



# Transatlantic Dialogue Center

## Weekly briefing

**December 28 – January 3**

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

- **Progress in peace talks and agreement on security guarantees.** The key event of the week was the meeting between the presidents of Ukraine and the United States at the Mar-a-Lago residence, which demonstrated that the parties are significantly closer to concluding a comprehensive agreement. According to the Ukrainian leader, the **so-called "20-point plan" is currently 90% agreed upon**, and bilateral security guarantees from the United States are 100% agreed upon. The agreements reached provide for strict security commitments for a period of 15 years, but **Kyiv insists on extending them to 30-50 years**, arguing that this is necessary due to the duration of Russian aggression. The American side has also confirmed its intention to submit the final document to Congress for ratification, which should ensure its stability regardless of the political situation. The economic bloc, which provides for the involvement of American business and the creation of new jobs in Ukraine, is being discussed separately.
- **Information provocations by the Russian Federation and the position of American intelligence.** Against the backdrop of diplomatic progress, the Russian Federation attempted to destabilize the negotiation process by **accusing Ukraine of a drone attack on Vladimir Putin's residence in Valdai**. Kremlin representatives, including Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, used this incident to threaten to revise their negotiating positions and launch strikes on "decision-making centers" in Kyiv. However, the US intelligence community (CIA and NSA) quickly refuted these accusations, establishing that there had been no attack on the residence and that the strikes had been carried out against a legitimate military target in the same region. This position of Washington, as well as the reaction of Donald Trump, who later distributed materials criticizing "Putin's false statements," neutralized Moscow's attempt to disrupt the dialogue.
- **The situation around the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant and territorial issues.** As part of humanitarian and security initiatives, the parties agreed on a local ceasefire in the area of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant to carry out repair work under the auspices of the IAEA. Donald Trump expressed optimism about the possible launch of the plant in the near future, noting that the Kremlin is allegedly ready to cooperate on this issue. At the same time, **the issue of de-occupation of territories remains one of the most difficult**: Ukraine categorically rejects the possibility of legally renouncing its lands, while Russia continues to issue ultimatums regarding the complete withdrawal of the Armed Forces of Ukraine beyond the administrative borders of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhia regions.

## International support

- **Formation of a peacekeeping mission.** European partners are considering the possibility of a physical presence to ensure stability. According to Die Welt, European countries are ready to send 10,000 to 15,000 troops to Ukraine in the first six months after the ceasefire. >>

- >> The UK and France have expressed their willingness **to monitor the truce** even without a UN mandate, based on Ukraine's invitation, while neighboring states could take over control of air and sea space.
- **Imbalance in international aid: government grants versus humanitarian deficit.** Macro-financial support for Ukraine from individual partner countries remains stable. In particular, the Canadian government has announced \$2.5 billion in economic aid. Japan, in turn, has transferred nearly €48 million for critical infrastructure restoration and demining, and has approved an additional budget providing for more than €5 billion in aid in 2026.
- In contrast, **the humanitarian funding sector is experiencing a crisis**. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the response plan for 2025 is only 51.8% funded, which is significantly less than the previous year. This sharp reduction creates risks for the social sphere, particularly in the water supply and health sectors, which will require the Ukrainian government to seek additional compensatory mechanisms.
- **Integration processes and weakening of the aggressor's position.** Ukraine continues to deepen its integration into the European space, effectively becoming part of the EU's single digital market. On January 1, 2026, the country officially joined the European Union's roaming zone, allowing citizens to use communications in 27 EU countries on a permanent basis without additional costs. At the same time, work on humanitarian issues continues: negotiations on the release of prisoners of war and the return of civilian hostages took place in Turkey with the participation of the Ukrainian and Turkish sides.
- On the international stage, **Russia's isolation continues**. Russian pipeline gas exports to Europe have fallen to their lowest level since 1975, a tenfold decrease compared to pre-war levels. The International Olympic Committee has also confirmed that even if a peace agreement is signed, Russian athletes will compete in the 2026 Olympics exclusively in neutral status, without a flag or anthem.

## Other

- Military-technical cooperation between Moscow and Pyongyang has led to a noticeable **acceleration in the development of North Korea's missile program**. According to estimates by US and South Korean intelligence, North Korea has been able to increase its weapons production thanks to Russian technology provided in exchange for military assistance in the war against Ukraine. This is confirmed by the tests of long-range cruise missiles over the Yellow Sea at the end of December, which were aimed at checking the combat readiness of units ahead of the Workers' Party congress.



