



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

August 24 – 30

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

- **Intensification of negotiations between the US, Ukraine, and Russia.** President Zelensky announced a meeting between Ukrainian and American teams at the end of the week to prepare a basic **security guarantee plan**. According to him, after that, it will be necessary to ascertain the Russian side's readiness for bilateral and, subsequently, trilateral negotiations. The Ukrainian side had previously held a meeting with Trump's special representative, Keith Kellogg, to discuss future cooperation with Russia.
- At the same time, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz was skeptical about the prospects for direct dialogue between the leaders of Ukraine and Russia, saying that **a meeting between Zelensky and Putin** would obviously not take place, unlike the agreed meeting between Trump and Putin.
- **US energy proposals as a tool to influence Russia.** The US has offered Russia energy deals as an incentive for peace in Ukraine, Reuters reported. In particular, the possibility of the **return** of the American corporation **Exxon Mobil to the Sakhalin-1 oil project** and the purchase by Russia of American equipment for liquefied natural gas projects instead of Chinese equipment is being considered. Washington's goal is to weaken ties between Beijing and Moscow by reorienting Russian technological needs toward American suppliers.
- On the day of the summit in Alaska, Putin signed a decree that could allow foreign investors to regain their stakes in Sakhalin-1. Exxon lost its 30% stake after exiting the Russian market in 2022, incurring losses of \$4.6 billion.
- **Contours of a security system for post-war Ukraine.** The US is ready to provide Ukraine with intelligence capabilities and coordination of combat operations as part of security guarantees, the Financial Times reported. The preliminary plan envisages the **creation of a three-tier system**: a demilitarized zone under the control of neutral peacekeepers, a second line of defense with Ukrainian troops armed by NATO, and a third line with European deterrent forces supported by the US.
- President Zelensky outlined three key blocks of security guarantees: sufficient funding for the army, support from partners under NATO's Article 5, and the maintenance of sanctions against Russia using frozen assets. Regarding the buffer zone, the Ukrainian leader noted that it already exists due to the use of drones, which create a distance of more than 10 km between the parties' heavy weapons.
- **Trade and economic pressure on Russia's allies.** The Trump administration has doubled tariffs on Indian goods to 50%, which will affect more than half of India's exports to the US. White House adviser Peter Navarro **accused India of financing the Russian war machine** by buying oil at a discount, calling the war in Ukraine "Modi's war." According to him, this harms American consumers and taxpayers, who are forced to finance aid to Ukraine.

International Support

- **High-ranking officials visited Kyiv on Independence Day.** Leaders of several countries and high-ranking officials arrived in the Ukrainian capital to participate in Independence Day celebrations. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney made his first visit to Ukraine in his new position, recalling the million-strong Ukrainian diaspora in Canada. US Special Representative for Ukraine and Russia, Keith Kellogg, took part in the celebrations on Sophia Square, and the next day, Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre, arrived in Kyiv.
- US President Donald Trump congratulated Ukrainians on Independence Day in a letter to Volodymyr Zelenskyy, confirming his **support for the negotiation process** to achieve "a lasting and durable peace that preserves Ukraine's sovereignty and dignity." US Secretary of State Marco Rubio also congratulated Ukraine, confirming the US's commitment to Ukraine's future as an independent state.
- **Financial aid will reach record levels.** Germany has pledged to provide Ukraine with **€9 billion** annually over the next few years, as announced by Finance Minister and Vice Chancellor Lars Klingbeil during his visit to Kyiv. Sweden became the first EU country to allocate funds through the Ukraine Facility mechanism — 750 million Swedish kronor (about €66.4 million) to support **Ukraine's state budget** for salaries, pensions, and social infrastructure.
- The European Commission is developing a plan to transfer nearly €200 billion in frozen Russian assets **to rebuild Ukraine** after the war through a special purpose holding company. According to Politico, this decision may not require unanimity among all EU countries, which would allow Hungary's position to be bypassed.
- Lithuania is initiating the **acceleration of European integration without Hungary**. Lithuania proposed to start technical negotiations on Ukraine's accession to the EU without Hungary's consent at an informal meeting of ministers in Copenhagen on September 1-2. Vilnius also calls for setting a clear date for Ukraine's accession — 2030. However, the European Commission is **skeptical** about the idea of starting negotiations **without unanimity**, recalling that the opening of each chapter requires the consent of all members of the bloc.
- **International reaction to Russia's attack on Kyiv.** Russia's massive attack on Kyiv on August 30 provoked a sharp reaction from the international community. Among those affected by the shelling were the EU mission building, the British Council office, the Radio Liberty editorial office, a Turkish company, and the Azerbaijani Embassy.
- The EU and the UK summoned the Russian ambassadors in Brussels and London, respectively. At the same time, Hungary did not support the EU's joint statement condemning Russia's attack on civilians, which was signed by all 26 other EU members and the UK.



