



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

July 17 – 23

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International support

17.07

- **U.S.** President Joe Biden has given European countries “the **green light**” to **train Ukrainian pilots on F-16** fighter jets, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan said in an interview with CNN.
- The Kremlin has announced that **Russia is withdrawing from the Black Sea Grain Initiative**. Moscow accused Ukraine and the West of not fulfilling its provisions and said that the Black Sea would no longer be safe for navigation. The Russian Foreign Ministry commented, “*This means the withdrawal of guarantees of safety of navigation, the curtailment of the maritime humanitarian corridor, the restoration of the regime of a temporarily dangerous area in the northwestern Black Sea, and the disbanding of the Joint Coordination Center in Istanbul.*”
- Previously, after the latest extension of the agreement in May, **Russia** stated that it would not agree to further extensions beyond July 17 without the fulfillment of several **conditions**: reconnecting “Rosselkhozbank” to SWIFT, restoring operations of the ammonia pipeline “Tolyatti-Odesa”, unfreezing the assets of the Russian companies, unblocking transportation logistics and supply of spare parts.
- Despite Russia’s withdrawal from the grain agreement, President Volodymyr Zelenskyi has stated that **Ukraine is ready to continue supplying agricultural products** via the Black Sea. According to him, companies that own ships are ready to continue supplying grain if Ukraine and Turkey ensure the passage of ships.
- **UN Secretary-General** Guterres stated that he sent a letter to the President of Russia with a **new proposal** to preserve the “grain agreement.” The letter highlights that since the agreement was signed between the UN, Turkey, and Russia, “Russian grain and fertilizer exports are approaching full restoration.” Guterres added that Russia’s decision to terminate the initiative will have a negative impact on vulnerable people worldwide.
- The **Swedish government** has approved a new strategy for cooperation with Ukraine in the field of **recovery and reforms**, allocating approximately 522 million euros over 5 years.
- In the United Kingdom, **new sanctions** were announced against 11 Russians related to the forcible deportation of Ukrainian children.
- The United States Agency for International Development (**USAID**) will provide more than **500 million dollars in humanitarian aid** to Ukraine. The funds will be directed toward providing food, medical services, and shelter for people affected by the war. This was announced during a visit to Kyiv by USAID Administrator Samantha Power.

18.07

- Members of the **European Parliament** have called the International Criminal Court to issue an **arrest warrant for Lukashenko**. They stated that Belarus bears responsibility for crimes and their consequences for Ukraine in connection with the ongoing war. Particularly, they condemned the illegal transfer of over 2150 Ukrainian children from territories occupied by Russia - to “recreation camps” in Belarus.
- **Lithuanian** Minister of Defense Arvydas Anušauskas announced the creation of a **coalition for demining** to help Kyiv.
- **Belgium**, the **Netherlands**, and **Luxembourg** announced the **provision of M113** armored personnel carriers and spare parts to Ukraine, as stated in a joint statement by the defense ministers of the three countries. The vehicles are expected to be delivered in the coming months.
- The European Union will impose **new sanctions against Belarus** next week, the sanctions package will cover military and aviation components.
- The United States Agency for International Development (**USAID**) gives an additional **250 million dollars in support of agriculture** in Ukraine, - it was announced during a visit to the port of Odesa by USAID Administrator Samantha Power.
- **The Japanese government** intends to significantly strengthen **restrictions** on the export of passenger cars, including used ones, as an additional sanction against Russia for its invasion of Ukraine.

19.07

- The United States announced a **new military aid package** to Ukraine worth 1.3 billion dollars. It includes four NASAMS surface-to-air missile systems and ammunition, artillery projectiles, demining equipment, UAVs, and aviation munitions, as reported by the Pentagon.
- **Irish Prime Minister** Leo Varadkar arrived in Ukraine for an official visit. He announced the allocation of 5 million euros in **humanitarian aid**. He also promised to provide training to Ukrainian military personnel in **demining** and military medicine.
- Spain has sent the last **4 Leopard 2A4 tanks** to Ukraine, which will be delivered by sea next week. **Spain** will also provide 10 refurbished armored personnel carriers, several armored all-terrain vehicles, trucks, ambulances, and ammunition.
- **Croatia** offered its railway network and ports in the Adriatic Sea to **transport Ukrainian grain through alternative routes** due to Russia’s blockade of the “grain initiative”, as stated by the country’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- The **Russian** Ministry of Defense announced that from July 20, it will consider ships heading to Ukrainian ports in the Black Sea as potential carriers of military cargo, implying that Russian forces may attack vessels sailing to Ukrainian ports through the Black Sea. According to Ukraine’s Ambassador to Turkey, Bodnar, the partners are not ready to take responsibility for the **safety of ships** that will agree to transport Ukrainian grain through the Black Sea despite the risks. Therefore, it is worth looking for ways to solve the problem within the existing framework, in particular, hoping that Turkey will be able to persuade Russia to return to the agreements reached earlier.

