



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

August 17 – 23

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

- **Trump-Putin: first meeting and Russian conditions.** Donald Trump met with Vladimir Putin in Alaska, after which the media published Russia's demands for ending the war. According to Reuters, Moscow is demanding **the complete withdrawal of Ukrainian troops** from the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts in exchange for freezing the front line in the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia oblasts. Other conditions include formal recognition of Russian sovereignty over Crimea, the lifting of some sanctions, a ban on Ukraine joining NATO, and official status for the Russian language in Ukraine.
- Russia is allegedly ready to return relatively small areas of Ukrainian land in the north of Sumy and in the north-east of Kharkiv regions. However, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov later said that Putin was ready to meet with Zelenskyi only **"if all issues are thoroughly worked out,"** and Reuters reported that Moscow opposes the presence of Western peacekeepers in Ukraine.
- **White House meeting: European coalition and security guarantees.** Volodymyr Zelenskyi held talks with Donald Trump in Washington with the participation of the leaders of France, Germany, Italy, Great Britain, Finland, the head of the European Commission, and the NATO secretary general. Trump said he was ready to give Ukraine **security guarantees similar to NATO's Article 5 protection**, but confirmed that Ukraine would not be accepted into the Alliance. The US president categorically refused to deploy US troops in Ukraine, but did not rule out the possibility of providing air support.
- According to the Financial Times, Ukraine has offered to purchase **\$100 billion worth of American weapons**, to be financed by European countries, and has also signed a \$50 billion deal for the production of drones. Bloomberg reports that about 10 countries are ready to send troops to Ukraine as a security guarantee, with the UK and France in particular considering deploying hundreds of soldiers away from the front lines.
- **Ukraine's position: refusal to make territorial concessions.** Ukraine has rejected Russian proposals for territorial concessions and the withdrawal of troops from Donbas. According to the Financial Times, Kyiv considers Putin's proposal to freeze the front line as an opportunity for Russia to create a springboard for advancing to the Dnipro. Zelenskyi insists on full compensation for damages from Russian aggression through \$300 billion in frozen Russian assets and notes that sanctions can only be eased if Russia complies with a future peace agreement.
- The Ukrainian president confirmed his **readiness to hold elections after the end of active hostilities**, provided that "security conditions" are created. Regarding future negotiations, Zelenskyi said, "We will leave the issue of territories between me and Putin," and emphasized his readiness to meet without preconditions.
- **Preparation for direct negotiations: formats and venues.** Trump has begun preparations for a trilateral meeting with Zelenskyi and Putin, which is to take place within two weeks, according to German Chancellor Friedrich Merz. Russia has proposed holding a bilateral meeting between Ukraine and Russia first, followed by a trilateral meeting. Potential venues include Switzerland (which promises Putin immunity from arrest under an ICC warrant), Italy, and even Hungary. Belarus has also expressed its readiness to host the summit.

- US Secretary of State Marco Rubio will head **a working group to develop security guarantees** for Ukraine, which will include national security advisers and NATO representatives. According to the Wall Street Journal, the guarantees will have four parts: military presence, air defense, weapons, and monitoring to make sure the fighting stops. The US has also stopped sharing intel on talks with its Five Eyes allies, following an order from Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard.
- **Ukraine allows for a freeze in the war with Russia**, says Podoliak. Advisor to the head of the Presidential Office Mykhailo Podoliak says that one of the basic scenarios for ending the war is to freeze the conflict along the front line. The de facto occupied territories will most likely remain so. However, without legal recognition, Ukraine will try to liberate them using economic, diplomatic, and other tools.

International Support

- **European diplomacy and sanctions policy.** President Zelenskyi held talks with EU leaders in Brussels, where they discussed future sanctions against Russia and positions on peace talks. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced the expected **adoption of the 19th package of sanctions** in early September and confirmed the EU's position that any negotiations on Ukraine are impossible without its participation.
- During the press conference, the Ukrainian president stressed that real negotiations can only come from the current front line, and territorial issues will be discussed exclusively at **a trilateral meeting of the leaders of Ukraine**, the US, and Russia. Zelenskyi also warned against dividing Ukraine and Moldova in the process of European integration.
- **Financial support and frozen assets.** Ukraine received €4.05 billion from the EU under two programs, including €1 billion under ERA Loans, financed from frozen Russian assets, and €3.05 billion through the Ukraine Facility. The total amount of aid from the EU and its member states since the start of the full-scale invasion has reached €168.9 billion.
- According to Welt, the total amount of income from frozen Russian assets transferred to Ukraine amounted to €10.1 billion. The largest tranches were received in January (€3 billion) and April (€3.1 billion), with the remaining months bringing in €1 billion per month.
- **Security guarantees and military support.** NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte and President Zelenskyi discussed the structure of future security guarantees, which should consist of two levels: a peace agreement with the strengthening of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and guarantees from the US and Europe.
- Romania has announced its readiness **to provide its military bases to NATO allies** for the deployment of F-35 fighter jets, which could be the country's contribution to security guarantees for Ukraine. Turkey has also expressed its willingness to participate in the guarantees, taking responsibility for maritime security.
- The survey showed growing support among Americans, including Republicans, for continuing military aid to Ukraine, with six out of ten Americans supporting the provision of additional weapons >>