- US representatives, including Trump's special representative, Keith Kellogg, and the US Embassy in Ukraine, **condemned the strikes on civilian areas**, stressing that they jeopardize peace, although White House spokeswoman Caroline Levitt noted that Donald Trump was "not pleased, but not surprised" by the attack.
- **Development of logistics and humanitarian infrastructure.** In Kyiv, with the support of Berlin, the Human Titans Prosthetics Center was opened at one of the city's hospitals, which will expand opportunities for the rehabilitation of veterans. In addition, the Ukrainian company Antonov Airlines is starting to create a hub for servicing An-124 Ruslan heavy cargo aircraft at Leipzig Airport in Germany, which will strengthen Ukraine's logistics capabilities.

Other

- Last week, there were actions that made it harder to counter Russian aggression. According to the Wall Street Journal, **the Pentagon blocked Ukraine's long-range strikes on Russian territory** for months, citing attempts to persuade the Kremlin to engage in peace talks. The mechanism for reviewing requests to use American long-range weapons, in particular ATACMS and ERAM, leaves the final decision to the US Secretary of Defense. At the same time, the United States has partially eased sanctions, allowing the import of certain diamonds of Russian origin until September 1, 2026, provided that they were outside Russia before certain dates and were not re-exported from there.
- Against the backdrop of international efforts to isolate Russia, a number of countries continue to interact with the aggressor. **China has accepted liquefied natural gas from the sanctioned Russian company** Arctic LNG 2 for the first time, which, according to an analyst at Rystad Energy, may be an attempt to test Washington's position on sanctions. Russian and Chinese submarines also conducted their first joint patrol in the Asia-Pacific region, and the leaders of Russia and North Korea, along with Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico, plan to attend a military parade in Beijing. In addition, Reuters reports that **India will increase imports of Russian oil** in September, despite US restrictions. In Poland, one of the aviation plants has been found to be **cooperating with the Russian defense industry** in the field of helicopter modernization. At the same time, Russia has begun training North Korean geologists to explore for uranium and other minerals.
- **Russia has expanded its use of occupied Ukrainian ports to export looted resources.** Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin signed an order to include the ports of Mariupol and Berdiansk in the list of Russian ports open to foreign vessels. This will allow for more active export of stolen Ukrainian grain, metal, and coal from the occupied territories of Donbas and the Zaporizhzhia region.
- The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs also strongly condemned **Russia's decision to withdraw from the Convention against Torture**, calling it "an admission of systematic torture" and an attempt to avoid responsibility. China has refused to send its peacekeepers to Ukraine, despite reports in the German media about its readiness to participate in the UN peacekeeping forces.



Military Support

- **Norway is significantly stepping up its support for Ukraine with air defense systems.** The Norwegian government has announced that it will allocate \$700 million to strengthen Ukraine's air defense capabilities. The package includes two Patriot systems with missiles, which will be financed jointly with Germany, the purchase of radars from German manufacturer Hensoldt, and air defense systems from Norwegian company Kongsberg. In addition to the current support, Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre announced during his visit to Kyiv his **intention to allocate \$8.4 billion in aid to Ukraine** in 2026, of which \$4.95 billion will be used to purchase weapons.
- The US has approved a large-scale sale of weapons and equipment. The US State Department has approved the **sale of more than 3,350 ERAM cruise missiles** to Ukraine for a total of \$825 million. The missiles have a range of up to 463 kilometers and an accuracy of within 10 meters. The financing will be provided by Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, and the US International Military Financing program. Separately, the sale of equipment for Patriot systems worth \$179 million and Starlink satellite communication services worth \$150 million has been approved.
- **European countries are expanding military-industrial cooperation.** The German company KNDS Deutschland plans to establish joint ventures in Ukraine for the production of equipment and spare parts, as well as to launch repair and service hubs. Germany also transferred the eighth IRIS-T SLM medium-range air defense system to Ukraine, the second such system in 2025.
- Ukraine has signed agreements with Sweden on **joint production** of military equipment, including drones and anti-drone systems. Lithuania has also signed a letter of intent to produce Ukrainian weapons on its territory, in particular naval drones.
- **Denmark is investing in Ukraine's defense industry.** The Danish Minister of Defense announced plans to invest around €1.4 billion directly in Ukrainian defense companies this year. Denmark noted the high speed of Ukraine's defense industry compared to European companies.
- Belgium will allocate an additional €100 million for the purchase of American weapons for Ukraine, supplementing the €1 billion in military aid already provided.
- **The Czech initiative is showing successful results, and public support is growing.** Ukraine has received over a million artillery shells as part of the Czech initiative, with 16 participating countries planning to transfer a total of 1.8 million rounds of ammunition in 2025. This exceeds the figures for 2024, when Ukraine received 1.5 million shells. **Contributions** from partner countries to the Czech initiative have **increased by 29%** since the beginning of the year.
- At the same time, Czech volunteers, with the support of citizens of the Czech Republic and Slovakia, donated a UH-60 Black Hawk multi-purpose helicopter to Ukrainian military intelligence. Even in Hungary, despite the official position of the authorities, the opposition party Momentum has launched a fundraising campaign for the 414th separate brigade of unmanned aerial systems "Magyar Birds."
- **Britain continues its training support.** The United Kingdom has announced the extension of the Interflex program for training Ukrainian military personnel until the end of 2026. More than 50,000 Ukrainian recruits have already completed the program, which was launched in June 2022. At the same time, Ukrainian volunteers in the UK have organized the recycling of banned disposable vapes to make batteries for drones and other military equipment.
- **Canada is implementing a comprehensive support package.** Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney confirmed the transfer of more than \$700 million in military aid in September, including drones, ammunition, and armored vehicles. Canada has also allocated \$500 million to purchase American weapons to strengthen Ukraine's air defense. An Action Plan for the implementation of the Security Cooperation Agreement has been signed, covering military training, intelligence, cybersecurity, and countering hybrid threats.

