

Humanitarian aspect:

As of the morning of September 4, 2022, more than 1,122 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 and been wounded in the course of the Russian aggression has increased to 380 and more than 737, respectively.** However, the data is not conclusive since data collection continues in the areas of active hostilities, temporarily occupied areas, and liberated territories.

More than seven thousand Ukrainian children have been illegally taken to Russia since the beginning of the war, Ombudsman Dmytro Lubenets said. Only 51 children were returned. Russia is preventing the return of Ukrainian children as much as possible as it plans to assimilate them.

In **Donetsk Oblast**, on September 3, 4 civilians were killed by enemy shelling; 2 more were wounded.

In **Zaporizhzhya Oblast**, on September 3, the enemy attacked the Vasylivskiy and Pologivskiy districts of the region. As a result, eighteen objects of civil infrastructure were damaged.

On the night of September 4, **Mykolaiv** was subjected to a massive rocket attack. Three medical facilities, two educational institutions, a hotel, a museum, and residential buildings were damaged. In addition, the power grid and water supply were damaged, utility services are working at the site.

The Russian occupiers also shelled the Mykolaiv, Voznesensk and Bashtan districts of **Mykolayiv Oblast** (1 child died, 3 others were injured).

In the morning, the Russian aggressors destroyed an elevator with several thousand tons of grain in **Ochakiv**, Mykolaiv Oblast. In addition to the elevator, dozens of houses were damaged. The scale of the damage is being established, according to the deputy mayor of Ochakiv, Oleksiy Vaskov.

At night, the Russians shelled the restaurant complex "Dubrovsky" in **Kharkiv**. The restaurant burned down.

On the afternoon of September 4, Russian occupiers shelled districts of Kharkiv again; there were victims among civilians. According to Oleh Syneubov, the head of the Oblast Military Administration, 2 people have been hospitalized.

On September 3, the Russian military shelled the Kharkiv, Izyum (1 wounded), Bogodukhiv and Chuhuiv districts (1 killed, 1 wounded) of **Kharkiv Oblast**. Private houses and commercial

buildings were damaged. A 50-year-old woman was killed in the Zolochiv community of Kharkiv Oblast due to today's shelling by Russians. In addition, three people were injured in the village of Andriyivka near Izyum, according to the Oblast Military Administration.

At night, the enemy shelled the Nikopol district of **Dnipropetrovsk Oblast** three times. As a result of the shelling, dozens of residential buildings, outbuildings, and the plant's territory were damaged, said the head of the Oblast Military Administration, Valentyn Reznichenko.

On September 3, the Russian occupiers shelled Bilopilska and Krasnopilska communities in **Sumy Oblast**. In total, almost 70 enemy shellings from self-propelled guns and mortars were recorded.

Volunteers of World Central Kitchen came under Russian shelling in eastern Ukraine. Three trucks are damaged, and some of the food is destroyed. Chef and WCK founder José Andrés tweeted about it. According to him, none of the volunteer team was injured. World Central Kitchen has been feeding people in hot spots worldwide for over a decade. During the six months of the war in Ukraine, WCK volunteers prepared more than 130 million meals.

Germany will allocate €200 million to Ukraine for internally displaced persons. German Economic Development Minister Svenja Schulze said that a corresponding agreement would be signed today during the visit of Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal to Berlin, Reuters reports. According to the UN, 7 million Ukrainian citizens became internally displaced due to Russian aggression.

Occupied territories

In the **Kherson Oblast**, the occupiers have been carrying out "filtration measures" among local residents since the morning. Serhiy Bratchuk, speaker of the Odesa Military Administration, citing information from local residents, reports that the invaders are trying to intimidate people and force them to hand over their relatives and friends, who are members of the resistance movement.

The occupation authorities of **Melitopol** report a massive power outage in the city.

Operational situation

It is the 193rd day of the strategic air-ground offensive operation of the Russian Armed Forces against Ukraine (in the official terminology of the Russian Federation – "operation to protect Donbas"). The enemy continues to concentrate on establishing full control over the territory of Donetsk Oblast, maintaining the captured parts of Kherson, Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhya, and Mykolaiv Oblasts.

The enemy continues offensive actions in the Bakhmut and Avdiivka areas. They continue to actively use air defense means to cover their troops. The enemy conducts UAV aerial reconnaissance with high intensity and is trying to improve the logistical support of its troops.