- At the same time, **public opinion** in European countries is divided: the vast majority of Finns support their country's participation in providing security guarantees to Ukraine, including sending troops, while the majority of Poles do not approve of participation in the peacekeeping contingent.
- **Energy security and international cooperation.** Ukraine continues negotiations with Azerbaijan on new gas supplies, which may take place before the start of the heating season. Energy Minister Svitlana Hrynychuk reported on negotiations on gas injection by non-residents into Ukrainian underground storage facilities and production projects within the framework of the Ukrainian-American Reconstruction Fund.
- At the same time, **Russian oil imports to India** in July fell by 24.5% compared to June and amounted to 1.5 million barrels per day, which may indicate a gradual decline of Russia's energy ties with key partners.
- **Security challenges and international initiatives.** China has announced its readiness to send peacekeepers to Ukraine, but only on the basis of a UN mandate. European partners have expressed mixed views on this initiative, fearing possible espionage and Beijing's pro-Russian stance in the event of a conflict.
- South Africa has launched an investigation into the recruitment of women to work in Russia due to fears that they will be used in factories producing military drones, particularly in the Yelabuga special economic zone in Tatarstan.

Other

- **China continues to strengthen military cooperation with Russia in critical areas.** According to intelligence reports, Russia is creating an automated system for China called "Mech" to manage amphibious operations, which includes software and hardware complexes for command and control vehicles and secure data transmission devices. At the same time, Chinese factories are actively buying Russian oil at reduced prices, taking advantage of India's refusal to purchase due to pressure from the US.
- Iran has provided Russia with a **ready-made shadow infrastructure to circumvent oil sanctions** through offshore schemes. According to a Financial Times investigation, the Ocean Glory Giant network, created back in 2019, has transported more than 130 million barrels of oil worth \$9.6 billion, of which almost half came from Iran and a quarter from Russia. Virtually all of this oil ended up in China through a complex system of Panamanian registrations and Swiss legal schemes.
- **North Korea continues to provide large-scale military support for Russian aggression.** Kim Jong-un personally awarded DPRK soldiers who fought in the Kursk region, calling them "great heroes," and placed medals next to 101 portraits of the fallen on the memorial wall. The DPRK has also adapted modern Bulsae-4 anti-tank missile systems for use with light off-road vehicles, testing them in the Kursk region.
- **Ukraine is increasing sanctions pressure** on the Russian military-industrial complex through targeted restrictions. President Zelenskyy has imposed sanctions on 39 individuals and 55 companies from Russia, China, and Belarus that are involved in the development of Russian strike drones with artificial intelligence elements. According to sanctions commissioner Vlasov, the restrictions are aimed at companies that provide modern electronic components and computing resources for autonomous unmanned systems.
- For the second time in a month, **the Russians attacked the Azerbaijani SOCAR oil depot**, completely destroying it — all tanks with a capacity of over 16,000 cubic meters were damaged. The Russians also attacked the American company Flex in Zakarpattia, which had been operating since the 2000s.

Military Support

- **Europe has surpassed the US for the first time in terms of military industrial aid to Ukraine.** From February 2022 to the end of June 2025, European countries allocated at least €35.1 billion for the production of weapons for Ukraine, which is €4.4 billion more than the US contribution for the same period. According to the study, the total US contribution amounted to €30.7 billion. This is the first time since the start of the full-scale invasion that Europe has surpassed the United States in terms of military industrial support for Ukraine.
- **France and the Baltic countries are stepping up their military aid.** Ukraine will receive an additional 50 French-made Bastion wheeled armored vehicles, which will expand the capabilities of the national armed forces in combat operations. At the same time, volunteers from Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, as part of the Baltic Convoy initiative, will deliver about 80 vehicles to the Armed Forces of Ukraine by Independence Day. Such coordinated support from the Baltic states demonstrates their consistent position on strengthening Ukraine's defense capabilities.
- **Development of technology and industrial cooperation.** The Danish-Ukrainian company Dropla Tech has attracted €2.4 million in investments to scale up artificial intelligence solutions designed to detect mines and other threats on the battlefield. This demonstrates the deepening of international cooperation in the development of critical defense technologies.
- The Ukrainian defense industry, in cooperation with European partners, has mastered the **repair of German-made Gepard** self-propelled anti-aircraft guns. This localization of maintenance will increase the efficiency of the use of this weaponry and reduce logistics costs.
- **Civil initiatives support defense.** The Czech volunteer initiative "A Gift for Putin" is raising funds to purchase five training aircraft for the Ukrainian military. Such civil society activity in partner countries confirms the strong support for Ukraine at the grassroots level and complements official state aid.



