

News From Ukraine

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

August 25, 2025

By: Robert Homans & Bohdan Chomiak

From Bohdan

It took 21 days to negotiate the Dayton peace accords for Bosnia and Herzegovina, 12 days to conclude the Camp David agreement between Israel and Palestine and about 12 days to get rid of the murderous russian backed Syrian regime of Basr Al Assad.

In all three cases there appear reasonable grounds that at least one of the parties engaged in genocide like activity. Yet in a reasonably short time the parties agreed to peace.

Which leads me to question why the big orange negotiator after months of negotiations still doesn't get the picture that russia is not interested in a peace agreement.

His actions and speech are reminiscent of the pet shop keeper from the Monty Python skit about the dead parrot. All the clerk could say was that this parrot is not dead. Pretty much on the same level as the orange negotiator I will conclude a peace agreement.

The clerk was no fool. The clerk knew that by denying reality eventually there would be a new reality. Pretty funny when a clerk is in charge.

["Now it is the Old World's turn to rescue the United States"](#)/George Will, Washington Post

The principled leaders, willing to unconditionally stand up for democratic countries fighting for freedom against totalitarian neighbors, no longer reside in Washington. They reside in places like Tallinn, Helsinki, Vilnius, Riga and Rome. As Will states, these leaders need to come to our rescue.

Some excerpts from George Will's column:

- Alaska clarified what was unclear only to the obtuse: Putin wants to win the war, Trump wants to end it, and as [George Orwell said](#), the quickest way to end a war is to lose it. Putin insolently did not suppress his smirk while on the red carpet that Trump rolled out for him. He almost certainly already had dangerous clarity about Trump.
- For a nation, more dangerous than an enemy's hatred is his contempt, which makes him reckless and implacable. Speaking to some of his generals in August 1939, [Hitler said](#), "Our enemies are little worms. I saw them at Munich." And the war came days later.
- Alaska was not just another drop in our overflowing bucket of mortifications. It was proof that for the next 41 months, no interlocutor can believe a word the U.S. president says.
- Does he have an inkling of the coarse culture that produced Putin? When Dwight Eisenhower asked [Gen. Georgy Zhukov](#), the foremost Soviet hero of World War II, how the Red Army cleared minefields, Zhukov replied that it marched through them. Putin has been marinated in lore about that war, and about "[the West](#)" trying "to cancel a whole 1,000 year culture, our people." He is delusional, but *serious*. **NOTE: In response, Eisenhower was also heard to say to Zhukov, something like, "If I tried to prosecute the war like you did, I'd be immediately cashiered, and court martialed."**
- As this is written, leaders from a continent thickly planted with military cemeteries have come to Washington, soon to go home. Then we shall learn whether, at long last, "Europe" is more than a geographical expression.
- Now it is the Old World's turn to rescue the United States. It needs to be liberated from the chimera that it has no substantial stake in the outcome of high-intensity, state-on-state violence inflicted by a

nuclear power obedient to a man who has actual beliefs: crackpot, but real, and menacing.

[“Putin's economy ‘significantly damaged’ by Ukrainian strikes despite Trump’s missile restriction”](#)/Interview with Inna Sovsun, Member of the Verkhovna Rada from the Holos Party via Times Radio.

Holos is one of the opposition parties in the Verkhovna Rada.

Sovsun discusses the prospect of Ukraine losing access to Starlink due to a political dispute in Poland between the Polish President, a member of the Law & Justice Party, and the Polish Government controlled by the Civic Platform. Law & Justice is the same party that, on a number of occasions, blocked the export of Ukrainian grain to Polish customers.

Sovsun also discusses the decision by the Trump Administration to curtail Ukraine’s use of long-range missiles provided by the U.S. to hit targets inside Russia. In other words, U.S. policies supported by Trump Administration, with respect to Ukraine’s use of U.S. long-range missiles is the same as those supported by the Biden administration.

As a worst-case Ukraine can get another country to pay for Starlink. Also, as Sovsun pointed out, Ukraine has developed its own missiles and drones to hit targets deep inside Russia. Ukraine has succeeded in causing major supply disruptions for oil products, including gasoline and diesel.

