

# News From Ukraine

Russian Invasion of Ukraine  
12:00 noon December 14 to  
12:00 noon December 16, 2023

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## Euromaidan Ebook

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### Ebook Covering the First Week of Russia's Latest Invasion of Ukraine

For those of you who would like to receive the Ebook containing our emails sent over the first week of Russia's latest invasion of Ukraine, in return for a contribution of your choice to support our work, please click on the link [HERE](#). Producing each one of these emails takes around 6 man hours, or an average of around 30 man hours per week (assuming 5 emails/week). Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

#### The Strategic Situation (3 articles)

Where would we all be without Estonia? This analysis, entitled "[Setting Transatlantic Defense Up For Success](#)," is by the Defense Minister of Estonia.

The report states, "We are in the midst of a battle of wills. Our strategic task is to change Russia's war calculation and remove any outlook for success via military force or diplomatic means at the expense of Ukraine. **The prospect of Ukraine having no other choice than to negotiate with Russia from a position of weakness** is not only daunting, but undercuts our values, interests, and objectives.

"It is pertinent to follow a renewed military strategy that will ensure

Ukraine's victory, Russia's defeat, and sets the transatlantic defence up for success. With decisive political will, we can afford to increase both military and economic pressure and **bring attrition on the Russian side in the war against Ukraine to a breaking point.**" (My **Bold Face**)

As to the statement that Ukraine has "no other choice than to negotiate with Russia from a position of weakness," this has been the same statement from the pundits and the newspapers of record since at least February 2015, beginning with Minsk II.

This report lays out a relatively low-cost strategy for bringing Russia to the breaking point. For context, the article points out that today, the total military expenditures for Ukraine by all members of the Ramstein Contact Group is approximately 95 billion Euros, or around 0.2% of the Group's combined GDP – 47 trillion Euros. Admittedly, much of this, around 40%, is from the U.S.

["The High Price of Losing Ukraine"](#)/Institute for the Study of War

"Conclusion - This brief paper evaluates only the narrow question of some of the military-strategic and financial tradeoffs of various possible outcomes of the Russian war in Ukraine. We have considered elsewhere the important question of possible Russian escalations in the face of defeat and we do not minimize those considerations.[10] We have argued strongly that American values align with American interests in Ukraine and that there is a strong and cogent values-based argument for helping Ukraine liberate all its land and its people.[11] We still believe that that is true."

**"But the American people are being asked to spend a lot of money helping Ukraine fight Russia,** and it is not unreasonable for them also wonder what the financial cost of not helping Ukraine would be. This essay is meant solely to serve as a departure point for a data-driven and realistic discussion answering that question." (My **bold face**)

This leads directly to this analysis by Timothy Ash, entitled "[Debt Financing – Ukraine and FRA](#)," where Ash argues that the IMF and other donors are whistling into the wind, when they conclude that it isn't necessary to confiscate \$330 billion of frozen Russia Central Bank assets for the benefit of Ukraine. I do have 1 criticism of this article – it's necessary to have an index of acronyms. I have no idea what "FRA" means.

Ash states, "I think this base assumption that the Western taxpayer will write whatever cheque that needs writing is fatally flawed and the IMF should scenario plan for such an out-turn. Actually given the problems Biden is having getting the \$61bn thru Congress, the high chances of a Trump victory and all Ukraine financing stopping, then divisions in the EU - Orban, Fico, Wilders, Le Pen (?) how can the IMF be so assured that such huge financing figures can be assured for the next decade for Ukraine."

I wonder if Kristalina Georgieva, the President of the IMF, is willing to get on U.S. national television and make this argument to the American taxpayer, that "they'll write whatever cheque that needs writing."

Taking these articles together, the 3 authors are making the case that if the the objective is Ukraine's victory, defined as re-taking all territory lost after 1991, it's no longer possible for Western leadership, writ large, to behave as if they have feet of clay, but at the same time there are achievable solutions, at reasonable cost, to ensure Ukraine's victory.

**["People Snatchers': Ukraine's Recruiters Use Harsh Tactics to Fill Ranks"](#)/NY Times**

The writer of this article is a candidate for the "Defensive Crouch Award" given the late Managing Editor of the Washington Post, Benjamin Bradlee, to a reporter who misses a story, or part of a story. First, the activity of taking Ukrainians off the street for dodging the draft didn't start during Russia's latest invasion. It goes

back to at least the start of the Donbas Invasion in 2014, when it was discovered that, on his way out the door, former President Yanukovich destroyed Ukraine's draft records. Second, to me, the story seems more about Ukraine's ability to maintain due process for those who were taken, in the face of a manpower shortage. Instead, the intent of the article seems to be attempting to paint Ukraine and the Russian Federation with the same brush.

### News From the Battlefield

From the latest "[Reporting From Ukraine](#)," he suggests that Ukraine is returning to hitting Russian logistics in the South, and in Crimea, to slow Russian attacks in the East. He mentions that in one strike Ukraine used an ATACMS missile. This is the first time I heard of an ATACMS being used in over month. Reports suggest that Ukraine got only 20 ATACMS, with cluster warheads and shorter range, thus impractical for hitting a high-value target like the Kerch Bridge.

Thank you, President Biden!

### 12/16/2023 Sitrep

Abbreviations:

RMA = Regional Military Administration SBU = Security Service of Ukraine

RASHISTS = russian Facists/all russian invaders

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Saturday, December 16**

6:38 AM: The Netherlands supported the inclusion of Bulgaria in the Schengen area.

6:38 AM: The IDF has admitted to mistakenly killing three hostages in Gaza.

6:38 AM: Switzerland handed over DNA profiling systems to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine.

6:38 AM: In 2023, a record turnover of goods between Ukraine and Turkey was recorded.

- Trade between the countries reached a record level of \$8 billion.

6:38 AM: The Israeli government has allowed the checkpoint on the border with Gaza to reopen. (

- The Cabinet of Ministers voted to restore the Israeli checkpoint "Kerem Shalom" for the arrival of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip for the first time since the beginning of the war on October 7.

7:16 AM: "I didn't change the number": Macron reacted to Putin's words about the lack of dialogue.

- French President Emmanuel Macron has said that he is considering talks with Putin if he is ready to establish peace in Ukraine.
- "I didn't start a war unilaterally, violating the treaties I agreed to. And it wasn't France that decided to commit war crimes in the north of Ukraine, which made discussions practically impossible. Well, you have to be serious, that's why I have a very simple position. I didn't change my number," he said, implying that Putin could call him at any time.

7:50 AM: More than 12,000 accounts were found on TikTok that were spreading Russian narratives.

- According to the platform, posts on the video-sharing site targeted Ukrainian, Russian and many European users, with content intended to "artificially reinforce pro-Russian narratives" about the war.
- Some accounts were falsely labeled as news outlets.

8:00 AM: Moldova will join the agreement on the international register of damages caused to Ukraine by Russian aggression.

8:00 AM: The Israeli government has allowed the checkpoint on the border with Gaza to reopen.

9:49 AM: Finland again protection border from Russia, — Over.

- Vaalimaa and Nierala checkpoints stopped working on the evening of December 15, a day after they opened. The reason is the renewed influx of refugees, which the Finnish Ministry of Internal Affairs attributed to the "influence of a foreign state."

10:50 AM: Europe has 5-8 years to rearm against new threats, - Pistorius.

- According to the head of the German defense ministry, Boris Pistorius, the potential threats are that Russia has significantly increased the production of weapons to withstand the invasion of Ukraine, and has also threatened the Baltic states, Georgia and Moldova.
- Meanwhile, the US is likely to reduce its military involvement in Europe as it begins to focus more on the Indo-Pacific region.

### Friday, December 15

12:19 PM: Movement trucks on border with Slovakia gradually unlocks, — State Border Service.

- According to the information received by the Ukrainian border guards yesterday evening, the representatives of the Slovak transporters unblocked the traffic of trucks entering Slovakia in front of the "Vyshne-Nemetske" checkpoint for an indefinite period.

1:16 PM: Germany ordered for of Ukraine production almost 70 thousands ammunition, — site budgetary committee Bundestag of Germany.