Key Events of the Week:

- Ukrainian defenders liberated several villages in Donetsk oblast, including Novomykhailivka, inflicting significant losses on the enemy.
- Russia carried out a series of massive attacks with UAVs and missiles, the largest of which took place on August 28. That day, the occupiers launched 629 air attack weapons.
- Ukrainian drones regularly strike Russian oil refineries, leading to a significant reduction in fuel production in Russia.
- Ukrainian defense forces attacked the occupiers' logistics and energy facilities in Crimea and the Bryansk region, weakening the supply of the Russian army.
- Heavy fighting continues on the front lines: the situation is particularly difficult in the Pokrovsk direction, where the enemy concentrates up to 100,000 Russian troops.
- Russia is attempting to advance in Dnipropetrovsk oblast, but the Defense Forces are stopping the attacks and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.
- Ukrainian Special Forces damaged a Russian missile ship in the Sea of Azov and struck an S-400 complex in Crimea.
- Russian attacks on Ukraine have led to the destruction of residential buildings and casualties among the civilian population, particularly on August 28.
- The Kremlin has sentenced hundreds of Ukrainian prisoners of war captured in Kursk to long prison terms.
- International discussions continue on the possibility of a buffer zone between Ukraine and Russia, while Zelenskyi emphasizes the importance of security guarantees and sanctions.

24.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 179 combat clashes took place on the frontline over the past day. On the night of August 24, Russians launched an Iskander-M ballistic missile and 72 strike UAVs. ➤ In Syzran, Russia, strikes were recorded on the local oil refinery. The Russians also claim that drones attacked Ust-Luga, Russia's largest seaport, which exported oil, gas, coal, fertilizers, and grain. ➤ Oleksandr Syrskiy, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, stated that Ukraine had liberated three villages in Donetsk oblast. "Our troops successfully counterattacked and cleared the villages of Mykhailivka, Zelenyi Hai, and Volodymyrivka in Donetsk oblast from the enemy," he said. The Ukrainian Defense Forces also liberated Novomykhailivka in Donetsk oblast. The successful offensive operation was carried out by the 2nd Assault Battalion of the Third Assault Brigade and the DIU's "Artan" Special Forces unit. According to intercepted communications, the operation took the occupiers by surprise. Russians lost about a company of personnel and were forced to transfer reserves from other sections of the front. Due to coordinated work, Ukrainian units improved their tactical position and strengthened the defense of the strip in that direction. ➤ Ukraine uses domestically produced long-range weapons to strike Russia and does not discuss attacks with the US, President Zelenskyi said. According to him, strikes against Russia in response to the Kremlin's aggression had to be previously coordinated.
25.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 159 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. Air defense forces shot down 76 out of 104 Russian UAVs.
26.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 174 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. At night, the Russians launched 59 Shahed drones at Ukraine. ➤ Railway infrastructure was attacked in occupied Crimea. The monitoring channel "Crimean Wind" reports on the arrival at the Urozhaina station in the village of Chervonohvardiiske. Preliminary reports indicate that a substation was hit. Dzhanchoi was also attacked. Preliminary reports indicate the hitting of an oil refinery near the railway station. ➤ Special Operations Forces fighters confirmed the strike on Russian logistics in occupied Crimea. "As a result of the attack, logistics facilities that ensure the functioning and combat supply of Russian army units were put out of action," the Special Operations Forces said in a statement. ➤ The Russian army has likely entered two villages in Dnipropetrovsk oblast. According to Deep State analysts, these are the villages of Zaporizke and Novoheorhiivka. "The Defense Forces are doing everything possible to hold back the enemy, stabilize the situation, and prevent the Russians from advancing further. But, unfortunately, the enemy senses the potential for success and is sending "endless" infantry to storm the villages," the report says. Viktor Trehubov, spokesman for the Dnipro Operational-Strategic Group, reports that the invaders are trying to gain a foothold there. The General Staff states that the defense forces have stopped the advance of Russian troops and continue to control the village of Zaporizke in Dnipropetrovsk oblast. Active combat operations are also continuing in the area of the village of Novoheorhiivka, where Ukrainian troops are inflicting significant losses on the enemy, destroying dozens of occupiers every day.
27.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 173 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. On the night of August 27, the enemy launched 95 strike UAVs at Ukraine. Russian forces attacked energy and gas transportation infrastructure facilities in six oblasts of Ukraine during the night. ➤ More than 300 Ukrainian soldiers, who took part in the fighting in the Kursk region incursion, have been convicted of "terrorism" in Russia. Among the 290 convicted, there are prisoners of war, and another 15 sentences were handed down in absentia, the Kirill Parubets Analytical Center and The Insider reported. The terms of imprisonment imposed by the 2nd Western District Military Court on the Defense Forces soldiers who were captured in the Kursk region ranged from 13 to 28 years, and in one case, life imprisonment. The average term of actual punishment imposed was 15.7 years of imprisonment.