August 26, 2025 Sitrep

INTERNATIONAL

8:01 AM: Ukraine needs security guarantees very close to those provided by NATO membership - German Foreign Minister Johann Wadeful.

8:01 AM: Trump says he needs to shut down ABC and NBC because of "fake news" about him and his work.

8:01 AM: In Russia's Novoshakhtinsk, an oil refinery has been on fire for the fifth day as a result of being hit by drones, — rosZMI.

8:01 AM: Beijing held an air parade rehearsal to mark the 80th anniversary of the victory over Japan in World War II on September 3. Dictator Putin is expected to attend the ceremony.

10:30 AM: Ukraine and Lithuania are establishing a joint production of defense products, the head of the Ministry of Defense Denys Shmyhal announced.

- A Letter of Intent to launch joint ventures, in particular to create long-range drones, was signed in Kyiv. The document opens opportunities for technology exchange and development of production in both countries.
- Lithuania also confirmed that it will continue to allocate 0.25% of GDP to help Ukraine until 2027.

10:38 AM: China does not plan to send its peacekeepers to Ukraine, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said.

2:37 PM: The President of Poland vetoed a law that provided for social benefits and free medical care for unemployed citizens of Ukraine, Interia Wydarzenia.

2:33 PM: Norway plans to allocate \$8.5 billion to support Ukraine next year, Prime Minister Jonas Gar Stere said.

- "I will propose to the parliament to allocate this amount," he said.

3:09 PM: US Vice President Vance called Zaluzhny after a February spat with Zelensky at the White House, but he refused to talk, The Guardian.

- JD Vance wanted to find a replacement for the "problematic" president of Ukraine, so he decided to contact the former commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces.
- The publication's source said that Zaluzhny's refusal was "a demonstrative display of unity in one of the worst moments for Ukraine."

4:07 PM: Germany has committed to providing Ukraine with €9 billion annually over the coming years, the country's finance minister, Lars Klingbeil, said.

5:26 PM: American director Woody Allen took part in the Moscow Film Festival

- The 89-year-old director spoke online and said that he had always loved Russian cinema. The discussion was moderated by Fedor Bondarchuk, a longtime supporter of Putin.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine reacted to this: "This is a shame and an insult to the victims of Ukrainian actors and cinematographers who were killed or wounded by Russian war criminals."

6:32 PM: "A lot of people say, 'Maybe you like dictators.' No, I don't like them. I'm not a dictator," Trump.

- He added that he is jokingly called the president of Europe: "And it's an honor. I like Europe and these people."

6:49 PM: "The Department of War sounds better than the Department of Defense. I don't want to do just defense. We want to go forward, too," Trump.

6:50 PM: "The war between Ukraine and Russia has turned out to be a big conflict of personalities. We're going to end that, too," Trump.

- The US president believes that Putin's visit to Alaska allegedly indicates his desire to end the war.

7:26 PM: Putin doesn't want to meet with Zelensky because he "doesn't like him," Trump.

7:30 PM: "Europe plans to provide significant security guarantees to Ukraine. We will participate in this process as a backup force," Trump.

- The US president once again said that the United States "will no longer pay Ukraine any money".

7:37 PM: "I have a very good relationship with Kim Jong-un of North Korea. I look forward to meeting him," Trump

- "I know him better than almost anyone except his sister," he added.

7:52 PM: "We talked to Putin about limiting nuclear weapons," Trump.

- "We will involve China in this. We have the most of them (nuclear weapons — ed.), Russia is in second place, and China is in third place. It is far behind the leaders, but in five years it will catch up with us," says the US president.

8:22 PM: "Every conversation goes well, but then, unfortunately, a bomb falls on Kyiv or somewhere else — and that makes me very angry," Trump on talks with Putin.

8:45 PM: Trump has threatened Russia with "very serious consequences" if Putin does not meet with Zelensky.

- When asked about the consequences for the Russian Federation if Putin refuses to meet with Zelensky, Trump said: "The consequences could be huge, because this has to stop."

8:48 PM: The next meeting of the Contact Group on Defense of Ukraine in the Rammstein format will be held on September 9 in London.

- According to the spokesman of the German Ministry of Defense, the meeting will be held in a mixed format. The agenda has not yet been revealed.