20 – 21.07

- **The European Union Council** has extended **sanctions** against specific sectors of the Russian economy for another six months, as announced by the European Commission. In particular, certain companies and enterprises in the areas of trade, industry, technology, and dual-use goods will continue to be subject to restrictions. Additionally, a new sanctions regime against Iran was approved due to its support for Russia’s aggressive war against Ukraine.
- **The United States** imposed new **sanctions** on a number of Russian banks and industrial enterprises, as well as 18 Russian citizens. The sanctions also targeted several **Kyrgyz companies** that help Russia in bypassing restrictions imposed by Western countries and obtain dual-use goods and technologies.
- **Canada** also announced **sanctions** against 20 individuals and 21 companies associated with the Russian military-industrial complex. At the same time, the Australian government imposed new sanctions against 45 individuals and legal entities of the Russian Federation.
- The Ministry of Defense of **Ukraine** announced that as of the beginning of July 21, all vessels moving toward the Russian seaports and Ukrainian sea ports under occupation in the Black Sea can be considered by Ukraine as carrying military cargo.
- Ukraine will receive a **1.5 billion dollar loan from the World Bank** under the guarantee of the Japanese government, according to Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal. The funds are intended to strengthen **social protection** and provide assistance to people during the war, as well as for **economic recovery**. In total, the World Bank Group, together with its partners, has mobilized 34 billion dollars to help Ukraine.
- **Germany** transferred 10 Leopard 1A5 tanks to Ukraine as part of a new military aid package, as reported on the website of the German government. The aid package also includes MG3 machine guns, 155mm caliber projectiles, smoke ammunition, and other.
- **The Bulgarian Parliament** on Friday decided to **terminate the concession** of the Rosenets oil port near the city of Burgas to the **Russian oil giant “Lukoil”**, and also approved the additional **military assistance to Ukraine**, including approximately 100 Soviet armored personnel carriers.
- **UNESCO** condemned the recent Russian **attacks on Odesa**, which resulted in **damage** to museums within the **World Heritage site**. The organization called for an end to attacks on cultural heritage.



Military positions

- Russian forces are concentrating their main efforts on the Kupiansk, Lyman, Bakhmut, Avdiivka, and Marinka directions. Heavy battles continue.
- In the Volyn and Polissia directions, the operational situation has not changed significantly. There have been no signs of the formation of offensive groups. Certain units of the Armed Forces of Belarus perform tasks in the areas bordering Ukraine. As of July 22, there are approximately 5,000 Russian mercenaries of the Wagner PMC in Belarus. Such a number does not pose a direct threat to Ukraine, but the Defense Forces must be ready to prevent provocations on the border.
- Russia maintains a military presence in the Chernihiv and Kharkiv directions.
- In the Kupiansk direction, Ukrainian forces are firmly holding the defense. In the Lyman direction, the Russians conducted unsuccessful offensives in the areas of Nadiia of the Luhansk oblast, also, Torske and Hryhorivka of the Donetsk oblast.
- In the Bakhmut direction, under heavy enemy artillery fire, Ukrainian defenders successfully repelled enemy attacks in the areas of Bohdanivka and Ivanivske of the Donetsk oblast.
- In the Avdiivka direction, under heavy fire from Russian aviation and artillery, the Ukrainian military successfully repelled attacks by Russian troops in the Avdiivka area. In the Marinka direction, the Defense Forces keep restraining the offensives of Russian troops in the Krasnohorivka and Marinka areas of the Donetsk oblast.
- In the Shakhtarsk direction, the Russians carried out unsuccessful offensive actions in the Novomykhailivka area of the Donetsk oblast. In the Zaporizhzhia and Kherson directions, the enemy is concentrating its main efforts to prevent the further advance of our troops.
- The Defense Forces of Ukraine continue to conduct an offensive operation in the Melitopol and Berdiansk directions. They are getting entrenched at the reached boundaries and inflicting fire damage with artillery on identified enemy targets and carrying out counter-battery countermeasures.
- The probability of launching missile and air strikes on the entire territory of Ukraine remains high.