Losses of the Russian army from 24.08.2025 to 30.08.2025

Liquidated personnel	5 200
Tanks	21
IFVs	37
Artillery systems / MLRS	253/4
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	2
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	1 715
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	633
Special equipment	4



28.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 139 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. On the night of August 28, Russia launched a massive strike on Ukrainian territory using strike UAVs, air- and ground-based missiles. A total of 629 air attack weapons were used. The nighttime combined Russian attack was one of the largest – the Ukrainian Air Force. Russia is already using jet-powered drones more frequently. ➤ At night, the Defense Forces of Ukraine attacked two large oil refineries in Russia. Robert “Madyar” Brovdi confirmed attacks on the Kuibyshevsky oil refinery (Samara region) and the Afipsky oil refinery (Krasnodar Territory). According to him, Russian fuel production fell by 4.7% overnight. In total, oil refining in Russia fell by 21% in the first two weeks of August. ➤ The Russian occupiers hit one of the Ukrainian Navy ships, killing one crew member. The Russian Ministry of Defense said that their forces had struck a Navy ship in the Danube Delta. They claim to have sunk the medium reconnaissance ship “Simferopol”. As a result of the attack, the Ukrainian ship allegedly sank. Ukrainian Navy spokesman Pletenchuk said: “We confirm that the ship was hit, and we are currently dealing with the aftermath of the attack. Most of the crew is safe. The search for several sailors continues. Unfortunately, one crew member was killed and several were injured.” ➤ The Kalibr carrier was hit – DIU soldiers in the Sea of Azov captured a missile ship of the Buyan-M project. On August 28, 2025, in the Sea of Azov near the temporarily occupied Crimea, fighters from the DIU’s Special Forces unit “Prymary” damaged a ship’s radar with an air drone strike, while Special Forces from the Department of Active Operations attacked the Kalibr carrier. As a result of the strikes, the Russian missile ship was damaged and forced to leave the combat duty area.
29.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 191 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. Air defense forces shot down 46 of 68 enemy UAVs last night. ➤ The DIU fighters struck a Russian radar complex from the S-400 Triumph air defense system in occupied Crimea. “The demilitarization of the temporarily occupied Crimea continues,” the intelligence officers added. ➤ Defense forces struck an important Russian facility that supplies the Russian army with petroleum products. The strike was delivered on a linear production station near the village of Naitopovychi in the Bryansk region of the Russian Federation. The station pumps diesel fuel through main oil product pipelines, in particular for the needs of the Russian occupation forces. The pumping capacity of this facility is about 10.5 million tons per year. A fire was recorded on the territory of the facility. The results of the strike are being clarified. ➤ European leaders are considering the creation of a 40-kilometer buffer zone between Ukrainian and Russian troops as part of a potential peace agreement, the foreign media reports. At the same time, Politico writes that it is unclear whether Kyiv will agree to this initiative, as it involves potential territorial concessions. According to diplomats, the United States is not currently participating in these discussions. ➤ Russia cannot occupy us, and Ukraine cannot regain all its territories by force of arms. The diplomatic route is faster and involves fewer losses than the route through war, Zelenskyi states. Main points from the president’s statements at a briefing in Kyiv: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Three key security guarantees for Ukraine: the army, NATO, and sanctions against Russia. ➤ “I think we will organize meetings at the leadership level; we need to agree on security guarantees.” ➤ The two weeks that Trump gave Putin expire on Monday, and we will remind everyone of this. ➤ The Pokrovsk direction remains the most serious issue today. The enemy has concentrated up to 100,000 troops there. Russians are preparing offensive actions. It is important that we know about this and control the situation. ➤ Allowing men aged 18-22 to travel abroad will help keep young people in Ukraine. The law has no impact on Ukraine’s defense capabilities. ➤ Russians will do everything possible to prevent the leaders from meeting. ➤ The buffer zone already exists. If the Russian Federation wants a longer distance from us, it can move deeper into the occupied territories.
30.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A total of 172 combat clashes were recorded over the past day. At night, the Russians attacked Ukraine with 582 air strikes. ➤ Last night, oil refineries in Russia were again engulfed in flames: important targets of the aggressor were hit. According to the General Staff, the Unmanned Systems Forces, with other units of the Defense Forces, attacked the Krasnodar Oil Refinery (Krasnodar Territory, Russian Federation). This oil refinery produces 3 million tons of light petroleum products per year, including gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuel. It takes part in supplying the Russian armed forces. Numerous explosions and fires were recorded at the facility. The Sizran oil refinery in the Samara region of the Russian Federation was also hit again. The enterprise produces gasoline, diesel fuel, aviation fuel, fuel oil, and bitumen. By August 2025, its processing capacity was 8.5 million tons per year. A fire has been reported in the area of the facility.

