Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

August 16 – 22

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International situation

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

- **Humanitarian diplomacy and US efforts to return deported Ukrainian children continue.** Thanks to the mediation of US First Lady Melania Trump, who last August sent a letter on the matter to the head of the Kremlin, it has been possible to reunite 34 children separated as a result of Russia's armed aggression with their families. The American side stresses that the humanitarian dimension remains a priority, with a focus on family reunification. The total number of returned Ukrainian minors currently stands at 2,470. The scale of the problem, however, remains critical: around 1.6 million more Ukrainian children remain under Russian Federation control in the temporarily occupied territories or as a result of forcible transfer and deportation.
- **The United States continues to use non-public diplomacy mechanisms in search of a way out of the negotiating deadlock.** Rodney Mims Cook Jr., Chair of the US Commission of Fine Arts, travelled to Russia on a diplomatic passport, where, during the economic forum in St Petersburg, he held talks with senior Kremlin officials, including Anton Kobyakov, a senior aide to the Russian president. The visit took place against the backdrop of active hostilities: while the American representative was on Russian territory, a Ukrainian drone strike was recorded against a local oil refinery. Although the US Secretary of State had previously said he was unaware of this delegation, such missions point to Washington's attempts to engage unconventional envoys in order to maintain unofficial channels of communication with the Russian leadership.
- **Ukraine is stepping up dialogue with its American allies on the urgent expansion of air defense systems ahead of the winter period.** During the meeting between the President of Ukraine and former US special representative Keith Kellogg, the participants discussed the consequences of Russian missile terror against civilian infrastructure and the need to strengthen anti-ballistic defense. The main priority identified is the uninterrupted supply of interceptors for Patriot air defense systems, which Ukraine is ready to purchase itself. In parallel, Kyiv is briefing partners on its work with European countries on building its own comprehensive anti-ballistic system. Despite efforts to create a European missile shield, it is precisely the American Patriot systems that remain an indispensable component of the country's defense this winter.

International Support

- Financial and humanitarian support for Ukraine continues to focus on restoring critical and cultural infrastructure, as well as on assistance to refugees. Germany will allocate EUR 50 million to repair the Chornobyl NPP protective arch, which was damaged in February, plus another EUR 50 million >>
- >> for humanitarian support and EUR 10 million for the NATO fund. Switzerland, for its part, will provide around USD 730,000 for the preservation of the Kyiv Pechersk Lavra, which was damaged by Russian shelling in June, as announced by Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha.
- At the same time, neighbouring countries are taking stock of their sheltering of Ukrainians: Poland has granted protection to 1.73 million people, spending over PLN 10 billion on large-scale assistance, with the majority of Poles actively involved in supporting refugees.
- **Strategic coordination with partners is intensifying ahead of new visits and negotiations on defense capabilities.** The President of Ukraine held a nearly two-hour conversation with French leader Emmanuel Macron on accelerating deliveries of advanced weaponry and granting licenses for missile production, as well as on coordinating diplomatic steps with the team of the US president.
- **European states are preparing new mechanisms of economic and political pressure on Russia while simultaneously revising their domestic migration and security rules.** This autumn the European Union plans to present the largest sanctions package since the start of the war, which will increase the number of sanctioned individuals and companies by a third, according to EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Kaja Kallas. Nevertheless, debates over visa policy continue within the EU: Latvian Prime Minister Andris Kulbergs sharply criticized the refusal of a number of countries to introduce a full entry ban for Russian military personnel as part of the new package of restrictions.
- In Germany, meanwhile, amid espionage suspicions and a drone incident near Leipzig, the authorities are considering terminating a special agreement and **closing the "Russian House"** in Berlin.
- In addition, Hungary has **closed the high-profile case** launched in the spring against cash-in-transit couriers of Ukraine's Oschadbank, as the investigation ultimately found no criminal origin of their cargo.
- Moldovan President Maia Sandu confirmed **the need to preserve the transit of Ukrainian grain**, which is critically important for Ukraine to obtain the funds needed to counter the aggression.

Other Developments

- Myanmar's military junta has launched a large-scale security operation in the south of the country to clear territories for the development of the Dawei special economic zone, which is backed by the Russian Federation. Since July, hundreds of soldiers have been deployed to the Tanintharyi region, where, with air support (including Russian fighter jets) and naval forces, they are pushing out local >

- >> resistance forces, sources report. During the offensive, the military is destroying settlements, burning down houses and blockading adjacent areas, which is causing new casualties among the civilian population and humanitarian workers. Implementation of this project, which envisages the construction of a deep-water port and energy infrastructure, will give Moscow a strategic presence in the Indian Ocean and an alternative trade route to Asian countries. In the longer term, this will allow Russia to expand its economic influence in the region and partially offset losses from Western sanctions.

