

### Transatlantic Dialogue Center

### **Weekly briefing**

**February 6 – 12** 

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# nternational

- 06.02 07.02 09.02
- The Norwegian government wants to allocate more than EUR 6 billion to help Ukraine over a period of 5 years. The package will include both monetary aid and military aid. They will also assist other countries suffering from the war's consequences. Norway is also among the countries that have promised to give part of their Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine (up to 8 tanks, according to the media
- > The British Ministry of Defense announced that a group of Ukrainian military personnel arrived in Britain to get to grips with the AS90 self-propelled guns. The British AS90 is an armored selfpropelled artillery weapon the UK provides to help Ukraine defend its homeland and retake territory.
- Spiegel announced that the German government has approved the supply of 178 Leopard 1 tanks from industrial stocks to Ukraine. The first tanks should be delivered to Ukraine in the summer, but most of them will not be delivered before the next year.
- > According to the German defense minister the Ukrainian military will receive even more guided missiles for air defense by the end of February 2023. Five Gepard anti-aircraft tanks and five more Badger engineering tanks will also be transferred.
- > The USA moved the USS Nitze warship, armed with almost a hundred cruise missiles, to the entrance to the Black Sea amid reports of preparations for a **new Russian offensive** in Ukraine and threats by President Vladimir Putin to respond 'not only with armored vehicles' to the supply of Western tanks to Kyiv. Being near Istanbul, USS Nitze is able to reach Crimea, Rostov, and Krasnodar oblasts with its missiles.
- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, Piotr Wawrzyk says that Poland will send the third package of energy aid to Ukraine. According to him, Polish energy companies are organizing the supply to Ukraine of the equipment necessary for the energy sector of Ukraine.
- > Joe Biden, speaking during his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress, called Russia's war in Ukraine as the biggest test for the world and assured that the USA would support the Ukrainians as long as needed.
- > Due to Zelenskyi's visit to the country, Britain introduced new sanctions against Kremlin elites and organizations that supply military equipment, including drones.
- Zelenskyi arrived at the summit of the leaders of the European Union countries in Brussels, and before that he visited Britain and France.
- > Bloomberg reports that the EU did not commit to handing over fighter jets to Ukraine. According to the publication, European leaders made clear to Volodymyr Zelenskyi that they're willing to do more military aid to Ukraine, but no one has so far committed to providing fighter jets.
- > According to UK Defense Secretary Ben Wallace, Britain will not supply fighter jets to Ukraine immediately. He said that the air support of the troops can be provided by long-range missiles and UAVs. However, Wallace does not rule out the possibility of providing Ukraine with aircraft in the long term to ensure its security after the end of the war with the Russian Federation.
- > The President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said that the EU is determined to ensure that the Russian Federation is held accountable for the crime of aggression against Ukraine and create a tribunal for this purpose. She said: "We have the political will to bring the perpetrators to justice, including for the crime of aggression. And if we have the political will, we will find ways."











them, and this does not correspond to the principles of the international Olympic movement. > According to Lithuania's Defence Minister, Arvydas Anušauskas, Lithuania is handing over 36 L-70 anti-aircraft guns to Ukraine, which will help effectively fight the Shahed drones.

> IOC President Thomas Bach reacted rather harshly to Ukraine's intentions to boycott the 2024

Olympic Games in Paris — he even hinted at the possible punishment of Ukrainian athletes. He

emphasized that the exclusion of Russian and Belarusian athletes would be discrimination against

> The German concern Rheinmetall is interested in supplying Ukraine with its newest Panther tank and other equipment if the government gives its consent to export. The statement was made by the company's executive director, Armin Papperger. The tank still exists as a demonstration model, but the concern assures that they can deliver the first machines in 15-18 months.

> Reuters reports that Elon Musk's company limited Ukraine's use of the Starlink Internet for controlling drones. This was not provided for in the agreement with the Ukrainian authorities.

> Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán promised further humanitarian and financial support to Ukraine but emphasized that **Hungary belongs to the peace camp**.

> WP informs that the Pentagon is calling on the US Congress to restore funding for two top-secret programs in Ukraine that were suspended on the eve of the Russian invasion last year. If approved, this will allow the U.S. military to hire Ukrainian case officers to monitor Russian military movements and counter disinformation.

