

Humanitarian aspect:

As of the morning of August 20, 2022, more than 1,081 Ukrainian children are victims of full-scale armed aggression by the Russian Federation, Prosecutor General's Office reports. **The official number of children who have died increased to 363, and the number of wounded children increased to more than 718.** However, the data is not conclusive since data collection continues in the areas of active hostilities, the temporarily occupied areas, and liberated territories.

On August 19, as a result of enemy artillery shelling, an 8-year-old girl was injured in Zaporizhzhya Oblast. It became known that on August 12, a 12-year-old girl was injured during the shelling of Kramatorsk by the Russian troops. It also became known about the death of a 9-year-old girl on May 27 as a result of the enemy shelling of Velyke Artakove, Mykolaiv Oblast.

2,328 educational institutions were damaged due to bombing and shelling by the armed forces of the Russian Federation. Of them, 289 were completely destroyed.

For the last 10 days, **more than 20 thousand Ukrainians left the Russian-occupied territories of Ukraine.** According to the Vice Prime Minister - Minister for Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories, Iryna Vereshchuk, most of the evacuated civilians, about 9 thousand, were evacuated from the Zaporizhzhya oblast. Another 8 thousand Ukrainian citizens left the occupied Kherson region. Vereshchuk stressed that evacuation from the front-line areas and occupied territories is the most reliable way to keep Ukrainian families safe.

At night, the Russian military struck several districts of **Mykolaiv**. Preliminary, no civilian victims were recorded. The enemy shelling damaged residential buildings in Mykolayiv oblast, and civilian victims were reported in Pervomaiska, Shirokivska, and Berezneguvatska amalgamated communities.

On August 20, the Russian forces shelled the town of Voznesensk in the Mykolaiv oblast, the head of Mykolaiv Oblast Military Administration, Vitaly Kim, reported. As a result of a Russian strike on a residential five-story building, preliminary 9 people were injured, of which four children from 3 to 17 years old were seriously wounded. A girl lost her eye to a shrapnel wound. The rocket that hit Voznesensk could have been directed at the South Ukrainian nuclear power plant, Energoatom commented. "It is possible that this missile was aimed specifically at the Pivdenoukrainska [South Ukraine] NPP, which the Russian military tried to capture at the beginning of March."

In the **Dnipropetrovsk Oblast**, 10 Russian shells from the barrel artillery hit Nikopol at night. As a result, nine private houses, solar panels, and power lines were damaged. In addition, several homes were damaged in Marganets and Apostoliv districts.

In the afternoon of August 20, the Ukrainian air defense shot down another 4 Kalibr missiles, which the Russians directed at Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, head of Dnipropetrovsk oblast Administration, Valentyn Reznichenko, reported.

At night, the Russian shelled the Slobidsky district of **Kharkiv**. The enemy missiles hit critical infrastructure facilities in the Nemyshlyansky district and the suburbs of Kharkiv. Preliminary, no victims were reported.

The death toll from a strike on the Kharkiv dormitory, destroyed by a Russian missile attack on August 17, has risen to 18 people. Rescuers found three more bodies under the rubble.

In the **Donetsk Oblast**, 7 civilian deaths were recorded in the past day, according to the Head of Donetsk Oblast Military Administration, Pavlo Kyrylenko. Another 13 people were injured, the official said.

Occupied territories

Advisor to the [legally-elected Ukrainian] Mayor of **Mariupol**, Petro Andryushchenko, said that the Mariupol Kuindzhi Gallery was destroyed and completely looted by the Russian invaders.

In Mariupol, the Russian occupation authorities set up busts of Lenin in schools and provided open-air movies of Soviet films. "Under the Ukrainian government, the townspeople watched the best of world cinema, under Russia — a rollback," wrote Petr Andryushchenko, an adviser to the [legally-elected Ukrainian] mayor.

Russian occupation authorities in the occupied **Volchansk, Kharkiv Oblast**, issue mobile SIM cards with a Russian code. The occupiers cynically called the tariff "Without Borders," but it could be used only to contact subscribers in other Russian-occupied territories.

Operational situation

It is the 178th day of the strategic air and ground offensive operation of the Russian Armed Forces against Ukraine (in the official terminology of the Russian Federation – "operation to protect Donbas"). The enemy is concentrating its efforts on establishing full control over the territories of the Luhansk and Donetsk Oblasts, maintaining the temporarily captured areas of the Kherson Oblast and parts of the Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhya, and Mykolaiv Oblasts, creating favorable conditions for resuming their offensives in certain directions, and blocking Ukraine's maritime communications in the Black Sea.