Military Support

- **Ukraine has enshrined localization terms for the production and maintenance of foreign combat aircraft in its existing contracts with international partners.** Agreements on the supply of Western aircraft for the needs of the Armed Forces of Ukraine now contain direct commitments by international corporations to facilitate the deployment of production and repair capacities on Ukrainian territory. Leading aviation manufacturers have expressed full readiness to transfer technology and set up local service centers, as reported by the Commander of Aviation of the Ukrainian Air Force, Colonel Oleksandr Diakiv. This step allows Ukraine to gradually reduce its dependence on complex cross-border logistics when repairing equipment and lays the infrastructural foundation for the independent production of critical aviation components over the long term.
- **The key areas of strategic cooperation are the arrangements with Sweden on Gripen fighter jets and the negotiations with France on the licensed production of components for Rafale aircraft.** Sweden is one of the main partners ready for deep integration of its industry with Ukraine's defense sector. Under a potential contract for the supply of up to 150 JAS 39 Gripen fighter jets, Sweden's Saab intends to open a dedicated facility in Ukraine for their final assembly. Successful implementation of this project will provide the Air Force with modern aircraft specifically adapted for decentralized use from dispersed airfields. In parallel, work continues on bringing French defense technologies into the domestic production loop. Ukraine's prospective plans to acquire up to 100 Rafale multirole fighters are accompanied by discussions on a partial transfer of technology, as relevant analysts note. Although full localization of such multi-component systems is rare on the global market, launching the production of individual fuselage elements would significantly strengthen the position of Ukraine's military-industrial complex within European supply chains.
- **Ukraine is also intensifying cooperation with neighboring states to ensure uninterrupted maintenance of its existing aircraft through mutually beneficial exchange mechanisms.** Ukraine's Ministry of Defense is negotiating with Poland to obtain specialized diagnostic equipment and operating documentation for aircraft repairs. In exchange for the transfer of additional MiG-29 fighter jets and related equipment, the Ukrainian side has officially offered to supply a range of domestically produced unmanned systems. This barter format makes it possible to promptly maintain the combat readiness of the Soviet-era aircraft fleet while also promoting innovative Ukrainian technologies on NATO markets.

Situation at the Front

Key Events of the Week:

- The intensity of combat operations remained high: 1,605 combat engagements were recorded during the week, with daily figures ranging between 202 and 244 and a gradual decline from the peak on August 18 through August 22.
- The Pokrovsk sector remained the main focus of Russian assault operations (209 attacks per week), with daily figures reaching 33 to 34 on August 16 to 18.
- The Kostiantynivka sector retained its status as the second key center of combat activity, with approximately 187 attacks during the week.
- The Sloviansk sector also remained one of the key areas of Russian pressure in the Donetsk region, with approximately 120 assault actions there during the week.
- Russian offensive pressure also persisted outside the central section of the Donetsk front, notably in the Southern Slobozhanshchyna (approximately 83 attacks), Huliaipole (approximately 71), and Lyman (approximately 47) sectors.
- The air component remained intensive: 641 airstrikes and 2,063 guided aerial bombs were recorded during the week, with peak values on August 20 (including 330 KABs).
- The scale of Russian attack UAV use remained very high, while Russia simultaneously continued to use missiles (including a combined strike on Kyiv, Kremenchuk, and Kryvyi Rih on August 16).
- Ukraine's defense forces systematically struck the enemy's UAV logistics and command structures throughout the week (command posts, relay stations, UAV and ammunition depots, bridges), including reported strikes on several relay stations in Crimea and UAV command posts on August 18 and 20.
- Ukrainian long-range strikes were concentrated on Russia's fuel and energy infrastructure and, to a lesser extent, its military-industrial infrastructure: reported strikes hit the Lukoil-Permnefteorgsintez, TANECO, and Novokuibyshevsk refineries, as well as the Tamanneftegaz oil terminal and a number of oil-loading and port facilities.
- The overall picture of the week indicated a continuation of a war of attrition at high intensity, with Russia sustaining ground assaults supported by aviation, KABs, and drones, while Ukraine simultaneously increased pressure on the enemy's rear, fuel, and logistics infrastructure.

16.08

- On the night of August 16, the enemy carried out a combined attack on Ukraine, including on Kyiv, Kremenchuk, and Kryvyi Rih, using missiles of various types (including Onyx, ballistic Iskander-M/S-400/KN-23, and guided air-launched Kh-59/69) as well as 106 Shahed attack UAVs. According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 212 combat engagements were recorded over the preceding 24 hours.
- On the night of August 16, Ukraine's defense forces reported strikes on Russian military targets aimed at reducing its missile capabilities and logistics. In particular, they reported striking the concentration area of a Russian missile unit in Rezervne (temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea) and a railway bridge near Svitlodolynske (Zaporizhzhia region) that the enemy uses for military logistics.
- There were also reports of strikes on material and technical supply and ammunition depots in Karlivka (Donetsk region).
- Separately, as a clarification of the results of a previous strike, there were reports on the consequences of the strike on the Russian defense-industrial enterprise Kombinat Kamensky (Rostov region, Russia), which produces explosives, powders, and rocket propellant components: 2 production shops were reported destroyed and 4 damaged.

17.08

- On the night of August 17, Russian forces attacked with 128 Shahed attack UAVs. According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 236 combat engagements were recorded over the preceding 24 hours.
- On the night of August 17, units of Ukraine's defense forces reported strikes on Russian military targets in temporarily occupied Crimea and in the south, aimed at reducing its attack UAV capabilities. In particular, they reported striking an attack UAV storage, preparation, and launch site near Hvardiiske (temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea), causing a fire, as well as an Orion UAV ground control station in Novofedorivka (temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea).
- There were also reports of a strike on a Geran/Gerbera-type UAV ground control relay station near Olenivka (temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea) and a UAV relay communication and power point on the Tendrivska Spit (Kherson region), which may affect the enemy's ability to sustain drone control.