Losses of the Russian army from 24.08.2025 to 30.08.2025	
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Tanks	21
IFVs	37
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Anti-aircraft warfare systems	2
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	1 715
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	633
Special equipment	4

This week shelling and strikes



Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of August 24:** Air defense neutralized 48 out of 73 aerial targets. Russians attacked with an Iskander-M ballistic missile, as well as 72 Shahed-type attack UAVs and various types of decoy drones. Strikes by 24 UAVs were recorded in 10 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 25:** Air defense neutralized 76 out of 104 drones. Russia attacked with Shahed-type attack UAVs and various types of decoy drones. Strikes by 28 drones were recorded in 15 locations. Debris fell in 4 more.
- **Attack on the night of August 26:** Air defense neutralized 47 out of 59 drones. Strikes by 12 UAVs were recorded in 9 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 27:** Air defense neutralized 74 out of 95 drones. Russia attacked with Shahed-type attack UAVs and various types of decoy drones. Strikes by 21 drones were recorded in 9 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 28:** Air defense neutralized 589 out of 629 aerial targets. In total, Russia launched 598 Shahed-type attack UAVs and various types of decoy drones, 2 Kh-47M2 Kinzhal aeroballistic missiles, 9 Iskander-M/KN-23 missiles, and 20 Kh-101 cruise missiles. Air defense managed to neutralize 563 enemy UAVs and 26 missiles. Strikes were recorded in 13 locations, and debris fell in 26.
- **Attack on the night of August 29:** Air defense neutralized 46 out of 68 drones. Another 22 UAVs struck 9 locations in Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk regions.
- **Attack on the night of August 30:** Russians launched 537 drones and 45 missiles at Ukraine during a night attack. In particular, they attacked with 8 Iskander-M/KN-23 ballistic missiles and 37 Kh-101, Kalibr, Iskander-K, and Kh-59 cruise/air-launched missiles. Air defense neutralized 548 targets. Five missiles and 24 Shahed-type UAVs struck 7 locations, while debris fell in 21.

Donetsk oblast

- Throughout the week, the Donetsk Oblast suffered from UAV and air strikes.
- On August 25, Russians carried out five airstrikes on the city of Kostiantynivka. Four people were injured, and 26 infrastructure facilities were damaged. On August 29, Russians hit the city of Kramatorsk with a UAV. One person was killed and another injured.
- Other affected settlements included:
 - Pokrovsk district: Dobropillia, Sviatohorivka, Hannivka, Bokove, Vesele, Bilozerke.
 - Kramatorsk district: Lyman, Andriivka, Drobysheve, Shchurove, Sloviansk, Iverske, Druzhkivka, Yampil, Novodonetsk, Novoiavlenka, Vysokopillia, Oleksandrivka, Raiske, Novostepanivka, Stepanivka, Illinivka, Raihorodok, Staroraiske.
 - Bakhmut district: Siversk.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

- Throughout the week, Zaporizhzhia oblast suffered from UAV and MLRS attacks.
- On August 26, Russians attacked the village of Novotroitske, injuring one person and destroying a house. On August 30, Russians attacked Zaporizhzhia with Shaheds and missiles, killing one person and injuring 28 others. Private houses were destroyed, and apartment buildings, cafés, a car repair shop, and an industrial enterprise were damaged.
- Other affected settlements included: Novoandriivka, Plavni, Huliaipole, Malynivka, Mala Tokmachka, Stepnohorsk, Orikhiv, Shcherbak, Novodanylivka, Charivne, Robotyne, Bilohiria, Poltavka, Chervone, Bilenke, Preobrazhenka, Kushuhum, Malokaterynivsky, Lukianivske, Omelnyk, Zaliznychne, Chervonodniprovka, Uspenivka, Komyshevakh, Prymorske, and Mahdalynivka.