Key Events of the Week:

- Ukrainian drones and missiles are regularly striking Russian oil refineries and pumping facilities, causing disruptions in fuel supplies and prolonged fires.
- Ukraine's Defense Forces have liberated several settlements in Donetsk oblast and achieved local successes in Sumy oblast.
- Ukrainian Special Operations Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (SOF of Ukraine) and Main Directorate of Intelligence of the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine (HUR of the MoD of Ukraine) are carrying out precision operations — destroying ammunition depots, fuel storage facilities, command posts, and enemy units. Ukrainian strikes on Russian railway infrastructure have disrupted the movement of dozens of trains, complicating the occupiers' logistics.
- For the first time, the Ukrainian Armed Forces (AFU) employed the long-range cruise missile Flamingo with a range of 3,000 km, which is now in serial production.
- The enemy is concentrating forces on the Pokrovsk and Zaporizhzhia axes, but is suffering heavy losses and losing the momentum of its offensive.
- Russia continues information attacks — spreading fake claims about "Ukrainian losses" in order to demoralize society and weaken Western support.
- Ukraine is considering the possibility of freezing the war along the frontline, but without legal recognition of occupation and with the continuation of the struggle by other means.

17.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 148 combat engagements were recorded over the past 24 hours. During the night of August 17, the enemy attacked with an Iskander-M ballistic missile and 60 strike UAVs. ➤ At night, drones attacked the Liski railway station in the Voronezh region. The governor reported train delays due to falling "debris." The "Carpet" plan was activated at Kazan and Nizhny Novgorod airports. ➤ Ukraine's Defense Forces achieved successes in several directions. From August 4 to 16, the following settlements in Donetsk oblast were cleared: Hruzke, Rubizhne, Novovodiane, Petrivka, Vesele, and Zoloty Kolodiaz. This week, the city of Pokrovsk was also cleared of enemy groups and isolated occupiers. Over the past day, Ukrainian units advanced on the Northern-Slobzhansk direction in several locations, particularly near Yablunivka in Sumy oblast — up to 1,000 meters, according to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. ➤ Over the past 1,010 days (almost 3 years) of the war, Russians have occupied 0.9% of Ukraine's territory, according to DeepState. They note that the occupiers had major success in the first days of the full-scale invasion, but counteroffensives in the north, Kharkiv, and Kherson regions allowed Ukraine to regain large areas. Since November 12, 2022, the enemy has continued active offensives — occupying 5,842 sq km, which is 0.96781% of Ukraine's area. ➤ It would take Russian forces approximately 4.4 years to capture 100% of the four Ukrainian regions claimed by Putin, according to a British intelligence report. Considering the average daily Russian casualties in 2025, as reported by Ukraine's General Staff, another 4.4 years of war would lead to about 1,930,000 additional Russian casualties (killed and wounded). This would be in addition to the roughly 1,060,000 losses Russia has likely already suffered since the start of the full-scale invasion in 2022, including around 250,000 killed or missing (presumed dead). ➤ The HUR destroyed an ammunition depot in Melitopol and eliminated occupiers redeployed to the Zaporizhzhia direction. At least six Russian marines and the UAV crew of the so-called Kadyrovite battalion "Akhmad-Vostok" were killed. The exact number of Russian irretrievable and sanitary losses is being clarified. An ammunition depot also caught fire, with secondary detonations heard, according to Ukraine's Military Intelligence.
18.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 182 combat engagements were recorded over the past 24 hours. During the night of August 18, the enemy attacked with four Iskander-M ballistic missiles and 140 strike UAVs. ➤ Ukraine's drone forces struck the "Nikolskoye" oil pumping station in the Tambov region. This station is part of Russia's economic infrastructure and is involved in supplying the occupying troops. ➤ According to the General Staff, a fire broke out at the facility following the strike, and oil pumping through the Druzhba pipeline was completely halted. The Druzhba pipeline delivers Russian oil to Hungary and Slovakia. ➤ The Ukrainian Flamingo cruise missile, with a 3,000 km range, was successfully tested several months ago and entered serial production. "It is a powerful weapon, long-range, and it exists. These are the key details. We will learn more at the appropriate time," commented Defense Minister Shmyhal. The Flamingo carries a 1,150 kg warhead, and its 3,000 km range allows it to strike previously unreachable targets deep in enemy territory. The missile is also resistant to Electronic Warfare (EW) countermeasures. ➤ Russia is redeploying forces from Sumy to the Zaporizhzhia direction. AFU Commander-in-Chief Oleksandr Syrskyi stated that the occupiers are regrouping and concentrating on two main axes: Pokrovsk and Zaporizhzhia. According to him, the enemy plans to launch active offensives on the Zaporizhzhia axis as well. "Currently, the fighting there is of low intensity. But in carrying out Putin's goals and directives, the occupiers are also trying to deliver a powerful strike there, which was planned a year ago. You remember, it was the Kursk operation that disrupted those plans," Syrskyi noted. ➤ Putin likely doesn't want just to buy time — he wants to seize more territory," Syrskyi stressed. "We have no other choice — we must defend our land. Putin likely wants to seize territory, and that requires time. Despite his growing losses, every kilometer and every position costs him more killed and wounded. The statistics prove this," said the AFU Commander-in-Chief.
19.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 186 combat engagements were recorded over the past 24 hours. During President Zelenskyi's talks with Trump, Russia attacked Ukraine with 280 drones and missiles.