The enemy continues to carry out air and missile strikes on military and civilian objects in Ukraine.

The enemy shelled civilian and military infrastructure in the areas of Pushkari in Chernihiv Oblast and Bilopillya, Krasnopillya, Myropillya and Pavlivka in Sumy Oblast, and carried out aerial reconnaissance by UAVs.

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Belarus hold the exercises of the Air Forces and Air Defense Forces units. The threat of the enemy launching missile and air strikes from the territory and airspace of Belarus at the Ukrainian territory remains.

Military Intelligence Directorate of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense warned that the Russian authorities intend to hold a show trial of Ukrainian Azovstal POWs in the Mariupol Philharmonic Hall and may use this facility to stage a false flag attack on August 24 [Ukraine's Independence Day].

The [Russian] Amur Press media reported that the Khabarovsk communications battalion "Baron Korf" will support the deployment of Russian C2 points in the Kherson region. It will provide [communication] C2 support to the new Russian 3rd Army Corps, which is deployed in the south of Ukraine and to which many of the recently created Russian volunteer units are subordinated. This indicates that the Kremlin will deploy many of its new volunteer units in Kherson and the south of Ukraine.

On August 18, the Military Commissariat of the Republic of Kabardino-Balkaria [Russian Federation] announced the recruitment of the "Kabardino-Balkaria" Volunteer Regiment, which will be part of the 42nd motorized rifle division of the 58th Combined Arms Army of the Southern Military District. The age requirement for volunteers is 18-50 years. The promised salary is 168,000-200,000 rubles (\$2,695-3,368) per month on the territory of the Russian Federation and 200,000-300,000 rubles (\$3,368-5,053) during hostilities in Ukraine. The regiment offers contracts for three months, one year and three years.

The formation of the Cossack volunteer brigade "Don" in the Rostov region was announced, which recruits men aged 18 to 60 without military service experience. The brigade offers a salary of 200,000 rubles per month, 40,000 rubles (\$674) for equipment purchase, and contracts for three and six months.

The morale and psychological condition of the personnel of the invasion forces remain low. The enemy's personnel is demoralized due to the constant postponement of their rotation dates and deception with promised payments. This causes the personnel to refuse to participate in hostilities.

Kharkiv direction

- *Zolochiv-Balakleya section: approximate length of combat line - 147 km, number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 10-12, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 13.3 km;*
- *Deployed enemy BTGs: 26th, 153rd and 197th tank regiments, 245th motorized rifle regiment of the 47th tank division, 6th and 239th tank regiments, 228th motorized rifle regiment of the 90th tank division, 1st motorized rifle regiment, 1st tank regiment of the 2nd motorized rifle division, 25th and 138th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 6th Combined Arms Army, 27th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 1st Tank Army, 275th and 280th motorized rifle regiments, 11th tank regiment of the 18th motorized rifle division of the 11 Army Corps, 7th motorized rifle regiment of the 11th Army Corps, 80th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 14th Army Corps,*

2nd and 45th separate SOF brigades of the Airborne Forces, 1st Army Corps of so-called DPR, PMCs

The enemy is conducting combat operations to hold the occupied areas and prevent a counteroffensive of Ukrainian troops. In some areas, Russian troops are trying to improve their tactical position. They fired from barrel and rocket artillery at targets in the areas of Chuhuiv, Zolochiv, Pytomnyk, Husarivka, Sosnivka, Ruski Tyshky, Korobochkyne, Shestakove, Duvanka, Prudyanka, Kharkiv, Protopopivka, Petrivka, Slatyne, Velyki Prohody and Milova, and actively conducted aerial UAV reconnaissance. Russians carried out airstrikes near Lebyazhe, Zalyman, Stary Saltiv and Yavirske, and carried out remote terrain mining in Stary and Upper Saltiv.

The enemy attacked in the area of Borschova, was defeated and retreated. They also tried to improve their tactical position near Pytomnyk, but were also repulsed.

Kramatorsk direction

- *Balakleya - Siversk section: approximate length of the combat line - 184 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 17-20, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 9.6 km;*
- *252nd and 752nd motorized rifle regiments of the 3rd motorized rifle division, 1st, 13th and 12th tank regiments, 423rd motorized rifle regiment of the 4th tank division, 201st military base, 15th, 21st, 30th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 2nd Combined Arms Army, 35th, 55th and 74th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 41st Combined Arms Army, 3rd and 14th separate SOF brigades, 2nd and 4th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 2nd Army Corps, 7th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 1st Army Corps, PMC*

Enemy shelled from tanks, barrel artillery, and MLRS near Dovhenke, Sulyhivka, Mazanivka, Dibrivne, Virnopillya, Chepil, Bohorodychne, Siversk, Hryhorivka, Berestove, Ivano-Daryivka, Rozdolivka, Sydorove, Spirne, and Pryshyb. They conducted aerial reconnaissance in the area of hostilities.