18.08

- On the night of August 18, the enemy attacked with 147 Shahed attack UAVs (including jet-powered variants). According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 244 combat engagements were recorded over the preceding 24 hours.
- On August 17 and the night of August 18, Ukraine's defense forces reported strikes on enemy command and support targets. In particular, they reported striking an ammunition depot in Karlivka (Donetsk region), five UAV command posts (Belgorod region, Russia, and Zaporizhzhia region), and a Russian military command post near Terny (Donetsk region).

19.08

- On the night of August 19, the enemy used 2 Iskander-M ballistic missiles and 65 Shahed attack UAVs. According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 239 combat engagements were recorded over the preceding 24 hours.
- On the night of August 19, units of Ukraine's defense forces reported strikes on enemy targets aimed at reducing its logistics and drone capabilities. In particular, they reported striking a road bridge over the Molochna River near Molochansk (Zaporizhzhia region), which is used for military logistics.

Losses of the Russian army from 16.08.2026 to 22.08.2026	
Liquidated personnel	7 820
Tanks	20
IFVs	47
Artillery systems / MLRS	351/17
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	13
Aircraft / helicopters	1/0
UAVs	11 069
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	2 771
Special equipment	29

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Situation at the Front

19.08	➢ There were also reports of strikes on three UAV depots (Novopetrykivka and Novotroitske in the Donetsk region and Lobacheve in Luhansk region), as well as a Geran/Gerbera-type attack UAV ground control relay station near Olenivka (temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea) and a UAV command post near Verkhnii Rohachyk (Kherson region). ➢ Among other targets, they reported striking a material and technical supply depot in Kadiivka and a weapons and equipment concentration area in Lysychansk (Luhansk region). ➢ Separately, as a clarification of the results of a previous strike, there were reports on the consequences of the August 15 strike on the Progress Rocket Space Center in Samara (Russia): damage was confirmed to shops linked to the production and maintenance of aviation equipment, along with a fire covering an area of approximately 5,000 square meters (according to the Ukrainian side).
20.08	➢ On the night of August 20, the enemy attacked Kyiv region with missiles, Banderol loitering munitions, and 168 Shahed attack UAVs. According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 234 combat engagements were recorded over the preceding 24 hours. ➢ On August 20 and the night of August 21, Ukraine's defense forces reported strikes on Russian targets to reduce its attack UAV and command capabilities. In particular, the Armed Forces of Ukraine struck attack UAV storage, preparation, and launch sites near Donetsk, as well as a material and technical supply depot in Novosilske (temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea). ➢ There were also reports of strikes on two enemy command posts (in Zaporizke in Donetsk region and Kobylne in Zaporizhzhia region) and on six Geran/Gerbera-type attack UAV ground control relay stations in temporarily occupied Crimea (Stereguche, the Olenivka area, and Chornomorske), which may affect the stability of communications and the operational range of enemy drones. ➢ Separately (on August 19 and the night of August 20), Ukraine's defense forces reported strikes on Russian fuel infrastructure facilities supporting logistics and supply. In particular, units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine struck the TANECO refinery in Nizhnekamsk (Tatarstan, Russia) and the Tamanneftegaz oil terminal in Volna (Krasnodar Krai, Russia); the consequences and extent of the damage are being clarified.
21.08	➢ On the night of August 21, the enemy attacked with 135 Shahed attack UAVs. According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 238 combat engagements were recorded over the preceding 24 hours. ➢ On the night of August 21, units of Ukraine's defense forces reported strikes on Russian targets aimed at reducing the enemy's fuel-logistics and aviation capabilities. In particular, they reported striking the Lukoil-Permnefteorgsintez refinery in Perm (fire; the facility is located more than 1,500 kilometers from Ukraine's state border) and the Marynivka airfield in Volgograd region, Russia (consequences being clarified). ➢ As a clarification of the results of previous strikes, it was reported that, following the August 20 strike on the Akhtubinsk airfield (Astrakhan region, Russia), damage to a Su-34 aircraft and a fuel spill at the facility were confirmed; the airfield is used, among other things, to base Su-34 aircraft employed for guided aerial bomb strikes.
22.08	➢ On the night of August 22, the enemy attacked Ukraine with missiles, Banderol loitering munitions, and 217 Shahed attack UAVs. According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 202 combat engagements were recorded over the preceding 24 hours. ➢ On August 22, units of Ukraine's defense forces reported strikes on Russian fuel infrastructure facilities supporting logistics and supply. In particular, they reported striking fuel and lubricant storage tanks at the Yeisk oil-loading complex (Krasnodar Krai, Russia), causing a subsequent fire; the extent of the damage is being clarified. ➢ Damage was also confirmed (from August 20) to one Niobium radar station and 18 warehouse buildings used for UAV storage near the Primorsko-Akhtarsk airfield (Krasnodar Krai, Russia), which may affect the enemy's radar coverage and drone capabilities. ➢ Separately, on the night of August 22, there were reports of a strike on facilities of the Novokuibyshevsk refinery (Samara region, Russia), causing a fire; the consequences are being clarified.

