



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

September 14 – 20

Subscribe to our exclusive papers [here](#)

International situation & Military Support	2
Situation at the Front	4
This week shelling and strikes	6
Humanitarian situation	9

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

- **The US is cautious about a Russian attack on Poland and is preparing new sanctions.** US Secretary of State Marco Rubio expressed doubts about whether Poland was really the target of Russian drones, which were shot down by Polish air forces over the country's territory on September 10 for the first time since the war began. The American diplomat called the incident "unacceptable and dangerous," but stressed the need to establish all the facts before making specific decisions. At the same time, two American lawmakers announced their intention to tie a bill on tough sanctions against Russia to a mandatory budget bill to fund the federal government.
- **Trump plans to meet with Zelenskyi amid disappointment with Putin.** The US and Ukrainian presidents are likely to meet next week during the UN General Assembly in New York, according to Secretary of State Rubio. The American leader still hopes for a peaceful settlement between Kyiv and Moscow, although he may conclude that this is impossible. Trump has publicly expressed his disappointment with Putin's actions, saying, "Putin let me down. I thought this would be the easiest solution in Ukraine because of my relationship with President Putin, but he really let me down."
- **Launch of the US-Ukraine Investment Fund with its first contribution.** The US-Ukraine Investment Fund for Reconstruction received its first contribution of \$75 million from the US International Development Finance Corporation. According to Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko, Ukraine will double this amount, forming a starting capital of \$150 million. US representatives were shown the first potential investment targets, including the Byrzulivskyi Mining and Processing Plant and the Likarivske deposit. The fund's priority areas will be energy, infrastructure, and the extraction of critical minerals.

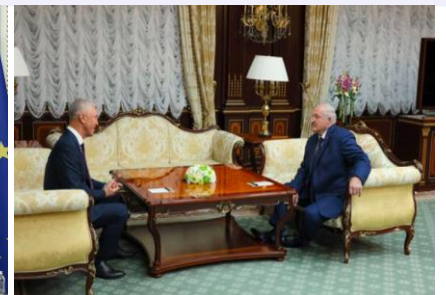
International Support

- **Denmark is setting a precedent for state support of the Ukrainian defense industry.** The Danish government has been granted the right to temporarily suspend more than 20 laws **to speed up the construction of a plant** by the Ukrainian company Fire Point to produce solid rocket fuel for Flamingo missile. The plant will be located near Skrydstrup Air Base, where F-35 fighter jets are based, and is expected to be operational in December 2025. The Danish Business Authority notes that the departure from environmental, urban planning, and nature conservation legislation is a temporary measure and that the company must subsequently comply with all standards. This is the first time a Ukrainian defense company has been located in Denmark.
- **The EU is preparing a large-scale transfer of frozen Russian assets.** The European Union is developing a mechanism to transfer €170 billion of Russia's frozen assets to Ukraine, according to the Financial Times. One plan is to use most of the assets from the Belgian depository Euroclear to purchase interest-free EU bonds and then transfer the funds to Ukraine in tranches. An alternative option is to create a special fund with the participation of non-European countries. >>

- European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen supported a scheme under which reparations loans would be repaid only if Russia agreed to pay reparations.
- **New sanctions packages increase pressure on the Russian economy.** The EU has approved a 19th package of sanctions against Russia, including restrictions on 118 ships in the shadow fleet, a ban on transactions with Rosneft and Gazpromneft, and sanctions against oil refineries in third countries, including China. At the same time, new visa restrictions for Russians are being considered after a record influx of more than half a million Russian tourists in the summer of 2025. Australia has lowered the cap on Russian oil from \$60 to \$47.60 per barrel and imposed sanctions on 95 ships in the shadow fleet.
- The European Union is also accelerating its move away from Russian liquefied gas under pressure from the US, which is demanding tariffs of up to 100% for India and China for purchasing Russian oil. Unwilling to impose tariffs on these countries, the European Commission is focusing on Russian LNG as an alternative.
- **Institutional strengthening of international support for Ukraine.** The Verkhovna Rada ratified a 100-year partnership agreement with the United Kingdom, which provides for deeper defense cooperation and maritime security. A permanent representation of the European Parliament will be established in Kyiv to provide more effective support for Ukrainian reforms and European integration. The Council of Europe has published a draft convention on the establishment of an International Compensation Commission for Ukraine, which will consider applications and award compensation to victims of Russian aggression. President Volodymyr Zelenskyi accepted the credentials of the new ambassadors of Cyprus, Latvia, and Pakistan, discussing with each of them ways to strengthen bilateral relations.
- The IAEA adopted a **resolution demanding that Russia immediately de-occupy the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant**. The document was supported by 62 member states and confirms the need for all nuclear facilities to operate under the full sovereign control of Ukrainian authorities.
- **Cultural diplomacy strengthens regional ties.** Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania signed a memorandum on the joint promotion of the transnational site "Precucuteni-Ariusd-Cucuteni-Trypillia" to the UNESCO World Heritage List. This ancient cultural complex, which existed 6-5 thousand years ago on the territory of three countries, will become a symbol of the historical unity of the region and an additional tool of Ukraine's cultural diplomacy.

Other

- **India has stepped up its support for the Russian oil refining sector** despite EU sanctions. Indian company Nayara Energy has increased fuel sales to a state-owned retail company after exports from Russian-backed refineries were hit by European restrictions. At the same time, Vietnam and Russia have developed a "shadow" mechanism to conceal payments for military deals through oil and gas revenues to circumvent Western sanctions.



