



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

October 19 – 25

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

- **Diplomatic efforts surrounding the US-Russia summit have encountered obstacles.** Plans for a meeting between the US and Russian presidents in Budapest have raised concerns in the European Union, where, according to [El Pais](#), the summit has been called a “political nightmare” that calls into question the unity of the EU. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyi has expressed his [willingness to join](#) the meeting, stressing that agreements cannot be reached “without us and about us.”
- Preparations for the summit were complicated after a meeting between advisers, Secretary of State Marco Rubio, and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov was [postponed](#) due to Russia’s unchanging “maximalist position.” Ultimately, Donald Trump [canceled](#) the planned meeting, explaining that he did not see a way to achieve the necessary result. According to [propaganda media](#), the Russian side called this a “postponement.”
- **The issue of territorial concessions and peace terms remains central to the negotiations.** The Russian side has demanded control over the entire Donetsk region, hinting at a possible exchange for the occupied parts of the Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions, as reported by [The Washington Post](#). This position, as well as the demand that NATO forces not be deployed in Ukraine, was [reiterated](#) in an official letter to the US. At the same time, according to [Reuters](#), President Trump suggested to the Ukrainian delegation that Donetsk region remain “divided as it is” and warned against “destroying” the country. Sources at [The Washington Post](#) noted that Trump called such an agreement “good.” In a joint statement, Volodymyr Zelenskyi and European leaders [supported](#) the idea of an immediate ceasefire and the use of the current line of contact as a starting point for negotiations, confirming the principle of the inviolability of borders by force.
- **The US is increasing economic pressure on Russia and reviewing military aid to Ukraine.** The United States has [imposed](#) sanctions on Russian energy companies Rosneft and Lukoil due to Russia’s lack of “serious commitment to the peace process.” This decision has already affected the market: Indian refineries have announced their readiness to [reduce](#) imports of Russian oil, and Chinese state-owned companies have [suspended](#) purchases of Russian oil shipments by sea. In addition, [Reuters](#) reports that the US is preparing new sanctions in case Russia delays ending the war. The US Senate Foreign Relations Committee has also [approved](#) bills that would potentially designate Russia as a state sponsor of terrorism and confiscate \$5 billion in Russian assets for the benefit of Ukraine.
- Amidst the tightening of sanctions, the extent of military support remains a subject of debate. Ukraine and the US are [preparing a contract](#) for the purchase of 25 Patriot systems, partly at the expense of frozen Russian assets. However, Donald Trump said in an interview with [Fox News](#) that the US cannot “give everything away,” and during a meeting with Zelenskyi, according to the [WSJ](#), he made it clear that Tomahawk missiles should not be expected to arrive quickly.

- At the same time, the Trump administration [lifted restrictions](#) on the use of Western long-range missiles for strikes on Russian territory. President Zelenskyi [responded](#) by saying that Ukraine had not used American weapons for attacks deep inside Russia, but stressed that strikes on Crimea were not attacks on Russian territory.
- **Bilateral contacts and discussions on energy projects continue.** Despite the cancellation of the summit, dialogue at the working level continues. Russian envoy Kirill Dmitriev [arrived](#) in the US for meetings with the Trump administration. Sanctions restrictions were temporarily lifted for him to enable negotiations. At the same time, Ukraine has [offered](#) the US cooperation in gas infrastructure and nuclear power generation. According to Volodymyr Zelenskyi, there are signs that the US is ready to replace Russian energy sources on the European market, and Ukraine has the necessary infrastructure potential to do so.

International Support

- **The EU has approved the 19th package of sanctions against Russia.** The European Union has finally [approved](#) the 19th package of sanctions against the Russian Federation. The adoption of the package was preceded by the lifting of the veto by Austria, which, according to [Reuters](#), had previously blocked the decision, demanding that some of Russia’s assets be unfrozen to compensate for Raiffeisen Bank’s fines. However, this demand was not supported by other member states. Key restrictions include a ban on imports of Russian liquefied natural gas (LNG) from January 2027, restrictions against companies from China and India for helping to circumvent sanctions, and the blacklisting of about 550 ships from the shadow fleet. EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas has [already said](#) that the bloc will work on a 20th package.
- **Tightening of energy sanctions and pressure from the US.** At the same time, the EU Council [agreed](#) on a plan to completely abandon Russian gas from January 1, 2026, although there will be a transition period until January 1, 2028, for long-term contracts. Meanwhile, according to [Reuters](#), US sanctions pressure has brought Serbia’s only oil refinery, which is owned by Russian owners and is due to cease operations after November 1, to the brink of closure.
- **Visit to London and new military aid packages.** The President of Ukraine visited the United Kingdom to participate in the Coalition of the Willing summit. On October 24, the head of state met with [King Charles III](#) and Prime Minister [Keir Starmer](#) in London. Following the coalition summit, which was [also attended](#) by the leaders of Denmark, the Netherlands, and the NATO Secretary General, new military aid packages were announced. In particular, France [announced](#) the transfer of additional Aster missiles for SAMP/T air defense systems and Mirage fighter jets. The UK, for its part, [will provide](#) 5,000 multi-purpose missiles to strengthen air defense.
- **Request for air defense and defense cooperation with the UK.** Volodymyr Zelenskyi also [called on](#) European partners to temporarily “lend” Ukraine Patriot systems until the complexes ordered from the US arrive.