- According to the report, the French defense company will supply 155 mm ammunition for the Ukrainian armed forces in the amount of 278 million euros.

4:22 PM: The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development will allocate €150 million to Ukraine to support energy security.

- This was announced by the Prime Minister of Ukraine, Denys Shmyhal.

4:32 PM: The EU found a way around Orbán's blocking of €50 billion in aid to Ukraine

- Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban vetoed the adoption of the EU's decision on the €50 billion budget aid program for Ukraine and put forward his demands, but the EU found a way around the block. Bloomberg writes about it.

6:22 PM: Germany announced the allocation of a €6.1 million humanitarian aid package for Ukraine, — the German Foreign Ministry.

- It will include generators, blankets, tents and batteries.

6:56 PM: The EU is preparing a tranche of €1.5 billion for Ukraine "in the coming days" — this is the last tranche in the program this year.

- This was stated by the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen.
- "This will help finance costs in early 2024, creating a small but important bridge," she said.

7:18 PM: A new EU summit will be held at the beginning of 2024, at which they will discuss the provision of €50 billion to Ukraine.

- This was announced by the President of the European Council, Charles Michel.
- Michel noted that 26 out of 27 EU countries have already supported the revision of the budget until 2027, which provides for the provision of appropriate funds to Ukraine.
- "The only country that imposed a veto is Hungary."

8:18 PM: Two Ukrainian Leopard 2 tanks were repaired in Lithuania, they will soon return to the front, — the Ministry of Defense of Lithuania.

8:18 PM: In Bulgaria, pro-Russian parties block parliament over

demolition of Soviet monument, Euractiv.

8:18 PM: Austrian Chancellor Karl Nehammer skips Russia sanctions agreement at EU summit, Politico

8:18 PM: Canada will transfer 4 helicopters to Latvia to deter possible Russian aggression, — Ministry of Defense of Canada.

9:44 PM: A court in Poland overturned a ban by local authorities on border protests in Dorohusk.

- Polish carriers have already announced another blockade of the border, which will begin in the night from Sunday to Monday.

11:00 PM: The Meta Supervisory Board found the removal of content about "Azov" illegal and restored the post

- In December 2022, a user from Ukraine published a post on Instagram with an image of the symbol of the "Azov" regiment, on top of which was placed a text with the question "where is Azov?".
- The post stated that more than 700 Azov fighters were in Russian captivity at the time. The user called for the return of all "Azovians" from captivity. This post has received almost 800 views. Meta's automated systems detected it and removed it from the platform based on its policy on dangerous organizations and individuals, which prohibits content with the endorsement, support and representation of organizations and individuals that Meta classifies as "dangerous".

11:40 PM: Ukraine was elected vice-chairman of the UNESCO Committee for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in the Event of Armed Conflict.

- \_"This is another victory of Ukrainian cultural diplomacy. We are sincerely grateful to our international partners from UNESCO for another decision in favor of the protection of Ukrainian heritage, which is part of world culture. Such events



unite nations!"\_ - said acting . Minister of Culture and Information Policy Rostislav Karandeev.

11:47 PM: Finland will investigate whether the commander of the "Rusych" group is involved in war crimes in Ukraine

- After Kyiv refused to extradite the leader of the neo-Nazi Russian group "Rusich" Ian Petrovskyi, the Finnish prosecutor's office decided to start a pre-trial investigation into his alleged involvement in war crimes in Ukraine. This is reported on the website of the Finnish Prosecutor General's Office.
- "The Deputy Prosecutor General of Finland has decided to conduct a pre-trial investigation by the Finnish authorities in the case in which Russian citizens who are currently in custody in Finland are suspected of war crimes," the message reads.

## **NATIONAL**

**Saturday, December 16**

1:03 AM: Current air alert map as of 01:00

- Movement of Attack Drones:
  - Attack Drones in the area of Pervomaysk, heading north-west
  - Several groups of Attack Drones through Kherson in the northern direction.
  - Attack Drones in the Uman district of the Cherkasy region, heading west.
  - Attack Drones enter the Chernihiv district from the north, heading south-west.

2:38 AM: Air Force reports movement of Attack Drones:

- Attack Drones in the Chernihiv region (Nizhyn) heading south.
- Attack Drones in the western part of Vinnytsia, probable direction of movement to Starokostyantyniv.
- Attack Drones in Boryspil district, heading south.

- The threat of attack drones and missile danger remains for Kyiv until the air alert is lifted.

7:23 AM: Summary of the General Staff as of 06:00 on December 16:

- During the day of December 15, there were 96x combat engagements. The enemy launched a total of 2x missile and 23x air strikes, 40x MLRS attacks at the positions of Ukrainian troops and various settlements.
- Last night, the russian occupants launched yet another attack on Ukraine, using 31x Shahed-136/131 strike UAVs. The Ukrainian air defense forces and means destroyed 30x strike UAVs.
- Air strikes hit Krasnyi Khutir, Hremyach, Halahanivka (Chernihiv oblast), Volfyne (Sumy oblast), Maryinka, Maksymilyanivka, Pobjeda, and Novomykhailivka (Donetsk oblast).
- More than 130x settlements in Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, and Mykolayiv oblasts came under artillery fire.
- During the day of December 15, the Ukrainian Air Force launched 7x air strikes on the concentrations of troops, weapons, and military equipment of the adversary. Also, the Ukrainian air defense destroyed 1x Kh-59 guided missile during the day of December 15.
- The Ukrainian missile troops hit 4x concentrations of troops, weapons, and military equipment, and 2x ammunition depots of the russian invaders.

### **Khortytsia operational-strategic group**

**Kupyansk axis:** Ukrainian defenders repelled 9x enemy attacks in the vicinity of Synkivka (Kharkiv oblast).

**Lyman axis:** Ukrainian defenders repelled 5x enemy attacks east of Terny, Yampolivka, (Donetsk oblast), and Makiivka (Luhansk oblast).

**Bakhmut axis:** the Ukrainian troops repelled 18x attacks of the

adversary near Bohdanivka, Ivanivske, Klishchiivka, and Andriivka (Donetsk oblast). The Ukrainian Defense Forces continue inflicting losses in manpower and equipment on the enemy, and consolidate their new positions.

### **Tavria operational-strategic group**

**Avdiivka axis:** the occupiers keep trying to encircle Avdiivka. The Ukrainian soldiers are standing their ground as they inflict major losses on the enemy. In doing so, the Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled 20x attacks of the adversary east of Novobakhmutivka, Avdiivka, and 14x more attacks east of Stepove, south of Sjeverne and Pervomaiske (Donetsk oblast).

**Maryinka axis:** the Ukrainian Defense Forces continue to hold back the enemy in the vicinities of Krasnohorivka, Maryinka, and Novomykhailivka (Donetsk oblast). The Ukrainian defenders successfully repelled 13x attacks in that area.

**Shakhtarske axis:** the Ukrainian soldiers repelled 2x attacks of the occupiers near Staromaiorske (Donetsk oblast).

**Zaporizhzhia axis:** the Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled 8x adversary attacks west of Novopokrovka and south of Robotyne (Zaporizhzhia oblast).

**Odesa operational-strategic group, Kherson axis:** the Ukrainian troops maintain their positions held on the left bank of the Dnipro River, conduct counter-battery fire, and strike behind the enemy lines.

8:30 AM: G7 nears decision to confiscate frozen Russian assets for Ukraine, - FT.

- It is noted that the US, which previously did not publicly support confiscation, told allies that it had found a way to withdraw the funds "in accordance with international law."

9:35 AM: The number of skirmishes and airstrikes has decreased, but

the Russians are actively bringing in artillery and infantry: the situation in the Taurian direction.

- As Oleksandr Tarnavskiy, commander of the "Tavria" air defense system, reported, in the "Tavria" operational area, last day, Russian invaders carried out 6 airstrikes, carried out 55 combat clashes and fired 601 artillery shells.
- The defense forces firmly hold the defense and carry out active actions in the designated areas.

10:34 AM: In Mariupol, partisans blew up the car of a Russian officer, Andryushchenko.