- Self-proclaimed Belarusian President Alexander **Lukashenko met with collaborator Vladimir Saldo**, calling the occupied part of **Kherson region** a “new region” of Russia. The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry called this another manifestation of disregard for Ukraine's territorial integrity and warned of negative consequences for Belarus, including new sanctions. At the same time, American military observers arrived at the Russian-Belarusian “West” exercises, along with representatives from 23 countries, including three NATO states.
- Russia continues to **dismantle** its international legal obligations by **denouncing the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture**. After withdrawing from the convention, the country is no longer obliged to allow inspectors into prisons, which deprives Russian prisoners of the opportunity to file complaints with the European Committee. At the same time, more than 11,000 cases of Russia's use of chemical weapons against Ukrainian military personnel have been recorded since the start of the full-scale invasion.
- Researchers at the Yale School of Public Health have identified more than **210 institutions** in Russia and the occupied territories **where Ukrainian children are being “re-educated.”** The children undergo militarized programs, including paratrooper training and drone assembly, confirming the systematic nature of Russian crimes against children. The Ukrainian Defense Forces **captured** Kenyan citizen Evans, who was deceitfully recruited into the Russian army under the guise of a tourist trip and job offer.
- The Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization has officially held **Russia responsible for the downing of flight MH17 in 2014**. Russia is **challenging** this decision in the UN International Court of Justice, accusing Ukraine of falsifying facts, which demonstrates its unwillingness to take responsibility for war crimes.
- **Russia systematically violates the airspace of NATO countries**, provoking diplomatic protests from the West. Britain **summoned** the Russian ambassador over the intrusion of drones into the airspace of Poland and Romania, calling it “totally unacceptable.” On the night of September 10, at least 19 Russian drones **violated** Polish airspace, and on September 13, a drone penetrated 10 km into Romanian airspace and remained there for about 50 minutes. Three Russian MiG-31s entered Estonian airspace without permission and remained there for nearly 12 minutes, while two Russian fighter jets **flew** over the Polish oil platform Petrobaltic in the Baltic Sea.
- The European Union is **responding** to Russian provocations by creating a **“wall of drones” along its eastern border**, inviting Ukraine to share its experience in countering Russian drones. Negotiations between EU defense ministers on this initiative are scheduled for next week. The Polish military **will begin** training with Ukrainian instructors at one of NATO's training centers in Poland. The British Foreign Office emphasized that Russian aggression only strengthens the unity of NATO allies and their determination to support Ukraine.
- Ukraine has **announced the partial opening of “controlled” arms exports** to finance its own military production. President Zelenskyi noted that the country produces more weapons than it can finance on its own, so exporting surpluses, including naval drones, will help increase production for the front.
- Russia has **established channels for supplying weapons to the Italian mafia** through Sicilian ports and Friulan mountain passes, using a shadow fleet. According to the Italian publication Linkiesta, modern Kalashnikov assault rifles and sniper rifles manufactured between 2010 and 2020 are being imported into the country, which are initially produced without serial numbers at the factory. In March 2022, police seized an arsenal of “Soviet-made” assault rifles in perfect condition from the Santapola-Ercolano clan.

Military Support

- **The Baltic countries are strengthening their defense support.** Estonia has **confirmed** that it will allocate more than €100 million in military aid to Ukraine in 2026, adhering to the principle of allocating 0.25% of GDP to support Ukraine's defense. Defense Minister Hanno Pevkur noted that Estonian defense companies will play a leading role in providing assistance next year. Since the start of the full-scale war, Estonia has already provided more than €500 million in military aid, which is 1.4% of the country's GDP.
- **Latvia continues to supply armored vehicles**, transferring a new batch of Patria 6x6 armored personnel carriers to the Armed Forces of Ukraine. In total, Riga plans to supply 42 such vehicles. In addition, the Latvian company Global Wolf Motors has **supplied** the Ukrainian army with about a thousand electric scooters for use on the front lines.
- The US approves **the first aid packages through PURL**. The Trump administration has **approved** its first military aid packages through the new PURL (Prioritised Ukraine Requirements List) mechanism, worth \$500 million. Under this system, Ukraine compiles a list of priority needs, and NATO allies purchase American weapons or provide their own from their arsenals. President Zelenskyi confirmed that the first two packages will include missiles for Patriot and HIMARS systems. Ukraine has already received more than \$2 billion from partners for the PURL program, and by October, this amount is expected to grow to \$3-3.6 billion.
- **Poland deepens defense partnership.** Ukraine and Poland have **established a joint task force** on unmanned aerial systems, signing a memorandum between the ministers of defense. The group will engage in joint training programs, exchange experience in the field of UAS, and develop methods for the use and countering of drones. A joint declaration on strengthening security and defense cooperation was also signed. This initiative aims to strengthen interoperability between the armed forces and ensure compliance with NATO standards.
- **European investments in Ukrainian defense.** Companies from the EU and the US are **investing** more than \$100 million in Ukrainian defense technologies. Key investors include Dutch NUNC Capital (€20 million), German Verne Capital (€25 million), and Swedish fund Varangians. Ukrainian company Swarmer, which develops “drone swarm” technologies, has attracted \$15 million from American funds. Danish aerospace company Terma A/S has **opened** a representative office in Ukraine to support the Air Force's aircraft fleet.
- **Technological partnerships and innovations.** American Shield AI, in collaboration with Ukrainian Iron Belly, has **created** the D4 long-range strike drone with optical navigation and automatic guidance. British company Pearson Engineering has **signed** a memorandum with Ukrainian Cotton regarding the possible localization of production in Ukraine. Norway is **building** a new training center, Yombsburg, for Ukrainian military personnel in Poland. Ireland has **transferred** 34 vehicles and three demining robots to Ukraine.