17.07

- During the day, the Russian Federation launched 5 missile strikes from the S-300 air defense system. In addition, the enemy carried out 34 airstrikes and launched more than 40 attacks from multiple rocket launchers on the positions of Ukrainian troops and populated areas. As a result of Russian attacks, children and adult civilians have been killed and injured, residential buildings and other civilian infrastructure have been destroyed.
- The Russians are concentrating their main efforts on the Kupiansk, Lyman, Bakhmut, Avdiivka, and Marinka directions. Heavy battles continue. During the day, 29 combat clashes took place. In the Kupiansk direction, Ukrainian forces are firmly holding the defense.
- In the south, the liberated territories have been increased by 10.9 square kilometers for the week. In general, the advance from the time of the offensive in the south is 9.25 km, and the liberated area is 179.5 square kilometers. 50 servicemen of the Russian Federation were captured.
- In the east, a territory of 7 square kilometers has been liberated for the week in the Bakhmut direction. In general, during the offensive in this direction, the liberated area reached 31 sq. km.
- A section of the bridge over the Kerch Strait fell. Traffic on the bridge was stopped. A route number 145 toward the Krasnodarskiy Krai was damaged. The Security Service of Ukraine commented on the explosion on the Kerch Bridge. *"The Armed Forces of Ukraine will uncover all the details about how the explosion has been organized after our victory"*, Artem Dekhtiarenko, spokesman of the Security Service of Ukraine, said.

18.07

- Russian forces continue to concentrate their main efforts on the Kupiansk, Lyman, Bakhmut, Avdiivka, and Marinka areas. Heavy battles continue. During the day, 18 combat clashes took place. At the same time, the Defense Forces of Ukraine continue to conduct an offensive operation in the Melitopol and Berdiansk directions, are getting entrenched at the reached boundaries, inflicting fire damage from artillery, and carrying out counter-battery countermeasures.
- It is now "practically impossible" to achieve quick results during the offensive, said the commander of the Ground Forces Oleksandr Syrskyi in an interview with the BBC. He explains this by the density of mining of the territories and the large number of Russian strongholds.
- During the day, Russian troops launched a missile-air strike on the territory of Ukraine, using 6 Kalibr cruise missiles and 35 Iranian Shahed-136 attack UAVs. The forces and means of the Air Force destroyed 6 Kalibr cruise missiles and 31 enemy UAVs of the Shahed-136 type. In addition, the enemy carried out 70 airstrikes and fired 53 multiple rocket launchers at the positions of our troops and populated areas.
- During the day, the aviation of the defense forces carried out 11 strikes on the areas of concentration of personnel, weapons, and military equipment and 3 strikes on the enemy's anti-aircraft missile complexes. Ukrainian defenders also destroyed 2 operational-tactical reconnaissance UAVs. During the day, units of rocket forces and artillery hit 1 enemy control post, 8 artillery pieces in firing positions, 2 ammunition depots and 3 enemy electronic warfare stations.
- The attack on the Crimean Bridge will have consequences for Russian logistics in southern Ukraine, ISW analysts report. According to analysts, Russian tourists traveling from the occupied Crimea have probably complicated the situation on the roads and are blocking Russian logistics from Crimea to the rear areas of Zaporizhzhia and Kherson oblasts.
- According to the spokesman of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Andrii Kovalev, Ukrainian troops are successful in the offensive in two directions in the south. In the directions of Mala Tokmachka - Novopokrovka and Velyka Novosilka - Urozhiane, they are getting entrenched at the reached milestones. At the same time, in the direction of Bakhmut, the Ukrainian militaries continue to conduct offensive actions north and south of Bakhmut city. The Russians are putting up strong resistance. Heavy battles continue.
- Deputy Minister of Defense of Ukraine Hanna Maliar reported, the enemy's offensive in the Kupiansk direction is currently unsuccessful. The battles continue, but the initiative is already on our side. Today, same as all previous days, in the southern phalanx around Bakhmut, an advance of Ukrainian troops has happened.