- There was also a presentation of the joint Ukrainian-British OCTOPUS interceptor drone, which is planned to be tested in Ukraine with further scaling up of production. In addition, Defense Minister John Healey announced Britain's readiness to spend more than £100 million on the potential deployment of its troops in Ukraine after the cessation of hostilities.
- **The fate of Russian assets and financial support for the energy sector.** The issue of using frozen Russian assets to help Ukraine remains under discussion in the EU. According to Bloomberg, EU leaders have postponed a decision on a "reparations loan" until December, instructing the European Commission to prepare detailed options. Belgium, where a significant portion of the assets are held, has set conditions for providing income from them, demanding joint responsibility from all EU members and a clear legal basis.
- **Development of proposals for a ceasefire.** According to Bloomberg, Ukraine and its European partners are preparing a 12-point proposal to end the war along the front line. The plan provides for the exchange of prisoners and the return of children after the ceasefire, security guarantees and a path to EU membership for Ukraine, as well as the gradual lifting of sanctions against Russia. Negotiations on the management of the occupied territories are proposed to be started separately.
- **International isolation of Russia and infrastructure projects.** Important developments have also taken place in the legal and infrastructure spheres. The Polish prosecutor's office refused to appeal a court decision to deny the extradition to Germany of a Ukrainian suspected of involvement in the Nord Stream sabotage, recognizing Ukraine's right to self-defense.
- In the Czech Republic, a court upheld a suspended sentence for a teacher who denied Russian crimes.
- To ensure telecommunications sovereignty, the Kardesa project has been announced to lay a new internet highway across the Black Sea, bypassing Russia. In addition, Russia and Belarus will not be allowed to participate in the 2026 Paralympic Games.

Other

- **Russia continues to gain access to Western military and dual-use technologies through a network of front companies.** According to The Washington Post, citing financial documents and data from Western security services, Russia was able to secretly purchase sensitive sonar systems, complex underwater antennas, and an underwater drone capable of operating at depths of up to 3,000 meters. This equipment, purchased from American and European companies, is used to create an underwater surveillance system, in particular to protect Russian nuclear submarines in the Arctic.
- **There has been an expansion of trade and economic cooperation between third countries and Russia in the energy sector, including the start of Russian oil supplies to Georgia.** This month, the state-owned company Rosneft sent its first shipment of oil to a new oil refinery in the Georgian port of Kulevi. This refinery creates a new market for Russian energy resources, bypassing sanctions restrictions.
- **At the same time, Russia continues to receive military-technical and diplomatic support from certain countries.** India plans to sign a \$1.2 billion agreement with Russia to purchase a large batch of missiles for S-400 air defense systems.