- **Russian energy exports continue due to the resumption of purchases by Indian oil refineries**, which allows the aggressor to maintain its revenues despite international restrictions. According to Bloomberg, at least three tankers carrying Russian oil are heading to the Reliance Industries Ltd. plant on the west coast of India. Previously, the Russian state-owned company Rosneft was a key supplier to this enterprise under long-term agreements, providing significant volumes of raw materials for India's domestic production.
- **Ukraine has intensified sanctions pressure on the Russian economy and military machine**, synchronizing new restrictive measures with partners, including the United Kingdom. President Volodymyr Zelenskyi has enacted sanctions against 40 companies and eight individuals, including citizens of Russia, Azerbaijan, Singapore, and New Zealand. The restrictions apply to individuals and entities involved in the forced deportation of Ukrainian children, the operation of Russia's "shadow fleet," and the supply of components for missiles and drones.



## Military Support

- **Last year was a record year in terms of international security support for Ukraine, and partners continue to finance the development of the Ukrainian defense industry.** According to official data, the total amount of military aid in 2025 exceeded \$45 billion, which is almost 30% more than in the previous period. An important change in the structure of support was the allocation of more than \$6 billion directly to the development of the Ukrainian defense industry through investments in joint production and procurement. The key areas of funding remain weapons, ammunition, air defense systems, and logistical support.
- **Key European partners are strengthening Ukraine's air defense.** As part of previous intergovernmental agreements, Germany has transferred two more **Patriot anti-aircraft missile systems** to Ukraine, which have already arrived at their destination to protect against ballistic and aerodynamic targets. At the same time, despite internal political discussions, the Italian government approved a decree to extend military aid until 2026, rejecting the idea of switching exclusively to humanitarian support. Although, due to pressure from the League party, the text of the resolution uses the compromise wording "multidimensional support" without directly mentioning the word "weapons," the adopted document legally allows for the formation of a new, 13th package of military aid.
- **Eastern and Southern European countries are joining financial initiatives to purchase weapons from the US for the needs of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.** The governments of Romania and Croatia have decided to participate in the PURL mechanism, which provides for the centralized purchase of American weapons for Ukraine. According to statements by the foreign ministries of these countries, Bucharest's contribution will amount to €50 million, while Zagreb will allocate approximately €14 million to the initiative.



## Key Events of the Week:

- Ukraine has significantly intensified its strikes on Russian military, energy, and logistics infrastructure, particularly in Crimea, Donetsk oblast, and deep inside Russia.
- December saw record damage to the Russian oil and gas industry, increasing economic pressure on Russia.
- Russia continues its intensive aerial terror against Ukraine, but the Air Force shoots down most drones and missiles even during massive attacks.
- In the Pokrovsk-Myrnohrad direction, Russians are suffering heavy losses and failing to achieve tactical success, despite the massive use of guided aerial bombs.
- Ukrainian forces are systematically destroying the infrastructure for launching Shahed drones, particularly at Donetsk airport.
- Russian propaganda is attempting to use the fake story of an “attack on Putin's residence” as a pretext for escalation, but this version has been refuted by the US.
- The war is increasingly moving into a technological phase, where drones, reconnaissance, and strikes on the rear play a key role.
- Personnel decisions in Ukraine indicate a focus on digitalization, the use of drones in warfare, and increased strategic coordination ahead of 2026.