Key Events of the Week:

- The Armed Forces of Ukraine carried out a series of strikes on key Russian oil refineries — facilities in Leningrad, Saratov, Volgograd, Samara regions, and Bashkortostan were hit.
- Explosions and sabotage on the railways paralyzed Russian logistics in Leningrad and Oryol regions, destroying fuel tanks.
- In the Donetsk region, Pankivka and seven more settlements were liberated — over 330 km² of territory has been cleared in total.
- Russia abandoned its offensive in the Sumy region due to heavy losses and redeployed troops to other directions.
- Near Kupiansk, Ukrainian forces flooded a pipeline used by the enemy to advance and are blocking small infantry groups in forests and on the outskirts.
- Ukraine's Special Operations Forces destroyed the logistics hub of Russia's 810th Marine Brigade in the Kursk region.
- Russia continues mass attacks: in just one night, it launched 40 missiles and over 580 drones.
- Russian troops are using the tactic of disguising themselves as civilians and employing local residents as "human shields."
- President Zelensky warned of two new large-scale Russian offensives and urged allies to speed up assistance.
- At the UN, there was renewed talk of a potential peacekeeping mission, but the prospect is blocked by Russia's veto power.

14.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The General Staff and the Ukrainian Unmanned Systems Forces confirmed the strike on Russia's second most powerful oil refinery. The Kirishinefteorgsintez facility, located in Russia's Leningrad region, more than 800 km from Ukraine's state border, is the main supplier of petroleum products to St. Petersburg, Leningrad, Novgorod, and Pskov regions. With a processing capacity of over 20 million tons of oil per year, it is the second-largest refinery in the country after the Omsk plant. The enterprise produces about 80 types of petroleum products, including gasoline, diesel, fuel oil, and jet fuel, and is directly involved in supplying fuel to the Russian army. As a result of the drone strike, a large-scale fire broke out at the facility. ➤ Ukraine's Special Operations Forces and the Main Intelligence Directorate successfully attacked the occupiers' railway logistics. Explosions occurred in Oryol and Leningrad regions. On the Maloarkhangel'sk–Glazunovka line in the Oryol region, Russian Railways employees discovered unidentified mines. During demining, an explosion killed two Rosgvardia servicemen and caused another to suffer mine-blast amputations of both legs. Another Ukrainian attack was carried out on the night of 14 September: around 2 a.m., the railway branch line between St. Petersburg and Pskov was blown up. As a result, a locomotive derailed, and 15 fuel tankers with their contents were destroyed.
15.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Armed Forces of Ukraine struck the Saratov Oil Refinery in Russia. Explosions and a fire were recorded in the area of the facility, with results being clarified. The refinery produces over 20 types of petroleum products and supplies the needs of the Russian army, according to the General Staff. ➤ The Russian troops, dressed in civilian clothes and disguising themselves as local residents, attempted to infiltrate the settlement of Yampil in the Donetsk region to carry out sabotage operations in the rear of the Defense Forces. Separate enemy groups hid in private houses, basements, and other structures, using civilians as a "human shield," the 11th Army Corps reported. Units of the 11th Army Corps conducted a set of counterterrorism measures, during which the enemy was detected, blocked, and neutralized. At present, Yampil and the surrounding areas are fully under the control of the Defense Forces. ➤ In Donetsk region, the Defense Forces cleared another settlement. During offensive operations carried out by the 225th Separate Assault Regiment, the 1st Assault Battalion "Black Swan" of the 225th Regiment liberated Pankivka in Donetsk region.
16.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The occupiers continue remotely mine roads in the Kherson community. Near Antonivka, "Petal" type anti-personnel mines were discovered on the roadway of the E-97 highway. ➤ Lukashenko: Belarus is not involved in drones entering Poland and Lithuania. According to him, Belarusian forces even shot down some drones moving toward NATO through Belarusian territory. He claimed that Minsk spent "huge sums" on this and acted in coordination with Poland. At the same time, Lukashenko stated that despite these actions, NATO countries allegedly "continue to foul things up." ➤ President Zelenskyi in an interview with Sky News: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ "We had 810 drones flying at us; we shot down 700. They [Poland] had 19 – they shot down 4. And they haven't even faced missile strikes. They are not in a war, so they are not prepared for such things." ➤ "Drones in Poland and Romania are a signal from the Russians: 'Don't even think about giving Ukraine more air defense systems; you may need them yourselves.'" ➤ "This is a very technological and dynamic war. Drone generations change every three months." ➤ "There will be two more heavy, large-scale Russian offensives. The previous three have failed." ➤ "Putin is waging war, and everyone tries to stop him with persuasion, asking him, but what is needed is strength." ➤ "Europe and the U.S. must stop thinking about themselves and their future relations with the Russians, and think more about Ukraine. Every day of their discussions about who will impose which sanctions costs us many lives. It is unfair."
17.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Defense Forces flooded a pipeline used by Russian troops to infiltrate near Kupiansk. This was reported by Yuri Fedorenko, commander of the 429th Separate Unmanned Systems Regiment "ACHILLES." Russian forces had previously managed to repair the already damaged pipe, pump out the water, and use it to cross the Oskil River. However, once the enemy was detected, the Armed Forces of Ukraine struck the pipeline. "In the area of the Oskil River, fire strikes were carried out — I will not disclose details, since we may need to strike again. But as a result, the pipeline is now impassable," Fedorenko explained.