Over the past 24 hours, the enemy has launched more than 10 missile and more than 24 airstrikes at military and civilian objects on the territory of Ukraine. In particular, civilian infrastructure was damaged in the areas of Peremoga, Husarivka, Novomykhailivka, and Biloghira.

The threat of systematic massive air and missile strikes on military and critical infrastructure facilities throughout Ukraine continues to persist.

Due to the lack of high-precision weapons, the enemy began to use outdated S-300 anti-aircraft guided missiles more often. More than 500 such missiles have already been used, some of which did not reach the target. The Russian military has about 7,000 5n55 rockets in their arsenal, but a large part of them are not suitable for use due to their poor technical condition.

The enemy shelled the military and civilian infrastructure using tanks, combat vehicles, barrel and rocket artillery at Mikhalchyna Sloboda in Chernihiv and Stukalivka in Sumy Oblasts.

During the past day, to support the actions of the ground groupings, the aviation of the Ukrainian Defense Forces carried out 11 strikes aimed at destroying the enemy manpower, combat and special equipment, EW, air defense and logistic support facilities in the Donetsk and Pivdenny Buh directions.

Missile troops and artillery of the Ukrainian ground groupings continue to perform counter-battery combat tasks and breach the enemy's control system and logistical support. During the past day, Ukrainian Defence Forces inflicted fire damage on four enemy control points, the areas of concentration of combat equipment and personnel of the tank battalion, and the object of accommodation of the enemy's personnel. In addition, the "Zoopark" counter-battery radar, the "Zhitel" electronic warfare station, an ammunition depot, and a large number of the enemy's manpower were destroyed.

In anticipation of danger, the Russian occupiers strengthened the administrative and policing regime in the towns and villages located on the banks of the Dnipro River and the coastline protection in the temporarily captured areas of Zaporizhzhya and Kherson Oblasts. In addition, the Russian state companies have been given new targets for selecting "volunteers" for the war. Thus, the Russian Railways company received an order to search for up to 10,000 new candidates for a short-term contract among civilian employees.

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Belarus are conducting the readiness review of field communication systems as part of preparations for the command and staff exercises.

The morale and psychological state of the personnel of the invasion forces remain low.

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 shelled the areas of Kozacha Lopan, Kharkiv, Slatyne, Sosnivka, Udy, Petrivka, Velyki Prohody, Stary Saltiv, Andriyivka, Krasnopillya, Prudyanka, Ruski Tyshki, Cherkaski Tyshki, Ruska Lozova, Pryshyb, Husarivka, and Nortsivka.

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, PMCs*

Bohorodychne, Dolyna, Krasnopillya, Sloviansk, Siversk, Raihorodok, Donetske, Ivano-Daryivka, Vesele, Karnaukhivka, Nova Dmytrivka, Velyka Komyshuvaha were shelled by enemy artillery.

Ukrainian Defense Forces managed to successfully repulse enemy attacks in the areas of Bohorodychne, Pasika, Soledar, and Dolyna.

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 DPR, 6th motorized rifle regiment of the 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR, PMCs*

Enemy shelled from mortars, tanks, barrel and jet artillery the areas of Zaytseve, Bakhmutske, Soledar, Bakhmut, Bilohorivka, Vyimka, Rozdolivka, Avdiivka, Novokalynove, Berdychi, Vodyane, Pervomaiske, Kodema, and Vesela Dolyna.

The Ukrainian Defense Forces successfully repelled enemy attacks in the areas of Bakhmut, Pokrovske, Bakhmutske, Pisky, Pervomaiske, Novobakhmutivka, Kodema, Zaitseve, Avdiivka, and Maryinka.

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*

The enemy shelled the areas of Krasnohorivka, Orlivka, Biloghira, Olgivske, Zelene Pole, Novopil, Novosilka, Vremivka, Maryinka, Novomykhailivka, Velyka Novosilka, Paraskoviivka, Zolota Nyva, Shcherbaky, Novoandriivka, Orihiv, Hulyaipole, Dorozhnyanka, and Uspenivka.

Kherson direction

- *Vasylivka–Nova Zburiivka 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*

There is no change in the operational situation.

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 Ukrainian Defense Forces with units of the Foreign Legion, the battalion of Chechen volunteers, the 17th separate tank brigade, 45th separate artillery brigade, 128th separate mountain assault brigade, 60th separate infantry brigade, and units of the 73rd SOF Center (Marine) attacked the positions of the enemy 10th separate SOF brigade, 34th separate motorized rifle brigade, 126th separate coastal defense brigade, 205th separate motorized rifle brigade, supported by the 227th artillery brigade and 140th artillery regiment.