28.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ukrainian drones struck a number of Russian military targets in Crimea. It includes: the Valdai radar station (Chornomorske, Crimea), the radar reconnaissance complex control center (Chornomorske, Crimea), and the storage and launch base for MBEC (unmanned naval vessels) in Chornomorske, Crimea.</li> </ul>
29.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ “Everything is lost,” “we must pull out,” “we must save ourselves”... The question is: where should we withdraw to? Into the open field? Commander-in-Chief Syrskyi commented on calls to withdraw Ukrainian troops from Myrnohrad. “All these calls that ‘everything is lost,’ ‘we must pull out, save ourselves,’ ‘this makes no sense.’ The question is, where should we withdraw to? Go out into the open field, and then retreat, look for the next city, these settlements, which will also be destroyed. Such an agglomeration is difficult to destroy,” Syrskyi said. According to him, the enemy is now using almost 50% of all GAB strikes in this direction, trying to destroy buildings, especially multi-storey buildings, which can be used to station drone operators, firing positions, long-range weapons and snipers. Currently, Russian forces have not been successful in Pokrovsk, its surroundings, the direction of Hryshyne, or the Myrnohrad area. They have suffered losses but have not achieved success, the head of the Armed Forces of Ukraine added.</li> <li>➤ Lavrov accused Ukraine of attacking Putin's residence with drones. On the night of December 28-29, 91 drones attempted to strike Putin's residence, all of which were destroyed, the Russian Foreign Minister stated. According to Lavrov, Russia does not intend to withdraw from the peace process after this, but will “review its negotiating position.” The Kremlin's condition for ending hostilities is the complete withdrawal of the Ukrainian Armed Forces from the Donbas, Kremlin spokesman Peskov said.</li> </ul>
30.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Defense forces struck Donetsk airport, where the Russian occupiers are storing and preparing to launch Shahed drones. This was reported by SSU commander Robert “Magyar” Brovdi, The SSU strikes targeted: a logistics hub, a pre-flight training and maintenance facility, a central ammunition depot for UAVs, a storage facility, and a staging area for personnel and technical staff who train and perform pre-flight maintenance on UAVs.</li> <li>➤ Belarus unveiled the Oreshnik, which has allegedly already entered combat duty. According to the Russian and Belarusian defense ministries, a “solemn ceremony” was held there. Currently, Belarusian personnel are “mastering new combat patrol areas.” On December 18, Lukashenko announced the deployment of the Oreshnik in Belarus. President Zelenskyi reported that the Ukrainian side is aware of the location of the complex and has provided all this information to its international partners.</li> </ul>
31.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Throughout 2025, Russia attacked Ukraine with missiles and drones almost every day. Only four days were without alerts.</li> <li>➤ More than 10,000 Russian soldiers were captured during the full-scale invasion. On average, 60 to 90 Russian soldiers surrendered each week, and in August 2024, this figure reached 350 people per week. according to the project “I Want to Live”, most prisoners were taken in the Pokrovsk and Bakhmut regions of Donetsk oblast, Kursk oblast, and the Polohy district of Zaporizhzhia oblast.</li> <li>➤ Ukraine launched a record number of strikes on Russian energy facilities in December – Bloomberg. This month, Russia suffered at least 24 strikes on oil refineries, oil tankers, and other offshore facilities, as well as on pipeline infrastructure. According to the publication, these attacks are putting additional pressure on Russian exports, which are already struggling due to international sanctions against leading Russian oil producers.</li> <li>➤ The Defense Forces of Ukraine struck the Tuapse oil refinery in the Krasnodar Territory, Russia. A UAV strike on the refinery's area was recorded, followed by a fire. The primary oil processing unit and the deep processing unit for petroleum products were damaged. The Tuapse oil refinery is one of the ten largest refineries in Russia.</li> </ul>

## Losses of the Russian army from 28.12.2025 to 03.01.2026

Liquidated personnel	5,840
Tanks	27
IFVs	18
Artillery systems / MLRS	186/9
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	4
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	3 328
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	885
Special equipment	5



# Situation at the Front



31.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Tammneftegaz oil and gas terminal was also hit near the village of Volna in the Krasnodar Territory of the Russian Federation. The facility is designed for the storage and further transshipment of oil, petroleum products, and liquefied hydrocarbon gases. Two berths with oil loading terminals were confirmed to have been struck.</li> <li>➤ On the same night, Ukrainian UAVs attacked the federal state institution Temp in the city of Rybinsk, Yaroslavl oblast of Russia. The oil depot is engaged in the storage, reception, release, and accounting of strategic reserves, including petroleum products. The target was hit, and a fire was recorded at the facility.</li> <li>➤ In addition, the Defense Forces of Ukraine struck a riverboat base near Olenivka, in the occupied territory of Crimea, and enemy ammunition depots in the areas of the settlements of Blyzhnie and Siatel in Donetsk oblast.</li> </ul>
01.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ On New Year's Eve, the enemy attacked Ukraine with 205 strike UAVs. Air defense forces shot down/suppressed 176 enemy Shahed, Gerber, and other types of drones in the north, south, and east of the country.</li> <li>➤ The failure of the Russian special services — RDK commander Denis Nikitin is alive, and the half a million dollars received for his elimination will strengthen the DIU special forces. The murder of Denis Kapustin (also known as Denis Nikitin and White Rex), commander of the "Russian Volunteer Corps", which is fighting against Moscow as part of the Timur Special Unit of the Defense Intelligence of Ukraine, was ordered by the special services of the aggressor state of Russia, which allocated half a million dollars for the crime. As a result of a complex special operation by the DIU, which lasted more than a month, the life of RDK commander Denis Kapustin, whom Russian dictator Vladimir Putin considers a personal enemy, was saved. A circle of individuals involved in the crime within the Russian special services and its perpetrators was identified.</li> <li>➤ The CIA and the US National Security Agency have concluded that Ukraine did not attempt to attack Putin's residence. This was reported by the WSJ. Ukraine wanted to strike a military target that is actually located in the Novgorod oblast, but not near the Russian president's residence.</li> </ul>
02.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Kremlin is preparing a large-scale provocation with human casualties – the Foreign Intelligence Service. Following statements about Ukraine's alleged attack on Putin's residence, intelligence officers have recorded the Kremlin spreading "new falsified information to prepare Russian and foreign audiences for further escalation."</li> <li>➤ Minister of Digital Transformation Mykhailo Fedorov will become Ukraine's new defense minister, Zelenskyi stated. Mykhailo is deeply involved in issues related to Drone Line and works very effectively on the digitization of public services and processes.</li> </ul>