Losses of the Russian army from 14.09.2025 to 20.09.2025

Liquidated personnel	6 090
Tanks	9
IFVs	12
Artillery systems / MLRS	168/4
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	1
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	2 189
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	547
Special equipment	4



18.09

- Ukrainian Special Operations Forces struck the Volgograd Oil Refinery in Russia. This refinery is the largest producer of fuels and lubricants in Russia's Southern Federal District and is used to meet the needs of the Russian military. Its annual processing volume is 15.7 million tons, representing 5.6% of total oil refining in Russia. According to preliminary information, the refinery's operations have been halted.
- Drones also attacked a refinery in Bashkortostan, Russia, 1,400 km from the Ukrainian border. "A successful strike on the refinery in the city of Salavat (Bashkortostan). Excellent work by Ukraine's Defense Forces," reported the head of the Center for Countering Disinformation. This enterprise is considered one of Russia's largest petrochemical plants and is part of the Gazprom structure. It produces liquid fuels, butyl alcohols, high-density polyethylene, nitrogen fertilizers, and more, with an annual capacity of 11.7 million tons of oil. The head of Bashkortostan, Radiy Khabirov, confirmed the attack, saying that a fire broke out at the site.
- President Zelenskyi: Russia abandoned its offensive in the Sumy region due to heavy losses. According to him, the Russian command had planned an offensive in four directions — Sumy, Novopavlivka, Pokrovsk, and Zaporizhzhia. "The Sumy operation failed; they suffered heavy losses, primarily personnel. As of today, they have abandoned this direction and redeployed their resources and manpower elsewhere. I believe they have suffered even greater losses there, which we will announce, I think, in the next two days," Zelensky said.
- He added that the Defense Forces are currently carrying out one of their counteroffensive operations in the Donetsk region, in the area of Pokrovsk and Dobropillia. Ukrainian troops have already liberated 160 km², with more than 170 km² additionally cleared of the occupiers. The exchange fund has significantly increased — nearly 100 Russian soldiers have already been captured. Seven settlements have been liberated in this direction, and another nine cleared of Russian presence. Russian losses only in the Pokrovsk area, in just recent weeks, amount to more than 2,500, including over 1,300 killed.
- Ukraine will be able to deploy at least 1,000 interceptor drones per day to defend against Russian attacks, Defense Minister Denys Shmyhal announced at a joint press conference with Polish Defense Minister Władysław Kosiniak-Kamysz. According to him, Russia is already demonstrating the capacity to launch 800 drones per night, so Ukraine must be able to field at least 1,000 interceptors daily. He clarified that drone production itself is not the problem; the challenge lies in providing ground control systems, radars, and other elements using artificial intelligence for targeting.
- Reports of fighting in the center of Kupiansk are not accurate, Operational Command "Dnipro" stated. The occupiers are active in the northern part of Kupiansk, where they infiltrated from the areas of Radkivka and Holubivka. Russian forces are being eliminated, with some captured. Prisoners revealed that they infiltrated the city in groups of 2 to 9 soldiers, some in military uniform and others in civilian clothes.

19.09

- Special Operations Forces struck the logistics hub of Russia's 810th Marine Brigade in the Kursk region. As a result of the strike, a storage base for materiel, ammunition depots, and a concealed site for storing weapons and military equipment of the 810th Brigade were hit. The 810th Marine Brigade, stationed in occupied Sevastopol, is actively engaged in offensive actions on the Northern-Slobozhanske axis. The personnel of this brigade are implicated in committing war crimes, including the execution of Ukrainian prisoners of war.
- The Armed Forces of Ukraine regained control over seven settlements in the Donetsk region, according to Syrskyi. Ukrainian forces successfully advanced up to 7 km in the Dobropillia direction. He stated that control had been restored over seven settlements, with another nine cleared of enemy sabotage and reconnaissance groups. In total, 160 km² of territory have been liberated and 171 km² cleared since the start of the operation. The "exchange fund" for returning Ukrainian defenders from captivity has also been replenished.
- The occupiers advanced near three settlements in Kharkiv and Zaporizhzhia regions, according to the Deep State resource. This refers to Kindrashivka and Stepova Novosilka near Kupiansk, as well as Novoivanivka on the Novopavlivka axis.