Losses of the Russian army from 17.07.2023 to 23.07.2023

Liquidated personnel	4280
Tanks	44
IFVs	79
Artillery systems / MLRS	177/16
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	26
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	138
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	128
Special equipment	30



Military positions

19.07

- The enemy continues to focus its main efforts on the Kupiansk, Lyman, Bakhmut, Avdiivka and Marinka directions. Heavy battles continue. During the day, 19 combat clashes took place there.
- The Russians launched another air and missile attack on the territory of Ukraine, using 16 Kalibr sea-based cruise missiles, 8 Kh-22 cruise missiles, 6 Onyx cruise missiles, 1 Kh-59 guided air missile and 32 Shahed-type attack UAVs. As a result of the combat operation, 13 Kalibr cruise missiles, 1 Kh-59 guided air missile and 23 Shahed-type attack UAVs were destroyed.
- Since July 16, the Russian Federation has **stopped the movement of cargo ships through the Kerch Strait**, Reuters reports. According to the publication, the Russians blocked the movement of cargo ships due to the high risk of danger in this area. *"Navigation is already idle for the third day. They stopped it on July 16, around 5 p.m. local time, when there was a (drone) attack on Sevastopol,"* Reuters writes.
- Starting from July 20, all **vessels heading to Ukrainian ports** in the Black Sea will be considered **potential carriers of military cargo**. This statement was made by the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation after withdrawing from the "grain agreement". Russia also stated that the countries under whose flags the ships will sail will be considered involved in the war on the side of Ukraine.
- Defense forces of Ukraine **advanced** more than 1 kilometer along the front line in the **Melitopol direction**. This was reported by the spokesman of the Defense Forces of the Tavria region Valerii Shershen. Also, according to him, the hard work of the Ukrainian militaries continues in the direction of Novosilka - Urozhaine.
- According to General Staff representative Andrii Kovalev, the Armed Forces of Ukraine knocked out the Russians from their positions near Orikhovo-Vasylivka in the Bakhmut direction. He specified that the forces of the Russian Federation retreated from their positions to the northeast of the village. At the same time, the enemy *"puts up strong resistance, uses reserves, and suffers heavy losses."*
- The Department of Military Counterintelligence of the Federal Security Service of the RF disseminates information among the personnel of the occupying contingent about the alleged **preparation** by the Ukrainian Security and Defense Forces **of an assault on the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant**. The dissemination of such information may indicate that the occupiers are preparing an operation "under the Ukrainian flag" that will lead to a large-scale accident at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant. According to the available information, another simulated shelling of the plant is currently being prepared with the aim of further blaming Ukraine for them.
- The **fighting in the lower reaches of the Dnipro** has probably **intensified** since the beginning of July, according to the British intelligence report. In particular, according to British intelligence, both sides use small fast motor boats and Ukraine has successfully used tactical unilateral strike drones. "Russia faces a dilemma in deciding whether to respond to these threats by strengthening its Dnipro Group of Forces at the expense of the stretched units facing the Ukrainian counter-offensive in Zaporizhzhia Oblast," the Ministry of Defense said in a statement.