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# This week shelling and strikes



## Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of December 28:** Air defense neutralized 30 UAVs. Impacts of 18 UAVs were recorded at 9 locations.
- **Attack on the night of December 29:** Air defense neutralized 21 UAVs. Impacts of four attack UAVs were recorded at two locations.
- **Attack on the night of December 30:** Air defense neutralized a ballistic missile and 52 UAVs. Impacts of a ballistic missile and 8 attack UAVs were recorded at 5 locations.
- **Attack on the night of December 31:** Air defense neutralized 101 UAVs. Impacts of 20 attack UAVs were recorded at 11 locations.
- **Attack on the night of January 1:** Air defense neutralized 176 UAVs. Impacts of 24 attack UAVs were recorded at 15 locations.
- **Attack on the night of January 2:** Air defense neutralized 86 UAVs. Impacts of 27 attack UAVs were recorded at 23 locations, as well as the fall of downed UAV debris at two locations.
- **Attack on the night of January 3:** Air defense neutralized 80 UAVs. Impacts of 15 attack UAVs were recorded at 8 locations, as well as the fall of downed UAV debris at two locations.

## Donetsk oblast

- Throughout the week, Donetsk Oblast suffered attacks using aerial bombs, UAVs, and KAB guided bombs.
- On December 28, Russian forces struck the city of Sloviansk with three KAB guided bombs. As a result of the attack, one person was killed and three others were injured.
- On December 30, Russian forces shelled the city of Kostiantynivka with tube artillery. As a result of the attack, one person was killed.
- The following settlements were also affected by attacks:
  - Pokrovsk District: Kucheriv Yar, Hruzke, Hannivka, Dobropillia, Sviatohorivka.
  - Kramatorsk District: Lyman, Starodubivka, Mykolaivka, Andriivka, Kramatorsk, Serhiivka, Oleksiievo-Druzhkivka, Malynivka, Novopryhozhe, Oleksandrivka, Myrne.
  - Bakhmut District: Riznykivka.

## Sumy oblast

- On December 28, Russian forces attacked a woman with a drone while she was traveling along a road in the Mykolaivska rural community. As a result of the attack, she was injured.
- On December 29, Russia struck the Sumy community with guided aerial bombs. As a result of the attack, one person was injured.
- The following communities were also affected by attacks: Sad, Yunakivka, Myropillia, Khotin, Bilopillia, Krasnopillia, Hlukhiv, Khutir-Mykhailivskyi, Esman, Shalyhyne, Znob-Novhorodske, Nova Sloboda, Velyka Pysarivka, Bezdryk, Shostka, Putyvl, Konotop, and Romeny communities.

## Volyn oblast

- On the night of January 1, Volyn Oblast came under a massive attack by Russian UAVs. The target was critical infrastructure in the region. As a result of the shelling, buildings at a locomotive depot in Kovel were damaged. According to Volynoblenergo, more than 100,000 subscribers were left without electricity.

## Zaporizhzhia oblast

- Throughout the week, Zaporizhzhia Oblast suffered attacks involving UAVs and shelling from multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS).
- On December 29, Russian forces struck the city of Orikhiv using guided aerial bombs. As a result of the attack, one person was killed, and one other was injured.
- On December 30, Russian forces struck a vehicle traveling on a road in the village of Veselianka. As a result of the attack, one person was killed. The vehicle was also damaged.
- The following settlements were also affected by attacks: Ternuvate, Zaliznychne, Vozdvyzhivka, Verkhnia Tersa, Varvarivka, Rizdvianka, Stepanohirsk, Prymorske, Stepove, Huliaipole, Novoandriivka, Novodanylivka, Mala Tokmachka, Charivne, Solodke, Shcherbak, Dobropillia, Bilohiria, Zaporizhzhia, Voskresenka, Boikove, Sviatopetrivka, Chervonodniprova, Kushuhum, Balabyne, Novoslobidka, Malokaterynivka, Zaporozhets, Dorozhnianka, Liubyske, Hryhorivske, Dolynske, Richne, Shevchenkivske, Zelene, Bilenke, Zapasne, Pryluky, Tsvitkove, Marivka, Komyshevakh, Preobrazhenka, Mali Shcherbak, Dolynka, Mahdalynivka, Novomykolaivka, Pryvilne, Olenivka.