9:47 PM: Israel attacks Nasser hospital in Gaza, killing at least 20, Reuters

- Among the dead are 5 journalists from Reuters, AP, Al Jazeera and others.
- The Israel Defense Forces acknowledged the attack and launched an investigation, saying it was not targeting journalists. The Palestinian Union of Journalists condemned the strike as a "war against free media."

10:31 PM: Polish President Karol Nawrocki announced a bill that equates Ukrainian symbols with Nazi and communist symbols, Onet.

- Ukraine warned Poland that such a decision could cause negative effects in society, a diplomatic source told hromadske.
- Kyiv is analyzing the impact of this decision on Ukrainians in Poland, hoping to protect their rights at the level of other EU countries.

10:59 PM: the Russian drone that fell in the Lublin Region probably came from Ukraine, said the deputy head of the Polish Foreign Ministry, Władysław Bartoszewski.

- "At the moment, there is no official version. However, from what I hear - it is not an official version, we are waiting for a report - it flew from the territory of Ukraine, which is interesting, because Ukrainians are the best prepared of all countries to fight drones, because they deal with it every day," said Bartoshevskyi.

11:17 PM: Woody Allen called the war started by Putin as terrible and said that he is completely wrong.

- He responded to Ukraine's criticism of his participation in the Moscow film festival, stressing that "stopping artistic conversations is not the best way to help."

11:41 PM: Turkey has begun construction of a 224-kilometer railway bypassing Russia and Iran, the Foreign Intelligence Service of Ukraine.

- The new rail line will form part of the Zangezur Corridor, a planned rail and road link to connect Azerbaijan with its exclave of Nakhchivan through southern Armenia.
- The project will be completed by 2029, will transport 15 million tons of cargo and 5.5 million passengers annually, reducing delivery from Asia to Europe by 10-15 days. The new highway will strengthen Turkey's economy and undermine Russia's position on the Eurasian transport market.

11:54 PM: Ukraine received more than 1 million artillery shells as part of the Czech initiative, and by the end of the year 16 countries plan to supply 1.8 million munitions.

- This was announced by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic Jan Lipavskyi.
- For comparison, in 2024, Ukraine received 1.5 million shells through this initiative. Partner countries have increased their contributions by 29% since the beginning of this year, the director of the Agency for International Cooperation of the Czech Republic, Aleš Vytechka, said.

NATIONAL

7:55 AM: Diversify and become independent from Russia, like the rest of Europe - the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in response to the statements of the head of the Foreign Ministry of Hungary, Peter Szijártó, about the President of Ukraine and the Druzhba oil pipeline.

- "I will answer in the Hungarian style. There is no need to tell the Ukrainian president what and when to do or say. He is the president of Ukraine, not Hungary. Hungary's energy security is in your hands," Sibiga said.

8:03 AM: Air Defense forces shot down/suppressed 76 out of 104 Drones.

- 28 Drones were hit at 15 locations; debris fell at 4 locations.

9:24 AM: The Long Neptune missile with a range of 1,000 km was officially shown for the first time — Defense Express.

- It is designed for strikes against ground targets, has a length of more than 6 meters and an extended fuselage of up to 50 cm.
- It is noted that the rocket has been used to defeat the enemy since the spring.

9:41 AM: Prime Minister of Norway Jonas Gar Stere also arrived in Kyiv.

- Norway steadily helps Ukraine in defense and demonstrates reliable solidarity.

10:59 AM: The Verkhovna Rada registered a draft law on the permission to travel abroad to men under 24 years of age.

11:56 AM: The mother of the Ukrainian defender has come to every exchange of prisoners since 2022, and finally waited to meet her son.

- Long months of waiting ended with tears of joy.

12:37 PM: The Military Intelligence Special Unit of Ukraine congratulated Ukrainians on Independence Day with fiery shots of combat work in the occupied Crimea.

1:01 PM: Ukraine won "gold" at the World Rhythmic Gymnastics Championship in group exercises.

- In the final, the team consisting of Elizaveta Azza, Diana Baeva, Kira Shirykina, Oleksandra Yushchak and Valeria Peremeta beat the Brazilian team and became the first.

- This is the second "gold" in the history of Ukraine at world competitions in group exercises, the previous victory was in 2002.