- It is noted that the explosion took place on Nesterova Street in the Primorsky District. Currently, according to Andryushchenko, the officer is in the Mariupol hospital.
- "The detonation itself happened simultaneously with Mariupolska Bavovna, which made it possible to hide him from the attention of the police and the FSB until he was hospitalized," the mayor's adviser wrote.

11:15 AM: Ukraine is planning a new counteroffensive in 2024, - Welt.

- For this purpose, Ukraine is probably gathering resources for new operations.
- "The publication declares that Ukraine has big plans. This is evidenced by the list of weapons that the Ukrainian leadership handed over to the United States. Previously, the list was published by Reuters journalists, there were Black Hawk and Apache helicopters, as well as F-16 and F-18 fighters, missile systems long-range, Abrams tanks, numerous drones and ammunition," the message reads.

11:43 AM: Kirovohrad, Cherkasy, Poltava, Kharkiv regions - missile danger! — Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

**Friday, December 15**

12:46 PM: Three days in a row, the occupiers carry out 80 assaults in the Tavria direction

- "The occupiers are not reducing the number of combat clashes in the operational zone of the Tavria Air Defense Forces. Three days in a row - about 80 assaults per day. Most of them are in Donetsk region. Assault groups are mainly up to 20 people. They operate, in particular, with the support of armored vehicles," he noted. .
- According to him, yesterday, December 14, there was an increase in the number of airstrikes again, the enemy is using aerial bombs.

1:53 PM: Over 95% basic stations mobile link Kyivstar restored, in ago number of - work 4G,reported V companies.

- Specialists continue to restore data services.

4:02 PM: The enemy is trying to break into the residential sector: military expert Snegiryov on the situation in Avdiivka.

- Currently, fighting is taking place at the level of Kolosova Street and the Vynogradniki Garden Society

4:34 PM: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine welcomed the decision at the EU summit to create a €50 billion Ukrainian fund for 2024-2027.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expects to complete all legal procedures in January 2024, after which funding will begin.
- The funds will go to support macroeconomic stability, restoration and modernization of the state, as well as to accelerate integration into the EU.

5:09 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyi held a meeting of the Congress of local and regional authorities, which took place in Lviv.

- "\_And if someone in any position, either in the state or in local self-government bodies, for some reason believes that the war is "somewhere out there", and he can supposedly deal with anything else - let's say, a priority issue - then this a big mistake that needs to be corrected," the president said during his speech.

5:24 PM: "The Russian owners of "Kyivstar" deliberately staged an attack so that Ukraine would start the nationalization process," - political technologist Zagorodny

6:06 PM: Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, the Russians have already injured 1,158 Ukrainian children.

- This was reported by Ukrainian Ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets.
- According to him, the Russians have already deported more than 19,540 children, and these are only those who have been verified.

6:45 PM: The Ministry of Defense of Ukraine is interested in direct deals with British arms manufacturers and is ready to sign long-term contracts.

- This was stated by the head of the Ministry of Defense, Rustem Umyerov.
- According to him, the goal of the ministry for the next year is to localize the production of weapons on the territory of Ukraine.

7:40 PM: The Security Service of Ukraine has declared the head of the Orthodox Church of Patriarch Kirill wanted.

7:57 PM: Air defense is operating in the temporarily occupied Crimea, local social networks report.

8:36 PM: Damages from the blockade of the Ukrainian-Polish border reach UAH 9.2 billion, - Svyridenko

- According to her, the State Customs Service of Ukraine did not receive 9 billion 2 million hryvnias.

- "For us, one of the priorities for next year is to ensure stable exports. And for this, we need more air defense. We have already created a military risk insurance program for ships. It should be operational within a few days," Svyridenko said.

9:08 PM: The village head can form and sign subpoenas on his own, Defense Minister of Ukraine Rustem Umyerov said.

- \_"The head of the village has the right to personally form and sign summonses, in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers resolution No. 352," he said.

9:59 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of 18:00 on December 15:

- During the day there were \_82 combat clashes\_. The enemy launched 2 rocket and 11 air strikes, launched 17 attacks from rocket salvo systems on the positions of our troops and populated areas.
- The defense forces will continue to maintain their position on the left bank of the Dnieper in the Kherson region. They will continue to inflict fire damage on the enemy.
- Aviation of the Defense Forces struck 7 areas of concentration of personnel, weapons and military equipment of the enemy.
- Units of the missile forces hit \_4 areas of concentration of personnel, \_ weapons and military equipment and 2 warehouses of enemy ammunition.

10:10 PM: We say death - not today: the SBU has a unique unit of combat medics who have already saved the lives of hundreds of Ukrainian soldiers

- Their activities are classified, but the SBU disclosed some details and showed previously unknown footage of the work of the doctors of the Security Service's TsO "A". Under fire, they perform extremely complex operations, even on the heart.

- "We qualitatively destroy the enemies, and they qualitatively bring back our brothers from the other world. 10-15 kilometers from the front line, doctors carry out extremely complex surgical interventions," said the Head of the SBU, Vasyl Malyuk.

10:33 PM: "Kyivstar" specialists have enabled access to the mobile Internet in the entire territory controlled by Ukraine, the company's press service reported.

- "On December 15, the company's specialists enabled access to the mobile Internet in the entire territory controlled by Ukraine. The service works in all communication standards, including 4G. The service may work at a reduced speed, but as the network stabilizes, its quality will improve." - the message says.

10:54 PM: Judge Oleksiy Tandyr transferred the property to his wife and divorced her, media reports.

- In fact, he got rid of the property, the arrest of which was requested by the family of the fallen National Guardsman Vadym Bondarenko.

11:03 PM: Current air alert map as of 11:00 p.m

- Movement of shock Attack Drones:
  - Several groups in the Lubensky district of the Poltava region, heading west (Kyiv Oblast/Cherka Oblast).
  - Attack Drones in the Zaporozhye region.
  - From Mykolayiv region in the direction of Kirovohrad region.
  - From the Kherson region in the direction of the Mykolaiv region.
  - Attack Drones in the eastern part of Chernihiv region in the western direction.

**MORDOR - ruZZia**

**Saturday, December 16**



6:20 AM: Explosions rang out in Sevastopol and Dzhankoya. Occupants announced a massive attack by Attack Drones.

- The occupation administration said that 26 drones were allegedly shot down in Crimea.

8:00 AM: Drone attack on the Kursk region of the Russian Federation: the authorities have traditionally reported alleged downed Attack Drones. Power lines, 8 buildings and a compressor station were damaged.

### **Friday, December 15**

2:50 PM: Putin lied about the number of Russians fighting against Ukraine — intelligence estimates put the number of invaders at about 450,000.

- Andriy Yusov, representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Ukraine, stated this.
- We will remind you that during his press conference yesterday, the dictator said that there are allegedly 617,000 Russian soldiers at the front in Ukraine.

4:47 PM: Air defense is operating in the sky over the Russian city of Kursk, local authorities report.

6:54 PM: Russian propaganda promotes the fake that during the shelling, 5 launchers of the Patriot air defense system were destroyed near Zhytomyr

- The Center for Combating Disinformation writes about it.
- According to Russian propagandists, Russia practically destroyed the annual production of MIM-104 missiles with one blow.

9:23 PM: Victorious news of the 660th day of the war: "Secret Santa" transferred 100 million for a salute to the occupiers, a series of explosions in Kursk, and partisans blew up an enemy train in

## Melitopol

- In the Kursk region of the Russian Federation, explosions rang out for an hour, partisans in Melitopol blew up a train used by the occupiers to transport fuel and ammunition, and secret Santa transferred UAH 100 million for the New Year's salute for the enemies

## REGIONS

### KYIV



### Saturday, December 16

12:05 AM: Kyiv region - missile danger, the Air Force reports.

12:07 AM: Vitaliy Klitschko: Currently, the work of air defense can be heard on the left bank of the capital in the Darnytsia district.

- PS: Explosions in Podilsk district of the capital, reports Vitaliy Klitschko.
- Enemy targets towards the center of the capital.

### Friday, December 15

11:34 PM: An air alert has been announced in Kyiv, - KMVA.

- Threat of Attack Drones, KMVA reported.

11:52 PM: Explosions are heard in Kyiv, subscribers report.