## Kharkiv oblast

- Throughout the week, Kharkiv Oblast suffered attacks using KAB guided bombs and UAVs.
- On January 2, Russian forces struck the city of Kharkiv with two Iskander-M missiles. As a result of the attack, five people were killed, including one child. In addition, 28 people were injured, including one child. A five-story building and part of an entrance section of a four-story apartment building were destroyed. Window glazing was damaged in 25 buildings, a hospital, and an educational institution; 33 vehicles were also damaged.
- The following settlements were also affected by attacks: Chuhuiv, Tsupivka, Velykyi Burluk, Petrivka, Baranivka, Pidvysoke, Hroza, Zolochiv, Novoplatonivka, Kupiansk, Prokopivka, Kindrashivka, Kivsharivka, Hrushivka, Vasylivka, Zlatopil, Odnorobivka, Cherkaski Tyshky, Prudianka, Tykhopillia, Staryi Saltiv, Kurylivka, Lisne, Lozova.

## Odesa oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian forces attacked Odesa Oblast using attack UAVs (Shahed and other UAVs), focusing strikes primarily on Odesa, Odesa District, and the region's port infrastructure (Odesa, Chornomorsk, Izmail). The main impacts hit residential areas, as well as energy and port infrastructure. In Odesa, four apartment buildings, private garages, and 14 vehicles were damaged; large-scale fires in apartments were recorded. The strikes caused disruptions to electricity, water, and heating supply, and emergency repair works were carried out. Logistics facilities (a Nova Poshta terminal) and port infrastructure in Odesa and Izmail were also damaged, including berths, equipment, transport, and machinery. No fatalities were recorded; 6 people were injured, including 3 children, among them an infant.
- In particular, on the night of December 31, Russian forces carried out a massive drone strike on Odesa, hitting two apartment buildings. Apartments on the second through sixth floors caught fire; six civilians were injured, including three children.
- On January 1, Russian forces attacked energy facilities and ports in Odesa Oblast using attack UAVs. Port infrastructure in Odesa and Izmail, as well as a logistics terminal, was damaged, leading to disruptions in the operation of critically important facilities.

# This week shelling and strikes



## Dnipropetrovsk oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian forces shelled Dnipropetrovsk Oblast using FPV drones, attack UAVs, tube and rocket artillery (including Grad MLRS), and KAB guided bombs. As a result of the attacks, dozens of private houses and apartment buildings were damaged or destroyed, along with outbuildings, shops, cafés, educational institutions, enterprises, and vehicles; fires were recorded, as well as damage to gas pipelines, power lines, and solar panels. Overall, 15 people were injured and no fatalities were recorded during this period.
- In particular, on December 27, Russian forces carried out a massive FPV-drone attack on Nikopol District, injuring two men. On December 31, Russian forces conducted one of the largest series of attacks on the oblast, striking four districts at once. In Synelnykove and Pavlohrad districts, six people were injured; residential buildings were destroyed or damaged, and civilian infrastructure was hit.
- Settlements under fire: Nikopol community: Nikopol; Marhanets community: Marhanets; Pokrovske urban community: Pokrovske; Pokrovske rural community; Myrove community; Chervonohryhorivka community; Vasykivka community (Synelnykove District); Petropavlivka community; Sloviansk community; Dubovykivka community; Bohdanivka community (Pavlohrad District); Zelenodolsk community (Kryvyi Rih District); Kryvyi Rih urban community: Kryvyi Rih.

## Mykolaiv oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian forces attacked Mykolaiv Oblast using FPV drones, attack UAVs, including Shahed-131/136 and Molniya-type UAVs. Damage was recorded to private residential buildings, a gas station, civilian vehicles, and critical infrastructure, causing power outages in parts of settlements in Mykolaiv District. No fatalities or injuries were recorded during this period.
- In particular, on January 2, Russian forces carried out a massive Shahed-131/136 UAV attack on critical infrastructure in the oblast, leaving parts of settlements in Mykolaiv District without electricity; emergency restoration works are ongoing.
- Areas under fire included the Ochakiv, Kutsurub, and Halytsynove communities, as well as the suburbs of Mykolaiv.