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Anti-aircraft warfare systems	13
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Special equipment	29

This week shelling and strikes

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Massive attacks per week

- **Attack on the night of August 16:** Air defense neutralized 88 enemy targets. The main directions of the strike were Kyiv, Poltava, and Dnipropetrovsk regions. Hits by enemy air attack means were recorded at 13 locations, and debris from downed targets fell at 3 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 17:** Air defense neutralized 106 of 128 UAVs. Hits by enemy drones were recorded at 14 locations, and debris from downed targets fell at 2 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 18:** Air defense neutralized 111 of 147 UAVs. Hits by enemy drones were recorded at 19 locations, and debris from downed targets fell at 3 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 19:** Air defense neutralized 58 enemy targets. Hits by enemy air attack means were recorded at 10 locations, and debris from downed targets fell at 3 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 20:** Air defense neutralized 186 enemy targets. The main direction of the strike was Kyiv region. Hits by enemy air attack means were recorded at 28 locations, and debris from downed targets fell at 2 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 21:** Air defense neutralized 107 enemy targets. Hits by 27 attack UAVs were recorded at 16 locations, and debris from downed targets fell at 3 locations.
- **Attack on the night of August 22:** Air defense neutralized 191 enemy targets. The main directions of the strike were Kyiv and Odesa regions. Hits by enemy air attack means were recorded at 41 locations, and debris from downed targets fell at 12 locations.

Donetsk oblast

- Over the course of the week, Donetsk region was subjected to multiple launch rocket system (MLRS) fire as well as UAV and aerial bomb (FAB-250) attacks, with Kramatorsk and Sloviansk hit hardest. In Kramatorsk, a series of strikes between August 16 and 20 killed 5 people and injured a further 23 (including 1 child); on August 20, 22 apartment buildings, commercial facilities, a library, and critical infrastructure sites were damaged. In Sloviansk, on August 19 to 20, 1 person was killed and 9 were injured, including as a result of a Tornado-S MLRS strike. On August 21, an airstrike on the settlement of Bilbasivka caused 1 death and 2 injuries. In total across the episodes cited: 7 dead and at least 34 injured, including 1 child.
- The following settlements were also affected by attacks during the week:
  - Pokrovsk district: Bilozerske, Novoviktorivka.
  - Kramatorsk district: Maiaky, Raihorodok, Kurytsyne, Iverske, Stepanivka, Druzhkivka, Mukolaivka, Donetske, Starovarvarivka, Ocheretyne, Krasnotorka, Cherkaske, Oleksandrivka, Novyi Kavkaz, Novodonetske, Mykhailivka, Myrna Dolyna, Samiilivka, Serhiivka, Holubivka, Novobakhmetieve.

Odesa oblast

- Over the course of the week, the Odesa region was subjected to attacks using jet-powered drones, cruise missiles, and attack drones against residential areas, port, transport, and border infrastructure, as well as civilian vessels. In total, 22 people were injured (including 3 children). The most significant consequences were recorded on August 16 to 17: on August 16, a strike on a shopping center in a suburb of Odesa injured 7 people (including a child), and a separate strike causing residential building damage injured a further 5; on August 17, an attack on a civilian vessel in the port injured 4 people, and later that day a combined missile and drone strike injured 6 people (including two 16-year-olds). On August 20 to 21, reports indicated attacks on border crossing points with Moldova with no casualties, along with temporary power outages in the south of the region; on the night of August 22, strikes on infrastructure in Rozdilna/Sovinion injured 1 person.
- The following areas came under fire: Odesa, Odesa district, Izmail district (Reni), Bolhrad district, Rozdilna, and the Black Sea waters.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

- Over the course of the week, the Zaporizhzhia region was subjected to MLRS fire and attacks using UAVs (including FPV drones) and guided aerial bombs (KABs) against communities in the region and the regional center. The most severe consequences were recorded in communities near Zaporizhzhia: on August 16, a KAB strike on Viktorivka killed 2 people, and on August 17 to 19, attacks on Zaporizhzhia killed 2 people and injured 7 (with a separate report of damage to an apartment building). A series of strikes on Kushuhum between August 18 and 22 resulted in 1 death and 13 injuries, along with building damage. Casualties were also recorded during the week in other settlements: in Yasna Poliana, Novosolone, and Komyshuvakha, a total of 3 people were killed and at least 4 were injured. In total across the episodes cited, 7 dead and at least 25 injured.
- In addition, the following settlements came under attack during the week: Malokaterynivka, Novomykolaivka, Hryhorivka, Trudove, Novokasianivka, Barvynivka, Ternivka, Novosolone, Preobrazhenka, Tymoshivka, Omelnyk, Svoboda, Babashi, Chervonyi Yar, Chervona Krynytsia, Soniachne, Chervonodniprovka, Lysohirka, Richne, Veselianka, Zaporozhets, Zapasne, Novotroitske, Matviivka, Ukrainka, Liutserna, Veselyi Hai, Stepnohirsk, Prymorske, Stepove, Pavlivka, Lukianivske, Orikhiv, Zaliznychne, Shcherbaky, Novoandriivka, Novodanylivka, Mala Tokmachka, Bilohiria, Charivne, Novoselivka, Huliaipilske, Hirke, Staroukrainka, Dolynka, Kopani, Verkhnia Tersa, Vozdvyzhivka, Tsvitkove, Kosivtseve, Nove, Novoiakovlivka, Tavriiske, Zirnytsia, Yuliivka, Zelena Dibrova, Svitla Dolyna, Marianivka, Mykilske, Vasynivka, Myrivka, Nove Zaporizhzhia, Balabyne, Kamiane, Ternuvate, Rozumivka, Novohupalivka, Shevchenkivske, Tersianka, Mykhailo-Lukashevo, Zhovta Krucha, Novooleksandrivka, Prydorozhnie, Dobropillia, Pryluky, Maksymivka, Stepne, Helendzhyk, Sviatopetrivka, Novorozivka, Krynivka, Vilniansk, Shchaslyve, Bilytske, Solone, Zarichne, Boikove, Zalyvne, Yehorivka, Natalivka, Antonivka, Vasylkove, Pidhirne.