20.07

- According to the Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, at night, the Russians released 38 munitions over Ukraine: 19 cruise missiles and 19 kamikaze drones. Air defense forces destroyed 18 aerial targets: 2 Kalibr sea-based cruise missiles, 3 Iskander-K surface-based cruise missiles, and 13 Shahed-136/131 attack drones. The spokesman of the Air Force of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Yuriy Ignat, explained why the anti-aircraft defense could not destroy any of the 7 Onyx missiles. According to him, the Defense Forces of Ukraine do not yet have the ability to shoot them down. Onyx flies at a speed of more than 3000 km per hour. When approaching the target, the missile can fly at a height of 10-15 m above the water. It is difficult to fight with such missiles.
- The Armed Forces localized the "big offensive" of the Russian troops on the **Kupiansk-Lyman line**. The tactics of Ukrainian fighters are unchanged, said Serhiy Cherevatyi, the spokesman of the Eastern Group of Forces. "Over the course of a day, there were 568 shellings, 17 air raids on the Kupiansk-Lyman line, as well as four futile enemy assaults in the areas of Masiutivka and Lyman Pershyi. The "big offensive" they announced in the spring was localized, they cannot take back the initiative," Cherevatyi said.
- In the battles in the east, the Russians have a significant advantage in the ability to provide ammunition, so the Armed Forces can respond with only 1 shot to 7-8 enemy shots. This was stated by the commander of the Ground Forces of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Colonel-General Oleksandr Syrskyi in an interview with the BBC. *"But we plan our operations very carefully. That's why we are able to achieve success. And now we are moving forward,"* said Syrskyi.
- **Ukraine began using cluster munitions** received from the United States. This was reported by The Washington Post with reference to Ukrainian sources. According to the newspaper, the ammunition was used against Russian forces in the southeast of Ukraine, trying to destroy well-fortified Russian positions that slowed down Ukraine's counteroffensive.
- Russian troops can attack civilian vessels in the Black Sea and blame Ukraine for what happened. This was stated by the press secretary of the National Security Council of the White House, Adam Hodge, Reuters reports. According to him, the US authorities have information that Russia has installed additional sea mines on the approaches to Ukrainian ports.

21.07

- Heavy fighting continues in the Kupiansk, Lyman, Bakhmut, Avdiivka, and Marinka directions. During the day, 33 combat clashes took place there.
- During the day, the Russian occupiers launched another massive air and missile attack on the territory of Ukraine, using 3 Kalibr sea-based cruise missiles, 4 Iskander land-based cruise missiles, 6 Onyx cruise missiles, 1 Kh-59 cruise missile, and 1 S-300 anti-aircraft guided missile.
- During the day, the Armed Forces of Ukraine carried out **1,316 firing missions in the Tavria direction**. The enemy's losses in killed and wounded amounted to almost two companies. Oleksandr Tarnavskiy, the commander of the Tavria operational-strategic group of troops, announced this. *"Our soldiers are systematically knocking the enemy out of their positions. There is progress,"* said Tarnavskiy.
- According to Serhii Naiev, the commander of the United Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the Russian Federation will not stop trying to find **weak points in the defense in the Chernihiv and Sumy directions**. According to him, there have been recorded attempts by subversive and intelligence groups to penetrate into the border area, but all of them were unsuccessful. "We are taking all necessary measures to strengthen our defense capabilities in close cooperation with the heads of military administrations to increase the number of non-explosive engineering barriers, as well as to install additional surveillance cameras," said the lieutenant general.
- The Armed Forces effectively use cluster munitions from Russian fortifications, said John Kirby, the National Security Council's strategic communications coordinator. *"They are using them appropriately. They're using them effectively and they are actually having an impact on Russia's defensive formations and Russia's defensive maneuvering. I think I can leave it at that."*
- The Armed Forces successfully advanced in three directions of the southern front. As the spokesman of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Andrii Kovalev, said, the Defense Forces were successful in the directions Novodanylivka - Verbove, Novodanylivka - Robotyne, Novodarivka - Pryutne, and are entrenching themselves at the achieved boundaries.
- In the Bakhmut direction, Ukrainian troops continue to conduct offensive actions north and south of Bakhmut city. The Russians put up strong resistance, actively use reserves, and suffer huge losses.
- Volodymyr Zelenskyy stated that the **Crimean Bridge is a target of Ukraine** that must be neutralized. *"For us, this (Crimean Bridge - ed.) is an enemy object, unlawfully built, against international law and applicable norms. That is why it is our goal, and any goal that brings war, not peace, must be neutralized,"* he emphasized while speaking at the Aspen Security Forum.
- Deputy Minister of Defense Gavrlyov stated, the longer the war gets dragged on, the less chance the **Russian Black Sea Fleet** will have to survive. According to him, the Armed Forces have the ability to drive this entire fleet closer to Tuapse, Novorossiysk, and prevent them from moving into the Crimean zone.
- At the Aspen Security Forum, President Zelenskyy explained why the counteroffensive of the Armed Forces is going slower than expected. *"We did have plans to start it in spring, but we didn't, because frankly, we had not enough munitions and armaments and not enough properly trained brigades — I mean, properly trained in these weapons. Because we started a bit late, it can be said — and it's the truth, shared by all experts — that it provided Russia ... the time to mine all our land and build several lines of defense,"* he said.