## Kyiv Oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian forces carried out massive and combined strikes on Kyiv Oblast and the capital, using attack UAVs, cruise missiles, and other means of aerial attack. Damage was recorded to critical infrastructure, apartment buildings and private houses, enterprises, shops, a dormitory, garages, and vehicles, with numerous fires in residential areas. During this period, 1 person was killed and 34 people were injured, including children.
- In particular, on December 27, Russian forces carried out a combined missile-and-drone strike on Kyiv and Kyiv Oblast, resulting in fatalities and dozens of civilian injuries; consequences were recorded in seven districts of the capital and six districts of the oblast. On December 31, Russian forces attacked Bila Tserkva with attack UAVs; two people were injured, and two apartment buildings were damaged in the city.
- Areas under fire included Kyiv, Bila Tserkva, and communities and settlements in Bila Tserkva and Obukhiv districts.

## Poltava oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian forces struck Poltava Oblast using missile weapons. Myrhorod District of Poltava Oblast was under fire. Damage to technological equipment at energy infrastructure facilities was recorded, and emergency restoration works were ongoing. No fatalities or injuries were recorded during this period.

## Kherson oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian forces shelled Kherson Oblast using FPV drones and other UAVs, airstrikes, and tube artillery. Critical and social infrastructure and residential areas were hit. Overall, 19 apartment buildings and 73 private houses were damaged, along with gas pipelines, cellular towers, outbuildings, and vehicles. As a result of Russian attacks during this period, 8 people were killed and 26 civilians were injured, including a child.
- In particular, on December 29, Russian forces carried out a massive artillery and drone attack on Beryslav District and coastal areas of Kherson Oblast, killing two people and injuring two others, including a child. From December 31 to January 1, Russian forces deliberately targeted civilians with FPV drones in Novovorontsovka and Kherson, killing two people and injuring 11 others; apartment buildings, private houses, and transport were damaged.
- Settlements under fire: Kherson, Antonivka, Sadove, Molodizhne, Prydniprovsk, Dniprovsk, Sofiivka, Stepanivka, Zymivnyk, Nadezhdivka, Nadiivka, Shyroka Balka, Tomyna Balka, Oleksandrivka, Romashkove, Posad-Pokrovske. Bilozerka community: Bilozerka, Kizomys, Yantarne, Velytske, Mykilske, Novodmyrivka, Stanislav, Shyroka Balka, Oleksandrivka, Tomyna Balka, Ivanivka, Poniativka, Novotiahynka, Beryslav, Zolota Balka, Odradokamianka, Mylove, Mykhailivka, Kachkarivka, Zmiivka, Burhunka, Llove, Rakivka, Dudchany, Vysoke, Kalynivske, Novoraisk, Kostyrka, Novovorontsovka, Osokorivka, Tiahynka, Chervonyi Maiak, Monastyrsk, Kozatske, Vesele, Olhivka, Blahovishchenske, Zorivka, Neznamne, Rozlyv, Bilousove, Berehove, Chereshenky, Shevchenkivka, Novooleksandrivka, Blahodatne, Znamianka.

## Chernihiv oblast

- Throughout the week, Russian forces shelled border areas of Chernihiv Oblast using FPV drones, attack UAVs ("Geran-2," "Shahed," "Molniya"), mortars (82 mm and 120 mm), tube artillery, automatic grenade launchers, and explosive drops from UAVs. Damage and destruction were recorded to private and apartment residential buildings, outbuildings, garages, a starosta office, energy facilities, vehicles (including civilian and service vehicles), a farming enterprise, power outages across parts of the territory, and livestock deaths. Overall, 5 civilians were injured and no fatalities were recorded during this period.
- In particular, on December 30, Russian forces carried out a series of attacks on the Novhorod-Siverskyi area using FPV drones and Molniya-type UAVs. In the villages of Chaikyne and Kostobobriv, two men were injured when civilian vehicles were hit; one of them was delivering bread. On December 31, Russian forces attacked the center of Novhorod-Siverskyi with two Geran-2 attack UAVs. In a residential area, private houses, an apartment building, and garages were damaged.
- Settlements under fire: Novhorod-Siverskyi community: Buchky, Bohdanove, Krasnyi Khutir, Smiach, Yasna Poliana, Chaikyne, Kostobobriv, Kamin, Novhorod-Siverskyi; Semenivka community: Semenivka, Arkhypyvka, Yanzhulivka, Liskivshchyna, Zoria, Lubiane, Medvedivka, Bleshnia, Zarichchia, Serhiivske, Karpovychi, Pushkari, Leonivka, Oleksandrivka, Lohy, Hremiach; Snovsk community: Huta-Studenetska; Horodnia community: Senkivka; Koriukivka community: Shyshkivka; Baturyn community; Kozelets community.