Kharkiv oblast

- Over the course of the week, the Kharkiv region was subjected to attacks using KABs, UAVs, and Banderol missiles, with significant civilian losses. The most severe consequences were recorded on August 18 in the settlement of Pechenihy, where a missile strike killed 10 people and injured a further 18, with damage to private homes and civilian infrastructure (retail outlets, a post office, transport). On the same day in Izium, 5 people were injured (including 1 child) and private homes were damaged. On August 21, an attack on the village of Lebiazhe caused 2 deaths and 2 injuries, with residential buildings damaged; separately, 1 person was injured in a UAV attack on Kharkiv. In total across the episodes cited: 12 dead and at least 26 injured, including 1 child.
- The following settlements were also affected by attacks during the week: Izium, Zlatopil, Zemlianky, Hurynivka, Bohodukhiv, Troitske, Ivanivka, Tsyrkuny, Mala Rohan, Blyzniuky, Zolochiv, Vesele, Husarivka, Verbivka, Buhaivka, Slatyne, Balakliia, Zariabynka, Sukhyny, Dovzhyk, Klynova-Novoselivka, Kravtsivka, Vysoke, Volokhiv Yar, Barvinkove, Rubizhne, Petrivka, Hnylytsia, Stepok, Velyka Komyshuvakha, Lisne, Derhachi, Sadove, Stetskivka, Bratenytsia, Velykyi Burluk, Ivanivka, Pavlivka, Odradne, Lozova, Malynivka, Martove.

Other Regions

- **Poltava region**: Over the course of the week, Poltava region was subjected to drone attacks against civilian and industrial/infrastructure facilities. On August 20, a fire broke out in the Kremenchuk district due to falling UAV debris; that same evening, reports indicated shelling of the Omelnyk community with damage to private homes, an Ukrposhta branch, and shops. On August 22, a fire broke out at a farming enterprise in Myrhorod district, and a massed strike in Poltava district damaged an Avrora retail chain distribution center and a railway infrastructure facility; State Emergency Service vehicles were damaged during follow-up strikes.
- **Zhytomyr region**: On August 19, Russian forces attacked Zhytomyr with jet-powered drones. A building of the regional Main Directorate of the National Police was hit, and yesterday's strike resulted in 3 dead and 53 injured. On August 20, a repeat strike hit the city, injuring 1 person.

This week shelling and strikes

Dnipropetrovsk oblast

- Over the course of the week, the Dnipropetrovsk region was subjected to daily strikes using attack UAVs, artillery, aerial bombs, and missiles against residential neighborhoods, industrial enterprises, and social and critical infrastructure facilities. In total, 18 people were killed, and 154 were injured (including 23 children). The most severe episode occurred on August 21 in Kryvyi Rih, where a strike on a shopping center killed 15 people and injured 130, including 23 children; injuries and damage were also reported during the week in Nikopol and Synelnykove districts.
- The following areas came under fire: Kryvyi Rih, Nikopol, Pavlohrad, Kamianske, Synelnykove, Apostolove; Nikopol district: Marhanets, Myrove, Pokrovske, Chervonohryhorivka communities; Kryvyi Rih district: Shyroke, Hrushivka, Zelenodolsk, Vakulove communities; Synelnykove district: Pokrovske, Vasylkivka, Slavhorod, Raiivka, Mykolaivka, Slovianka, Ukrainka, Rozdory, Petropavlivka communities; Dnipro district: Tsarychanka community; Pavlohrad district: Bohdanivka community; Kamianske district: Krynychky community; Samar district: Cherkaske, Mahdalynivka communities.