Losses of the Russian army from 17.08.2025 to 23.08.2025

Liquidated personnel	5 180
Tanks	11
IFVs	19
Artillery systems / MLRS	266/3
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	3
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	1 371
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	656
Special equipment	2



Situation at the Front

19.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Russia reported a massive UAV attack in the Volgograd region and a fire at an oil refinery. According to the governor, in southern Volgograd, debris from UAVs caused a fire at the roof of a hospital building (Hospital No. 16) and on the refinery grounds. No casualties were reported. ➤ Security Service of Ukraine (SSU) long-range drones destroyed two enemy ammunition depots in Luhansk oblast. During the night of August 19, SSU drones struck two Russian ammunition warehouses in the occupied town of Bilokurakyn, an important railway hub supplying the Pokrovsk direction. According to preliminary data, drones hit the depots at least seven times.
20.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 175 combat engagements took place over the past 24 hours. During the night of August 20 (from 19:30, August 19), the enemy attacked with two Iskander-M ballistic missiles (from occupied Crimea) and 93 strike UAVs. ➤ Russian media spread a fake story about the alleged hacking of the Ukrainian General Staff's database and "1.7 million dead or missing Ukrainian soldiers." The Center for Countering Disinformation refuted this, exposing it as another Russian fake. "Ukraine has never had a regular army of 1.7 million. As of January 2025, according to President Zelenskyy, the Ukrainian army numbered 880,000 personnel," the Center stated. The goal of this fake is to demoralize Ukrainians, convince the world of the "exhaustion and inefficiency of Ukraine's Armed Forces," and weaken international support.
21.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 167 combat engagements took place over the past 24 hours. During the night of August 21, the enemy attacked with 614 aerial assets. ➤ UAVs attacked the Novoshakhtinsk oil refinery in the Rostov region. A fire broke out at an industrial facility during the drone strike. Ukraine's drone forces also struck another pumping station in the Bryansk region. The "Unecha" station is the largest hub of the Druzhba pipeline network. ➤ AFU Special Operations Forces conducted a special raid near Dzhankoy railway station. During the night of August 21, special forces hit a Russian fuel train, complicating the supply of Russia's southern military grouping. ➤ Defense Forces cleared six settlements in the Pokrovsk direction. "Despite the enemy's numerical advantage, Ukrainian Armed Forces and National Guard units honorably carry out their tasks. As a result of successful strikes and raids, six settlements were cleared and hundreds of Russian occupiers were eliminated," said AFU Commander-in-Chief Oleksandr Syrskyi. ➤ Ukrainian forces "cut off" a Russian salient near Dobropillia. "Regarding the salient near Dobropillia: its 'horns' have been cut off, but Russians remain in the lower part. Currently, the enemy is attacking Dobropillia and Pokrovsk relatively evenly, and trying to push toward Kostiantynivka," said Viktor Tregubov, spokesman for the "Dnipro" Operational-Strategic Group. He added that Dobropillia is now almost empty. ➤ The Ukrainian Flamingo missile is currently produced at a rate of one per day, according to AP. The FP-5 is one of the world's largest such missiles, capable of delivering a payload of up to 1,150 kg. By October, production capacity is expected to increase to seven per day, according to the report.
22.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 157 combat engagements were recorded over the past 24 hours. During the night of August 22, the enemy attacked with 55 strike UAVs. ➤ AFU struck several key targets of the Russian aggressor. Recently, in the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk oblast alone, the command post of the Russian "Rubicon" UAV unit and a large ammunition depot were destroyed, the General Staff reported. ➤ A HUR naval drone eliminated five elite Russian divers in Novorossiysk Bay. During a HUR operation in the Black Sea, one strike naval drone reached Novorossiysk Bay. Due to EW interference, the drone lost contact and drifted. The local command ordered it to be retrieved for inspection. During the attempt, the drone detonated, killing all five Russian combat divers.
23.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In total, 143 combat engagements were recorded over the past 24 hours. This night, Ukrainian air defenses destroyed 36 of 49 enemy UAVs. ➤ Drones struck two railway hubs in Russia, delaying 40 trains, according to Russian media. In the Rostov region, Serhiyivka station was damaged — the power supply network was disrupted, delaying 38 trains. Drone debris caused fires, later extinguished. In the Volgograd region, in the town of Petrov Val, a fire broke out near a railway station — a jewelry shop was damaged and windows were shattered in nearby houses. The hub station of the Privolzhsk railway was likely targeted. ➤ HUR fighters attacked Russian troops in the Luhansk oblast involved in the Bucha atrocities of 2022. On the eve of Ukraine's State Flag Day, an explosion occurred in the occupied settlement of Kalynove, Luhansk oblast. The detonation happened in the yard of a house where six Russian soldiers and their vehicles were present. These occupiers directly participated in war crimes in Bucha, Kyiv oblast, in 2022. As a result of the blast, two enemy pickups with mounted machine guns and a UAZ "bukhanka" loaded with ammunition were destroyed, along with three Russian occupiers. Two more were seriously wounded. ➤ In Russian Novoshakhtinsk, an oil refinery has been burning for the third day following a UAV attack. In a neighboring city, water was shut off to help extinguish the fire. According to the regional minister of housing and utilities, water supply in Krasny Sulin, Rostov region, home to over 35,000 people, "will be restored after reservoirs are refilled to the required level and the pipeline is pressure-tested." She did not specify when this would happen.