1:44 PM: Russia is preparing energy strikes to disrupt winter preparations, Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

- The president also said that this week the Ukrainian team will meet with American partners to develop a basic plan for security guarantees.
- "Today there will be a meeting with Kellogg to continue this topic, to develop preparations for the possibility of a future meeting with the Russian side. At the end of the week, there will be a meeting between the Ukrainian team and the American team," Zelenskyi said.

2:49 PM: "I hope that Ukraine will be free and peaceful on the next Independence Day," said Kellogg, the special representative of the US president.

- "In fact, the number of people killed and injured now is higher than we had during World War II. Think also of the scale of destruction and destruction, the damage and loss that these actions have caused. That's what Trump is talking about. He's really an extraordinary person, a supporter of peace," Kellogg said.

3:44 PM: Poland will not be able to pay for Starlink for Ukraine due to the president's veto, the country's digitalization minister Krzysztof Hawkowski reports.

- "I can't imagine a better gift for Putin's troops than disconnecting Ukraine from the Internet [...]," writes Havkovskyi.
- We will remind, today Navrotskyi blocked the government's amendment to the law on assistance to citizens of Ukraine.

4:32 PM: Ukraine enlists Soviet Yak-52 jet crews to shoot down Russian drones, Wall Street Journal.

- According to the publication, only last year one such crew performed 300 sorties and shot down 60 drones of various types.
- These planes and helicopters shoot down about 10-12% of the total number of drones. Their main targets are "shahedis" and Orlan and Zala scouts.

5:59 PM: Currently, consultations are ongoing with the Polish side regarding the Starlink subscription fee for Ukraine, — "Suspilne" with reference to the Ministry of Digital.

6:59 PM: Zaluzhny was offered to officially join the president's political team, but he refused, Guardian.

- According to the publication, Zaluzhnyi promised that he would not publicly criticize Zelensky while the war continues.
- The former head of the Armed Forces assured that he would not give OP any "unpleasant surprises" and would inform them privately if he still decided to enter politics.

7:59 PM: Zelensky met with the special representative of the US President Keith Kellogg.

- "We discussed how we can influence the Russians, force them to engage in real negotiations and end the war. Sanctions, tariffs - everything should remain on the agenda," the president writes.

9:00 PM: The High Anti-Corruption Court extended the procedural duties of former Deputy Prime Minister Chernyshov in the bribery case.

- Oleksiy Chernyshov is required to report to the investigators, to report a change of residence or work, not to travel abroad without permission, and to avoid contact with suspects and witnesses.
- In June, a preventive measure was chosen for him - a 120 million hryvnias bail. At the beginning of July, the deposit was paid.

9:17 PM: The Federal Investigative Bureau has exposed the director of a company that supplied low-quality oil to the military.

- The official tried to supply National Guard soldiers with 250 tons of low-quality butter worth tens of millions of hryvnias, using forged documents.
- She was informed of suspicion of fraud and use of false documents, faces up to 12 years in prison with confiscation of property. The Federal Investigative Bureau also examines other supplies for the military.

10:06 PM: Prime Minister Yuliya Svyridenko confirmed that her brother Vitaly, who was previously a deputy of the Chernihiv Regional Council, lives abroad.

- According to her, he left before the full-scale invasion began.

10:10 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyy appointed Oleksiy Havrysh as ambassador to Iceland.

- Havrysh is the head of the Embassy of Ukraine in Norway since April 2025. Now he will head diplomatic missions in both countries.
- The diplomat has over 20 years of experience in energy, finance and strategic management.

10:20 PM: Summary Report of the General Staff of the Armed Forces as of 10:00 p.m

- "In total, since the beginning of this day, there have been 136 combat clashes. The invaders carried out 43 airstrikes, dropping 57 guided aerial bombs. In addition, the Russians engaged 1,459 kamikaze drones and carried out 2,799 attacks on the positions of our troops and populated areas."

MORDOR – ruZZia

9:37 PM: 28 Ukrainian journalists and media workers are still in Russian captivity, reports the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Freedom of Speech.

10:45 PM: Explosions are heard in occupied Makiivka in Donetsk region.