- French President Emmanuel Macron said that in military aid to Ukraine, he prefers 'more useful' and 'faster' weapons to combat aircraft. Macron said earlier that fighter jets 'under no circumstances' can be delivered 'in the coming weeks'.
- > The USA did not support the proposal of Brazilian President Luis Silva to create a group of countries for peace negotiations to end the war in Ukraine. The White House announced that the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyi, has to decide on the appropriateness of negotiations with the Russian Federation.
- > The first batch of Swedish L-70 anti-aircraft guns, which Lithuania is transferring to Ukraine, and ammunition for them have already arrived in Ukraine.
- Polish President Andrzej Duda said that sending F-16s to Ukraine was a 'very serious decision' that was 'not easy to make' due to a number of factors, in particular the need to ensure their maintenance. Duda also spoke about the prospects of Ukraine's victory in this war. According to him, if the allied countries do not send military equipment to Ukraine in the coming weeks, Putin could win. "He can win and we don't know where he's going to stop," he said.
- > The Economic Times reports that Pakistan has sent Ukraine more than 10 thousand shells for the Grad MLRS. They are transferred to Ukraine through the German port of Emden in transit through Poland. The containers were reportedly shipped in early February.

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- ✓ Despite significant losses, the Russian army continues to conduct offensive operations towards Kupiansk, Lyman, Bakhmut, Avdiivka, and Novopavlivka. There have been no significant changes towards Volyn, Polissia, Chernihiv, and Kharkiv. Also, there are no signs of the offensive groups formed there.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Russians are still keeping their units in the border areas with Ukraine, and do not stop shelling the positions of Ukrainian troops, as well as settlements near the contact line.
- ✓ There is still a threat of strikes by the Russian Federation on civilian targets in all regions of Ukraine.

06.02	➤ Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksiy Reznikov said Kyiv has reserves to deter a potential major Russian offensive this month. The possibility of an offensive is being considered, in particular, due to the fact that February 24 is coming, and 'Russians love symbolism'. However, for now, the Ministry of Defense does not see any formed strike groups capable of attacking Kyiv from the territory of Belarus.
07.02	<ul> <li>Military analysts at the Institute for the Study of War concluded that Russian forces are preparing an offensive in Ukraine for which they lack the combat power. This is happening against the background of the Russian nationalist medea's concerns about Russia's inability to conduct a quick and multifaceted decisive offensive operation within the specified time frame.</li> <li>Military expert, Colonel of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Vladyslav Selezniov believes that Russia's energy terror has failed, and therefore the transport infrastructure of Ukraine can become a target of the invaders. The expert emphasizes that now the Russians are probably stockpiling missiles in order to organize a massive attack on the transport infrastructure one day.</li> <li>According to rough estimates, the Russians have used approximately 660 Shahed kamikaze drones against Ukraine and are waiting for a new batch.</li> </ul>
08.02	> On February 8, Ukrainian defenders struck the airfield in the temporarily occupied Berdiansk. The city's military administration reported that Ukrainian soldiers destroyed more than a hundred occupiers with this strike. A warehouse with ammunition, fuel and lubricants, and a radar station were also damaged.
10.02	<ul> <li>During the day, the enemy launched another massive missile attack on the territory of Ukraine, using 106 missiles, in particular at civilian infrastructure. To do so, the enemy used 32 S-300 anti-aircraft guided missiles and 74 air and sea-based cruise missiles, 61 of which were destroyed by our defenders. In addition, the Russian occupiers carried out 59 airstrikes, 28 of them using Shahed-136 UAVs. 22 drones were shot down. Also, the enemy launched more than 90 attacks from rocket salvo systems.</li> <li>In a wave of attacks on February 10, Russia involved 3 ships in the Black Sea and 8 Tu-95 strategic bombers. The enemy began to attack with Shaheds, probing the weak points of Ukraine's air defense. Then attacks began all over the country from strategic aviation planes and ships in the Black Sea. Air- and sea-based cruise missiles were launched. Three ships were involved - a missile boat, a frigate and a submarine. Volgodonsk and the Caspian region are traditional locations for launching cruise missiles.</li> <li>Iran has modified its drones to increase damage to Ukraine's civilian infrastructure. CNN reports that this was concluded by specialists from the British investigative organization Conflict Armament Research together with the Ukrainian military when they examined the surviving Shahed-131 warhead found in Odesa oblast in October 2022. The analysts believe that the warhead was modified in a hurry. Layers with dozens of small fragments, flying over a long distance, are poorly adjusted to each other. 18 smaller additional charges are placed around the warhead, which after detonation fly 360 degrees and are capable of penetrating armor. Warheads for combat targets, such as tanks or artillery systems, are usually arranged differently and contain a forward cumulative charge. However, the warhead investigated by CAR provides a radial cumulative effect to increase the area of damage.</li> </ul>

The accumulation of these elements maximizes the warhead's ability to destroy targets such as power plants, distribution networks, power lines, and

> Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Valerii Zaluzhnyi informed that Russian Kalibr cruise missiles crossed the state border of Ukraine

large, high-powered transformers. They also make repairs of damaged facilities much more difficult.

with the Republic of Moldova.