- Attack Drones in the Boryspil district in the direction of Kyiv, - PS.

11:57 PM: Air defense is working in the capital. Another group of Attack Drones is moving towards Kyiv - Vitaliy Klitschko.

## CHERNIHIV



**Saturday, December 16**

12:59 AM: Two more groups of Attack Drones are moving from Chernihiv Oblast towards the capital, Vitaliy Klitschko reports.

## KHARKIV



**Friday, December 15**

6:20 PM: The main task of the occupier is to break into the Izyum region: military expert Snegiryev about the Kupyansko-Lymansky direction.

- Dmytro Snegiryov, military expert, co-chairman of the "Prava Sprava" GI, is convinced that the main task of the occupiers is not to break through to Kupyansk, but to the Izyum region in order to form a strike group that will hang over the flanks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the Donetsk region

## DONETSK



**Saturday, December 16**

10:36 AM: Mariupol Resistance blew up a car together with Russian military an officer, reported deputy measure Mariupol Peter Andryushchenko.

**Friday, December 15**

8:40 PM: Explosions rang out in temporarily occupied Donetsk, a large-scale fire started.

- This is reported by local mass media.



## ZAPORIZHIA

**Friday, December 15**

1:32 PM: IN district railways in temporarily occupied Melitopol rang out explosions, reported measures cities Ivan Fedorov.

- \_"Journalists reported about "problems" with the train that was carrying ammunition from Crimea to Melitopol and Dniprorudny every day. The place of the explosion is currently surrounded by security forces and military personnel," the message reads.

## DNIPRO



**Saturday, December 16**

12:16 AM: Several Attack Drones in the southern part of the Kirovohrad region, heading northwest, the Air Force reports.

**Friday, December 15**

4:41 PM: Missile in the direction of Kryvyi Rih, — Air Forces of Ukrainian Armed Forces.

- PS: Changed direction to Kropyvnytskyi.

5:34 PM: Air defense forces destroyed a rocket in the Kropyvnytskyi district during an air alert.

- This was reported by the head of Kirovohrad OVA, Andriy Rajkovich.
- Previously - without casualties and destruction.

## KHERSON



**Saturday, December 16**

8:47 AM: At night Russians the next fired at Kherson region, — THIS.

- \_"Due to the "arrivals" in Kherson, people were injured. A 55-year-old man has injuries to his limbs. A 51-

year-old citizen has a shrapnel injury to the head. In Stepanivka, debris fell near a medical facility. The wound was received by a doctor", \_ - head of OVA Oleksandr Prokudin.

### Friday, December 15

12:00 PM: Russians again fired at Kherson, reported head THIS Oleksandr Prokudin.

- \_ "In the Central district, a 57-year-old man from Kherson was mortally wounded. He died in the hospital," the report said.

### KIROVOHRAD



### Friday, December 15

4:54 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kropyvnytskyi.

### KHMELNITSKY



### Saturday, December 16

2:56 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Khmelnytskyi region. Previously - air defense work.

### ZAKARPATIA



### Friday, December 15

12:29 PM: On Transcarpathia under time meeting session V buildings rural because of Deputy blew up grenades, — National police.

- According to preliminary information, one person, the detonator himself, died as a result of the explosion, and 11 more people were injured.
- As a result of the explosion in the village council in Zakarpattia, 26 people were injured, 6 of whom are in serious condition.
- This was reported by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

1:22 PM: Man, what blew up grenade under time session - Deputy Keretskivska rural because of the first convocation from party "Servant to the people", – local mass media.

- Currently, it is known that the saboteur-deputy is alive. At the session of the village council, issues related to the adoption of the budget for 2024 were considered.
- PS: The event was classified as a terrorist act by the National Police.

#### LVIV-



#### Friday, December 15

2:24 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyi honored the memory of the fallen Ukrainian soldiers on the Field of Mars in Lviv.

#### VOLYN



#### Friday, December 15

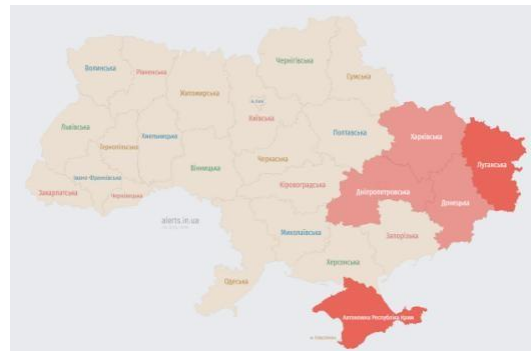
12:09 PM: On Volyn border guards exposed smugglers, what produced Transport Drones, to forward cigarettes to countries EU, — Ministry of Internal Affairs.

- A motorized hang glider, 8 unmanned aerial vehicles such as "Airplane" and "Quadrocopter", thermal imagers, binoculars, radio stations, GPS trackers, camera traps, more than 2,000 packs of counterfeit tobacco products, gadgets, draft records were found and seized from the suspects.
- The seized drones are planned to be handed over to units of the State Border Service. A pre-trial investigation is ongoing.

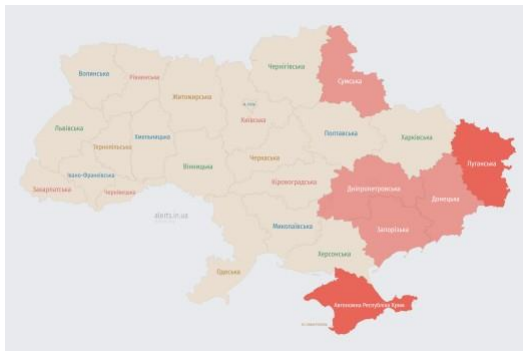
## VISUAL CHRONOLOGY OF REGIONAL ROCKET, DRONE, ARTILLERY, MORTAR AND BOMB ALARMS



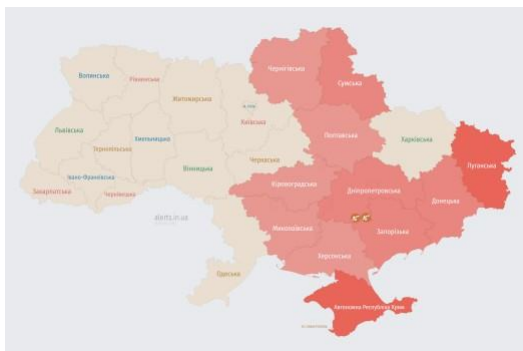
3:27 PM



7:30 PM



21:45 PM



11:05 PM





Comparing Soviet invasion of Afghanistan to Russian invasion of Ukraine using Wikipedia and Ukraine Ministry of Defense Daily Bulletins. Soviet and Russian military losses not including captured equipment.

	Soviet Afghanistan	Dec 11	Dec 12	Dec 13	Dec 14	Dec 15
Duration	9 years and 9 months	After 656 days	After 657 days	After 658 days	After 659 days	After 660 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,453	340,650	342,500	342,800	343,890	344,820

Material Losses

Tanks	147	5664	5682	5692	5706	5720
Armored Personnel Carriers	1,314	10,579	10594	10,616	10,654	10,667
Artillery, Mortars, and Ballistic Rocket launchers	433	8992	8995	9008	9019	9020
Cruise Missiles		1596	1596	1606	1608	1609
Fighters Bombers	118	324	324	324	324	324

Helicopters	333	324	324	324	324	324
Drones		6163	6173		6226	6238
Anti Aircraft Missile Batteries		605	605	605	605	605
Cargo/Fuel/other transport	11,369	10,650	10662	10,675	10,699	10710
Naval Vessels		22+(1 submarine)	22+(1 submarine)	22+(1 submarine)	22+(1 submarine)	22+(1 submarine)
Specialized mobile electronic communication and jamming, ballistic radars		1170	1176	1185	1189	1190

#### SOURCES

- <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/>
- <https://espreso.tv/>
- <https://t.me/uawarinfographics>
- [https://t.me/svoboda radio](https://t.me/svoboda_radio)
- <https://deepstatemap.live/en#11/47.9070/37.6927>
- <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/en/>

#### NEWS FROM UKRAINE

NOON DECEMBER 14, 2023 – NOON DECEMBER 15, 2023

Abbreviations:

RMA = Regional Military Administration SBU = Security Service of Ukraine

RASHISTS = russian Facists/all russian invaders

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Friday, December 15**

8:01 AM: Australia to train more Ukrainian military in 2024

- The latest rotation of approximately 70 Australian Defense Force (ADF) instructors returned to Darwin this week. The number of ADF members deployed on each rotation will increase to 90 over the next 12 months.
- The program will also include junior leadership training focusing on areas of warfare, including urban and trench warfare, combat first aid, demining and marksmanship.