The AFU 60th separate infantry brigade surrounded Russian forces from two directions (from Ivanivka and from Potemkyne) and liberated Vysokopillia, destroyed BMD-2, captured T-72B3M, BMP-2 and BMD-2 of the enemy's 11th separate airborne assault brigade (the brigade had already suffered losses near Hostomel and was restored); the fighting continues. Near Myrolyubivka, units of the 60th separate infantry brigade entered the village and captured two enemy BMP-2s.

In Petrivtsi area, the AFU 128th separate mountain assault brigade lost four T-72M1 tanks, several trucks and BRM-1K, coming under artillery fire with one of its advancing columns. In the battles, the units of the brigade, having broken through the battle formations of the Russians, moved deep and captured the Silok-M1 UAV countermeasures station.

The AFU 45th separate artillery brigade destroyed with artillery fire enemy's armored personnel carrier and self-propelled guns 2c5 in the areas of Lyubimivka and Khreshchenivka.

The units of the 73rd SOF Center (m), taking advantage of the results of the strike, hit three enemy BMDs and damaged three more units of enemy combat equipment in Khreshchenivka and opened the way for the development of the offensive of the 60th separate infantry brigade and the 128th separate mountain assault brigade further to the east. The brigades' units attacked the enemy positions of the 205th separate motorized rifle brigade BTG in Zolota Balka and liberated this village.

Ukrainian units broke into Lyubimivka from the north and northwest and took positions on its northern outskirts, capturing enemy BMP.

Units of the Foreign Legion broke into Arkhangelsk and continue fighting.

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 through the coast of the Black and Azov seas.

The number of enemy ships stationed in the Black Sea is 11 warships and boats. Two Kalibr cruise missile carriers, namely a frigate of project 1135.6 and one "Buyan-M" type corvette, are in the southern part of Crimea, ready for a missile attack. Up to 16 Kalibr missiles may be ready for a salvo.

Most large amphibious ships are in the ports of Novorossiysk and Sevastopol for replenishment and scheduled maintenance. There are no signs of preparation for an amphibious assault on the southern coast of Ukraine.

The 810th Marine Brigade restaffs and restores combat readiness at Crimea's combat training grounds.

One submarine of project 636.3 is located in Sevastopol, and three are in Novorossiysk.

A Russian corvette, minesweeper and boats are on patrol in the Sea of Azov.

Russian aviation continues to fly from the Crimean airfields of Belbek and Hvardiyske over the northwestern part of the Black Sea. Over the past day, 10 Su-27, Su-30 and Su-24 aircraft from Belbek and Saki airfields were involved.

The enemy continues to attack the seaports of Ukraine. For this purpose, the enemy uses mainly MLRS and S-300 air defense systems, sometimes cruise missiles. Russian occupiers launched a massive rocket attack on Mykolaiv on September 4 at 2:30 am. Three medical institutions, two educational institutions, a hotel, a museum, and residential buildings came under fire. Air defense forces in the Mykolaiv region shot down a Russian Kh-59 missile fired by an enemy Su-35 fighter jet around 6 am on September 4. Also, at 6 am on September 4, the occupiers launched a rocket attack on the town of Ochakiv. As a result of the explosions, the object of civil infrastructure with thousands of tons of grain and residential buildings was damaged.

The largest caravan of ships since the opening of the "grain corridor" departed today from the Odesa coast. Nine dry cargoes and four tankers with Ukrainian agro-industrial products left the ports of Odesa, Chornomorsk and Pivdenny. The cargo vessel BS CALLISTO led the caravan, followed by the tankers MUBARIZ IBRAHIMOV, CANOPUS, GEN. POLAD HASHIMOV and MRC LINA. The bulk carriers LADY EVA, SARA, SEA DOLPHIN C, LADY PERLA and MAINA are also in the wake formation. The largest vessel of the caravan is the bulk carrier NORD VIRGO, 229 meters

long, and the smallest is the 80-meter SEALOCK. Finally, the dry cargo AFANASIY MATYUSHENKO under the Ukrainian flag with the home port of Kherson, heading to the Turkish port of Tekirdag, closes the caravan.

In total, 282.5 thousand tons of Ukrainian agricultural products are on board 13 ships headed to eight countries of the world. Thus, the total volume of grain transported since August 1 has exceeded 2 million tons. The first million tons took 4 weeks of work, while the second million tons were transported in just one week. Thus, reaching the planned transportation volume of 4 million tons of grain per month is realistic.