Mykolaiv oblast

- Over the course of the week, the Mykolaiv region was subjected to daily attacks using attack UAVs (including Shahed, Gerbera, and Molniia types) and FPV drones, and there were reports of the use of a Kh-22 cruise missile and artillery. Residential neighborhoods, port and industrial infrastructure, agricultural enterprises, commercial facilities, and civilian vessels came under fire. In total, 4 people were killed (including 3 children) and 3 were injured. The most severe consequences were recorded on August 21 in the Veselynove community (the village of Tokarivka): 4 dead (including 3 children) and 1 injured, with damage to a retail outlet, a pharmacy, and a Nova Poshta branch. On August 19, 1 person was injured in the Veselynove community, and a private home was damaged. On August 21, 1 person was injured in Ochakiv and an apartment building was damaged; in Chornomorka, a private home was damaged. Separately, on August 17, damage to port infrastructure, including a civilian vessel, and attacks on the Halytsynove community (a house, outbuildings, a bus, and a car damaged) were recorded, with no reports of casualties.
- The following areas came under fire: Bashtanka district: Horokhivka community (the villages of Barativka and Novotymofiivka), Snihurivka community (the city of Snihurivka); Mykolaiv district: Halytsynove community (the village of Lupareve), Kutsurub community, Ochakiv community (the city of Ochakiv), Chornomorka community (the village of Chornomorka); Voznesensk district: Veselynove community (the village of Tokarivka).

Sumy oblast

- Over the course of the week, the Sumy region was subjected to attack, UAV strikes, and MLRS fire, including against the regional center and border communities. On August 16, a UAV attack on Sumy killed 2 people and injured 1, with residential buildings damaged. Strikes continued on August 21 to 22: in Sumy, 6 people were injured (including 1 child); in Esman community, 1 person was injured; in Lebedyn community, a child was injured; and in Yampil community, 5 people were injured. In total across the episodes cited: 2 dead and at least 14 injured, including 2 children.
- The following communities were also affected by attacks during the week: Mukolaivka rural, Khotin, Yunakivka, Krasnopillia, Bilopillia, Shostka, Seredyna-Buda, Khutir-Mykhailivskyi, Novoslobidske, Velykopysarivka, Svesa, Putyvl, Bezdryk, Sad, Hlukhiv, Kyrykivka, Shalyhyne, Buryn, Konotop, Berezivka, Cherenechchyna, and Trostianets communities.

Kherson oblast

- Over the course of the week, Russian forces shelled the Kherson region daily, using airstrikes, drone attacks, and artillery against residential neighborhoods and critical and social infrastructure facilities. Reports indicated damage to 30 multi-story buildings and 78 private homes, as well as several civilian facilities (a museum, catering establishments, cultural centers, a shopping center, an administrative building, cell towers, transport vehicles, and medical vehicles). In total, during the week, 12 people were killed, and 82 were injured. The most intense consequences were recorded on August 19 to 21: on August 19, 6 dead and 20 injured; on August 20, 1 dead and 23 injured; on August 21, 3 dead and 13 injured. Shelling covered Kherson and dozens of settlements in the region.
- The following settlements came under fire: Kherson, Antonivka, Beryslav, Bilozerka, Blahovishchenske, Borozenske, Veletenske, Virivka, Vitrove, Vysoke, Havrylivka, Dariivka, Dniprovske, Dudchany, Zarichne, Zelenivka, Zymivnyk, Zmiivka, Zolota Balka, Ivanivka, Inhulets, Inhulivka, Inzhenerne, Kizomys, Komyshany, Kostyrka, Krasnosilske, Lymanets, Lozove, Liubymivka, Lvove, Mykilske, Mukolaivka, Mylove, Mykhailivka, Molodizhne, Nova Kamianka, Novovorontsovka, Novovoskresenske, Novoberyslav, Novodmytrivka, Novokairy, Novomykolaivka, Novoraisk, Odradokamianka, Oleksandrivka, Olhivka, Osokorivka, Petropavlivka, Poniativka, Prydniprovske, Pryozerne, Rakivka, Respublikanets, Rozlyv, Sadove, Sahaidachne, Sablukivka, Stanislav, Stepne, Stepanivka, Stepove, Stiike, Tavriiske, Tokarivka, Tomaryne, Tomyna Balka, Tiahynka, Ulianivka, Urozhaine, Fedorivka, Khreshchenivka, Chaikyne, Charivne, Chervone, Chervonyi Maiak, Chervonyi Yar, Shevchenkivka, Shyroka Balka, Yasna Poliana.

Chernihiv oblast

- Over the course of the week, the Chernihiv region was subjected to shelling involving FPV drones, attack UAVs (Gerbera, Geran, Molniia, Shahed), barrel artillery, and mortars; residential buildings, enterprises, a farm, energy and gas infrastructure, a preschool facility, and transport came under fire. In total, 4 people were injured. The most notable consequences were recorded on August 17 (damage to energy facilities and power outages, injuries in Chernihiv and Koriukivka district), August 20 (an attack on Pryluky: 2 injured, damage to housing and transport, a strike on gas infrastructure), and August 21 (damage to a preschool and an energy facility, new power outages). Shelling was recorded in border communities as well as in Chernihiv and Pryluky.
- The following areas came under fire: Novhorod-Siverskyi community (Krasnyi Khutir, Buchky, Mykhalchyna Sloboda, Kamianska Sloboda, Hremiach, Vylchyky, Vorobiivka); Semenivka community (Prohres, Semenivka, Yanzhulivka, Lohy, Karpovychi, Liskivshchyna, Arkhypivka, Zoria, Hazoprovidne); Snovsk community (Huta-Studenetska, Kliusy, Khrinivka); Horodnia community (Senkivka, Polissia); Koriukivka community (Shyshkivka, Kholmy community); Kozelets community; Baturyn community; the city of Mena; the city of Pryluky; the city of Chernihiv (including the village of Staryi Bilous near the city).