Military Support

- **Strategic strengthening of Ukraine's aviation capabilities.** Ukraine and Sweden have signed a memorandum of understanding on long-term cooperation in the development of air capabilities, paving the way for one of the largest defense deals in Europe. According to Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson, the agreement involves the possible sale of 100 to 150 modern JAS 39 Gripen E fighter jets to Ukraine. The agreement, which is expected to last 10-15 years, could become the largest export contract in Swedish history. Although production of the first aircraft for Ukraine could have already begun, realistic delivery dates, given Saab's current production capacity, are estimated to be no earlier than 2028. President Volodymyr Zelenskyi expressed hope that the first Gripen aircraft could arrive as early as 2026. At the same time, Saab announced that it was considering plans for a large-scale expansion of production to increase Gripen E output to 20-30 units per year and meet Ukraine's potential order.
- Belgium has confirmed its intention to transfer F-16 fighter jets to Ukraine. According to Defense Minister Theo Francken, the transfer of the aircraft will take place after the Belgian Air Force receives and commissions new F-35s. This process is expected to take approximately one to one and a half years.
- **Expansion of international financing for arms purchases.** Several European countries have announced their participation in the US PURL (Prioritized Ukraine Requirements List) program, which allows allies to finance the purchase of US weapons for Ukraine. Spain has confirmed its intention to join the initiative; according to El País, Madrid's expected contribution could reach €200 million. Finland has also joined PURL, allocating €100 million for the purchase of weapons. Italy has also previously announced its readiness to finance purchases under this program.
- **Cooperation in the field of joint arms production and the supply of high-tech components is deepening.** Ukraine and the Swedish company SAAB have reached an agreement on the joint production of air defense systems as part of the Ukrainian initiative "Build in Ukraine." In addition, Israeli defense company Elbit Systems has shifted its resource priorities in favor of deals related to aid to Ukraine. The American aircraft manufacturer Bell Textron has also confirmed its readiness to supply the Armed Forces of Ukraine with AH-1Z Viper attack helicopters and UH-1Y Venom multi-purpose helicopters.
- **New military and technical aid packages.** Allies continue to provide Ukraine with assistance to meet urgent needs on the battlefield. Italy is preparing a 12th military aid package, which, according to Bloomberg, will include ammunition and missiles for SAMP/T air defense systems. This package will be another contribution after 11 previous ones, totaling €2.5-3 billion, including two SAMP/T batteries that have already been delivered. In addition, Poland has announced an expansion of drone system deliveries. Warsaw plans to purchase new unmanned systems, some of which will be transferred to the Armed Forces of Ukraine to strengthen their defense capabilities. The Belgian company John Cockerill Defense announced the modernization of 113 vehicles, which will be converted into medical versions for the Armed Forces of Ukraine. The Czech Republic is preparing to transfer a modern observation satellite to Ukraine; this year, Czech industry has already launched its own military satellite, SATurnin-1, into orbit. In addition, the Czech volunteer initiative "Gift for Putin" raised \$600,000 in less than 48 hours for the production of the Ukrainian Flamingo rocket, significantly ahead of the planned fundraising deadline.

Key Events of the Week:

- Ukraine continues systematically striking Russia's oil refining infrastructure — several major plants in the Samara, Orenburg, and Ryazan regions were destroyed over the past week. The Novokuibyshevsk Oil Refinery in Samara completely halted operations after a Ukrainian drone attack, with repairs expected only in early November.
- An explosion occurred on the Pskov–St. Petersburg railway, paralyzing Russian military logistics in the north.
- The Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) carried out a combined strike on the Bryansk Chemical Plant, which produces explosives and rocket components.
- Ukrainian forces liberated Kucheriv Yar and Sukhestske in Donetsk oblast, eliminating dozens of occupiers and capturing many prisoners.
- Russia tested its “nuclear triad” amid preparations for a possible Putin–Trump meeting, signaling readiness for escalation.
- Russia used glide bombs (KABs) against Odesa oblast for the first time, posing a new threat to Ukraine's coastal areas.
- In Volgograd region, Ukraine destroyed the Balashov substation — a key energy hub supplying Russian military facilities.
- The situation in Pokrovsk remains critical: the city is under enemy drone control, firefights continue, and there is a risk of encirclement of Myrnohrad.

19.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Virtually every day or two, there are strikes on Russia's oil refineries,” said President Zelenskyi. “And this brings Russia back to reality.” ➤ On the night of October 19, Ukrainian Defense Forces struck the Novokuibyshevsk Oil Refinery in Samara region. Explosions and fires were reported at the facility. The Orenburg Gas Processing Plant was also hit, resulting in large-scale fires. In occupied Berdyansk, a fuel depot was struck, causing explosions and fires, according to the AFU General Staff.
20.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reuters reported that the Novokuibyshevsk refinery halted operations after the drone attack. Two main crude processing units — AVT-11 (18,900 tons/day) and AVT-9 (4,700 tons/day) — were disabled. The plant is unlikely to resume operations before early November.
21.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An explosion hit the Pskov–St. Petersburg railway used for Russian military logistics. Ukraine's military intelligence (GUR) told Ukrainian media that tracks were damaged and a freight train caught fire. Rail movement was suspended, disrupting Russian military supplies.
22.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the night, Russia launched 28 missiles and 405 drones at Ukraine. ➤ Ukraine's Defense Forces responded with Storm Shadow missiles, striking the Bryansk Chemical Plant — a key part of Russia's military-industrial complex producing gunpowder, explosives, and rocket fuel components. Drones also attacked the Dagnefteprodukt refinery in Makhachkala, Dagestan. ➤ Ukrainian forces liberated Kucheriv Yar in the Pokrovsk sector of Donetsk oblast, raising the national flag again and capturing several dozen Russian soldiers. ➤ Russia tested its “nuclear triad,” involving land-based, sea-based, and air-launched nuclear components. A “Yars” ICBM was launched from Plesetsk to the Kura test site in Kamchatka, while the submarine Bryansk fired a “Sineva” ballistic missile from the Barents Sea. Tu-95MS bombers also launched cruise missiles.
23.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Russia's Ministry of Defense reported a mass drone attack on 10 regions, including the Ryazan oil refinery. ➤ Russian aircraft violated Lithuanian airspace by 700 meters. Two Spanish Air Force Eurofighter Typhoons, part of NATO's Baltic Air Policing mission, were scrambled to intercept. Lithuania's president condemned it as a blatant breach of international law.