Kharkiv oblast

- Throughout the week, Kharkiv oblast suffered from guided aerial bombs (KAB) and UAV attacks.
- On August 26, Russians struck the village of Kozacha Lopan with an FPV drone, injuring one person.
- Other affected settlements included: Kupiansk, Kurhanne, Prudianka, Prykolotne, Nyzhche Solone, Kivsharivka, Slatyne, Korotych, Vyshneve, Borova, Staryi Saltiv, Pidserednie, Riasne, Klynove-Novoselivka, Izium, Fedorivka, Mechebylove, Losivka, Slobozhanske, Shestakove, Nova Kozacha, Tsupivka, Rubizhne, Ivashky, Velykyi Burluk, Prystin, Buhaivka.

Sumy oblast

- Throughout the week, Sumy oblast suffered from FPV drone and UAV attacks, as well as grenade drops from drones.
- On August 25, Russians shelled a civilian car in the village of Nova Sloboda, killing one person and injuring two. On August 26, they struck the Shostka area, injuring three people.
- Other affected communities included: Sumy, Nova Sloboda, Seredyna-Buda, Vorozhba, Bilopillia, Sad, Znob-Novhorodske, Bury, Romny, Mykolaivka, Bezdryk, Verkhnia Syrovatka, Hlukhiv, Trostianets, Esman, Richky, Okhtyrka, and Velyka Pysarivka.

Kyiv oblast

- On the night of August 28, Russian forces launched a combined attack on Kyiv using UAVs and missiles. As a result, 225 residential buildings were damaged. In Darnytskyi district, a direct strike destroyed part of a five-story building, trapping people under the rubble. Damage occurred in all districts of the capital. Additionally, the buildings of the British Council and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty were damaged.
- According to the latest data, 25 people were killed and 63 were injured.

This week shelling and strikes

Dnipro and the oblast

- Throughout the week, Dnipropetrovsk oblast was under constant Russian attacks. The enemy used missiles, guided aerial bombs (KABs), Shahed drones, FPV drones, heavy artillery, and Grad MLRS. Dozens of private and apartment buildings, farm facilities, and enterprises were damaged.
- Casualties confirmed during the week: 6 killed and 18 injured. On August 28, massive strikes hit Synelnykove and Nikopol districts. In the Malomykhailivka community, a 49-year-old man was killed and four others were injured. On August 30, the oblast suffered a combined massive attack with missiles and drones. Infrastructure and residential buildings were damaged in Dnipro and Pavlohrad. In the Pokrovsk community, an FPV drone hit a market, injuring four people. In total, one man was killed and six were injured that day.
- The most affected districts during the week were Synelnykove and Nikopol. Strikes hit Dnipro, Pavlohrad, Nikopol, Marhanets, Myrove, Chervonohryhorivka, Pokrovsk, Malomykhailivka, Mezheva, Sloviansk, Zelenodolsk, Petropavlivka, Vasylykivka, and Novopil communities.

Mykolaiv Oblast

- Throughout the week, Mykolaiv oblast faced regular Russian attacks. The enemy used FPV drones, Lancet strike UAVs, and artillery. Fifteen private houses, a school building, infrastructure facilities, and power lines were damaged. One civilian (a 66-year-old woman) was injured; no fatalities reported.
- Under attack were Mykolaiv district, the city of Ochakiv, and the villages of Kutsurub, Solonchaky, Dmytrivka, Lupareve, Halytsynove, Kobleve, as well as coastal areas of Ochakiv community.

Poltava Oblast

- On the night of August 26–27, Russian forces shelled Poltava oblast. An energy sector facility, an administrative building, vehicles, and equipment were damaged. Power outages occurred in four settlements. No casualties reported.

Kherson and the oblast

- Throughout the week, Kherson oblast was under daily Russian attacks – artillery shelling and drone strikes. Occupiers deliberately targeted residential areas and infrastructure, destroying or damaging at least 12 apartment buildings and 69 private houses.
- Confirmed casualties: 8 killed and 39 injured. On August 26, Russians attacked a residential building in Kherson with a drone strike, injuring two women; 11 people were injured in the region that day. On August 27, Russians shelled a farm in Novovorontsivka, killing two workers. In Beryslav, a Russian drone killed a 78-year-old man, while in Kherson, artillery fire killed a woman born in 1944.
- Dozens of settlements were under attack, including: Kherson, Antonivka, Beryslav, Bilozerka, Stanislav, Sofiivka, Shyroka Balka, Molodizhne, Prydniprovsk, Naddniprianske, Kizomys, Dniprovsk, Rozlyv, Romashkove, Veletenske, Chornobaivka, Oleksandrivka, Tomyna Balka, Novovorontsivka, Mykilske, Berehove, Novoraisk, Shevchenkivka, Burhunka, Vesele, Dudchany, Zmiivka, Ivanivka, Inzhenerne, Kachkarivka, Kozatske, Kostyrka, Krupysia, Lvoe, Mykolaivka, Mylove, Mykhailivka, Novokairy, Novooleksandrivka, Odradokamianka, Olhivka, Stepanivka, Komyshany, Klapaya, Pravdyne, Inhulets, Virivka, Urozhayne, Tokarivka, Shliakhove, Tomaryne, Rakivka, Borozenke, Chervonyi Mayak, Darivka, Doslidne, Respublikanets, Zolota Balka, Zymivnyk, Ukrayinka, Yantarne, Vysoke, Zelenivka, Pryozerne, Matrosivka.

