential facilities. At least two fires were recorded, including those caused by incendiary substances dropped from drones. No casualties or injuries among the civilian population were reported.



The week of shelling

Donetsk oblast



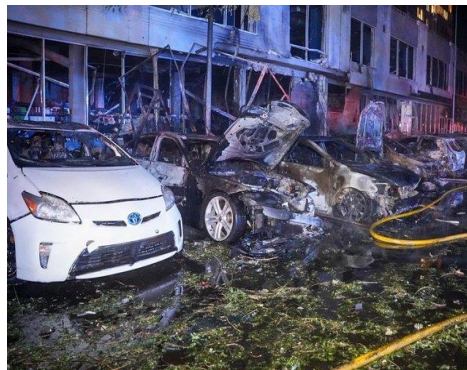
Kharkiv oblast



Sumy oblast



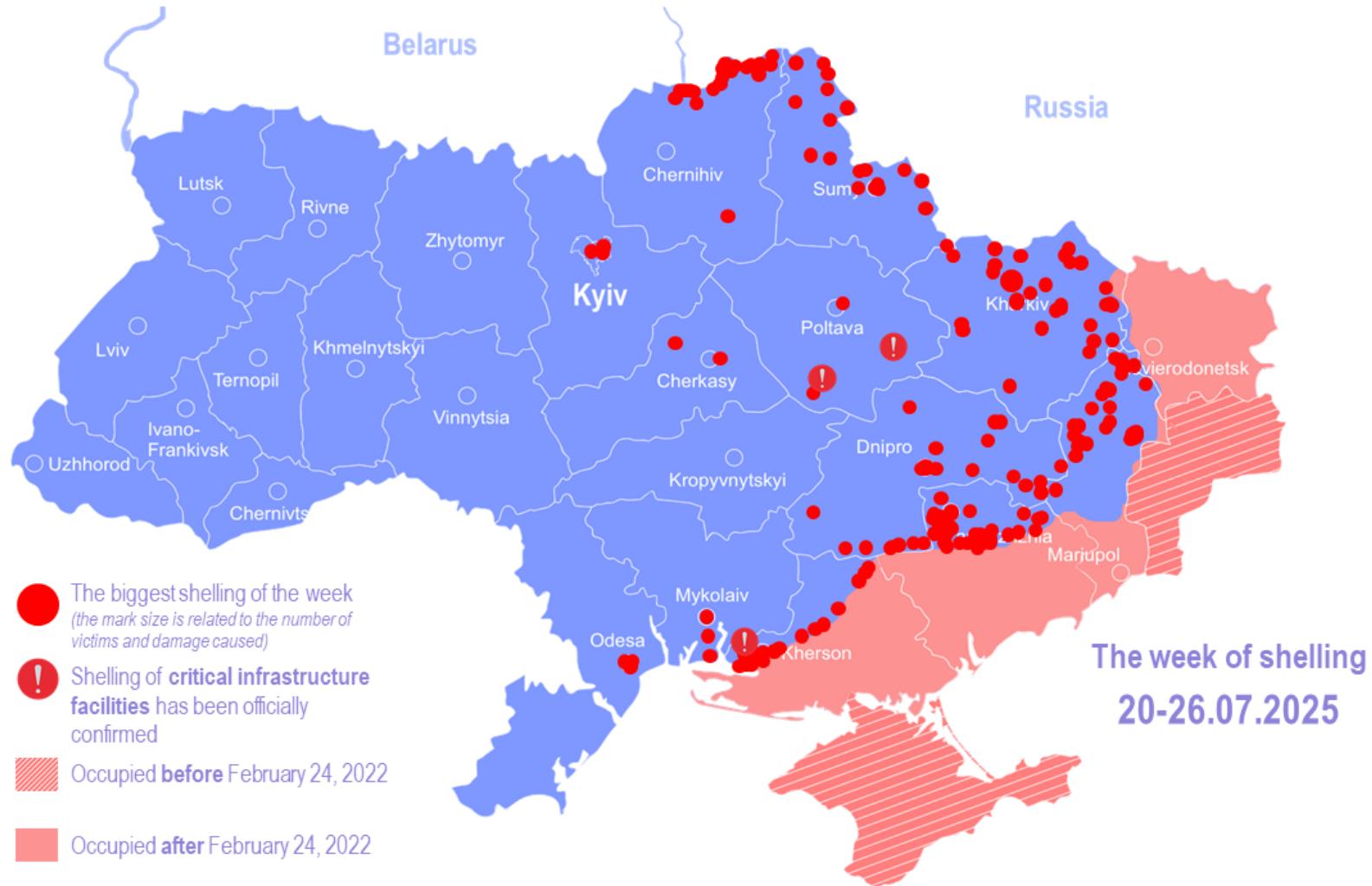
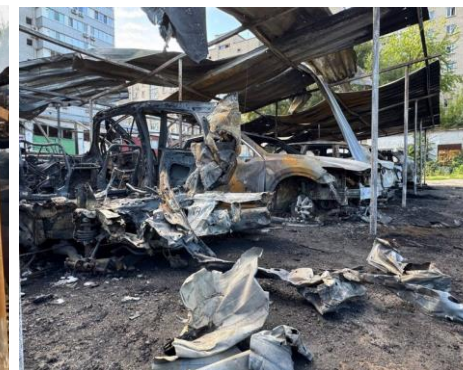
Odesa oblast