20.09

- The Russian army launched 40 missiles—both cruise and ballistic—and around 580 drones of various types.
- At night, strategic facilities of the Russian aggressor were struck. The Saratov Oil Refinery (Saratov, Saratov region, RF) was hit. The Saratov refinery accounts for about 2.54% of the total oil refining volume in Russia (over 7 million tons of oil annually). The Novokuibyshevsk Oil Refinery (Novokuibyshevsk, Samara region, RF) was also struck. The Novokuibyshevsk refinery processes over 8.8 million tons of oil per year. A major transport infrastructure facility was also hit — the Samara line production-dispatching station (LPDS) in the village of Prosvet, Samara region, RF. The Samara LPDS is a production station where high- and low-sulfur oil from different fields is blended to form the Urals export grade (up to 50% of Russia's total oil exports).
- The situation in Kupiansk, Kharkiv region, remains tense, but the Defense Forces are blocking attempts by Russian invaders to break through to the city. Currently: the occupiers have concentrated forces near Radkivka and Holubivka. A gas pipeline has been damaged and flooded. Attempts to cross the Oskil River by boats — most have been destroyed by artillery, mortars, and FPV drones. Small infantry groups are operating, often in civilian clothes — another war crime by Russia. Counter-sabotage measures are underway, with the Armed Forces of Ukraine blocking and eliminating the enemy in forests, dacha areas, and on the outskirts of the city. Prisoners testify to the lack of clear battle order among the Russians — 10th Army Corps, AFU.

Losses of the Russian army from 14.09.2025 to 20.09.2025

Liquidated personnel	6 090
Tanks	9
IFVs	12
Artillery systems / MLRS	168/4
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	1
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	2 189
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	547
Special equipment	4



This week shelling and strikes

Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of September 14:** Ukrainian Air Defense Forces neutralized 52 drones out of 58 total. A ballistic missile and six unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) struck three locations.
- **Attack on the night of September 15:** 59 out of 87 aerial targets were eliminated. Three S-300 surface-to-air guided missiles (SAM) and 25 combat UAVs hit 13 locations.
- **Attack on the night of September 16:** Air Defense Forces suppressed 89 out of 113 drones. 22 combat UAVs struck six locations. The falling debris was reported in two places.
- **Attack on the night of September 17:** the Russian Army attacked Ukraine with an S-300 SAM and an Iskander-M ballistic missile. In addition, a total of 172 strike drones, including Shahed, Geran, and other types, were launched. Ukrainian forces neutralized 136 drones in the North, South, and East of the country. Missiles and 36 UAVs hit 13 locations.
- **Attack on the night of September 18:** 48 out of 75 drones were suppressed. 26 combat UAVs struck six locations.
- **Attack on the night of September 19:** Ukrainian Air Defense Forces neutralized 71 out of 86 drones total. 15 drones hit six locations. The falling debris was reported in two other places.
- **Attack on the night of September 20:** Ukrainian Forces eliminated 552 drones and 31 missiles. In total, the Russian army attacked several regions of Ukraine with 579 UAVs, 8 ballistic missiles, and 32 cruise missiles. The debris falling was reported in several places.

Donetsk oblast

- Throughout the week, the Donetsk region suffered from attacks of FAB-250 aerial bombs and UAVs. In addition, artillery strikes were reported.
- On September 15, Russian forces dropped four FAB-250 bombs on Kramatorsk. As a result, 11 people were injured. The strike caused damage to 35 high-rise buildings, three educational facilities, administrative structures, a bank, and retail stores. On September 18, the Russian military dropped a 250-kg bomb on Konstantynivka, killing five people. In addition, four apartment buildings were damaged.
- During the week, the following localities were attacked:
 - Pokrovsk district: Myrnohrad, Dobropillia, Sviatohorivka, Kryvorizhzhia, Hryshyne and Pokrovsk city.
 - Kramatorsk district: Yampil, Yarova, Sloviansk, Oleksandrivka, Ocheretyne, Shostakivka, Illinivka, Lyman, Andriivka, Druzhkivka, Oleksievo-Druzhkivka, Maiaky, Donetske, Raihorodok, Novodonetske, Staroraiske, Yatskivka, Malynivka, Nykoronivka, Rai-Oleksandrivka, Iverske, Ozerne.
 - Bakhmut district: Siversk, Riznykivka.

Kyiv oblast

- Throughout the week, the Kyiv region was shelled by Russian drone attacks. The strikes damaged private homes, garages, passenger vehicles, storage facilities, a logistics center, and a shopping mall parking lot. One person was injured, but no fatalities were reported.
- Over the week, under the shelling were Bucha, Boryspil, Obukhiv, and Fastiv districts.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

- Throughout the week, Zaporizhzhia Oblast sustained multiple strikes of UAVs and multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS).
- On September 15, the Russian Army struck Nobopalivka with an FPV drone, killing one person. On September 19, Russian forces hit a civilian vehicle with a drone in Huliaipole. As a result, two people were killed.
- Under attack also were: Zaliznyczne, Uspenivka, Chervone, Bilohiria, Mahdalynivka, Tavriske, Plavni, Shcherbaky, Novodanylivka, Mala Tokmachka, Charivne, Novoandriivka, Preobrazhenka, Zaporizhzhia, Kushuhum, Orikhiv, Balabyne, Hryhorivka, Bohdanivka, Bilenke, Rizdvianka, Veselianka, Kamianske, Malynivka, Malokaterynivka, Chervonodniprovska, Prymorske, Vozdvizhka, Poltava, Stepanivka, and Sofiivka.