Losses of the Russian army from 17.08.2025 to 23.08.2025

Liquidated personnel	5 180
Tanks	11
IFVs	19
Artillery systems / MLRS	266/3
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	3
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	1 371
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	656
Special equipment	2



This week shelling and strikes

Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of August 17:** Russia attacked Ukraine with an Iskander-M ballistic missile and 60 drones. Air defense neutralized 40 enemy Shahed-type UAVs and decoy drones of various types in the north and east of the country. The missile and 20 drones struck 12 locations in the frontline areas of Kharkiv, Donetsk, and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts.
- **Attack on the night of August 18:** Russia attacked Ukraine with four Iskander-M ballistic missiles and 140 drones. Air defense neutralized 88 enemy Shahed-type UAVs and decoy drones of various types in the north, south, east, and center of the country. However, enemy missiles and UAVs struck 25 locations in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Sumy, Dnipropetrovsk, Odesa, and Kyiv oblasts.
- **Attack on the night of August 19:** Russia attacked Ukraine with 10 missiles and 270 drones. Air defense neutralized 236 aerial targets: 230 enemy UAVs, 2 Iskander-M ballistic missiles, and 4 Kh-101 cruise missiles.
- **Attack on the night of August 20:** Russia attacked Ukraine with two Iskander-M ballistic missiles and 93 drones. Air defense neutralized one missile and 62 enemy UAVs. Another missile and strike drones hit 20 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 21:** Air defense neutralized 577 out of 614 aerial targets. Missiles and drones struck 11 locations, and debris fell in three more.
- **Attack on the night of August 22:** Russia attacked Ukraine with 55 drones. Air defense neutralized 46 enemy Shahed-type UAVs and decoy drones of various types in the north and east of the country. Another 9 strike UAVs hit 4 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 23:** Air defense neutralized 36 out of 49 drones launched by Russia against Ukraine. Thirteen UAV strikes were recorded at 7 locations in Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, and Sumy oblasts.

Donetsk oblast

- Throughout the week, the Donetsk oblast suffered from missile strikes and attacks using UAVs and KAB-250 bombs.
- On August 20, Russians launched 8 missiles at the city of Kostyantynivka. As a result, 3 people were killed and 4 were wounded. The attack also damaged 15 trade pavilions, 8 private houses, 6 apartment buildings, a shop, 2 cars, and a power line. On August 22, Russia attacked the city of Kramatorsk. Three people were wounded, and residential buildings were damaged.
- Other affected areas include:
 - Pokrovsk district: Dobropillia, Sviatohorivka, Bilozerske, Zoloty Kolodiaz, Pokrovsk, Hruzke, Novotroitske, Svitlye.
 - Kramatorsk district: Lyman, Mykolaivka, Sloviansk, Oleksandrivka, Vesela Hora, Novoyavlenka, Rayske, Novomykolaivka, Drobysheve, Donetsk, Andriivka, Samarske, Novohryhorivka, Novodonecke, Stepanivka, Druzhkivka, Yampil, Novoandriivka, Ivanopillia, Yarova, Maiaky, Illinivka, Novoselivka.
 - Bakhmut district: Siversk.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

- Throughout the week, the Zaporizhzhia oblast suffered from UAV and FAB (guided aerial bomb) attacks, as well as shelling from MLRS and artillery strikes.
- On August 17, Russians attacked the village of Novoyakovlivka with FABs. One person was killed, six others were wounded. Residential houses were also damaged. On August 18, Russians carried out missile strikes on the city of Zaporizhzhia. Three people were killed, and 33 were injured. Eleven apartment buildings, 10 private houses, and non-residential facilities were damaged or destroyed.
- Other settlements affected during the week included: Preobrazhenka, Novodanylivka, Mala Tokmachka, Bilohiria, Bilenke, Plavni, Hulaiipole, Shcherbaky, Charivne, Malynivka, Veselianka, Orikhiv, Prymorske, Poltavka, Kamianske, Richne, Mykilske, Novoandriivka, Uspenivka, Vyshneve, Verkhnia Tersa, Zarichne, Novoselivka, Omelnyk.

Kharkiv oblast

- Throughout the week, the Kharkiv oblast suffered from guided aerial bombs (KAB) and UAV attacks.
- On August 18, Russia attacked the city of Kharkiv with UAVs. Seven people were killed and 24 were injured. A residential building was also damaged.
- Other settlements affected included: Vilshany, Nova Kozacha, Prykolotne, Kupiansk, Lisne, Pidserednie, Shevchenkove, Odradne, Hnylytsia, Horokhovatka, Kochetok, Ruska Lozova, Peremoha, Volokhivka, Nova Merefa, Mostove, Chuhiiv, Zolochiv, Karasivka, Tsupivka, Kurhanne, Bohodukhiv, Petrivka, Prudynka, Slatyne, Staryi Saltiv, Mytrofanivka, Malynivka, Lisna Stinka, Ivashky, Nyzhche Solone.