Chernihiv oblast

- Throughout the week, Russians used FPV drones, Shahed and Lancet strike UAVs, mortars, artillery, fiber-optic UAVs, Molniya UAVs, and dropped explosives from drones.
- Three people were injured; no deaths reported. On August 27, Russians attacked the city of Chernihiv and nearby settlements with FPV drones, Shaheds, and artillery. Two women were injured, an enterprise building caught fire, and over 14,000 subscribers were left without electricity.
- Settlements under attack included: Novhorod-Siverskyi community: Novhorod-Siverskyi, Krasnyi Khutir, Yasna Poliana, Hremiach, Buchky, Bohdanove. Semenivka community: Liskivshchyna, Arkhipivka, Leonivka, Bleshna, Tymonovychi, Mykolaivka, Yanzhulivka, Karpovychi, Prohres, Chornozem, Medvedivka. Snovsk community: Huta-Studenetska. Horodnia community: Senkivka. Koriukivka community: Pereliub. Nizhyn district, Chernihiv district / city of Chernihiv.



The week of shelling

Donetsk oblast



Zaporizhzhia oblast



Kherson oblast



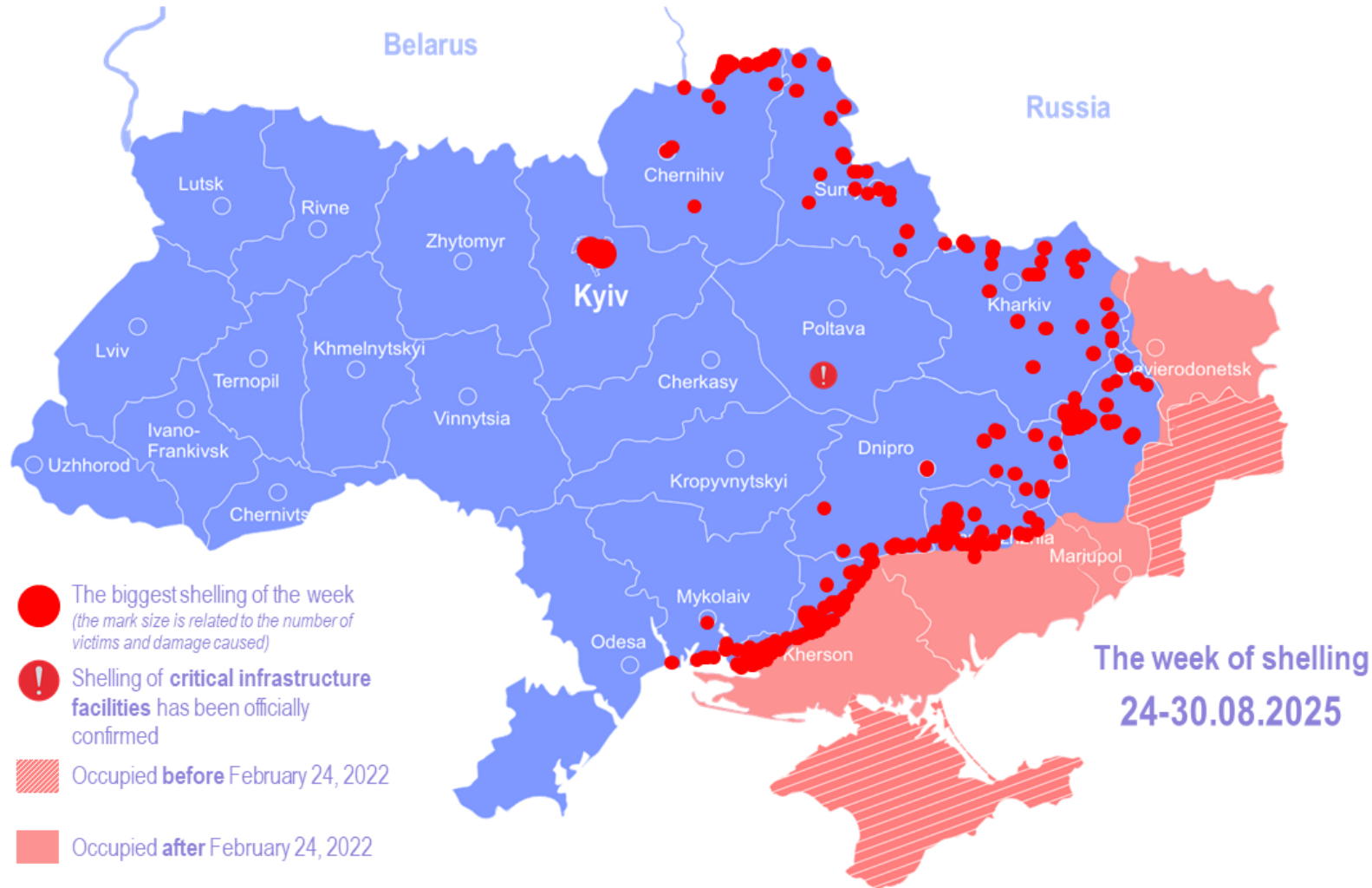
Kharkiv oblast



Dnipropetrovsk oblast



Kyiv oblast



Russia's Violations of International Humanitarian Law

- **Attacks on media:** Russia has carried out a devastating attack on Ukraine, damaging at least three media offices, including the offices of 'Ukrainska Pravda' and 'Radio Liberty in Kyiv', as well as the editorial office of the newspaper 'Mezhyvskiy Meridian' in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast. Gulnoza Said, Program Coordinator for Europe and Central Asia at the Committee to Protect Journalists, condemned the attacks.
- **Torture of prisoners of war:** The Prosecutor General's Office has opened proceedings into the torture of Ukrainian prisoners of war. The Russians tortured the prisoners, cutting off body parts and then killing them. One of them, whose throat was cut, was saved. He was taken to a medical facility in the Dnipropetrovsk region in extremely serious condition.
- **Withdrawal from the Convention against torture:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine has drawn attention to the decision of the Russian Federation to denounce the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture. This step is seen as an admission of the systemic practice of torture and an attempt to avoid responsibility.
- **Recruitment for drone production:** Russia is using BRICS structures to recruit young women from 44 countries (with the aim of expanding to 77 by 2025), offering high salaries to work in the production of attack drones in the Alabuga SEZ.
- **Shelling of civilian facilities:** In the Donetsk region, mines were cut off from power due to shelling. As a result of the attack, 148 miners were underground, one person was killed and three more were injured. In the Kherson region, the enemy is actively attacking civilian transport with drones on the Kherson-Mykolaiv highway. 'I strongly urge you: do not travel along this route unless absolutely necessary,' the head of the Kherson Regional State Administration emphasized.
- **Kidnapping of journalists:** Journalist Mark Kaliush, administrator of the Telegram channel "Melitopol is Ukraine," has been released from Russian captivity. According to the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Freedom of Speech, Russia is currently holding 28 Ukrainian journalists and media workers captive.