Kharkiv oblast

- Throughout the week, the Kharkiv region was under constant attack from UAVs and guided aerial bombs (KAB).
- On September 15, Russian forces hit the civilian vehicle with an FPV drone in Borova. Due to the attack, two people were killed. On September 17, the Russian Army shelled Slatyne village with MLRS, killing one person.
- The following settlements were also under attack this week: Vasylivka, Starovirivka, Husynka, Skoryky, Kupiansk, Novomykolaivka, Khatnie, Prykolotne, Velykyi Burluk, Pidlyman, Enerhetykiv, Berezhivka, Nechvolodivka, Spodobivka, Tymofivka, Ruski Tyshki, Shevchenkove, Balaklia, Lemishchyne, Kurylivka, Derhachi, Bilyi Kolodiaz, Mala Danylivka, Bashylivka, Siriaky, and Pisky-Riadkivski.

Sumy oblast

- Throughout the week, the Sumy region was attacked by KABs and UAVs. In addition, the use of VOG grenades released from UAVs was recorded.
- On September 14, the Russian military launched a missile strike on the Boromlia community. As a result, 11 people were injured.
- The following communities also sustained damage: Sumy, Krasnopillia, Mykolaivka, Myropillia, Khotin, Bilopillia, Vorozhbianka, Yunakivka, Seredyna-Buda, Shalyhyne, Znob-Navhorodske, Esmansk, Velyka Pysarivka, Putyvl, Nova Sloboda, Krolevets, Sad, Druzhba, Trostianets, Svesa, Hlukhiv, Stepanivka, Richky, and Konotop.

Odesa oblast

- On September 20, Russian Shahed-type drones attacked the Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyi district of the Odesa region. The strikes targeted agricultural infrastructure, including farming enterprises, storage buildings, and agricultural machinery. One farm building, approximately 1,000 square meters in size, was destroyed. In addition, several warehouses and pieces of equipment were partially damaged. A fire broke out as a result of the attack, but was promptly brought under control. No casualties or injuries were reported.

This week shelling and strikes

Dnipro and the oblast

- Throughout the week, Dnipro Oblast sustained Russian attacks involving FPV drones, KABs, artillery, and missiles. The strikes caused damage to private homes, apartment buildings, farm structures, garages, greenhouses, vehicles, power lines, and gas pipelines. Several enterprises, shops, a post office, and sports facilities were also hit. As a result of the attacks, one person was killed and 48 others were injured over the course of the week.
- On September 20, Russian forces launched a large-scale attack using drones and artillery on the city of Dnipro and the Nikopol district. The strikes damaged apartment buildings, private homes, schools, kindergartens, vocational school buildings, enterprises, and critical infrastructure. As a result of the attack, one person was killed and 36 others were injured.
- The following localities were under fire over the course of the week: Nikopol, Marhanets, Pavlohrad; Pokrovsk, Myrove, Chervonohryhorivka, Mezhoa, Malomykhailivka, Novopavlivka, Yuriivske (Pavlohrad district), Apostolove (Kryvyi Rih district), Dnipro, and Zelenodolsk communities.

Mykolaiv Oblast

- Throughout the week, Mykolaiv Oblast was attacked by Russian FPV drones, Lancet-type strike drones, Shahed drones, and ballistic weapons. The shelling damaged private homes, two-storey buildings, farm facilities, a combine harvester, vehicles, agricultural machinery, and infrastructure. Two people were injured, and one person was killed as a result of the attacks.
- Over the week, Mykolaiv and Ochakiv cities were shelled, including several communities: Ochakiv, Kutsurub, Halytsynove, Chornomorsk, and Snihurivka. The Mykolaiv and Bashtanka districts were also under constant fire.

Poltava Oblast

- Over the past week, the Poltava and Myrhorod districts in Poltava Oblast came under Russian drone attacks, including the use of Geran-2 UAVs. The strikes damaged 13 residential buildings, a gas station, a local enterprise, and railway infrastructure. Seven people were injured. No fatalities were reported.
- On September 17, Russian forces targeted the Poltava district. Debris from a downed drone caused a fire at a business and struck a gas station. Five drivers and a gas station employee were injured in the attack. The employee is reported to be in serious condition.

Kherson and the oblast

- During the week, the Kherson region was under daily shelling by Russian forces. Shahed-131/136-type UAVs, airstrikes, and artillery were used in the attacks. The main targets were residential neighbourhoods, private and high-rise buildings, farm structures, civilian and critical infrastructure facilities, and agricultural enterprises. In total, at least 6 people were killed and 36 others were injured, including children.
- On September 15, Russian forces shelled residential areas in Kherson Oblast, damaging two apartment buildings and 17 private homes. The attack killed two people and injured six others. On September 17, a series of strikes targeted several settlements of the region, including the city of Kherson. As a result, three apartment buildings and 35 private houses sustained damage. Seven people were injured in the attack, including one child.
- The following settlements were also shelled: Antonivka, Sadove, Inzhenerne, Prydniprovsk, Naddnyprianske, Bilozerka, Romashkove, Dniprovsk, Veletenske, Yantarne, Kizomys, Novodmytrivka, Nadiivka, Stanislav, Oleksandrivka, Sofiivka, Shyroka Balka, Poniativka, Mykilske, Zmiivka, Dudchany, Sablukivka, Kucherske, Sahaidachne, Novoraisk, Chervonyi Maiak, Zolota Balka, Havrylivka, Tiahynka, Llove, Burhunka, Odradokamianka, Olhivka, Virivka, Vesele, Tomyna Balka, Khreshchenivka, Shevchenkivka, Urozhaine, Tarasa Shevchenka, Mykhailivka, Vysoke, Novovorontsovka, Osokorivka, Dariivka, Honcharne, Molodizhne, Inhulets, Kostyrka, Mykolaivka, Mylove, Monastyrsk, Novooleksandrivka, Zymivnyk, Doslidne, Rozlyv, Novotiahynka, Tokarivka, Tomaryne, Krupytisia, Zorivka, Respublikanets, Chereshenky, Kozatske, Blahovishchenske, Kachkarivka, and the cities of Beryslav and Kherson.