Losses of the Russian army from 19.10.2025 to 25.10.2025

Liquidated personnel	5 820
Tanks	21
IFVs	78
Artillery systems / MLRS	123/2
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	0
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	2 034
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	625
Special equipment	1

Situation at the Front

24.10

- Russia's Ministry of Defense reported a drone attack on Moscow and the surrounding region, claiming that over 130 drones were shot down across several regions and occupied Crimea.
- During his visit to the UK, President Zelenskyi presented the Ukrainian OCTOPUS interceptor drone, which Britain will produce. He showcased it during a meeting with Prime Minister Keir Starmer, where they agreed to manufacture the first batch and discussed expanding defense cooperation and pressure on Russia.
- Russia used guided glide bombs (KABs) against Odesa oblast for the first time. Odesa governor Oleh Kiper said the bombs targeted civilian infrastructure, calling it "a new serious threat to the oblast" capable of causing massive destruction.
- In Pokrovsk, the situation remains dire: at least 250 Russian troops are engaged in close combat and sniper fire, targeting Ukrainian drone operators. Logistics are paralyzed, forcing Ukrainian troops to cover 10–15 km on foot under constant enemy drone surveillance. Shortages of infantry hinder evacuation of the wounded, and some positions exist only on maps. The fall of Pokrovsk could lead to encirclement of Myrnohrad, where conditions are also rapidly worsening.

25.10

- Since the start of 2025, Russia has launched about 770 ballistic missiles and more than 50 air-launched "Kinzhal" missiles against Ukraine, Zelenskyi reported.
- Air Force spokesperson Yurii Ihnat stated that jet-powered KAB glide bombs can evade Ukrainian air defenses, though they remain interceptable. Two such bombs were recently shot down in southern Ukraine; the third fell harmlessly in an open area.
- Soldiers of Ukraine's 82nd Air Assault Brigade liberated the village of Sukhestske in Donetsk oblast after fierce fighting with over 60 Russian troops, most of whom were eliminated, and several taken prisoner.
- In Volgograd region, the Balashov substation — a key node of Russia's Southern Power System supplying the Volgograd Military District, Defense Ministry facilities, and transport energy hubs along the Saratov–Voronezh line — was destroyed, according to the Center for Countering Disinformation. Earlier, Russia also lost the Veshkayma substation.

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This week shelling and strikes

Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of October 19:** Ukrainian air defenses destroyed 40 out of 62 drones. Another 19 strike UAVs hit seven locations.
- **Attack on the night of October 20:** Russia attacked Ukraine with three Iskander-M/KN-23 ballistic missiles and 60 drones. Air defenses intercepted 38 UAVs, but three ballistic missiles and 20 drones hit 12 locations.
- **Attack on the night of October 21:** Air defenses shot down 58 out of 98 drones. Russia also launched two ballistic and four surface-to-air guided missiles; rockets and 37 drones struck 10 sites.
- **Attack on the night of October 22:** Air defenses intercepted 333 drones and 16 missiles out of 405 UAVs and 28 missiles launched, including 11 Iskander-M/KN-23, 9 Iskander-K, 4 Kinzhal, and 4 Kh-59/69. The main target was Kyiv oblast, with additional strikes on Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Cherkasy, Chernihiv, and Odesa oblasts. There were 12 direct missile and 55 drone hits at 26 locations, debris falling at 19 sites, and 17 drones failing to reach targets.
- **Attack on the night of October 23:** Air defenses destroyed 92 out of 130 drones. Twenty-five UAVs struck 11 locations, with debris falling in another 11.
- **Attack on the night of October 24:** Air defenses downed 72 of 128 drones. Forty-seven UAVs hit 10 locations.
- **Attack on the night of October 25:** Air defenses intercepted 54 out of 71 aerial targets. Five ballistic missiles and 12 drones hit 11 locations, with debris reported in four others.