22.07

- A video from the Krasnohvardiiske district in the temporarily occupied Crimea appeared online. Local media reports that the **ammunition warehouse is detonating**. The Armed Forces confirmed that they hit an oil depot and ammunition depots in the temporarily occupied Crimea.
- US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken **warned against premature conclusions about the Armed Forces' counteroffensive**. He expects changes on the front. *"You've heard a number of people talk about that. The Russians have laid significant and serious defenses when it comes to mines initially. The Ukrainians are working their way through that. I believe they have what they need to be very successful. And as they deploy and as they actually put into this effort all of the forces that have been trained in recent months, the equipment that we and some 50 countries have provided them, I think that will make a profound difference,"* Blinken said at the Aspen Security Forum in Colorado.
- CNN referring to US intelligence reports, American intelligence confirms that **Russian tactical nuclear weapons are already located in Belarus**. High-ranking US officials do not believe that Lukashenko will have any control over the arsenal. Tactical nuclear weapons will most likely be fully controlled by Russia.
- The presence of **citizens of Uzbekistan** was noted **in the units of the Russian occupying forces** stationed in the temporarily occupied Horlivka of the Donetsk oblast. The mentioned people arrived in the city of Mariupol to carry out construction work. Upon arrival, their passports were confiscated and they were mobilized to join the occupation forces as "volunteers".

✓ During the past week, Russians launched **106 missiles and 364 air strikes**, and carried out more than **455 attacks from multiple rocket launchers**.

Attack on the night of July 18

Russians fired six Kalibr missiles and 36 Shahed drones over Ukraine. Air defense forces shot down all missiles, 31 Shahed, and one reconnaissance drone.

- Air defense destroyed 6 missiles and 21 drones over Odesa oblast. The debris damaged the infrastructure of the port and several private houses. One man was injured.
- Another four drones were shot down over Mykolaiv oblast. An industrial facility was hit in Mykolaiv, there were no injuries.

Attack on the night of July 19

Russians launched over Ukraine 32 Shahed drones, 16 Kalibr cruise missiles, eight Kh-22 cruise missiles, six Onyx cruise missiles, and one Kh-59 air missile. 23 drones, 13 Kalibrs and a Kh-59 missile were shot down.

- The main direction of the attack was Odesa oblast: the Kh-22 and Onyx missiles were aimed at the infrastructure. Russians hit grain and oil terminals, an industrial facility where an employee was injured, and two warehouses with tobacco and fireworks. The Kh-59 missile was shot down on approach to the coast. It fell in one of the quarters of Odessa. Blast waves damaged surrounding buildings, nine people were injured.
- All drones were shot down on the approach to Kyiv. There were no casualties or destruction in Kyiv and the region.
- In Zhytomyr oblast, drones hit an infrastructure object. Private houses, a school, and two cultural centers were also damaged.
- In Kherson, a fire broke out in a cultural center due to a Shahed hit, and a two-story building was damaged. An 89-year-old woman was injured and was pulled out from under the rubble.
- The rocket attack was carried out near Kropyvnytskyi. There were no victims or destruction of civilian buildings.
- Russians hit the Kobleva community in Mykolaiv oblast: two people were injured, and recreational infrastructure facilities were destroyed.
- Air defense forces also worked in Dnipropetrovsk, Sumy, and Poltava oblasts. There were no casualties or damage.

Donetsk oblast

The enemy continues to terrorize the region, shelling remote settlements and along the entire front line. On the night of July 16, the Russians launched a missile attack on Kramatorsk — they aimed at the territory of the facility. Two people were injured and residential buildings were damaged. On July 21, the occupiers shelled Kostiantynivka from systems BM-21 Grad, killing a couple, damaging a school and 20 houses. On the same day, the Russians fired artillery at the village of Druzhba of the Toretsk community. The shell hit the yard where the children were - a 10-year-old boy and a 16-year-old girl. Brother and sister. They received non-life-threatening injuries. An elderly woman was also injured.