Chernihiv oblast

- During the week, the Chernihiv region was under repeated Russian attacks involving FPV drones, Molniya and Shahed UAVs, 120 mm mortars, tube artillery, Grad multiple rocket launchers, and the dropping of explosive devices from drones. The strikes caused damage to private homes, farm buildings, a hospital, enterprises, grain storage facilities, and a gas station. In addition, fires broke out in open areas as a result of the attacks. One person was killed and 11 others were injured over the course of the week.
- On September 14, Russian forces targeted firefighters in Nizhyn while they were extinguishing the fire at an oil depot, injuring four emergency responders with moderate wounds. One man was also injured in the Nizhyn district. On September 17, the Russian military attacked State Emergency Service personnel in Nizhyn again, this time during recovery operations following earlier shelling. One firefighter was killed, and two others were injured. Buildings and farm structures were also damaged in the attack.
- Throughout the week, Novhorod-Siverskyi, Semenivka, Horodnia, and Snovsk communities suffered from constant shelling. The cities of Semenivka and Nizhyn were also under attack, as well as numerous villages: Hremiach, Krasnyi Khutir, Leonivka, Tymonovychi, Liskivshchyna, Karpovychi, Bleshnia, Senkivka, Arkhytivka, Prohres, Kostobobriv, Mykolaivka, Baranivka, Huta-Studenetska, Mistky, and Bohdanove.