Donetsk oblast

- Throughout the week, Donetsk oblast suffered attacks involving UAVs and KAB-250 bombs.
- On October 20, Russian forces twice shelled the city of Kostiantynivka, killing one person and damaging a private house facade. On October 23, a Russian Lancet drone struck a civilian car in Kramatorsk, killing two employees of Freedom TV and injuring one more person.
- Other affected settlements included:
 - Pokrovsk district: Dobropillia, Pokrovsk, Myrnograd.
 - Kramatorsk district: Lyman, Sloviansk, Andriivka, Druzhkivka, Starorayske, Sviatohirsk, Oleksiievo-Druzhkivka, Rai-Oleksandrivka, Mykolaivka, Raihorodok, Kurytsyne, Orikhuvatka, Starovarivka, Raiske, Mykolaipillia.
 - Bakhmut district: Siversk.

Kyiv oblast

- Throughout the week, Russia attacked Kyiv with Iskander-M ballistic missiles and Shahed drones, damaging residential buildings, power facilities, schools, kindergartens, hospitals, and cars. 8 killed, 52 injured, including children.
- On October 22, a massive attack struck six city districts, destroying 10 residential buildings and damaging hospitals and infrastructure; 2 people killed, 30 injured (5 children). In Brovary district, debris caused a fire killing four, including two children. On October 23, new drone attacks hit Kyiv, mainly the Podil district — fires broke out in residential areas, destroying a school, kindergarten, and damaging the historic Great Choral Synagogue. Nine injured, two in critical condition. On October 25, combined Iskander-M and drone attacks ignited fires over 18,000 m² of industrial and storage facilities, killing two and injuring 13.
- Targets included Kyiv, Slavutych, and multiple city districts: Brovary, Obukhiv, Darnytsia, Desnianskyi, Dniprovskyi, Holosiivskyi, Pecherskyi, Solomianskyi, Podilskyi, and Obolonskyi.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

- The region was repeatedly hit by UAVs and MLRS shelling.
- On October 20, Russian forces attacked the village of Preobrazhenka, injuring one person. On October 22, a strike on Zaporizhzhia injured 15 people, including two infants and a teenager. A residential building was hit, and 2,000 consumers were temporarily left without electricity. On October 23, a Russian FPV drone struck the town of Prymorske, wounding one person.
- Other affected settlements included: Lukasheve, Malynivka, Nove, Mala Tokmachka, Bilenke, Veselianka, Stepnohirske, Plavni, Stepove, Huliaipole, Orikhiv, Shcherbaky, Novodanylivka, Novoandriivka, Charivne, Bilohiria, Yurkivka, Zaliznychne, Malokaterynivka, Poltavka, Varvarivka, Rivnopillia, Solodke, Zaporizhzhia, Chervonodniprovka, Uspenivka, Lezhyne, Lukianivske, Tavriiske, Hryhorivka, Novouspenivka, Kushuhum, Vesele, Nove Zaporizhzhia, Chervone, Zelene.

Kharkiv oblast

- Kharkiv oblast was attacked by guided aerial bombs and UAVs throughout the week.
- On October 21, airstrikes on Kharkiv injured eight people and damaged 14 private houses and civilian enterprises. On October 22, drones struck a kindergarten in Kharkiv, killing one person and injuring nine. All 48 children were evacuated from shelters. On October 24, guided bombs hit Kharkiv again, injuring ten people.
- Other affected settlements: Baranivka, Spodobivka, Kivsharivka, Shevchenkove, Lozova, Kupiansk-Vuzlovyyi, Andriivka, Osynove, Oriika, Horokhivatka, Prymorske, Zolochiv, Podoly, Katerynivka, Barvinkove, Velykyi Burluk, Zelenyi Hai, Vasylyvske, Bilyi Kolodiaz, Nove.

Chernihiv oblast

- Russian troops systematically shelled border communities using FPV drones, Shahed and Molniya UAVs, explosive drops, mortars, artillery, and MLRS. Attacks destroyed energy and critical infrastructure, communication towers, industrial sites, and residential buildings.
- On October 20, a drone strike on an energy facility caused a blackout in northern Chernihiv oblast. On October 21, further strikes on Chernihiv's power grid led to a full blackout — four killed and ten injured, including a child. On October 21, mass strikes on Novhorod-Siverskyi using Shaheds and Tornado MLRS killed four civilians and injured ten, including a 10-year-old boy.
- Affected settlements: Semenivka, Zarichchia, Bleshni, Lohy, Shyshkivka, Leonivka, Karpovychi, Baranivka, Kostobobriv, Mykolaivka, Tymonovychi, Serhiivske, Progress, Zoria, Huta-Studenetska, Snovsk, Novhorod-Siverskyi, Hremiach, Krasnyi Khutir, and others.