Kyiv oblast

- Over the course of the week, Kyiv region and the capital were subjected to massed strikes using ballistic and cruise missiles as well as attack UAVs, with residential neighborhoods and critical, social, and fuel infrastructure facilities coming under fire. Reports indicated damage to roughly 20 residential buildings, as well as a school, a children's hospital, a preschool, a metro station, a book market, publishing houses, a business center, industrial and warehouse facilities, a gas station, a retail chain distribution center, and transport; strikes on fuel and critical infrastructure caused large-scale fires. In total, 17 people were killed, and 56 were injured. The most severe consequences were recorded on the night of August 20 in Kyiv: 16 dead and 42 injured, with significant destruction and damage to housing and social infrastructure in several districts. On the same day in the Kyiv region, 1 person was killed, and 8 were injured, with reports of damage to private homes, warehouse buildings, a gas station, a multi-story building, and vehicles. On the night of August 16, 3 people were injured in Kyiv, and 3 people were injured in the Brovary district on the same day. On August 18, new damage was recorded in Brovary and Vyshhorod districts, with no casualties.
- The following areas came under fire: Kyiv; Brovary district (Brovary); Boryspil district; Vyshhorod district.

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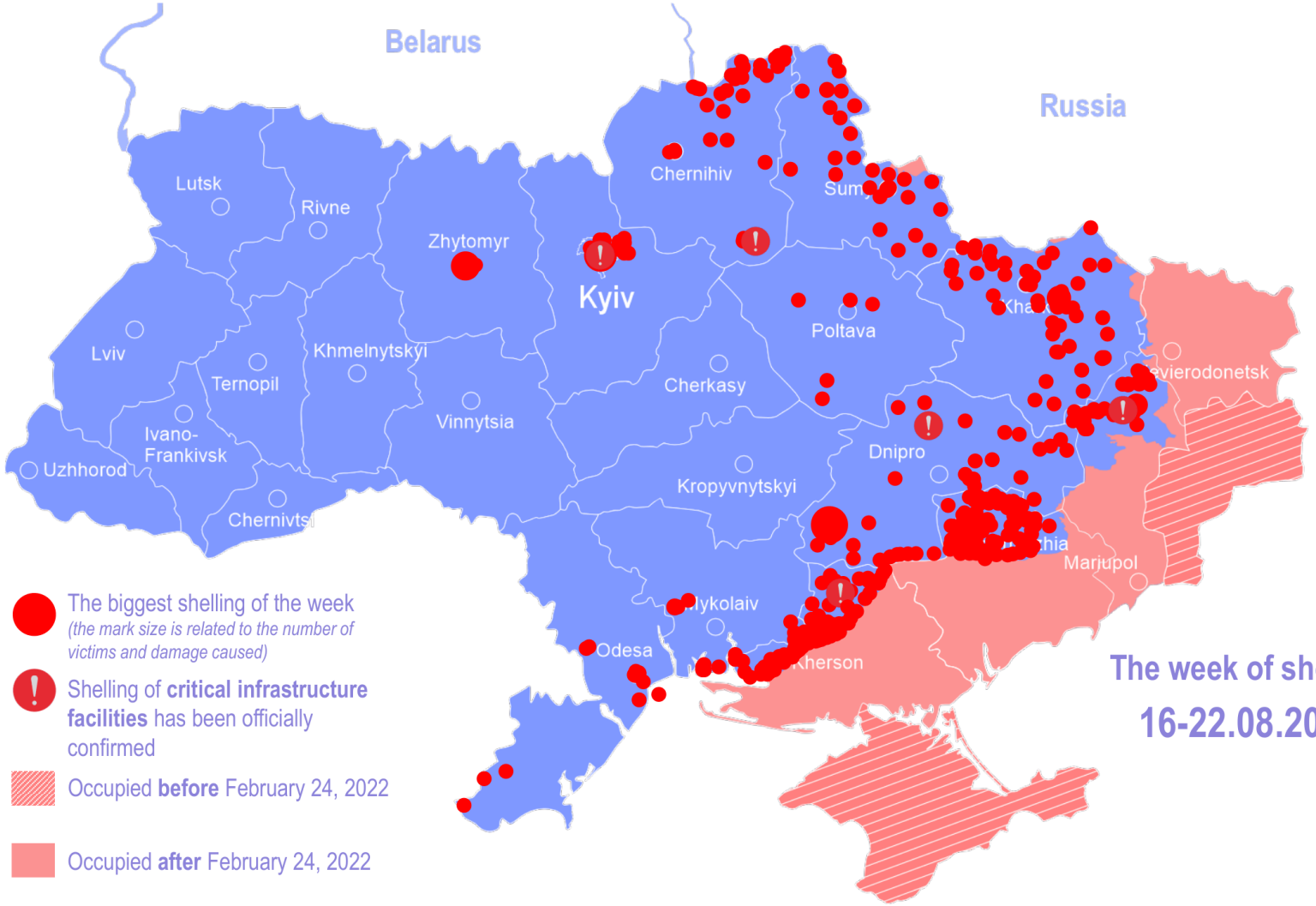
The week of shelling