Operational losses of the enemy from 24.02 to 04.09

Personnel - almost 49,500 people (+450);

Tanks – 2,049 (+15);

Armored combat vehicles – 4,430 (+27);

Artillery systems – 1,147 (+13);

Multiple rocket launchers (MLRS) - 294 (+1);

Anti-aircraft warfare systems - 156 (+3);

Vehicles and fuel tanks – 3,276 (+8);

Aircraft - 236 (+1);

Helicopters – 206 (+1);

UAV operational and tactical level - 864 (0);

Intercepted cruise missiles - 203 (0);

Boats / ships - 15 (0).

Ukraine, general news

Ukrainian exports increased by 25% in August, said the Ministry of Economy. In August, Ukraine exported 7.29 million tons of products worth \$3.36 billion.

The leading export goods are:

— sunflower oil (\$443 million);

— corn (\$347 million);

— rapeseed (\$305 million).

The labor market in Ukraine is an employer's market. According to the robot.ua employment portal, the number of job seekers in the Ukrainian labor market is three times greater than the number of open vacancies. The leader among available vacancies is Kyiv, and the worst situation is next to the temporarily occupied territories. For example, there are only 300 vacancies in Mykolaiv, while there are 13,000 in Kyiv.

International diplomatic aspect

Russia's war of aggression caused a profound change in the European security architecture. It revitalized NATO and drew two more members - Finland and Sweden. Other neutral countries

are on the way to deepening their ties with the Alliance. Though unwilling to abandon their neutrality at the moment, more than half of Swiss (56%) – support increased ties with NATO, which is well above the 37% average in recent years.

Irish people are divided by half on a hypothetical membership issue. Fifty-two per cent would love to see their nation in NATO, while 48% oppose it, according to BehaviourWise. However, two-thirds think that it's better to remain neutral. Forty percent of the Irish support the idea of giving military aid to Ukraine, while as many as thirty-nine percent believe it shouldn't. Two-thirds believe the EU should ban Russian energy imports even if it means higher energy prices in Ireland. Most Irish worry about the rising cost of food (89%) and that the war in Ukraine will lead to food shortages and hunger in many countries (83%).

Ukraine's prime minister has thanked Germany for its support while in Berlin. It's the first high-level bilateral visit after President Frank-Walter Steinmeier didn't make it to Kyiv in April. "Germany has made huge progress in its support of Ukraine with weapons," Denys Shmyhal praised Olaf Scholz before going on with the hope that Berlin would do way more, including sending "modern combat tanks" such as the Leopard 2.

There is a long list of light arms, anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles, and various equipment and ammunition Germany has already provided Ukraine. However, Kyiv asks for more heavy armament and artillery systems like MLRS MARS II and Panzerhaubitzen 2000 howitzers, a handful of which has already been delivered. Germany pledged to produce state-of-the-art IRIS-T SLM air defence systems for Ukraine, but it takes time while the war rages on.

Germany has been under criticism from its allies in Central and Eastern Europe for not doing enough in support of Ukraine. The missile ground it still tries to hold with regard to Russia doesn't reflect the situation and sows distrust among the Eastern allies. There was one more collective call of German public intellectuals on their government to play diplomacy. "A modus vivendi must be found with the Russian government based on the acknowledgement of realities that one does not like, which rules out a further escalation of the war. In the end, there will have to be an agreement between Ukraine and Russia," stated the appeal. Being aware that there's no room for diplomacy with Russia yet, Berlin is not in a hurry to create such a space with significant defense aid.

Ukraine's prime minister expressed his hope that €5 billion in macro-financial assistance from the EU would be secured this week. Meanwhile, Germany announced a €200 million aid package to assist internally displaced people in Ukraine.

Russia, relevant news

Having invested 17% of its gold and currency reserves in yuan, the Russian Federation found it impossible to return funds from Chinese assets. The sale of yuan, in which more than \$100 billions of Russian reserves were invested on January 1, requires a separate agreement with

China. This requires permission from the Chinese authorities, and "it will be very difficult to get it in a crisis," as the Russian central bank says.

Centre for Defence Strategies (CDS) is a Ukrainian security think tank. We operate since 2020 and are involved in security studies, defence policy research and advocacy. Currently all our activity is focused on stopping the ongoing war.

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