Russian units attacked the positions of the Ukrainian Defense Forces near Kurulka, Vyimka, and Ivano-Daryivka, but were repulsed and retreated. Fighting continues near Ivano-Daryivka.

Russian troops tried to break through the Ukrainian defense lines in Karnaukhivka, Dibrovne, Virnopillya and Novodmytrivka areas, attacked near Dolyna, and along the E40 Izyum-Slovyansk route, shelled the Kramatorsk College of Technology and Design.

Donetsk direction

- *Siversk - Maryinka section: approximate length of the combat line - 235 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 13-15, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 17 km;*
- *Deployed BTGs: 68th and 163rd tank regiments, 102nd and 103rd motorized rifle regiments of the 150 motorized rifle division, 80th tank regiment of the 90th tank division, 35th, 55th and 74th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 41st Combined Arms Army, 31st separate airborne assault brigade, 61st separate marines brigade of the Joint Strategic Command "Northern Fleet", 336th separate marines brigade, 24th separate SOF brigade, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 15th, and 100th*

separate motorized rifle brigades, 9th and 11th separate motorized rifle regiment of the 1st Army Corps of the so-called DNR, 6th motorized rifle regiment of the 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LNR, PMCs

The enemy damaged with fire civilian and military infrastructure in the areas of Avdiivka, Andriivka, Bakhmut, Bakhmutske, Berestove, Bilohorivka, Vershyna, Vesele, Vodiane, Zaitseve, Zalizne, Keramik, Kermenchyk, Kodema, Krasnohorivka, Lastochkyne, Mayorsk, Maryinka, Nevelske, Neskuchne, Novobakhmutivka, Novoukrainka, Oleksandropil, Opytne, Pisky, Svitle, Soledar, Shevchenko, and Yakovlivka. The enemy used aviation to strike in the vicinity of Maryinka, Soledar, Yakovlivka, Novoselivka Druga, Nevelske, and conducted aerial reconnaissance by UAVs.

The Russian troops attacked the positions of the Ukrainian Defense Forces in the areas of Bakhmut, Zaitseve, Kodema, Soledar, Bakhmutske, Opytne, Mayorsk, and Pisky, but were forced to retreat after suffering losses.

Zaporizhzhya direction

- *Maryinka – Vasylivka section: approximate length of the line of combat - 200 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 17, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 11.7 km;*
- *Deployed BTGs: 36th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 29th Combined Arms Army, 38th and 64th separate motorized rifle brigades, 69th separate cover brigade of the 35th Combined Arms Army, 5th separate tank brigade, 37 separate motorized rifle brigade of the 36th Combined Arms Army, 135th, 429th, 503rd and 693rd motorized rifle regiments of the 19th motorized rifle division of the 58th Combined Arms Army, 70th, 71st and 291st motorized rifle regiments of the 42nd motorized rifle division of the 58th Combined Arms Army, 136th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 58 Combined Arms Army, 46th and 49th machine gun artillery regiments of the 18th machine gun artillery division of the 68th Army Corps, 39th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 68th Army Corps, 83th separate airborne assault brigade, 40th and 155th separate marines brigades, 22nd separate SOF brigade, 1st Army Corps of the so-called DPR, and 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR, PMCs*

Enemy shelling was recorded near Biloghirya, Velyka Novosilka, Volodymyrivka, Vremivka, Vuhledar, Hulyaipole, Zaliznychne, Zolota Nyva, Mala Tokmachka, Novoandriivka, Novodanilivka, Novomykhailivka, Novopole, Novosilka, Olhivske, Pavlivka, Poltavka, Preobrazhenka, Prechistivka, Samiylivka, Temyrivka, Charivne, and Chervone. The enemy carried out airstrikes near Pavlivka, Novomykhailivka, Shcherbaky, Dorozhnyanka and Novosilka, and conducted active reconnaissance of air defense positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and continued reconnaissance with UAVs.

The enemy attacked the Ukrainian Defence Forces' positions in Zolota Nyva, but was forced to retreat.

Ukrainian Defense Forces destroyed the Russian "Zooprak-1" radar system.