Sumy oblast

- Throughout the week, the Sumy oblast suffered from guided aerial bombs (KAB) strikes and MLRS shelling. There were also drops of VOG (grenades) from UAVs.
- On August 17, Russia struck the Nova Sloboda community with a guided aerial bomb. One person was injured, and 10 private houses were damaged. On August 20, Russians hit the Okhtyrka community with UAVs. Twelve people were injured, and private houses were damaged.
- Other affected communities included: Sumy, Seredyna-Buda, Myropillia, Shalyhyne, Krasnopillia, Putyvl, Shostka, Mykolaivka, Bilopillia, Vorozhba, Kyrykivka, Vilshana, Lebedyn, Velyka Pysarivka, Romny, Konotop, and Znob-Novhorodske.

Lviv oblast

- On August 21, the Lviv oblast came under a combined massive strike by Russian forces targeting the city of Lviv. The attack involved Shahed-type strike drones, and for the first time, Kh-101 cruise missiles equipped with cluster warheads were used against the city. As a result of the strikes, 30 residential buildings and critical infrastructure facilities sustained damage. One person was killed and three others were injured.

This week shelling and strikes



Dnipro and the oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian forces subjected the Dnipropetrovsk oblast to continuous shelling, employing artillery, Grad multiple launch rocket systems, KAB guided bombs, as well as various types of drones, including strike and FPV models. These attacks caused extensive destruction, damaging dozens of private houses and apartment blocks, industrial and transport enterprises, educational and cultural institutions, as well as energy and utility infrastructure. Civilian vehicles were also hit. Over the course of the week, five people were killed and more than fifteen others wounded, among them a child.
- On August 19, Russian artillery struck the city of Nikopol, killing a woman and injuring another resident who was hospitalized. On August 23, in Synelnykove district, a drone hit a minibus, killing a 59-year-old man and injuring five passengers. The same day, KAB strikes targeted the Malomykhailivka community, leaving two people wounded, including a 10-year-old child.
- The shelling and drone strikes affected wide parts of the region, including Nikopol, Marhanets, Myrove, Chervonohryhorivka, and Pokrovske communities in the Nikopol district; Mezhova, Pokrovske, Brahynivka, Novopavlivka, Malomykhailivka, and Ukrainka communities in the Synelnykove district; the city of Pavlohrad and Yurivka community in Pavlohrad district; as well as the Zelenodolsk community in Kryvyi Rih district.

Mykolaiv Oblast

- Throughout the week, the Mykolaiv oblast remained under constant attack by Russian forces, which actively employed FPV-type kamikaze drones, artillery, and multiple launch rocket systems. The Ochakiv, Kutsurub, Halytsyniv, and Pervomaisk communities were hit most frequently. The main strikes targeted the waters and coastal zone of Ochakiv, as well as the villages of Dmytrivka and Dniprovske. Private houses, apartment buildings, utility structures, and a car were damaged, while fires broke out in open areas and household plots. Over the week, one person was reported injured, but no fatalities occurred.

Odesa Oblast

- On August 20, Russians attacked the Izmail district of the Odesa oblast with kamikaze drones. Port infrastructure, industrial facilities, and fuel and energy sites were hit. A fire broke out at the scene of the attack, but was extinguished. One man was reported injured.

Kyiv Oblast

- The Kyiv oblast also faced attacks by Russian UAVs during the week. Drone strikes were recorded in both the capital and surrounding areas, including the Boryspil district and Solomianskyi district of Kyiv. Russian forces employed strike drones, particularly Shaheds. The attacks caused fires in open areas and near residential buildings due to falling drone debris. No casualties were reported.

Poltava Oblast

- Throughout the week, the Poltava oblast came under attack from Russian missiles and strike UAVs. Kremenchuk and Lubny districts, including Kremenchuk and Lubny communities, were particularly affected. The strikes damaged residential houses, administrative buildings of enterprises, a gymnasium, and energy infrastructure, leaving 1,590 subscribers without electricity. During firefighting operations, three rescuers sustained burns. In total, three people were injured, with no fatalities reported.