# The week of shelling

Kyiv oblast



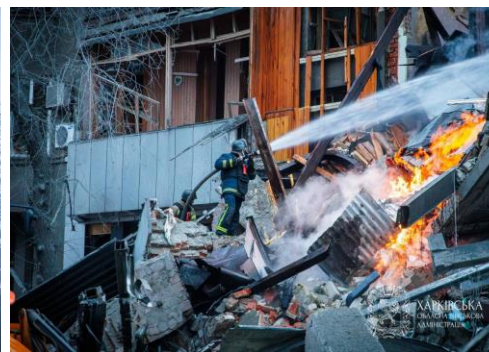
Chernihiv oblast



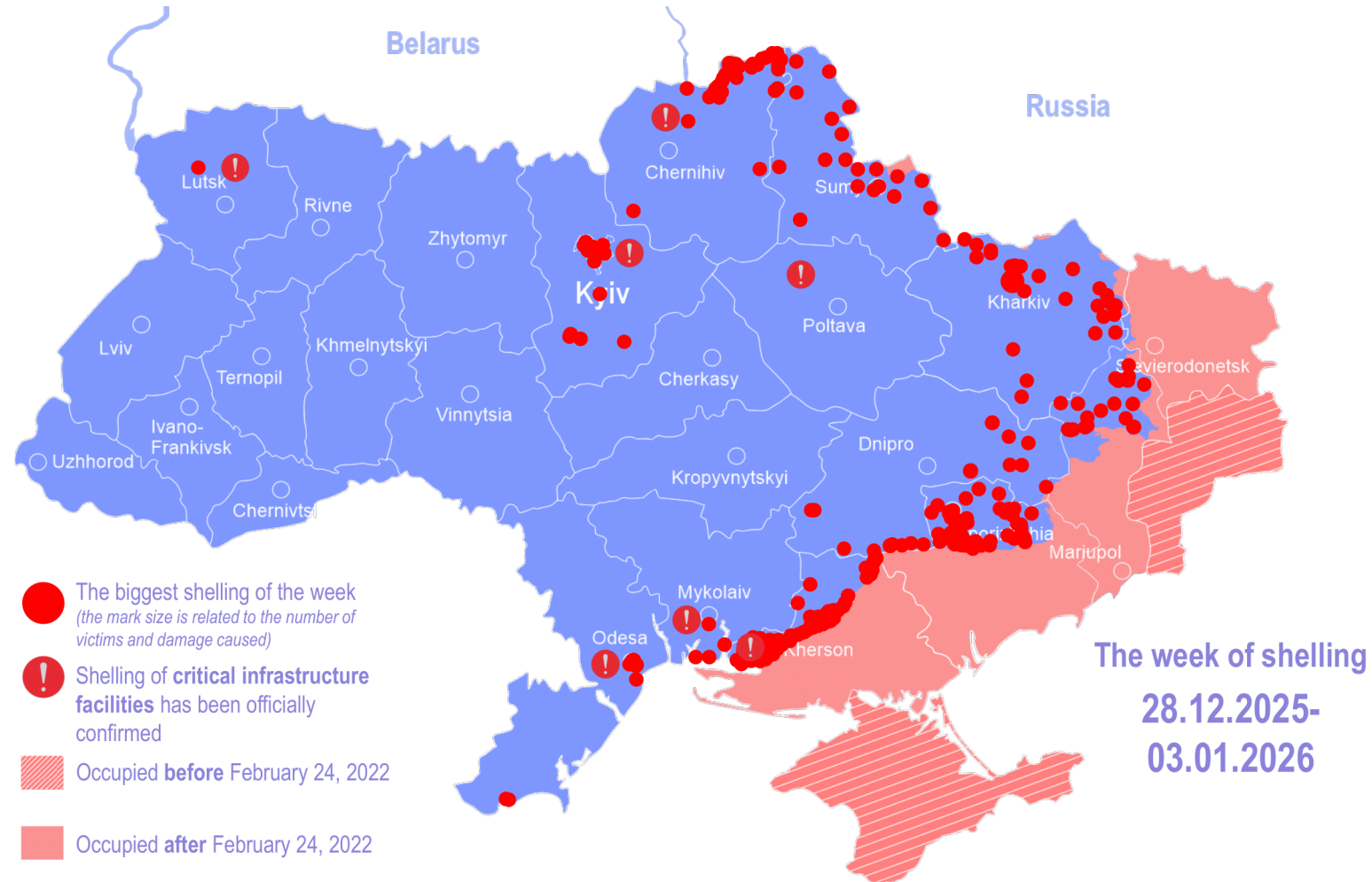
Zaporizhzhia oblast



Kharkiv oblast



Mykolaiv oblast





## Violations of International Humanitarian Law by Russia

- Russian occupiers struck an eco-park in the suburbs of Kharkiv with a KAB guided aerial bomb. As a result of the explosion, a 40-year-old female volunteer was hospitalized with blast injuries. The attack destroyed bird enclosures and winter shelters for predators, lions were also injured.
- Another war crime was recorded in Pokrovsk: Russian soldiers allegedly killed seven civilians. According to Ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets, the occupiers broke into the basement of a residential building, demanded alcohol from a father and son, and, after they refused, shot them and the rest of the family who were present. Only one wounded person survived.
- Near the village of Shakhove in Pokrovsk District, representatives of the aggressor state's army executes two Ukrainian prisoners of war. After capturing them, the occupiers forced one of the defenders to undress at gunpoint, then shot both unarmed soldiers and removed the clothing from one of the deceased.
- A tragic incident occurred near Huliaipole, where the occupiers shot three servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Soldiers from one of the brigades were tasked with taking up positions previously abandoned by another unit but fell into an ambush by Russian forces already present at those positions.
- A massive attack on port infrastructure in Odesa Oblast on December 30 resulted in damage to two civilian vessels – Emmakris III and Captain Karam, which was awaiting grain loading. In addition to destruction at the ports of Pivdennyi and Chornomorsk, the enemy also struck a railway station in Konotop, damaging freight railcars.
- The Russian leader signed a law that officially allows Russia to ignore decisions of international courts. According to the document, the Kremlin refuses to comply with rulings issued by bodies whose jurisdiction is not based on international treaties deemed favorable to the Russian Federation or on direct resolutions of the UN Security Council.

## International support

- Japan has transferred approximately €47.7 million in grant assistance to Ukraine and approved the launch of a new phase of the Emergency Recovery Programme. The funds will be directed toward priority areas, including the demining of de-occupied territories, repairs to energy infrastructure, and the restoration of water supply systems, all of which are critical to the functioning and resilience of local communities.
- Pope Leo XIV has delivered three trucks of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, containing 100,000 portions of ready-to-eat food. In addition to food assistance, the Pontiff provided financial support to families forced to leave their homes and seek refuge as a result of the war, expressing solidarity with those experiencing displacement.