This week shelling and strikes

Dnipropetrovsk oblast

- The oblast suffered massive strikes from drones, rockets, glide bombs (KABs), and artillery. Residential and industrial buildings, cultural sites, farms, transport facilities, hospitals, and power lines were damaged. 35 wounded and 3 killed, including a State Emergency Service worker.
- On October 19, a kamikaze drone attack hit the Shakhtarska community in Synelnykove district, injuring 11 people. On October 25, a large-scale strike targeted Synelnykove district again, killing two (including a rescuer) and injuring seven. Fires broke out in residential buildings and shops.
- Affected settlements: Pavlohrad, Kamianske, Nikopol, Marhanets, Pokrovska, Myrivska, Chervonohryhorivska, Shakhtarska, Mezhyvska, Petropavlivska, Dubovykivska, Slovianska, Mykolaivska, Pishchanska, Zelenodolska, Hrushevska, Malomykhailivska, Verbkivska, Ternivska.

Poltava oblast

- Russian forces attacked Poltava oblast using guided bombs (Hrom, Banderol, UPAБ-1500V) and Geran-2 kamikaze drones, targeting oil and gas facilities, energy infrastructure, and industrial sites. Fires broke out and power restrictions were imposed. One person was injured.
- On October 20, Russia launched a guided bomb toward the oblast — the first confirmed use of this weapon type in Poltava.
- Main affected areas: Poltava and Myrhorod districts.

Sumy oblast

- Sumy oblast faced repeated attacks involving KABs, UAVs, and explosive drops from drones.
- On October 21, a drone strike on the city of Sumy injured nine people and damaged vehicles and infrastructure. On October 23, Russian forces attacked a railway station in Sumy community, injuring two people.
- Other affected communities: Mykolaivska, Myropilska, Yunakivska, Khotinska, Bilopiiska, Krasnopilska, Vorozhbianska, Hlukhivska, Esmanska, Shalyhynska, Znob-Novhorodska, Seredyno-Budska, Velykopysarivska, Novoslobidska, Boromlianska, Khutir-Mykhailivska, Putyvl, Popivska, Konotop, Richkivska, and Sveska.

Kherson oblast

- Russian forces shelled Kherson oblast using kamikaze drones, aviation, and artillery, damaging critical and social infrastructure — administrative buildings, transport, power lines, farm equipment, and a mobile tower. Over the week, 55 apartment buildings and 123 private houses were damaged. There were 7 killed and 64 injured, including three children.
- On October 21, shelling hit several settlements including Kherson, Beryslav, Stanislav, and Mylove, injuring 14 and damaging multiple buildings. On October 24, more than 40 settlements were struck, destroying 29 apartment buildings and 63 private homes. Three people were killed and 29 wounded, including three children.
- Affected settlements included: Kherson, Antonivka, Komyschany, Sadove, Prydniprovske, Bilozirka, Berehove, Dniprovsk, Yantarne, Kizomys, Tomyna Balka, Stanislav, Sofiivka, Shyroka Balka, Mykilske, Poniativka, Tokarivka, Beryslav, Osokorivka, Zolota Balka, Mykhailivka, Dudchany, Tiahynka, Burhunka, Lviv, Olhivka, Chervonyi Maiak, Kostiirka, Romashkove, and dozens more.

Odesa oblast

- Odesa oblast was attacked by kamikaze drones and missiles launched from the Black Sea and occupied Crimea. Port infrastructure and civilian facilities were damaged, but no casualties were reported.
- Notably, Russia used guided aerial bombs (KABs) against Odesa region for the first time — a serious new threat targeting civilian infrastructure.

Mykolaiv oblast

- Mykolaiv oblast was shelled by FPV drones and artillery — 52 drone attacks and several artillery strikes damaged four private homes and a power line. No casualties reported.
- Affected communities: Ochakivska, Kutsurubska, Halytsynivska, and villages Lupareve and Dmytrivka.