Losses of the Russian army from 06.02.2023 to 12.02.2023	
Liquidated personnel	6490
Tanks	23
IFVs	83
Artillery systems / MLRS	61/5
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	7
Aircraft / helicopters	2/2
UAVs	49
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	57
Special equipment	12

# Military

10.02	<ul> <li>Around 10:33 am, the missiles crossed Romanian airspace. After that, they again entered the airspace of Ukraine above the crossing point of the borders of the three states. The missiles were launched from the Black Sea.</li> <li>Later, the Romanian Ministry of Defense reported the details of the flight of the Russian missile near the Romanian border on February 10: the Russian missile flew 35 km from the NATO border and did not cross Romanian airspace. The closest point of the target's trajectory to Romania's airspace was recorded by radar systems approximately 35 kilometers northeast of the border.</li> </ul>
11.02	<ul> <li>The bodies of 61 fallen defenders were returned to Ukraine. The transfer of bodies took place in accordance with the norms of the Geneva Convention and in compliance with international humanitarian law. The Ministry of Reintegration reported that since the beginning of the work of the Commissioner's Office, the bodies of 888 defenders who gave their lives for the future of Ukraine have been returned to their relatives.</li> <li>Assistant Secretary of Defense Celeste Wallander says the Pentagon suspects that Russia has lost about half of its tanks in Ukraine. According to her, now the Kremlin is mainly relying on manpower. However, she noted that Russia will definitely not achieve its strategic goals.</li> </ul>
12.02	<ul> <li>Russia has lost more than 100 units of equipment during the three-day offensive near Vuhledar and Avdiivka.</li> <li>Those are the enemy's losses in the period from February 8 to 10. According to analysts, the amount of lost equipment testifies to unsuccessful assaults on Vuhledar and Avdiivka.</li> <li>It is reported that Ukraine has lost 20 units of equipment during this time, including 2 tanks. By the evening of February 10, the ratio of Russian and Ukrainian losses was about 5:1.</li> </ul>

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### February 10 attack

On February 10, the Russian occupiers launched a massive missile attack on different oblasts and cities of Ukraine. Ukrainian air defense systems shot down 61 of the 71 incoming missiles, among them Kh-101, Kh-555, and Kalibr missiles, along with five Shahed drones. The attacks were launched from the Caspian Sea and Volgodonsk.

Prior to that, overnight on February 9, Russians launched six Shaheds and seven Kalibr missiles from the Black Sea. The Ukrainian Air Force shot down five enemy UAVs and five marine-based missiles.

- Air defense systems downed 10 hostile missiles in Kyiv and the oblast. There were no civilian injuries, but there was damage to the energy grid. Two cars, a house, and power lines were damaged by the wreckage of a fallen missile in the city's Holosiivskyi district.
- About 150,000 residents in Kharkiv were deprived of electricity due to the morning attack. Eight people were injured, two of them in a critical state of health. The previous night, on February 9-10, the occupiers also fired at critical infrastructure and civilian communities in the Kharkiv oblast with missiles, S-300 systems, and artillery. In sum, there were about 10 explosions.
- There were at least two hits in Zaporizhzhia during the morning missile attack. Additionally, Russians shelled critical infrastructure in Zaporizhzhia at night. In an hour, 17 enemy hits were registered in the city. This is the largest quantity since the full-scale invasion began.
- > Air defense systems were on alert at least twice in Lviv and the oblast. One of the missiles exploded and fell in the Zolochiv region, near the village of Kizliv.
- One cruise missile and one Shahed were downed over Khmelnytskyi oblast. However, a critical infrastructure object was damaged.
- > Air defense systems shot down 13 missiles over Odesa oblast.

### **Donetsk oblast**

On February 9, Russians shelled the community of Hrodivka, which is rather distant from the frontline, with artillery. There was one injured in Novoekonomichne, and the church was damaged. The suburbs of Kramatorsk were shelled, the territory of an enterprise damaged.

The attacks are continuing along the entire frontline. Towards Donetsk, Hirnyk, Kurakhivka and Kurakhove of the Kurakhivka community, Krasnohorivka of the Marinka community, Marinka, Avdiivka, Kamianka and Tonenke of the Ocheretyne community, Novoselydivka, Trudove were affected. A kindergarten, an ambulatory clinic, a family recreation center, residential buildings, an enterprise, and an administrative building were damaged.