## Situation in the Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOTs) and Evacuation

- In temporarily occupied Mariupol, the invaders officially opened the “restored” Drama Theatre, where hundreds of civilians were killed by a Russian airstrike at the beginning of the full-scale war. At the site of the tragedy, the occupiers staged a festive show with singing and dancing, attended by the leader of the so-called “DPR”, Denis Pushilin, the Governor of St. Petersburg, Alexander Beglov, and actor Vladimir Mashkov.
- The situation at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant remains critical: as a result of hostilities on the night of January 3, one of the high-voltage power lines was disconnected. The Russian army continues to deliberately destroy energy infrastructure and to carry out illegal tests aimed at connecting the plant to the Russian power grid.
- Former Mykolaiv journalist and collaborator Andrii Dvoretskyi, who heads a local branch of the “Combat Brotherhood” organization, is conducting activities aimed at the militarization of youth in Skadovsk. During so-called “lessons of courage,” schoolchildren are shown photo exhibitions that glorify the occupiers and justify the destruction of Ukrainian cities, thereby embedding Russian narratives into the educational process.
- Due to daily intensive shelling, the authorities of Chernihiv Oblast have announced the mandatory evacuation of residents from 14 border villages. Communities in the Novhorod-Siverskyi, Semenivka, Snovsk, and Horodnia districts are under threat. Despite the fact that more than 1,400 people have already left the danger zone this year, approximately 300 residents remain in the border area.
- Crimean political prisoner Lenur Khalilov, who was released from a Russian penal colony in August due to his critical health condition, has been imprisoned again. He was returned to Correctional Facility No. 1 in Arkhangelsk, despite the medical grounds that had led to his previous release.

## Infrastructure and Energy

- Due to massive Russian attacks on energy infrastructure, as of the morning of January 2, some residents in Zaporizhzhia and the surrounding oblast remain without electricity. According to the Ministry of Energy, enemy strikes were also recorded in Mykolaiv Oblast and other frontline regions, where restoration work is currently underway.
- Russian artillery inflicted severe damage on the Kherson Combined Heat and Power Plant, which had been the primary source of heating for tens of thousands of city residents. As a result of the shelling, the facility sustained significant destruction, and one of its employees was hospitalized. Naftogaz of Ukraine, in coordination with local authorities, is developing contingency measures to ensure heat supply to the city.
- On New Year's Eve, Russian forces attacked with drones energy infrastructure in Odesa and Volyn Oblasts. In Odesa, a fire at one of the facilities caused power outages at critical infrastructure facilities across the city. In Volyn Oblast, sites in Lutsk and the Kovel district were struck, leaving more than 100,000 consumers without electricity.