The week of shelling

Kharkiv oblast



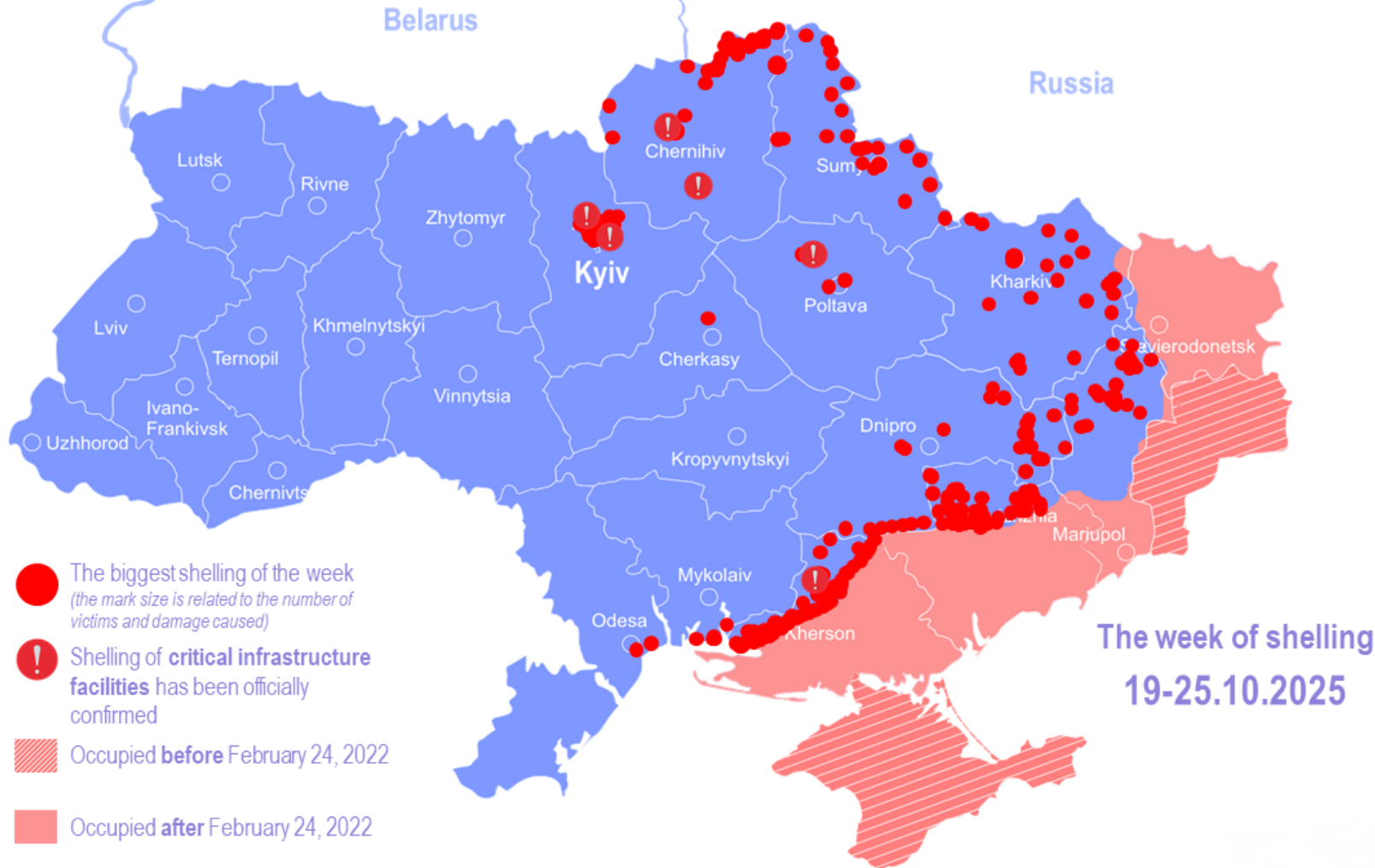
Kyiv oblast



Dnipro oblast



Kherson oblast



- The biggest shelling of the week (the mark size is related to the number of victims and damage caused)
- ! Shelling of critical infrastructure facilities has been officially confirmed
- ▨ Occupied before February 24, 2022
- Occupied after February 24, 2022

The week of shelling
19-25.10.2025

Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOT) and Evacuation

- Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant restored power after blackout – energy specialists restored power to the temporarily occupied Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, bringing it out of its tenth complete blackout in a row, which had lasted for the past month. During this time, the safety of the nuclear power plant was maintained only by emergency diesel generators, which created an unprecedented nuclear threat.
- Evacuation of teenagers: As part of the Bring Kids Back UA initiative, two Ukrainian teenagers were rescued from the TOT. An 18-year-old boy escaped forced mobilization. Another, a 20-year-old boy, had spent almost three years under occupation, enduring isolation and searches. He was persuaded to leave by his sister, who had previously been evacuated.
- Arrests of public figures and scientists continue in Crimea: On the night of October 23, Russian security forces conducted a search and re-arrested blind political prisoner Oleksandr Sizikov in the Bakhchysarai district, even though he had been released in May due to illness. About 20 people broke into the house, seized two laptops and all the family's phones, and the detention took place on the orders of a police lieutenant.
- In addition, a Ukrainian scientist was detained in Crimea on charges of “defecting to the enemy.” The reason for the accusations is his participation in the Ukrainian delegation at CCAMLR (Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources) meetings and the use of research to undermine Russian krill fishing operations and encourage CCAMLR to impose strict restrictions, which has negative economic consequences for the Russian Federation.
- The Russians also sentenced 19-year-old Yana Suvorova (administrator of the Telegram channel “Melitopol is Ukraine”) to 14 years in prison. She was accused of allegedly directing a HIMARS strike on a college building that housed the Rosgvardia and FSB offices.
- Melitopol journalist Anastasiia Hlukhovska (captured by the FSB in August 2023) remains in custody at Pre-Trial Detention Center No. 3 in Kizel (Perm Krai, Russian Federation). The journalist is being held incommunicado (the Russian Federation does not recognize the fact of her detention).
- According to Ukraine’s Defense Intelligence (HUR), the Kremlin has developed a manual for identifying pro-Ukrainian youth in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine. The occupiers are to identify children who post anti-Putin comments, are interested in events in Ukraine, or read international resources, and conduct “educational work” with them. It is recommended to restrict access to historical materials (especially about World War II) and to “popularize” the propaganda history of World War II. It is also advised to regularly conduct ideological classes to foster tolerance for the invasion and instill values of social obedience.