The week of shelling

Donetsk oblast



Kharkiv oblast



Sumy oblast



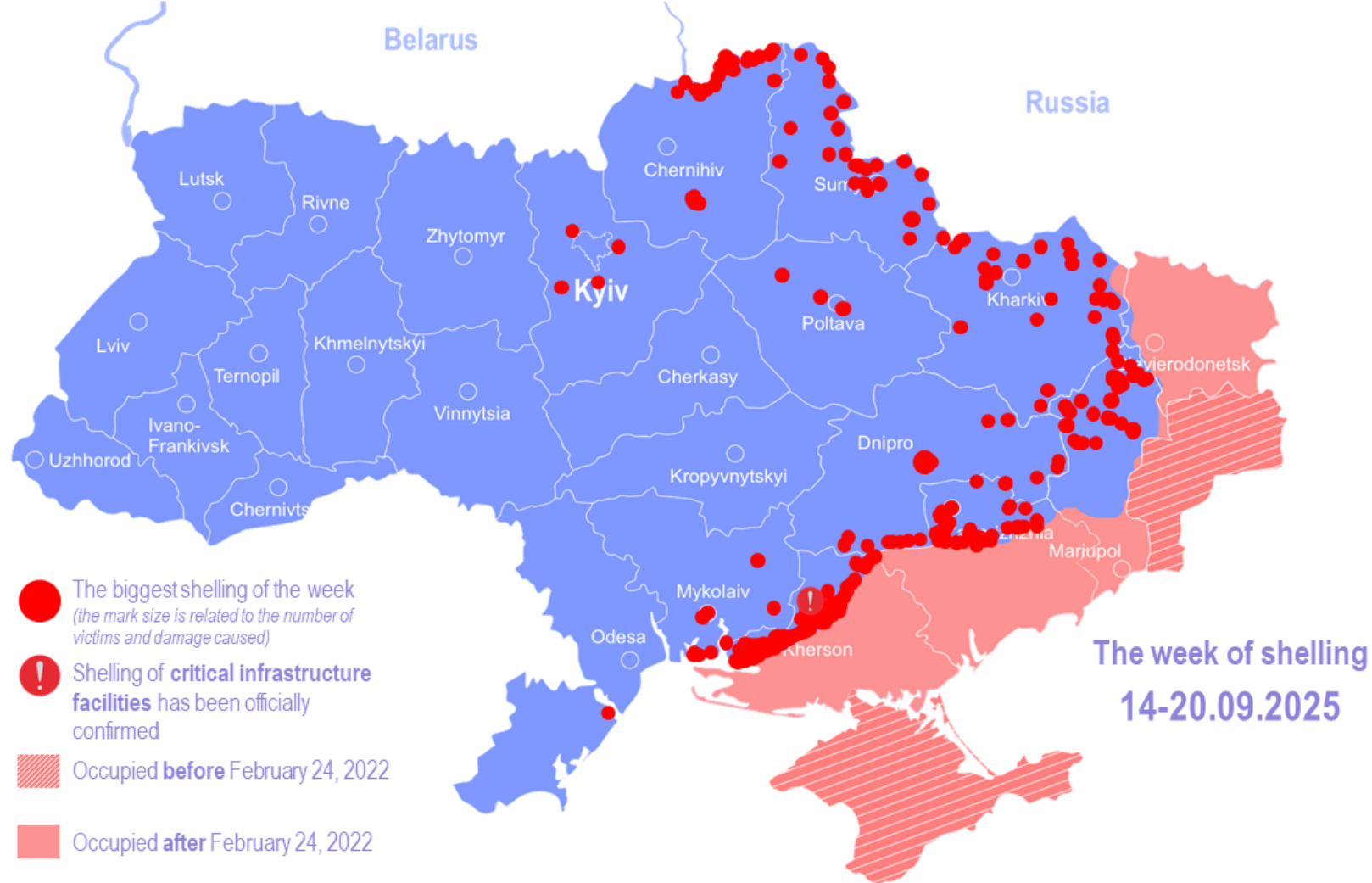
Odesa oblast



Dnipro



Chernihiv oblast



Violations of international humanitarian law by Russia

- In the temporarily occupied territories of Kherson oblast, Russian forces are trying to conceal atrocities committed against civilians, the Center for National Resistance reported. According to its information, Russian fighters **shot and killed three local residents** in one of the villages. The Center claims to possess documentation confirming these crimes.
- Since early September, Russian forces have **launched more than 3,500 drones of various types**, nearly 190 missiles, and over 2,500 aerial bombs against Ukraine, President Volodymyr Zelenskyi reported. The Russian leadership denies that its army deliberately targets civilian infrastructure in Ukrainian towns and villages, even as strikes destroy hospitals, schools, kindergartens, energy, and water facilities.
- Yesterday evening, **Russian troops attacked rescuers in Nizhyn**, Chernihiv oblast, while they were extinguishing a fire caused by a drone strike. Four emergency service workers were injured, according to Mayor Oleksandr Kodola.

War Crimes

- Russian forces are **leaving “booby-trapped firewood” in border villages** of the Kharkiv oblast. Explosives hidden inside the wood detonate upon activation, according to the head of the Derhachi Military Administration. Residents of Kozacha Lopan sent a video showing one such mine.
- For the third consecutive year, **Ukraine ranks first in the world for annual casualties caused by cluster munitions**. Since February 2022, more than 1,200 deaths in Ukraine have been linked to this type of weapon, according to a report by the Cluster Munition Coalition presented by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). The report notes that in 2024, there were 314 global cases of death or injury caused by cluster munitions. The real figure is likely much higher, as many incidents go undocumented. In Ukraine alone, around 40 cluster munition attacks were recorded in 2024, though the exact number of casualties remains unknown.
- Since the beginning of this year, more than 500 **Russian drones** and missiles have been recorded **near Ukrainian nuclear power plants**, Ukrainian Energy Minister Svitlana Hrynychuk stated.

Prisoners of war

- Since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion, **68 prisoner exchanges** have been carried out, freeing over 7,000 Ukrainian citizens, according to Andrii Yusov, representative of the Main Intelligence Directorate of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense.
- Ukraine has also **repatriated 1,000 bodies**, which the Russian side claims belong to Ukrainian soldiers, the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War reported.

Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOT) and Evacuation

- In six settlements of Donetsk oblast, where **forced evacuation of families with children** is underway, 1,582 minors remain. The highest numbers are in Druzhkivka and Kryvyi Rih communities, said Yulia Ryzhakova, head of the regional children's service. She added that a total of 15,211 children remain in government-controlled areas of the region.
- **Sixteen children have been returned** to Ukraine from Russian-occupied territories. Among them is a 15-year-old girl whose parents and older brother were sentenced by Russian authorities to long prison terms on fabricated charges, reported Andrii Yermak, Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine. Also returned were a 14-year-old girl and her 7-year-old sister, whose home was destroyed in a fire. Another returnee is a 10-year-old boy whom Russians attempted to take from his parents, including through Russia's so-called “guardianship service.” A 15-year-old girl who spent three years confined to her home in occupied territory out of fear of being taken away by Russians was also among those rescued.
- In **Russian-occupied Sievierodonetsk**, due to a shortage of qualified staff and emergency vehicles, only two ambulance teams are operating, according to the head of Luhansk Regional Administration. In the so-called “LPR,” a gasoline crisis has persisted for about a month. **Fuel supplies** had already been restricted earlier, but by mid-August the situation reached **critical levels**. In the occupied territory in Luhansk oblast, fuel has been absent for weeks, while the occupation administration offers propaganda and “celebrations” instead of solutions.
- In Mariupol, Russian occupiers plan to create a post-industrial park with a **“cosmonautics museum” on the site of the destroyed Azovstal steel plant**, according to the city council of Ukrainian Mariupol. The occupiers have floated several different visions for the plant's future, but none have been implemented. Before Russia's full-scale invasion, Azovstal was one of Ukraine's largest metallurgical plants. In 2022, it became the site of the heroic defense of Mariupol, where defenders held out against the Russian army for nearly three months.

International Support

- Sumy oblast received **150 first-class protective children's body armor** from the Red Cross Society, according to the Sumy Regional Military Administration. Sumy places great emphasis on evacuating children from dangerous areas, making these vests especially important. According to the regional administration, 92% of children in need have already been evacuated, and the process continues daily.
- In Ukraine, **projects to restore railway infrastructure and housing** have begun with the support of the Swiss government. The Ministry of Communities and Territories Development reported this following a meeting with Jacques Gerber, Delegate of the Swiss Federal Council for Ukraine. A total of 76 million Swiss francs has been allocated for projects under the ministry's responsibility.

Other

- In Pokrovsk, Donetsk oblast, a woman nine months pregnant tried to flee the city by bicycle on September 10 during constant Russian shelling. She was rescued by soldiers of the 25th Sicheslav Airborne Brigade, the unit reported.