11:21 PM: Russia plans to withdraw from the European Convention against Torture.

- Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mishustin signed a resolution to submit to Putin a proposal to denounce the European Convention on the Prevention of Torture.

11:32 PM: Russia loses 17% of oil refining capacity due to Ukraine attacks, — Reuters.

- Over the past month, the Lukoil Refinery in Volgograd, the Rosneft Refinery in Ryazan, the Novoshakhty Refinery, and facilities in Rostov, Samara, Saratov Oblasts, and Krasnodar Krai have been hit.

- These attacks have significantly weakened Russia's oil refining industry, which is key to the economy and military needs.

REGIONS

CHERNIHIV



9:07 PM: An explosion is heard in Chernihiv.

SUMY



12:35 AM: Sumy is again under attack by enemy drones, said Acting of the mayor Artem Kobzar.

- A hit was recorded in one of the districts of Starosty, a fire broke out.

- There is currently no information about the victims. Residents are urged to stay away from windows and follow safety rules.

1:02 AM: The enemy has been attacking Sumy Oblast with drones for almost a day, Oleg Hrygorov, head of OVA, said.

- Drones hit the territory of the Sumy and Roma communities. Previously, there were no victims, information about the victims is being clarified.
- Fires have been recorded at the sites of the hits, investigations and liquidation of the consequences are ongoing.

3:16 AM: Enemy shelling with the use of Guided Bombs and strike drones led to the blackout of parts of Bilopolska and Vorozhbyan communities of Sumy district, — Chief of Sumy OVA Oleg Grigorov.

- According to available information, two enemy drones hit a substation in Bilopyl, which left part of the city without electricity. Residents were urged to stock up on water.

9:19 AM: This morning, the enemy attacked Sumy again with two drones, Mayor Artem Kobzar reported.

- One of the hits hit a residential building, two people received shrapnel injuries. The second hit was recorded at a gas station. No casualties.

2:31 PM: An explosion rang out in Sumy.

10:20 PM: Summary Report of the General Staff of the Armed Forces as of 10:00 p.m

- In the North-Slobozhansk and Kursk directions, since the beginning of the day, Ukrainian soldiers repelled five assaults by the occupiers.

KHARKIV



10:20 PM: Summary Report of the General Staff of the Armed Forces as of 10:00 p.m

- In the Kupyansk direction, enemy units carried out six assaults, trying to break through to the positions of our defenders in the areas of Sinkivka, Golubivka, Kolisnikivka, and Zagryzovo.
- In the Lyman direction, since the beginning of the day, Russian invaders have attacked Ukrainian positions 17 times near the settlements of Novomykhailivka, Grekivka, Kolodyazi, Novoselivka, Zelena Dolyna and in the direction of Yampol and Serebryanka.

DONETSK



4:56 PM: As a result of Russian strikes on Kostyantynivka, 4 civilians were injured, the prosecutor's office reports.

- the occupiers dropped five "FAB-250" with the UMPK module on the residential buildings of the city.
- The victims include a 26-year-old man and three women aged 51, 74 and 85.

10:20 PM: Summary Report of the General Staff of the Armed Forces as of 10:00 p.m

- On the Siverskyi direction, the enemy once tried to break through in the area of Fedorivka.
- In the Kramatorsk direction, 13 combat clashes were recorded, enemy units tried to advance in the areas of Chasovoy Yar, Bila Hora and towards Stupochky and Predtechny.
- In the Toretsk direction, the Russians attacked the positions of the Defense Forces six times. The occupiers concentrated their offensive efforts in the districts of Diliivka, Toretsk, Rusyny Yar, and Oleksandro-Kalynovoy.
- Since the beginning of the day, in the Pokrovsky direction, Russian units have tried 43 times to break through Ukrainian defenses in the areas of Nikanorivka, Mayak, Myrolyubivka, Novoeconomichne, Rodynske, Grodivka, Myrolyubivka, Sukhy Yar, Lysivka, Chunyshyne, Zvirove, Kotlyne, Udachne, Novomykolaivka, Gorikhove and Dachne.

- Ukrainian units stopped eight enemy attacks on the positions of our troops near the settlements of Yalta, Zeleny Gai, Voskresenka, Shevchenko and Komyshevukha in the Novopavlovsk direction, and four more combat clashes are still ongoing.