Towards Horlivka, Bakhmut, Druzhba and Pivnichne of the Toretsk community, Paraskoviivka, Vasiukivka, Rozdolivka of the Soledar community, Mykolaivka and Predtechne of the Kostiantynivka community, Kostiantynivka, Ivanopillia, and Niu York were under permanent fire. Multifamily and residential buildings, outbuildings, administrative offices, and civilian infrastructure were damaged.

Towards Volnovakha, Vuhledar, Bohoiavlenka of the Vuhledar community, and Bahatyr are under intense attacks. Residential buildings were damaged.

Towards Lysychansk, Siversk, Serebrianka of the Siversk community, Torsk and Zarichne of the Lyman community are fired. There are injured and killed people in all directions.

### Kherson oblast

The occupiers attacked the settlements of Kherson oblast over 200 times - 4 people were killed and 14 injured. In Kherson, enemy shells caused damage to an educational institution, a church, a children's rehabilitation center, a railway station building and residential buildings. On February 10, in the daytime, Russians struck at one of Kherson's multi-story buildings. The explosive wave and shrapnel blew out windows in the apartments, damaged walls and several balconies. One woman is in a serious condition.

### **Dnipropetrovsk oblast**

Russians keep on terrorizing Dnipropetrovsk oblast. Under fire is the Nikopol region, particularly Marhanetsk and Pokrovsk communities. One person was killed. At least 16 residential buildings and one commercial property were hit in Nikopol. Seven household buildings were wrecked, and one more ruined. In the Kryvyi Rih region, Russians attacked an energy infrastructure facility. The damage is extensive. One employee of the facility was injured. In the Novomoskovsk region, rocket debris fell on a two-storey house.

### Kharkiv oblast

The hostile forces shelled the inhabited areas of Bohodukhiv, Kharkiv, Kupiansk (2 people killed) and Chuhuiv (6 people injured) regions of the oblast. Multi-apartment buildings, private houses, infrastructure, office buildings and cars were damaged. On February 7, Russians struck at the central part of Kharkiv. There were 6-10 S-300 missiles. They also targeted an industrial property in the Kyiv district of Kharkiv. On February 8, the invaders shelled Varvarivka and Vovchansk. Three people were wounded, among them a 10-year-old boy was hit by shrapnel.

### Mykolaiv oblast

The occupation forces are still striking at the settlements and water areas of Ochakiv and Kutsurub communities. There are no civilian casualties.

### Zaporizhzhia oblast

Civilian infrastructure in Polohy and Vasylivka regions is under permanent shelling. On February 10 as a result of a Russian attack, in one hour, there were 17 hits in Zaporizhzhia — which is the largest number since the beginning of the full-scale invasion. Energy and industrial infrastructure facilities were damaged in various areas of the city. No victims. The blast wave blew out windows in one of the multi-story buildings, as well as on the premises of an educational institution and a cultural facility. Part of the city was left without electricity.

### **Chernihiv oblast**

On February 8, Russians launched an airstrike on Semenivka in Chernihiv oblast. One person was injured, another three were under the ruins of a house.