8:03 AM: Argentina will soon transfer to Ukraine two Mi-171E multipurpose helicopters, which the country previously purchased from Russia, Pucara.

8:03 AM: Japan has introduced a new package of sanctions against Russia that includes a ban on the import of non-industrial diamonds from January 1, 2024, Japan's economy ministry said.

8:03 AM: US presidents will not be able to unilaterally decide on the country's withdrawal from NATO, The Hill.

8:03 AM: Venezuela and Guyana agree to settle conflict. Both sides said they would not use force.

9:23 AM: The US Congress has approved a law that would prevent any president of the United States of America from withdrawing from NATO, The Hill.

- \_ "This provision emphasizes the commitment of the US Congress to the NATO alliance, which at one time became an object of irritation for ex-president Trump", - The Hill clarifies.

- Thus, lawmakers decided to create an additional safeguard for future presidents of the United States.

9:51 AM: The World Bank allocates \$1.34 billion in additional financing to Ukraine.

- \_ "This funding package provides for further support for the payment of pensions to the elderly, grant support for internally displaced persons, and the payment of salaries to teachers and workers of emergency services," the bank said in a statement.
- The main part of this financing package - 1.086 billion - is the funds of the Government of Japan. Others are grants from the USA, Switzerland and the Fund for Support, Reconstruction and Reform of Ukraine (URTF).

11:05 AM: The European Union is confident that Ukraine will receive financial aid despite the Hungarian veto, European Council President Charles Michel said.

- He assured that the block has various tools for solving issues.
- An alternative proposal to collect money for Ukraine through an agreement between 26 other EU countries (excluding Hungary - ed.) is considered as a "backup option".

### Thursday, December 14

1:15 PM: The summit of the European Council has started in Brussels, where they will discuss the allocation of 50 billion euros to Ukraine and the start of negotiations with it on joining the EU.

1:40 PM: Estonia will send a military aid package worth 80 million euros to Ukraine, Defense Minister Hanno Pevkur announced.

- It includes a large number of Javelin anti-tank missiles, machine guns, small arms ammunition, boats, land vehicles, and diving equipment.

2:46 PM: The situation is somewhat repeated, as at the NATO summit in Vilnius: Espresso journalist about the EU summit

- "The situation regarding forecasts for Ukraine is unstable. After

all, something is repeating itself, as was the case with the NATO summit in Vilnius, when Ukraine was waiting for a historic decision about its place in NATO," she said.

- A similar situation may repeat itself this year with negotiations on EU membership. Hungary remains a country that opposes negotiations on Ukraine's membership in the EU, the journalist noted. According to her, at the EU summit today they will talk about large financial support for Ukraine.

2:57 PM: It is important that Europe does not fall into indecision today and betray the faith of the people - Russia will use the indecision to its advantage.

- The corresponding statement was made by Volodymyr Zelenskyy, speaking at the meeting of the European Council in the format of video communication.
- The President called on the EU leaders not to hesitate and make the decision promised to Ukraine on the start of membership negotiations.

3:02 PM: It will take many years for Ukraine to join the EU if negotiations start, - Rutte

- The head of the government of the Netherlands was asked whether Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán is really trying to block the start of negotiations with Ukraine.
- "We'll see. I spoke to him on the phone this weekend. We're continuing our conversation. We need to see how far we can go. I think it's critical that we have a positive decision today on the next steps for Ukraine in the accession negotiations. In any case, it will be many years before accession takes place," Rütte stressed.

3:12 PM: At night, one of the Russian "shaheeds" violated NATO airspace, falling on the territory of Romania, Aussiedlerbote.

- Germany raised aircraft and identified Russian aircraft, including by visual contact, but there was no order from NATO to shoot them down.

- Romania's Defense Ministry reported a 1.5-meter-deep sinkhole, "probably caused by a downed Russian drone," in the Danube Delta near the Romanian village of Grindu, 6.5 kilometers from the Ukrainian border.

4:25 PM: The European Parliament was called to send the strongest signals to Ukraine at the summit of EU leaders, Borrell said about Kyiv's titanic efforts.

- In her turn, the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola, emphasized that in the case of Ukraine, it is not about immediate membership in the EU, but only about the next step on this path.
- "EU enlargement is a win-win situation for everyone. Ukraine should receive the moral, political, and financial support it deserves. And we as the European Union need this for our security. We would like to see a united, unanimous position today in order to send the strongest signals to Ukraine, which is waging a war for us," she said.

5:13 PM: Romania's Foreign Ministry summons the Russian ambassador after a drone crashed on the country's territory, Romania Journal.

- "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has informed and is conducting consultations with NATO allies regarding the development of events on the border between Romania and Ukraine, including today's incident", - the agency notes.

5:45 PM: Volodymyr Zelensky arrived in Germany on an unannounced visit, — BILD.

- According to the publication, the President of Ukraine flew to Frankfurt am Main.
- Increased security measures have been taken throughout the region, and a number of roads have been closed.

6:08 PM: Bulgaria ratified the agreement with the European Commission on providing Ukraine with microfinance assistance in the amount of €3.6 billion, — Novitine.

- 116 deputies voted for ratification, 48 - against, 6 - abstained.
- The agreement provides for the provision of guarantees by Bulgaria in the amount of more than €16 million.

7:02 PM: Patriot air defense system, special equipment and ammunition: Germany handed Ukraine a new package of military aid.

- It is noted that in addition to the anti-aircraft missile complex itself, Ukraine received missiles for it. This is already the second Patriot air defense system that Germany handed over to Ukraine.
- Germany also transferred:
  - nine tracked all-terrain vehicles Bandvagn 206;
  - 7,390 ammunition for 155-mm artillery;
  - three unmanned demining machines;
  - 14 drone detection systems;
  - eight Mercedes-Benz Zetros trucks;
  - four trailers for 8x8 HX81 tractors;
  - eight Zetros tractors;
  - more than 47 thousand 40 mm ammunition for grenade launchers.

7:14 PM: The US Congress approved a record defense budget of \$886 billion: \$300 million of which is for Ukraine.

- 310 members of the House of Representatives voted for the US defense budget, and 118 were against. The House passed the law with a two-thirds majority.
- As for Ukraine, the draft law continues the operation of the Initiative for the provision of security assistance to Ukraine, authorizing within its limits the allocation of 300 million dollars for the 2024 and 2025 fiscal years (that is, until September 2025).

7:45 PM: In Spain, the property of the ex-military committee of Odesa was seized.

- During the investigation, it became known that the former

military commissar of Odesa Borisov purchased real estate in the Spanish city of Marbella, Malaga province.

7:25 PM: During a working visit to Germany, Volodymyr Zelenskyi visited the command of the US Army in Europe.

- "\_We expect that the US Congress will soon make an important decision regarding the continuation of such necessary support for Ukraine\_" the president wrote.

7:30 PM: The European Council has started negotiations on the accession of Ukraine and Moldova to the EU, President of the European Council Michel said.

7:47 PM: A German intelligence officer sold classified information about Ukraine to the FSB for €800,000, — BILD.

- According to BILD, German intelligence considers this to be one of the most serious cases of treason in the history of Germany, the degree of damage is immeasurable.

8:35 PM: Georgia has received the status of a candidate for joining the European Union, the head of the European Council, Charles Michel, announced.

8:35 PM: One of the hundred most wanted mafiosi was arrested in Italy. This is reported by ANSA.

8:35 PM: The Latvian National Council for Electronic Media has restricted access in Latvia to five more sites that distribute Russian propaganda content, Delfi reports.

9:30 PM: Orban left the meeting hall: Espresso correspondent about the approval of the Eurocouncil to start negotiations on Ukraine's accession to the EU.