Kherson and the oblast

- Throughout the week, the Kherson oblast suffered large-scale attacks by Russian forces, which used artillery, airstrikes, and kamikaze drones, striking critical and social infrastructure as well as residential areas. Damaged property included at least 77 apartments and private houses, a gas pipeline, a gas station, utility buildings, private cars, and a bus. In total, 3 people were killed and 48 were injured, including children.
- On August 21, Russians carried out combined strikes (drones, artillery, and aviation) on several settlements, including Kherson. Ten apartment buildings and four private houses were damaged. Seventeen people were injured, and one person was killed. A medical team was also attacked by a drone; one doctor was injured. On August 23, in Novoraisk, a child was attacked by a drone. A 15-year-old boy sustained explosive and traumatic brain injuries and was hospitalized. On the same day, the shelling of Kherson's Central district killed a 69-year-old man.
- Settlements under attack included: Antonivka, Blahovishchenske, Berehove, Beryslav, Biliaivka, Bilozerka, Burhunka, Veletenske, Vesele, Virivka, Havrylivka, Darivka, Dniprovske, Doslidne, Dudchany, Zelenivka, Zolota Balka, Zorivka, Inzhenerne, Kachkarivka, Kizomys, Klapaia, Kozatske, Kostyrka, Komyschany, Lviv, Mylove, Mykilske, Mykolaivka, Mykhailivka, Molodizhne, Monastyrsk, Naddnyprianske, Nadezhdivka, Novoberyslav, Novovoskresenske, Novovorontsovska, Novodmytrivka, Novokairy, Novoraisk, Novotiahynka, Novooleksandrivka, Odradokamianka, Oleksandrivka, Olhivka, Osokorivka, Poniativka, Prydniprovske, Rozlyv, Romashkove, Sablukivka, Sadove, Stanislav, Sofivka, Tokarivka, Tomaryne, Tomya Balka, Tiahynka, Urozhaine, Ukrainka, Khreshchenivka, Chervonyi Maiak, Chornobaivka, Shyroka Balka, Shliakhove, Yantarne, and the city of Kherson.

Chernihiv oblast

- During the week, the Chernihiv oblast was regularly shelled by Russian forces, which targeted border communities including Novhorod-Siverskyi, Semenivka, Snovsk, and Horodnia. The attacks involved guided aerial bombs, FPV drones, Shahed-type UAVs, artillery, and mortars. Explosions, fires, and damage to residential buildings, utility structures, and critical infrastructure were recorded. Two people were injured, though no fatalities were reported.
- On August 21, Russian forces attacked Semenivka, Horodnia, and Snovsk communities: in the village of Pereliub, an FPV drone injured a mother and her daughter, while in Pohorilti, a UAV struck a mobile communications tower, damaging critical infrastructure. Other villages that came under fire included Krasnyi Khutir, Poliushkyne, Bohdanove, Hai, Kutu Druhi, Zarichchia, Tymonovychi, Arkhypyvka, Bleshnia, Prohres, Huta-Studenetska, Hremiach, Yanzhulivka, Pohorilti, Kostobobriv, Senkivka, Karpovychi, and Pereliub.