Donetsk oblast

Sumy oblast

Kherson oblast



Odesa oblast

Dnipropetrovsk oblast

Kyiv

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Humanitarian situation

Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOT) and Evacuation

- In the temporarily occupied Kherson oblast, Russian security forces abducted 52-year-old former history teacher Hanna Pyrozhenko. After searching her home, the woman was taken to an unknown destination, and it later turned out that she is being held in Henichesk without officially filed charges. According to a manager of the Crimean Tatar Resource Center, when Hanna's husband tried to find his wife, the occupiers detained and beat him.
- Ukraine has returned another six children aged 10 to 17—four girls and two boys—from the temporarily occupied part of Kherson oblast.
- DIU published data on 10 people and 2 organizations involved in the militarization and Russification of Ukrainian children in the temporarily occupied territories. According to the DIU, children are taught how to handle weapons, explosives, and drones, and Russian militaristic propaganda is spread among them. The information was published in the "Child Kidnappers" section of the War&Sanctions portal.
- In small settlements of the temporarily occupied Luhansk oblast, there are no post offices, pharmacies, or shops, and food is delivered only twice a week by mobile shops.
- In the temporarily occupied Kherson oblast, the civilian population remains without a stable water supply for months. Water in Kakhovka is supplied for only 1–1.5 hours once every 4–6 days at low pressure, which often does not even reach houses. Despite the total lack of utility services, the occupation Regional Water Utility charges locals full price for the service.

Other

- Ukraine has returned another 103 service members from Russian captivity. Among those released are members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the Navy, Territorial Defense, the National Guard, and border guards. Most have injuries or severe illnesses. This was announced by President Volodymyr Zelenskyi.
- In Ukraine, medicines under the "Affordable Medicines (Dostupni Liky)" program began to be delivered by drones to remote villages and frontline communities. Such a mechanism is already operating in two oblasts, with about 60,000 packages of drugs delivered by drones.
- On the coast of the "Tuzly Lagoons" National Nature Park in Odesa oblast, the bodies of six more Black Sea cetaceans were found over the last five days. According to estimates by national park specialists, more than 100,000 Black Sea cetaceans have died during the 4.5 years of war.
- In Ukraine, farmers have already harvested almost 31 million tons of new crop grain, threshing 56% of the projected area. Wheat was harvested the most, 23.8 million tons.

Violations of International Humanitarian Law by Russia

- During August 16–22, 2026, **Russian troops repeatedly attacked civilian transport**. At least 5 attacks on minivans, minibusses, buses, and civilian cars were recorded. On August 17, Russian troops dropped explosives from drones on a minibus and a route taxi in the Korabelnyi district in Kherson, leaving two drivers severely injured. On August 19, Russian occupiers attacked a route taxi with a drone in the same district of the city (four people were killed, and five others were injured). On the same day, Russians attacked a civilian car in Kherson, killing a woman. On August 20, a municipal enterprise bus came under attack (three workers were injured). On the evening of August 21, Russians used a UAV to attack a route taxi in Zaporizhzhia, severely injuring 3 people. In addition, it was reported that on the evening of August 15, on the way out of Nikopol towards Dnipro, the Russian military hunted civilian cars by targeting passenger cars and a scheduled bus with strike drones. Earlier, the Defense Intelligence of Ukraine informed that units of the Russian occupation army were ordered to intensify drone strikes on civilian infrastructure and motor transport in frontline and border areas.

International Support

- Since the beginning of 2026, Ukraine has received 4,658 units of energy equipment from international partners—generators, transformers, boiler houses, and cogeneration units. More than 1.2 thousand units of equipment are expected to arrive, including 832 generators and 266 transformers.
- With the assistance of the Belgian agency Enabel and the support of the BE-Relieve program, two modernized operating rooms for craniomaxillofacial surgery were opened at the Kyiv Regional Hospital, where victims of the war will receive assistance. Belgian 3D technologies and individual implants will be used for complex reconstructive operations. The total amount of assistance to the Kyiv Regional Hospital is 1.755 million euros. In addition, Kyiv received three fire trucks from the Brussels Capital Region Fire and Emergency Medical Service.
- In Zaporizhzhia oblast, 50 mobile shelters are planned to be installed by the end of October with the support of the UN Refugee Agency. UNHCR will also increase assistance to residents of the oblast affected by Russian attacks.

Infrastructure, Energy and Economy

- Another blackout occurred at the temporarily occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP—the station lost external power supply and switched to backup diesel generators. This is the 15th loss of external power at the ZNPP since the beginning of 2026.
- In the Nikopol district of Dnipropetrovsk oblast, anti-drone nets have already been installed along 45 km of roads to protect transport from attacks by Russian FPV drones.
- Over the past week, Russia has attacked Naftogaz facilities 13 times involving drones and missiles in various oblasts of Ukraine. As a result of the strikes, equipment and production facilities were seriously damaged, some facilities were shut down, and gas production decreased. No employees were injured. In total, since the beginning of 2026, the Russian Federation has attacked Naftogaz facilities 293 times.