International support

- Norway will provide Ukraine with an additional \$150 million to purchase gas to meet the needs of the population, businesses, and critical infrastructure during the fourth winter of full-scale war.
- Sweden is increasing its funding for the World Bank Trust Fund (for assistance, recovery, and reform in Ukraine) by €35 million as winter approaches. The funds will be directed toward the most urgent needs and enhancing resilience.
- Twenty-five EU member states have agreed to join the work of the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine (at a meeting of the EU Foreign Affairs Council in Luxembourg), bringing the European Union closer to the start of the tribunal’s actual work.
- Lithuania is implementing 6 recovery projects, including the construction of shelters for schools in six border regions of Ukraine and support for the energy sector.
- The Netherlands will allocate €55 million to the World Bank’s Ukraine Relief, Recovery, Reconstruction and Reform Trust Fund (URTF) to support the reconstruction process.
- Latvia has joined NATO’s Renovator project and taken the initiative to reconstruct one Ukrainian military hospital. Latvia will coordinate the reconstruction of three hospitals from its own budget. The project involves the creation of modern rehabilitation centers, the purchase of equipment, and the training of specialists.

Russia’s Violations of International Humanitarian Law

- Shooting of civilians in Zvanivka: On October 20, in the Bakhmut region, the occupiers shot a civilian family and their neighbors in a basement. After questioning them about the location of Ukrainian troops, one of the Russian soldiers returned and opened fire. Only a 57-year-old woman survived. The prosecutor’s office is documenting this war crime.
- Shooting of civilians in Pokrovsk was also recorded: on October 20, a Russian sabotage and reconnaissance group killed several civilians in the city (including an elderly man and two women).
- Killing of journalists in Kramatorsk: On October 23, Russian forces killed Ukrainian journalists Olena Hubanova (Aliona Hramova) and cameraman Yevhen Karmazin at a gas station while they were filming a previous strike. The attack was carried out by a Lancet UAV.
- Russia intensifies attacks on civilian targets across Ukraine:
 - Attacks on coal enterprises continue: on October 19, the occupiers carried out Shahed drone strikes on the DTEK mine in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast (Ternivka). During the attack, 192 employees were underground, and evacuation began. This is the fourth large-scale attack on DTEK coal enterprises in two months.
 - Russia attempted to attack the Lviv-Kramatorsk train with a drone as it approached the Kramatorsk station. The attack missed its target, but the blast wave damaged windows in three carriages. No casualties were reported.
- Russia is increasing its drone attacks. In September 2025, Russia launched about 5,500 strike UAVs (1,400 more than in August). In October, over 3,000 drones were launched. Ukraine’s critical infrastructure remains a key target for damage ahead of the winter season.
- The Russian Armed Forces destroyed a Baptist Christian house of worship in Prymorske (Zaporizhzhia). The church was a center of support and assistance (distribution of food, shelter) for local residents.
- Russia continues to carry out repeated strikes to disrupt the work and eliminate Ukrainian rescue services: in the Kharkiv Oblast, Russian forces repeatedly hit the site of a firefighting operation in the village of Zelenyi Hai. One State Emergency Service rescuer was killed, and five of his colleagues were wounded.
- The Ukrainian delegation to the OSCE has highlighted Russia’s double strikes: first, they attack civilian targets, and then they deliberately strike rescue workers and energy personnel who arrive at the scene of the tragedy. This is a systematic destruction of energy infrastructure in border regions.

Economy

- The National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) has downgraded its GDP growth forecast and decided to keep the key policy rate unchanged due to the worsening economic situation caused by Russian attacks on Ukraine’s power and gas infrastructure. The decision to maintain the rate (which determines the cost of loans and deposits) was made to curb inflation and prevent its further acceleration.

Other

- On October 23, as part of repatriation efforts, 1,000 bodies were returned to Ukraine. According to the Russian side, they belong to Ukrainian servicemen. Expert examinations and identification procedures will follow.