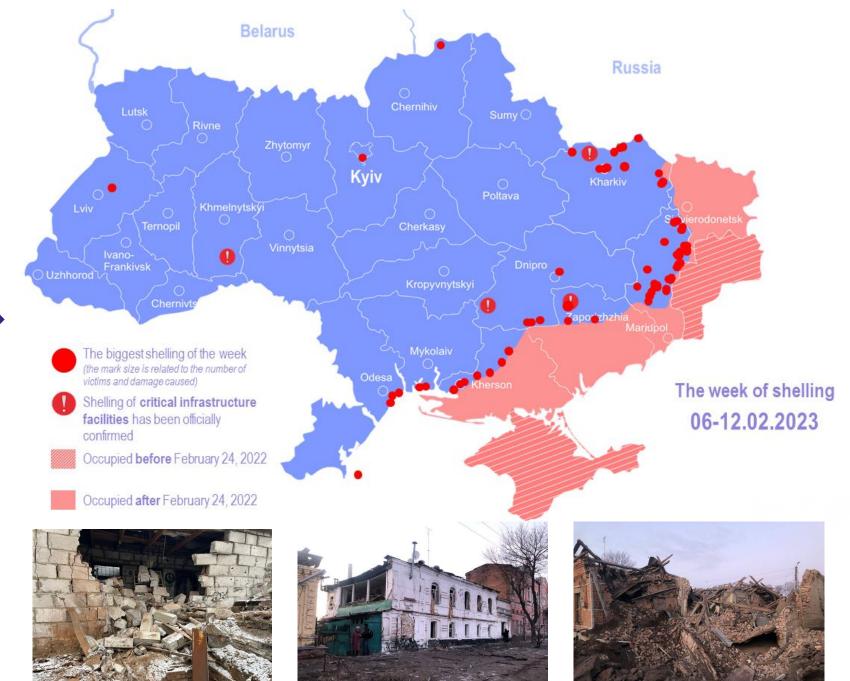
### Odesa oblast

During the night of February 11, the enemy launched strikes from aircraft and the coastal complex. Three Onyx anti-ship missiles struck the shoreline of Odesa oblast from the territory of Crimea. The enemy also landed four air bombs from two Su-24M aircraft on Zmiinyi (Snake) Island. There were no injuries.

## This week shelling and strikes







### **Donetsk oblast**





07.02

08.02

> In the city of Rovenky, Luhansk oblast, there are cases of mass burning of Ukrainian books by Russian occupiers. The Russians explain their actions by saying that they are confiscating 'Nazi literature', while the list of such literature includes all Ukrainian books. Books are being removed from the collections of public and school libraries.

> To date, 143 bodies found in the mass grave in Izium remain unidentified.

> According to Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal, a large-scale technological accident occurred at a high-voltage substation in Odesa oblast, which was repeatedly shelled by Russian occupiers. He ordered all powerful generators (available to the Ministry of Energy) and a 25 MW gas turbine power plant to be delivered to the oblast within 24 hours. "The situation is complicated, the scale of the accident is significant, and it is impossible to restore power supply quickly, especially for critical infrastructure."

> Two children who had been illegally taken to Russia were brought back to Ukraine. The girls, 13 and 15 years old, and their mother were forcibly taken to Ryazan, where their mother died. Their older sister, who managed to evacuate, contacted the Ministry of Reintegration, and together they found the girls and brought them home.

> As of February 1, Ukraine's international reserves amounted to \$29.92 billion, indicating a 5% increase over January primarily due to international assistance. The current volume of international reserves covers 3.7 months of future imports.

> The Russian occupiers brought personnel from the Kalinin NPP to the temporarily occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP. The occupiers believe that nuclear engineers from the Russian **Federation** will be able to work at the captured Ukrainian station. As Energoatom reports, Ukrainian instructors who were supposed to train the staff refused to work for the Russian Federation, so the occupiers blocked their access to jobs.

> The General Staff reports that cadet classes with enhanced military training are being set up in schools in the Skadovsk region, Kherson oblast. The occupiers promise that graduates of these classes will allegedly be granted benefits when entering contract military service by being appointed to sergeant positions.

> In Melitopol, Kherson oblast, the occupiers are forcing employees of state institutions who have received Russian citizenship to renounce their Ukrainian citizenship in writing. They threaten them with dismissal.

> Oleksii Reznikov said that Russians tried to use Ukrainian children to locate strategically

important objects through a mobile game.











begun to open so-called cadet corps in the occupied territories, forcing parents to send their children there.

10.02

➤ In January 2023, **inflation** rose by 0.8% compared to December 2022, while annualized inflation slowed from 26.6% to 26%.

> Deputy Minister of Defense of Ukraine Hanna Maliar said that the Russian invaders had

> Oleh Syniehubov, Head of the Kharkiv Regional Military Administration, claims that due to the massive attack on Ukraine's energy infrastructure on February 10, about 150,000 consumers in Kharkiv are without electricity.

> The attack also damaged energy facilities in six oblasts of Ukraine. The most difficult situation is currently in Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv, and Khmelnytskyi oblasts.

> The instability in the power grid caused by the attack also led to the **shutdown of one of** the power units at the Khmelnytskyi NPP.

> Due to the constant shelling and occupation of certain territories, **Ukraine** has temporarily lost 44% of its nuclear generation, 75% of its TPP capacity, and 33% of its combined heat and power plants. Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal emphasizes that every second Ukrenergo substation has been attacked in four months.

> A humanitarian demining center will be established in Ukraine. It will act as an analytical center and summarize information on demining needs from ministries, Regional Military Administrations, partner countries, and international organizations. Denys Shmyhal says, "The center will improve coordination between all countermine action entities and will allow us to attract all possible resources for demining." Due to Russian aggression, Ukraine is currently one of the most mine- and shell-polluted countries in the world.

In Nova Kakhovka, a temporarily occupied territory of Kherson oblast, numerous cases of looting by Russian invaders were observed between February 7 and 9. The newly arrived occupation soldiers are actively loading looted property into military trucks.

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