- Prime Minister of Hungary Viktor Orban, leaving the meeting, did not vote for or against, respectively, no EU leader voted against and the decision was approved to start negotiations on Ukraine's accession to the European Union - Tetyana Vysotska, correspondent of the Espresso TV channel .



9:42 PM: At the Rava-Ruska checkpoint, a Polish driver hit three Ukrainian drivers at a pedestrian crossing, Polish media reports.

10:04 PM: Volodymyr Zelensky visited the command of the US Army in Europe and Africa in the German city of Wiesbaden.

- During the meeting, the work of the Security Promotion Group of Ukraine was discussed, as well as the specifics of ensuring the logistics of the supply of ammunition and military equipment, its repair and maintenance.
- Zelensky also spoke with Ukrainian military personnel working in Wiesbaden as part of the Armed Forces operational group under the Security Assistance Group of Ukraine.

10:20 PM: The US Senate will resume next week after a holiday recess as talks continue on aid to Ukraine and border security.

- This was reported by CGTN America with reference to Democratic leader Schumer.

11:03 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyy held phone conversations with international leaders.

- President of Moldova Maia Sandu, President of the European Union Charles Michel, President of France Emmanuel Macron, President of Georgia Salome Zourabichvili, President of Lithuania Gitanas Nausėda, Prime Minister of Spain Pedro Sanchez congratulated Ukraine.

11:59 PM: Austria blocks sanctions against the Russian Federation, demanding that Raiffeisen Bank be removed from the list of war sponsors, - Reuters.

11:59 PM: Diamonds and dual-purpose goods: Britain has increased sanctions against the Russian Federation.

- According to the government, in the year since the start of the full-scale Russian invasion, imports from Russia have fallen by 94% and exports to Russia by 74%.

11:59 PM: Finland will close the checkpoints on the border with the Russian Federation, which became operational on the morning of

December 14.

- It is indicated that immediately after the opening of the Vaalimaa and Niirala border crossings, asylum seekers began to arrive there. During the day, more than 50 people arrived at Vaalimaa alone: they were mostly young men from Somalia and Syria.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Friday, December 15**

7:13 AM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of 06:00 on December 15:

- During the day of December 14, there were 110x combat engagements. The enemy launched a total of 4x missile and 50x air strikes, 56x MLRS attacks at the positions of Ukrainian troops and various settlements.
- Last night, the Russian occupants launched yet another attack on Ukraine, using 1x S-300 anti-aircraft guided missile and 14x Shahed-136/131 strike UAVs. The Ukrainian air defense forces and means destroyed all of the strike UAVs.
- Air strikes hit Synkivka (Kharkiv oblast), Serebryanske forestry (Luhansk oblast), Terny, Ivanivske, Andriivka, Toretsk, Avdiivka, Heorhiivka, Novomykhailivka, Prechystivka (Donetsk oblast), Preobrazhenka (Zaporizhzhia oblast), Darivka, Krynky, and Prydniprovsk (Kherson oblast).
- More than 100x settlements in Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, and Mykolayiv oblasts came under artillery fire.
- During the day of December 14, the Ukrainian Air Force launched air strikes on 2x concentrations of troops, weapons, and military equipment of the adversary. During the day of December 14 also, the Ukrainian defenders destroyed 1x Kh-47M Kinzhal air-launched ballistic missile.
- The Ukrainian missile troops hit 2x concentrations of troops,

weapons, and military equipment, 1x command post, and 2x ammunition depots of the Russian invaders.

### **Khortytsia operational-strategic group**

**Kupyansk axis:** Ukrainian defenders repelled 15x enemy attacks in the vicinity of Synkivka (Kharkiv oblast).

**Lyman axis:** the Ukrainian defenders repelled 1x enemy attack east of Terny (Luhansk oblast).

**Bakhmut axis:** the Ukrainian troops repelled 11x attacks of the adversary near Ivanivske, Klishchiivka, and Andriivka (Donetsk oblast). The Ukrainian Defense Forces continue inflicting losses in manpower and equipment on the enemy, and consolidate their new positions.

### **Tavria operational-strategic group**

**Avdiivka axis:** the Ukrainian defenders continue to hold back the enemy who keeps trying to encircle Avdiivka. The Ukrainian soldiers are standing their ground and inflicting major losses on the occupiers. The Ukrainian Defense Forces successfully repelled 23x enemy attacks east of Novobakhmutivka, Stepove, Avdiivka, and 22x more attacks south of Sjeverne, Pervomaiske, and Nevelske (Donetsk oblast).

**Maryinka axis:** the Ukrainian Defense Forces are holding back the enemy in the vicinity of Novomykhailivka (Donetsk oblast). The Ukrainian defenders successfully repelled 17x attacks in that area.

**Zaporizhzhia axis:** the Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled 9x adversary attacks north of Pryyutne, west, and northwest of Verbove (Zaporizhzhia oblast).

**Odesa operational-strategic group, Kherson axis:** the Ukrainian troops maintain their positions held on the left bank of the Dnipro River, continue to conduct counter-battery fire, as they strike behind the enemy lines.

11:47 AM: Ukrainian mobile operator "Kyivstar" has resumed international voice roaming service, the company's press service

said.

- It was also possible to stabilize communication in Kyiv.

8:22 AM: A total of seven attempts by Russians to enter the territory of Ukraine were recorded in two weeks, Lieutenant General Serhiy Naev reported.

- \_"In five cases, our defenders managed to detect these intentions in a timely manner and inflict fire damage on the enemy, who, having suffered losses, retreated. In particular, one of the DRGs tried to cross our state border in the area of Myropylyya, in the Sumy Oblast," added the lieutenant general.

### Thursday, December 14

12:25 PM: Russian terrorists once again fired at one of the TPPs in eastern Ukraine, Ukrenergo.

- Three more power units went into emergency repair.

1:02 PM: The hacker attack on "Kyivstar" had a negative impact on the banking system, the National Bank said.

- Currently, there are problems with the operation of terminals in stores. Banks are already reconfiguring POS terminals to other operators and Wi-Fi.
- The vast majority of ATMs and self-service terminals are working. There are also no problems in the work of mobile applications of banks.

1:50 PM: "Kyivstar" will start restoring the mobile Internet today in the afternoon, announced the company's president, Oleksandr Komarov.

- As of now, fixed Internet services for the home have been fully restored and communication has been restored almost everywhere.

2:03 PM: Turkey-Ukraine trade volume to reach record \$8 billion in 2023.

- This was stated by the chairman of the board of the Turkish-Ukrainian business association, Burak Pehlivan.

- "Although Ukraine's economy shrank by 30% due to the war, and the volume of its foreign trade decreased by a third, this year we are breaking another export record," Pehlivan noted.

2:12 PM: The take-off of the MiG-31K PKS of the Russian Federation from the Savasleika airfield was recorded - PS ZSU.

- Possible rocket launches from the Lipetsk region, Russian Federation.

2:36 PM: The National Bank of Ukraine has decided to lower the discount rate from 16.0% to 15.0% per annum, NBU Chairman Andriy Pishnyi said.

- The reduction of the discount rate does not carry risks for the attractiveness of hryvnia savings, given the decrease in inflation and improvement in inflation expectations.
- The accounting rate is the cost of NBU loans to commercial banks that can receive long-term or short-term refinancing from the central bank.

2:53 PM: Re-launches of missiles, — PS ZSU.

- From the Kursk region, Russian Federation in the direction of Sumy region.

3:30 PM: Ukraine has returned five more children from the occupation, reports the head of Kherson OVA Oleksandr Prokudin.

- "Two of them have a family. And they managed to be taken out together with their parents. Three more are children from the category of those who found themselves in difficult life circumstances", Prokudin noted.

3:37 PM: The take-off of the MiG-31K PKS of the Russian Federation from the Savasleika airfield was recorded - PS ZSU.

3:45 PM: Launching of rockets, — PS ZSU.

- The direction is to Kyiv and Starokostyantyniv.

3:51 PM: Air Force reports 3 more targets.

3:56 PM: Rivne, Lutsk - stay in shelters, Air Force.