Kherson



Dnipro



War Crimes

- During his transfer to a Russian penal colony, the oldest known civilian prisoner from Enerhodar, 74-year-old Oleksandr Markov, died. The occupying forces had illegally arrested the sick man on May 8, 2024. For nearly a year, his family had no information about his fate. In March 2025, it became known that an occupation "court" had sentenced Oleksandr Markov to 14 years in a high-security penal colony and one additional year of restricted freedom on trumped-up charges of "treason".
- In June and July, the number of civilian casualties in Ukraine caused by Russian shelling reached its highest level since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, according to the United Nations.
- The Main Intelligence Directorate of Ukraine intercepted a conversation in which a Russian commander discussed the use of gas against Ukrainian soldiers. In the call, the occupier talks about preparations to deploy banned chemical weapons against the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- Ukraine managed to repatriate another group of children from Russian occupation. The children survived abuse and pressure from the occupiers. Among those rescued were a 13-year-old girl who had been forbidden to speak Ukrainian at school; a boy who had been taken to Russia and whose mother was able to bring him back despite numerous obstacles; a teenager who became withdrawn due to pressure and propaganda; and a child who was afraid even to mention the name of their country. Today, all of them are safe and reunited with their families.
- The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) has officially recognized Russia's crimes against the media, which began in 2014 as a "hybrid war" using propaganda. Since the spring of 2014, Ukraine has lost 175 frequency allocations in areas captured by the so-called "DPR" and "LPR". After the start of the full-scale invasion on February 24, 2022, Russia seized another 284 frequencies, and 164 Ukrainian broadcasters were forced to stop broadcasting, while Russian media began broadcasting on these frequencies.
- On July 24, as a result of a massive Russian missile strike on Odesa, seven cultural heritage sites located in the historic center of the city, which are included in the UNESCO World Heritage List, were damaged and destroyed.

International support

- The Netherlands, together with 40 OSCE countries, is initiating an investigation into the torture of Ukrainian prisoners of war. Under the OSCE's so-called "Moscow Mechanism," the countries are demanding an independent investigation into the torture and ill-treatment of Ukrainian prisoners by the Russian Federation.

Prisoners of War

- Ukraine has begun working on lists of civilian prisoners held by Russia, President Zelenskyi said.
- Following the third round of negotiations in Istanbul, the parties agreed on the exchange of 1,200 prisoners of war. One of the key aspects, according to the president, is the political prisoners and journalists held captive by the Kremlin. Zelenskyi also mentioned Russia's demand to repatriate 20 Russian children and 30 residents of the Kursk region. The president emphasized that Ukraine is not holding Russian minors on its territory.



Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOT) and Evacuation

- In the temporarily occupied areas of Ukraine, due to drought and the destruction of the irrigation system, the wheat harvest has been lost, and the fields with crops are being plowed under, according to the head of the Center for the Study of Occupation.
- The Russian forces are trying to completely wipe out the information in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine and, to this end, are confiscating equipment that allows people to watch Ukrainian television, according to the Center for National Resistance.
- In Sumy Oblast, the evacuation of residents of border communities that are constantly under fire from Russian troops continues. The evacuation covers 213 settlements in 18 communities in the region.
- In Donetsk Oblast, a forced evacuation of families with children from the city of Dobropillia and the surrounding villages of the Dobropillia and Kryvyi Rih communities has also been announced. This is due to intense shelling by the Russian Federation, including drone attacks and the use of guided aerial bombs targeting residential areas and logistics routes, including the highway to Kramatorsk. There are currently 928 children in these settlements, who are being forcibly evacuated to ensure their safety.
- In Mariupol, which is temporarily occupied by Russia, water will be supplied once every two days for four hours, according to the head of the Center for the Study of Occupation. Also, under orders from the occupying "authorities", water will be supplied to residential buildings in the temporarily occupied Donetsk and Makiivka only once every three days. Local collaborators explain this by problems with the power supply. The head of the Center also reported an outbreak of rotavirus infection in Mariupol.

Infrastructure and Energy

- The Russian army carried out a massive shelling of one of the thermal power plants, according to the Ministry of Energy. The ministry notes that the attacked station has no connection to military facilities. Such targeted attacks are further evidence of the aggressor's terror tactics, aimed at intimidating Ukrainians and depriving them of electricity and heating.
- In Zaporizhzhia, six of the 21 destroyed high-rise residential buildings have already been rebuilt. Seven buildings are currently undergoing reconstruction, which is planned to be completed by the end of the year. Four more buildings are beyond repair. However, the residents of these buildings are not left without support – 189 housing certificates have already been issued, totaling over UAH 130 million (approx. \$3.1 million), which will allow everyone to purchase a new home in other regions of Ukraine.
- Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, more than 700 Russian attacks on Ukrainian energy facilities have been recorded, and this year, up to 90% of the strikes have been carried out using drones, according to Minister of Internal Affairs Ihor Klymenko.