ZAPORIZHIA



7:40 AM: the Russians struck the Kushugum community with drones, — Zaporizhzhia OVA.

- As a result of the shelling, houses, power lines and gas supply were damaged.
- Information about the victims is being clarified.

10:20 PM: Summary Report of the General Staff of the Armed Forces as of 10:00 p.m

- In the Gulyaipil direction, a battle is taking place in the Malinivka area.
- In the Orihiv direction, the invaders twice tried to advance in the area of Plavni and in the direction of Pavlivka.

KHERSON



8:34 PM: In the Kherson region, a Russian drone hit the office car of the prosecutor's office, the Office of the Prosecutor General.

- A 58-year-old driver and a 38-year-old prosecutor were injured, both were hospitalized. An investigation into a war crime has been launched.

10:20 PM: Summary Report of the General Staff of the Armed Forces as of 10:00 p.m

- In the Dnieper direction, the enemy made three fruitless offensive attempts, suffered losses and retreated.

CHERKASY



10:50 AM: Krypnytskyi coach Yevhen Kushnir died in Smila after being detained by the Territorial Conscription Commission, local media reported.

- Lyudmila Voytovytska, an acquaintance of the deceased, claims that he had a reprieve and was detained on the way

to Kyiv. Relatives searched for him for several days, later they learned about his resuscitation in Smilyansk hospital and his death on August 24.

- The Territorial Conscription Commission said Kushnir, who is referred to as a "reserve soldier," allegedly jumped out of a vehicle while being transported to a training unit and suffered fatal injuries.

RIVNO



2:17 PM: The Rivne Regional Territorial Conscription Commission reported the death of a conscript at the muster point — previously, due to heart failure.

- The Territorial Conscription Commission notes that an "ambulance" was urgently called for the man, but it was not possible to save him.
- "There are no signs of a violent death," the report says.



Comparison of russian losses in 9 years and 9 months in Afghanistan to losses in russian invasion of Ukraine using Wikipedia and Ukraine Ministry of Defense Daily Bulletins. Soviet and Russian military losses not including captured equipment or damaged and destroyed equipment outside of Ukraine.

	Soviet Afghanistan	August 19	August 22	August 23	August 24	August 25
Duration	9 years and 9 months	After 1,274 days	After 1,275 days	After 1,276 days	After 1,277 days	After 1,278 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,453	1,073,530	1,075,160	1,076,070	1,076,940	1,077,830

Material Losses

Tanks	147	11,120	11,129	11,129	11,130	11,134
Armored Personnel Carriers	1,314	23,157	23,164	23,167	23,175	23,178
Artillery, Mortars, and Ballistic Rocket3 launchers	433	33,260	33,330	33,370	33,418	33,451
Cruise Missiles		3,565	3,598	3,598	3,598	3,598

Fighters Bombers	118	422	422	422	422	422
Helicopters	333	340	340	340	340	340
Drones		52,469	52,935	53,056	53,347	53,442
Air Defense Systems		1,209	1,210	1,211	1,211	1,211
Cargo/Fuel/ other transport	11,36 9	59,316	59,512	59,593	59,672	59,769
Naval Vessels		28 + 1 submari ne	28 + 1 submari ne	28 + 1 submari ne	28 + 1 submari ne	28 + 1 submari ne
Specialized equipment		3,944	3,944	3,944	3,948	3,950
DAYS left in Trump's 2 nd Presidency		1,248	1,247	1,246	1,245	1,244

SOURCES

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SUMMARY OF BOMB, MISSILE, DRONE, UAV AND ARTILLERY THREATS TO CIVILIANS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

2:58 PM: Ballistic threat from the northeast.

- Speed target in Sumy Oblast.

3:12 PM: Repulse the threat.

3:20 PM: Threat of using ballistics from the south.

- Launching of Guided Bombs on Sumy Oblast.

3:45 PM: Countering the ballistic threat.

4:19 PM: Activity of enemy tactical aircraft in the eastern direction.

10:16 PM: Guided Bomb launches by enemy tactical aircraft to the north of Donetsk region.

10:18 PM: Guided Bomb launches in Sumy region.