4:01 PM: Air Force Command spokesman Yuriy Ignat reported that the Russian Federation had indeed hit Starokostyantynov during a previous air attack.

- At the same time, Ignat did not specify where exactly the occupiers aimed. Human casualties are also unknown.

4:15 PM: Approximate time of approach of the "Kinzhal" aeroballistic missile to the cities of Ukraine.

- If such a missile is launched, you only have a few minutes to take cover.

4:40 PM: Another 13 Ukrainian-made munitions were allowed to be used in the Armed Forces.

- Among the munitions that were approved for use by the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine during the previous two weeks, there are 9 types of munitions for UAVs: multi-purpose, combined action, high-explosive fragmentation, cumulative fragmentation action. In addition, 4 more types of ammunition for underbarrel grenade launchers are allowed.
- "These are the developments of domestic enterprises that have confirmed their tactical and technical characteristics in conditions of use close to combat," said the Deputy Minister of Defense of Ukraine, Lieutenant General Ivan Havryliuk.

5:24 PM: The Appeals Chamber of the VAKS canceled the decision of the court of first instance, which closed the so-called "Rotterdam+" case.

- We will remind that on March 14, SAP prosecutors sent an indictment to the court against six people involved in the introduction of the so-called "Rotterdam+" formula, which caused more than UAH 19 billion in losses to electricity consumers.
- And on October 9, the panel of judges of the VAKS decided to close the case due to the expiration of the pre-trial investigation period.
- So far, the judges have decided to return the case to the first

instance for a new trial.

5:51 PM: Dagger launches from the east, Air Force.

6:21 PM: A state standard for social and psychological rehabilitation of persons with gaming addiction will appear in Ukraine

- According to Olga Isaeva, head of the Center for Responsible Gambling (RGC), for the effective functioning of the social service provision system for people addicted to gambling, it is important to establish communication between the relevant state institutions, gambling organizers, and also directly the social service providers.
- The main patron of the project is the Favbet company, which has been consistently supporting all its stages for over a year, from the first national study of gaming addiction to the practical implementation of recommendations based on its results.
- This is part of the company's systematic efforts to create an ecosystem of socially responsible business in the gaming segment.

7:57 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of 18:00 on December 14:

- During the day 82 combat clashes took place.
- Aviation of the Defense Forces struck 2 areas where the enemy's personnel, weapons and military equipment were concentrated.
- Units of the missile forces hit 2 areas of concentration of personnel, weapons and military equipment of the enemy.

8:15 PM: Inflation in Ukraine is restrained by the drop in demand and the stability of the exchange rate.

- The actual inflation indicators of the current year turned out to be significantly lower than last year's forecasts of the government, the National Bank of Ukraine and international organizations, which expected inflation at the level of 20-30%. The updated forecast of the NBU from October predicts annual

inflation at the level of 5.8%, while a year ago the NBU predicted 20.7%.

8:45 PM: Ukrenergo received the status of a full member of ENTSO-E.

- Ukrenergo will be able to influence the adoption of strategic decisions regarding the operation and development of the pan-European energy network.
- It is noted that acquiring the status of a full member of ENTSO-E will strengthen Ukraine's energy security.

## **MORDOR - ruZZia**

### **Friday, December 15**

11:55 AM: Explosions are heard outside the temporarily occupied Berdyansk, local channels report.

- We are waiting for official information.

### **Thursday, December 14**

12:24 PM: A strong explosion rang out in the Krasnogvardiysky district in the temporarily occupied Crimea, local media reported.

12:46 PM: Russians intensify repression in the occupation due to preparations for Putin's "elections", - GUR

- "Russia has significantly activated the flywheel of intimidation and repression in connection with the preparation for the so-called election process and the "re-election" of Putin, as well as in order to identify opponents of Russian enslavement," the report says.
- It is noted that people who have not received Russian passports are denied medical and social assistance, denied access to electricity and the water supply system. In addition, the occupiers conduct systematic searches of private homes of Ukrainians in Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions.

12:42 PM: The recently formed division of the VAT of Russia suffered heavy losses near Krynyk in the Kherson region, - British intelligence.

- The 104th Guards Airborne Division of the Russian Federation failed to achieve its goals during its debut. The division was



poorly supported by air and artillery, and most of the troops were probably inexperienced.

1:16 PM: After the significant losses of the Russian Federation on the left bank of the Kherson region, "milbloggers" called on the commander Teplinsky to resign, - British intelligence

- It is noted that at the beginning of December, the 104th Guards Airborne Division of the Russian Federation suffered heavy losses and was unable to achieve its objectives near the village of Krynky on the left bank of the Kherson region.
- Intelligence suggests that the occupiers had little air and artillery support, and many of the troops were likely inexperienced. After the failure, Russian "milbloggers" called on commander Mykhailo Teplinsky to resign: "This is a blow to Teplinsky's reputation as one of the more experienced Russian war commanders."

1:32 PM: Putin said there is no need for a new mobilization in Russia

- According to him, the issue of mobilization in the Russian Federation is sensitive. Putin noted that 300,000 people have already been called up in Russia, of which 244,000 are allegedly at war with Ukraine, which the Russian president calls a "special military operation."
- "After that, we started a broad campaign to attract volunteers. We planned to recruit 400,000 with a small one. As of yesterday, we recruited 486,000. 1.5 thousand come every day throughout the country, the flow does not run out. Why do we need mobilization? There is no need for it," - he said.

5:00 PM: Putin declares unchanged war aims: highlights from his press conference on Ukraine.

- "There will be peace when we achieve our goals. They do not change. I will remind you what we talked about - the de-Nazification and demilitarization of Ukraine, its neutral status."
- "We destroyed, just starting with the so-called counteroffensive, 747 tanks, these are data for yesterday

evening, almost 2.3 thousand armored vehicles. This is what demilitarization is all about."

- "We started a broad campaign to attract volunteers. We planned to recruit a little more than 400,000. As of yesterday, we recruited 486,000. 1.5 thousand come every day throughout the country, the flow does not run out. Why do we need mobilization? There is no need for it."
- Putin also stated that Odesa is a Russian city, and the southeast of Ukraine, in his opinion, has always been pro-Russian, because "these are historical Russian territories."

5:15 PM: We will have to deal with the fact that the Russians will constantly carry out such massive attacks - Defense Express military expert Kirichevsky.

- Kirichevsky stated that Russian MiG-31Ks with hypersonic dagger missiles are tools of strategic uncertainty. He urged not to ignore the alarms that signal the take-off of these planes, and to prepare for the possible consequences.
- "Actually, they even embodied this concept of strategic uncertainty today, when it would seem that at first there were even two false alarms, and then two missile launches in a row. Unfortunately, we will have to deal with the fact that the Russians will constantly carry out such massive attacks."

5:30 PM: The Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and the US Embassy agreed on a plan for joint monitoring of weapons provided by partners.

- The document describes in detail how the surveillance of American equipment will take place. It was developed to carry out advanced monitoring of the end use of weapons.

6:00 PM: It is obvious that the enemy is trying to study and exhaust our air defense system, - Humenyuk.

- Because in preparation for the use of missiles in a more massive volume, it is likely that the Russians are studying the routes for the missiles, the methods of our response, and the

degree of our readiness. The enemy uses various methods for this, including false targets, - the head of the joint coordination press center of the Defense Forces of Southern Ukraine, captain 1st rank Natalya Humenyuk, on the air of the Espresso TV channel.

6:15 PM: Mobilization in Ukraine: the authorities decide how to attract more people to the army. What will change?

- New laws, which are currently being worked on in the parliament, should give impetus to the pace of mobilization. Mykhailo Tsimbalyuk said that a working group of representatives of all factions is working on changes to the laws on mobilization, demobilization, and social guarantees of military personnel. Each step must be coordinated with representatives of the General Staff.
- Now we are talking about the fact that certain categories of students and people who take care of loved ones with various groups of disabilities will not be exempted. Certain narrowing of these categories and restrictions are being prepared for those who currently have such privileges, but will lose them after the law is passed

6:30 PM: NBU reduced the discount rate to 15%.