Kherson direction

- *Vasylivka–Nova Zboryivka and Stanislav section: approximate length of the battle line - 252 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 27, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 9.3 km;*
- *Deployed BTGs: 114th, 143rd and 394th motorized rifle regiments, 218th tank regiment of the 127th motorized rifle division of the 5th Combined Arms Army, 57th and 60th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 5th Combined Arms Army, 135th, 503rd and 693rd motorized rifle regiments of the 19th motorized rifle division, 70th, 71st and 291st motorized rifle regiments of the 42nd motorized rifle division, 51st and 137th parachute airborne regiments of the 106th parachute airborne division, 7th military base of the 49th Combined Arms Army, 16th and 346th separate SOF brigades*

The operational situation is unchanged.

Kherson-Berislav bridgehead

- *Velyka Lepetikha – Oleksandrivka section: approximate length of the battle line – 250 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces – 22, the average width of the combat area of one BTG – 11.8 km;*
- *Deployed BTGs: 108th Air assault regiment, 171st separate airborne assault brigade of the 7th Air assault division, 4th military base of the 58th Combined Arms Army, 429th motorized rifle regiment of the 19th motorized rifle division, 33rd and 255th motorized rifle regiments of the 20th motorized rifle division, 34th and 205th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 49th Combined Arms Army, 224th, 237th and 239th Air assault regiments of the 76th Air assault division, 217th and 331 Air assault regiments of the 98th Air assault division, 126th separate coastal defense brigade, 127th separate ranger brigade, 11th separate airborne assault brigade, 10th separate SOF brigade, PMC*

The enemy focuses its primary efforts on preventing the advance of Ukrainian troops. The Russian military is taking measures to replenish their personnel and equipment losses. The enemy shelled civilian and military infrastructure in Prybuzke, Luch, Tavriyske, Novohryhorivka, Olenivka, Novoselivka, Blagodatne, Vesely Kut, Shyroke, Yakovlivka, Bila Krynytsia, Andriivka, and Otradne, and continues to actively use UAVs for aerial reconnaissance. They inflicted air strikes near Mykolaivske, Nove Zhittia, Pervomaiske, Bila Krynytsia and Lozove.

The enemy tried to break through the Ukrainian defense in the area of Kirove village, but was repulsed.

Russian troops retreated to their starting positions after an unsuccessful assault in the direction of Oleksandrivka - Stanislav, unsuccessfully tried to break through Ukrainian defenses near the village of Zarichne in the Mykolaiv region.

Ukrainian troops continued to conduct offensive actions to de-occupy towns and villages in the southern direction.

Azov-Black Sea Maritime Operational Area:

The forces of the Russian Black Sea Fleet continue to project force on the coast and the continental part of Ukraine and control the northwestern part of the Black Sea. The ultimate goal is to deprive Ukraine of access to the sea and connect unrecognized Transnistria with the Russian Federation by land

There are currently 7 Russian warships and boats in the Black Sea, headed by the "Admiral Essen" frigate. 2 ships (a frigate and a Buyan-M type corvette) carry up to 16 Kalibr missiles ready to launch.

Most large amphibious ships are in the ports of Novorossiysk and Sevastopol for replenishment and scheduled repairs. There are no signs of the formation of an amphibious landing force to land on the southern coast of Ukraine. A large Project 775 landing ship "Korolyov" (board number 130) left the Novorossiysk Naval Base. It entered the waters of the Sea of Azov and headed for the Mariupol Seaport.

The missile corvette "Samum" (with 8 Moskit anti-aircraft missiles) is in a firing position near the western coast of Crimea.

2 Russian ships (a corvette and a minesweeper) are on patrol in the Sea of Azov.

All four submarines of project 636.3 are at ports in Sevastopol and Novorossiysk.

Russian aviation continues to fly from Crimean airfields Belbek and Gvardiyske over the northwestern part of the Black Sea. 7 aircraft from the Crimean Air Group of the Russian Federation were involved in the past day. After the explosions, the Saki airfield does not function, and the intensity of flights decreased three-fold.

On August 19, from 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Russian air defense forces opened fire on unidentified aircraft in the northern regions of Crimea and on the outskirts of Yevpatoria and Sevastopol. The ship artillery of regular air defense ships stationed in Sevastopol Bay was used (for the first time since the Second World War).

On the morning of August 20, an explosion was recorded in the area of the headquarters of the Russian Black Sea Fleet. According to unconfirmed information, the air defense systems of the Russian Federation were activated.