The week of shelling

Donetsk oblast



Lviv oblast



Sumy oblast



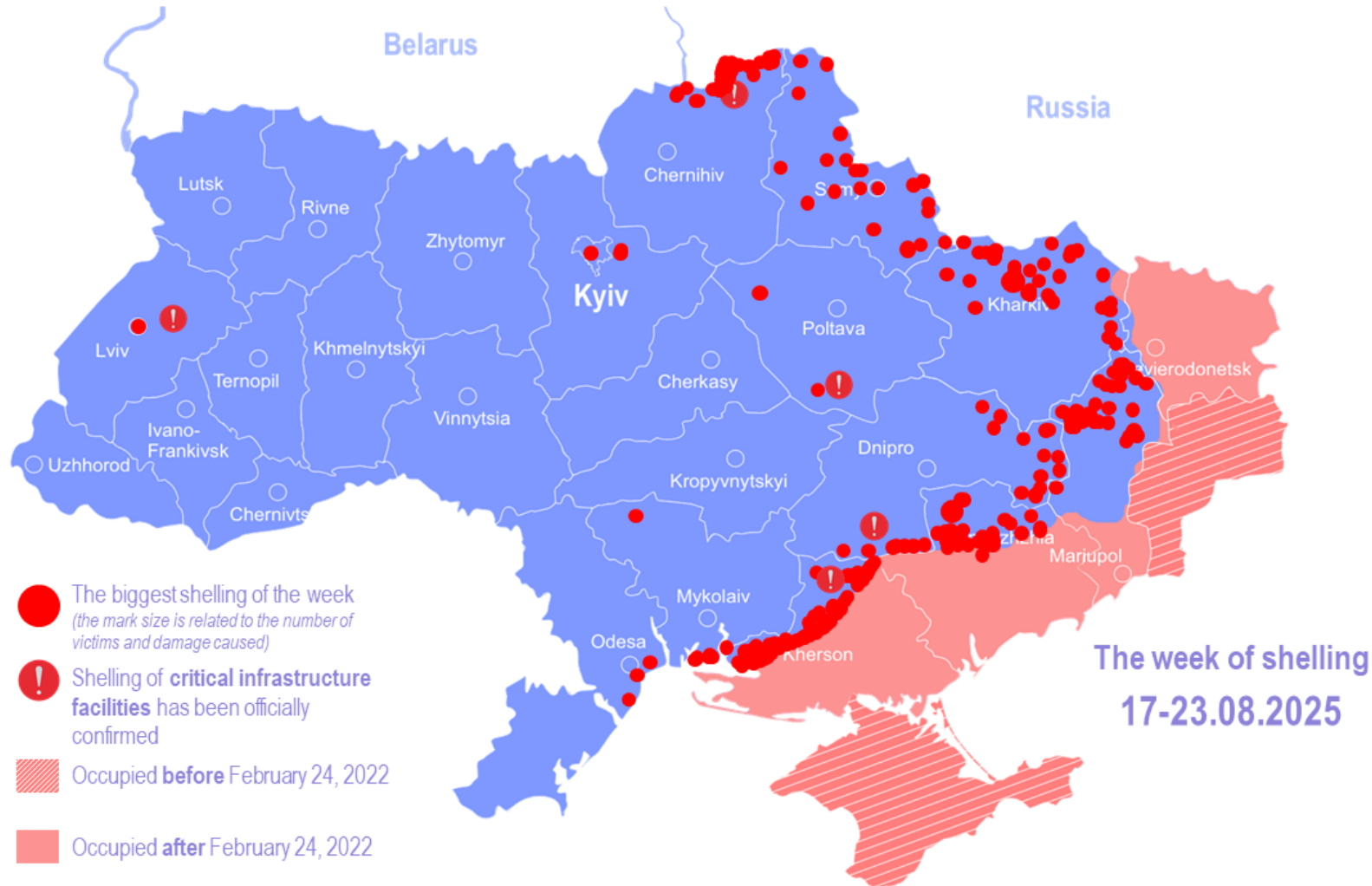
Kharkiv oblast



Mykolaiv oblast



Odesa oblast



Infrastructure and Energy

- Six buildings of Sumy State University were damaged as a result of Russian strikes, according to Oleh Hryhorov, head of the Sumy Regional Military Administration. The enemy hit the university grounds twice – first with a ballistic missile and then with strike drones. As a result, 15,000 library books were destroyed.

Prisoners of War

- Ukraine has received the bodies of 1,000 fallen soldiers. Among those repatriated are the remains of five Ukrainian servicemen who died in captivity. They had been on the list of “seriously wounded and seriously ill” prisoners slated for exchange under the agreements reached in Istanbul during the second round of negotiations. The Russian side claims that all the returned bodies are of deceased Ukrainian soldiers. However, Ukraine will still conduct identification. In the past, it has repeatedly turned out that some of those repatriated were Russian.

Other

- In the first half of 2025, the Security Service of Ukraine recorded 70 cases of children being involved in war crimes – ranging from “easy money” schemes on Telegram to terrorist acts.
- In Kyiv Oblast, more than 36,000 hectares of land have been cleared of explosive devices, including 7,500 hectares of agricultural land, according to Mykola Kalashnyk, head of the Kyiv Regional State Administration. He noted that after the liberation of the region, more than 846,000 hectares remained contaminated with mines and other explosive devices, posing a serious threat to human life and making it impossible to resume agricultural activities. According to the head of the Regional Military Administration, since April 2025 alone, more than 5,100 hectares of fields have been surveyed, with about 1,000 hectares identified as requiring clearance. All work on these plots has now been completed.
- Ukraine's population has decreased by 10 million due to the war, according to Frontliner. Mass migration, record mortality, falling birth rates, and an aging population pose a serious challenge to the country's future.

Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOT) and Evacuation

- In the temporarily occupied Donbas, the occupying authorities are unable to keep the price of imported water under control, and the prices have risen sharply, according to the National Resistance Center. The heating season in these temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine is also at risk of disruption due to the water supply crisis.
- Another 19 Ukrainian children have been rescued from the territories temporarily occupied by Russia as part of the Ukrainian President's Bring Kids Back UA initiative, according to the head of the Office of the President, Andrii Yermak. He noted that the children had been subjected to pressure and persecution: invaders broke into their homes to conduct searches, forced them to attend Russian schools and obtain Russian passports, and threatened them with forced conscription or separation from their parents. Some children witnessed the brutal torture of relatives, while others faced daily humiliation and fear. The President's Commissioner for Children's Rights, Daria Herasymchuk, previously reported that as of the end of March 2023, Ukrainian authorities had confirmed information on more than 19,500 children taken from the TOT to Russia, although the exact number remains difficult to establish due to the occupation.
- The Russian occupation authorities have turned stolen Ukrainian grain into a global business, now being purchased by 70 countries, including Egypt, Turkey, and Iran, according to Agropolit.com. About 2.5 million tons of newly harvested wheat have been taken from the Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, and Kherson regions to Russia. In addition, Russia has resumed shipments of stolen Ukrainian grain to Syria via occupied Feodosia.
- Around 237,000 people living in dangerous areas are in need of evacuation, including nearly 17,200 children. Between June 1 and August 22, 2025, more than 64,000 people were evacuated from Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts, according to the press service of the Ministry for Communities and Territories Development of Ukraine. Evacuation trains with additional carriages continue to operate. Since August 15, over 430 people have been evacuated to Kyiv, Lviv, and Rivne, with further routes already planned and extra evacuation carriages allocated. Ukrzaliznytsia is working on expanding evacuation routes: trains may depart from Pavlohrad and Dnipro to Poltava, Odesa, Cherkasy, and Kropyvnytskyi.