- The Board of the National Bank decided to reduce the discount rate from 16% to 15% from December 15, 2023. This is due to the slowdown in inflation. (<https://espresso.tv/nbu-zniziv-oblikovu-stavku-do-15>)

6:54 PM: the Russians are trying to cover up the fire caused by the explosion at the Rosneft oil depot in Voronezh, — GUR of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

- "[...] \_local Voronezh leaders invented the "training of units of the Ministry of Emergency Situations" right next to the "multi-ton" tank with fuel\_", writes GUR.

- Even the investigators themselves do not understand under what "training" the work of the local investigative bodies at the Voronezh oil depot is disguised.

9:16 PM: Partisans have recorded the location of Russian equipment in Crimea - "Atesh".

- Partisans believe that the Russians will use this technique to transfer personnel and artillery installations "Msta-B" and "Hyacinth-B" to the Kherson direction. They established the route and time of movement, the number of manpower.

11:59 PM: Russia's revenues from oil exports fell by 17% for the month, - IEA.

11:59 PM: Racists involve Wagnerians to give propaganda lectures to children from TOT of Ukraine.

- A case was recorded when such a "lecturer" became a drug dealer from the disbanded Wagner PMC.

## REGIONS

### KYIV



### Thursday, December 14

3:48 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kyiv.

7:20 PM: A "Kinzhal" aeroballistic missile was shot down over Kyiv today, Air Force spokesman Yuriy Ignat said.

7:45 AM: Subway flooding in Kyiv: passengers will be compensated for forced ground trips, Klitschko explained the mechanism

- "Kyiv residents will receive travel compensation for transferring to buses and trolleybuses through the closed 6 stations of the "blue" metro line. The route from Teremki to any other metro station will still cost UAH 8. At the same time, during the trip, it will be necessary to validate the transport card at every transfer. But at night, extra trips will be returned to the card. Therefore, the passenger, having traveled by ground transport and subway, will pay for only one trip," Klitschko wrote.

## KHARKIV



### Friday, December 15

1:02 AM Social Networks: An explosion rang out in Kharkiv.

- The Air Force reports a missile threat in the Kharkiv region, an air alert has been announced.

## ZAPORIZHIA



### Thursday, December 14

4:48 PM: In the Zaporizhzhia direction, the Russians decided to use captured Ukrainians as "human shields" while shelling Ukrainian positions in parallel, — StratCom of the ZSU.

- Yesterday, the ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets shared a video from the media, in which the Russians are leading captured soldiers of the Armed Forces of Ukraine at gunpoint toward Ukrainian positions.
- The video captures the moment when a Russian soldier fires a shot in the direction of unarmed people running in the opposite direction from Ukrainian positions.

11:35 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in temporarily occupied Mariupol.

11:57 PM: A large-scale fire broke out in the temporarily occupied Mariupol after the explosion.

## DNIPRO



### Thursday, December 14

5:33 PM: Another takeoff of the MiG-31K PKS of the Russian Federation from the Savasleika airfield, — PS ZSU.

- UPD: guided air missile from the south on the Dnipro.

5:36 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Dnipro.

6:41 PM: Air defense forces shot down an Kh-59 guided air missile in the Dnipropetrovsk region.

- PC "East" reports this.

## KHERSON



**Thursday, December 14**

6:52 PM: As a result of a Russian attack on Kherson, a 57-year-old man died, reports the head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Roman Mrochko.

9:15 PM: In the evening, the Russians attacked one of the quarters of Kherson.

- A residential building and a garage were destroyed. A fire broke out, which firefighters quickly extinguished.

9:35 PM: Explosions are heard in Kherson, subscribers report. We are waiting for official information.

## ODESA



**Thursday, December 14**

1:30 PM: The DPSU showed the work of border guards of the Belgorod-Dniester detachment, who shot down an enemy "shahed" over

Odeshchyna.

## VINNYTSIA



**Thursday, December 14**

5:55 PM: Vinnytsia in shelter, — PS ZSU.

## KHMELNITSKY



### Friday, December 15

12:41 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Khmelnytskyi region.

### Thursday, December 14

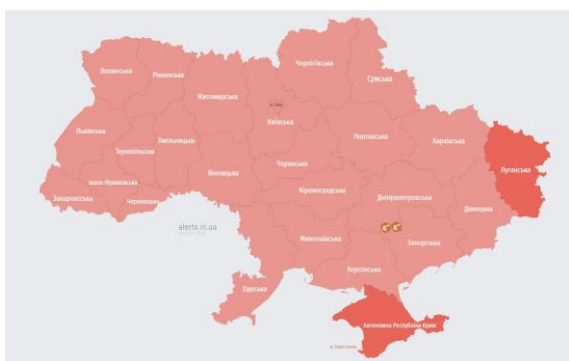
2:22 PM: Missiles were launched in the Starokostyantynov district of Khmelnytskyi region, — PS ZSU.

2:28 PM: Explosions are heard in Khmelnytskyi region, subscribers report. We are waiting for official information.

3:52 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Khmelnytskyi region.

4:11 PM: Russians hit Starokostyantynov in Khmelnytskyi region with an aeroballistic missile "Kinzhal," Air Force spokesman Yuriy Ignat said.

## VISUAL CHRONOLOGY OF REGIONAL ROCKET, DRONE, ARTILLERY, MORTAR AND BOMB ALARMS



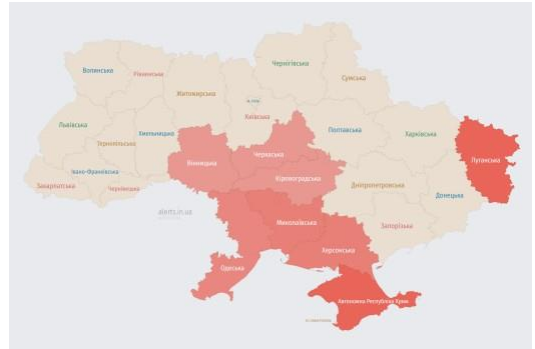
2:08 PM



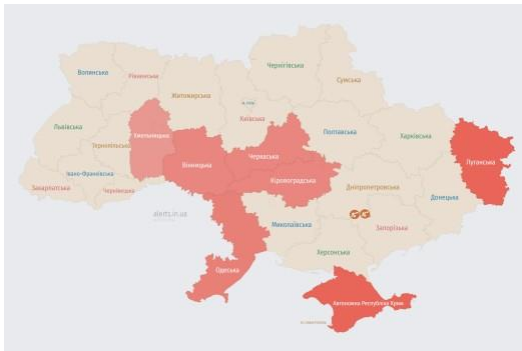
**3:20 PM**



**8:05 PM**



**10:18 PM**



**11:27 PM**



Comparing Soviet invasion of Afghanistan to Russian invasion of Ukraine using Wikipedia and Ukraine Ministry of Defense Daily Bulletins. Soviet and Russian military losses not including captured equipment.

	Soviet Afghanistan	Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec 12	Dec 13	Dec 14
Duration	9 years and 9 months	After 655 days	After 656 days	After 657 days	After 658 days	After 659 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,453	339,850	340,650	342,500	342,800	343,890

Material Losses

Tanks	147	5655	5664	5682	5692	5706
Armored Personnel Carriers	1,314	10,560	10,579	10594	10,616	10,654
Artillery, Mortars, and Ballistic Rocket launchers	433	8989	8992	8995	9008	9019
Cruise Missiles		1586	1596	1596	1606	1608
Fighters Bombers	118	324	324	324	324	324

Helicopters	333	324	324	324	324	324
Drones		6154	6163	6173		6226
Anti Aircraft Missile Batteries		605	605	605	605	605
Cargo/Fuel/other transport	11,369	106,36	10,650	10662	10,675	10,699
Naval Vessels		22+(1 submarine)	22+(1 submarine)	22+(1 submarine)	22+(1 submarine)	22+(1 submarine)
Specialized mobile electronic communication and jamming, ballistic radars		1168	1170	1176	1185	1189

#### SOURCES

- <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/>
- <https://espreso.tv/>
- <https://t.me/uawarinfographics>
- [https://t.me/svoboda\\_radio](https://t.me/svoboda_radio)
- <https://deepstatemap.live/en#11/47.9070/37.6927>
- <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/en/>