The domestic political situation in Crimea is agitated by the prevailing anxious mood among the population due to the August 19 strikes on the air base in Belbek, recent explosions at an ammunition warehouse near the Maiske of the Dzhankoy district, and daily Russian air defense shots at UAVs in the sky over Crimea. The Crimean so-called "authorities" purposefully avoid detailed comments regarding the increased air threat level.

The new commander of the Black Sea Fleet of the Russian Federation, Viktor Sokolov, trying to calm public opinion confused by Russia's military failures, claimed that the Russian Black Sea Fleet

would receive 12 new and modernized ships and support vessels as well as 21 units of special equipment.

The intensity of the enemy military equipment movement by road and rail from Crimea in the Kherson direction remains active. From the occupied Crimea, railway freight trains continue to arrive on the territory of the Kherson region, unloading military equipment and ammunition at the "Kalanchak" and "Novooleksiivka" stations.

Operational losses of the enemy from 24.02 to 20.08

Personnel - almost 44,900 people (+200);

Tanks - 1,907 (+8);

Armored combat vehicles - 4,212 (+17);

Artillery systems - 1,018 (+2);

Multiple rocket launchers (MLRS) - 266 (0);

Anti-aircraft warfare systems - 141 (0);

Vehicles and fuel tanks - 3,137 (+7);

Aircraft - 233 (0);

Helicopters - 197 (0);

UAV operational and tactical level - 803 (+8);

Intercepted cruise missiles - 190 (0);

Boats / ships - 15 (0).

Ukraine, general news

Ukraine's gross domestic product (GDP) may fall by 35-40% by the end of 2022 due to Russia's invasion, Interfax reports with reference to Yulia Svyridenko, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy.

The Russian military equipment, destroyed by Ukrainian Defence Forces during Russia's all-out invasion, is on display on Khreshchatyk [central street of Kyiv] in preparation for Ukraine's Independence Day, celebrated on August 24. Ironically, in its plans to conquer Ukraine in 3 days after the February 24, 2022 invasion, the Kremlin voiced the intention to have a military parade of Russian military equipment on Khreshchatyk. Now, the Kyiv residents would welcome the "parade" of destroyed Russian military equipment.

International diplomatic aspect

The Austrian Foreign Ministry summoned Russia's Ambassador Mikhail Ulyanov after the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry called to designate him as a persona non grata for his tweet. Ulyanov is famous for numerous dubious tweets and memes. But this time, he tweeted, "No mercy to the Ukrainian population!" Though he tried to defend himself by having some Ukrainian relatives and didn't mean to call for war crimes, it doesn't justify his genocide-call-for-action message, especially given that the Russian troops regularly committed war crimes. There're 29,377 war crimes and aggression cases under investigation by the General Prosecutor's Office.

The very phrase “Ukrainian population” Russian diplomats and officials employ instead of “Ukrainians” or “Ukrainian citizens” shows their denial of Ukrainian statehood. The other language marker is the preposition “on” instead of “in” that Russian officials deliberately use with the name of Ukraine. It is supposed to describe Ukraine as a territory, not an independent country. Furthermore, the Russian officials use the “Kievan regime” instead of “the President of Ukraine” and “the Ukrainian government”. It’s supposed to show the illegality and illegitimacy of the democratically elected Ukrainian government. The imperial semantics includes many other examples like “Belarussia” instead of “Belarus”, “near Baltic” instead of the “Baltic” states etc.

Within the last three months, Poland has taken away twenty Soviet monuments, while forty are remaining in place. The head of the Institute of National Remembrance of Poland hopes to complete the process of decommunisation of the Polish public space on his watch. Russia’s all-out invasion of Ukraine boosted the process of getting rid of the soviet ideological symbols across the Baltic states and Poland. Along with removing the soviet ideological symbols, Ukraine gets rid of Russia-related toponyms as well.

US Deputy Treasury expressed concern to the Turkish Ministry of Finance about Russian entities and individuals using Turkey to evade sanctions by the US and 30 countries. It was reported that Russian companies, sanctioned by the US and the EU, are reregistering and transferring their HQs to Turkey.

Member of the House of Representatives of the US Congress Adam Kinzinger and British MP Tobias Ellwood said that if the Russians carry out a nuclear provocation at the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant and there is a threat of radioactive contamination of Europe, the fifth article of NATO will be activated automatically.

Russia, relevant news

The European low-cost airline Wizz Air indefinitely postpones the resumption of flights from Moscow to Abu Dhabi due to widespread criticism and calls for a boycott of the company. This is reported by Reuters.

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