Consequences of War for Culture

- Since the beginning of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the war has claimed the lives of 221 artists and 108 Ukrainian and foreign media workers. This has been compared to the destruction of the generation of Ukrainian artists of the 'Executed Renaissance' in the 1920s.

Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOT) and Evacuation

- **Persecution of journalists in Crimea:** Russian authorities have filed a report against Crimean Tatar journalist Lutfiye Zudiyeva for 'activities as a foreign agent'. She is accused of publishing materials about human rights violations and the situation of political prisoners.
- **Propaganda in education:** The Russian government has approved a list of 37 'recommended' songs for schools that romanticize war and glorify the Russian military.
- **Evacuation:** The number of people with limited mobility requiring evacuation from the Donetsk region has decreased from over 100 to 56 people thanks to the opening of transit centers.
- Russia handed over 15,801 bodies of dead servicemen to Ukraine.

International Support

- Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre announced his intention to allocate \$8.45 billion to Ukraine in 2025–2026. He also noted Norway's contribution to Ukraine's **energy security**, in particular to gas purchases.
- The Democratic Republic of Congo has joined **the International Coalition for the Return of Ukrainian Children**, which now includes 42 countries and the Council of Europe.
- A prosthetic center called **Human Titans** has been opened at a Kyiv hospital, providing assistance to injured soldiers and civilians in need of modern prosthetics and rehabilitation. The project was implemented with the support of the mayor of Berlin and philanthropists.
- President Volodymyr Zelenskyi noted that last winter, at least a million Ukrainian families were kept warm thanks to cooperation with Norway.

Humanitarian crisis

- In the summer of 2025, the Donetsk region was on the verge of a humanitarian catastrophe due to the **destruction of the water supply system** and drought. The main source of water, the Severskyi Donets-Donbas canal, which provided 94% of the region's needs, had been regularly shelled since 2014, and after 2022, found itself in an active combat zone. The system, which **provided water to up to 4 million people**, stopped: pumping and filtration stations were damaged, and the dams of the Karlivske and Kurakhivske reservoirs were destroyed. An alternative water supply from the Rostov region, built in 2022, turned out to be insufficient and unstable. In 2025, the heat and depletion of reserve reservoirs deepened the crisis. Donetsk suffers from an **acute water shortage**, and the occupation authorities are even discussing the forced evacuation of the population.
- Due to constant Russian attacks, **residents of Kupiansk in the Kharkiv region** have been left without water, electricity and gas. According to the head of the Kupiansk city military administration, Andrii Besedin, it is impossible to restore communications due to daily shelling and significant destruction.