In the Volnovakha sector, the Vuhledar community, Komar community, Velyka Novosilka, Vuhledar, Bogoiavlenska, Vesele, Burlatske, Prechystivka, Shevchenko, Velyka Novosilka, Makarivka, Maksymivka, Vilne Pole, and Rozlyv are under fire. Residential buildings are damaged.

In the Donetsk sector, Avdiivka, Krasnohorivka, Katerynivka, Marinka community, Kurakhove community, Ocheretiannsk community, Marinka, Stepove, Lastochkyne, Kurakhove, Zhelanne Pershe, Zhelanne Druhe, Kurakhivka, Hostre, Hirnyk came under fire. Private houses, a social facility were damaged, and a wheat field was destroyed.

In the Horlivka sector, Oleksandro-Shulytne, Kostiantynivka community, Chasiv Yar community, Toretsk community, Illinivka community, Soledar community, Kostiantynivka, Minkivka, Vasiukivka, Rozdolivka, Pleshchiivka, New York, Stepanivka, Markove, Mykolaivka, Pivnichne, Zalizne, Druzhba, Privillia are under fire. Residential buildings, businesses, high-rise buildings, a non-residential buildings, an administrative building, an infrastructure facility, and a school were damaged.

In the Lysychansk direction, Zvanivka, Lyman & Zvanivka communities, Yampil, Siversk, and Pereizne are affected. Private houses, high-rise buildings, and infrastructure facilities were damaged. In all directions, there are wounded or dead.

Attack on the night of July 20

The Russians launched 7 Onyx cruise missiles, four Kh-22 cruise missiles, three Kalibr cruise missiles, five Iskander-K cruise missiles, and 19 Shahed drones over Ukraine. Air defense forces shot down two Kalibrs, three Iskanders and 13 drones.

- In Mykolaiv, Russians hit next to a three-story building, and part of the building was destroyed. Residential buildings and about 15 garages were damaged in the city. Two people died, and 18 were injured.
- In Odesa, eight people were injured by a rocket attack, among them three employees of the State Emergency Service. In the city, the administrative building was destroyed, and houses were damaged by the blast wave. Warehouses were hit in the oblast.
- In Sumy, a drone hit the building of a children's camp on the outskirts of the city, the injured woman was treated on the spot.
- Drones hit residential buildings in Semenovka, Chernihiv Oblast.
- Also under fire during the night were Suvorovsky district in Kherson and Nikopol region in Dnipropetrovsk oblast, in particular, residential buildings and an infrastructure object were damaged. There were no casualties.

Kherson and oblast

On July 16, Russians shelled the village of Rozlyv, targeting residential buildings. A 54-year-old woman and a 49-year-old man who were in the yards were injured. Also, in the Bilozersk region, a field sown with wheat caught fire as a result of the shelling. On the same day, occupiers shelled a settlement in the Beryslav community, and dropped two guided aerial bombs. A local resident died. On July 17, Russians shelled the Bilozersk community. Two women aged 25 and 58 were injured and hospitalized. A 56-year-old woman was also injured as a result of the shelling of Bilozerka, a Russian shell hit her yard. On the night of July 21, Russians shelled Antonivka and Sadove, and also attacked Kherson and Molodizhne, no injuries were reported. On July 22, the occupiers shelled Zmiivka, Beryslav community. They hit the cemetery, the residential quarter and the farm. At least four houses and the farm were damaged.

Kharkiv and oblast

One person died and three were injured as a result of an S-300 missile strike on July 16 at an industrial facility in Kharkiv. All of them are employees of the enterprise. On the same day, Russians again shelled the territory of an industrial facility in the Osnovianskyi district of Kharkiv. There are no injured or dead. On July 17, occupiers shelled Kindrashivka, Kupiansk region. After the shelling, a private residential building caught fire. Also, a 72-year-old man was killed and a 65-year-old woman was wounded by shrapnel as a result of the shelling of Dvorichna, Kupiansk region. On July 20, Russians shelled Petrivka village with artillery. Two senior men were injured as a result of the blows. A two-story building and an administrative building were damaged. On the night of July 21, as a result of night shelling, a 56-year-old woman was injured. On July 22, a 57-year-old local woman died as a result of shelling in Kupiansk. On the same day, a 60-year-old man was injured, and a 45-year-old man died as a result of shelling in the village of Dvorichna, Kupiansk district.

Odesa oblast

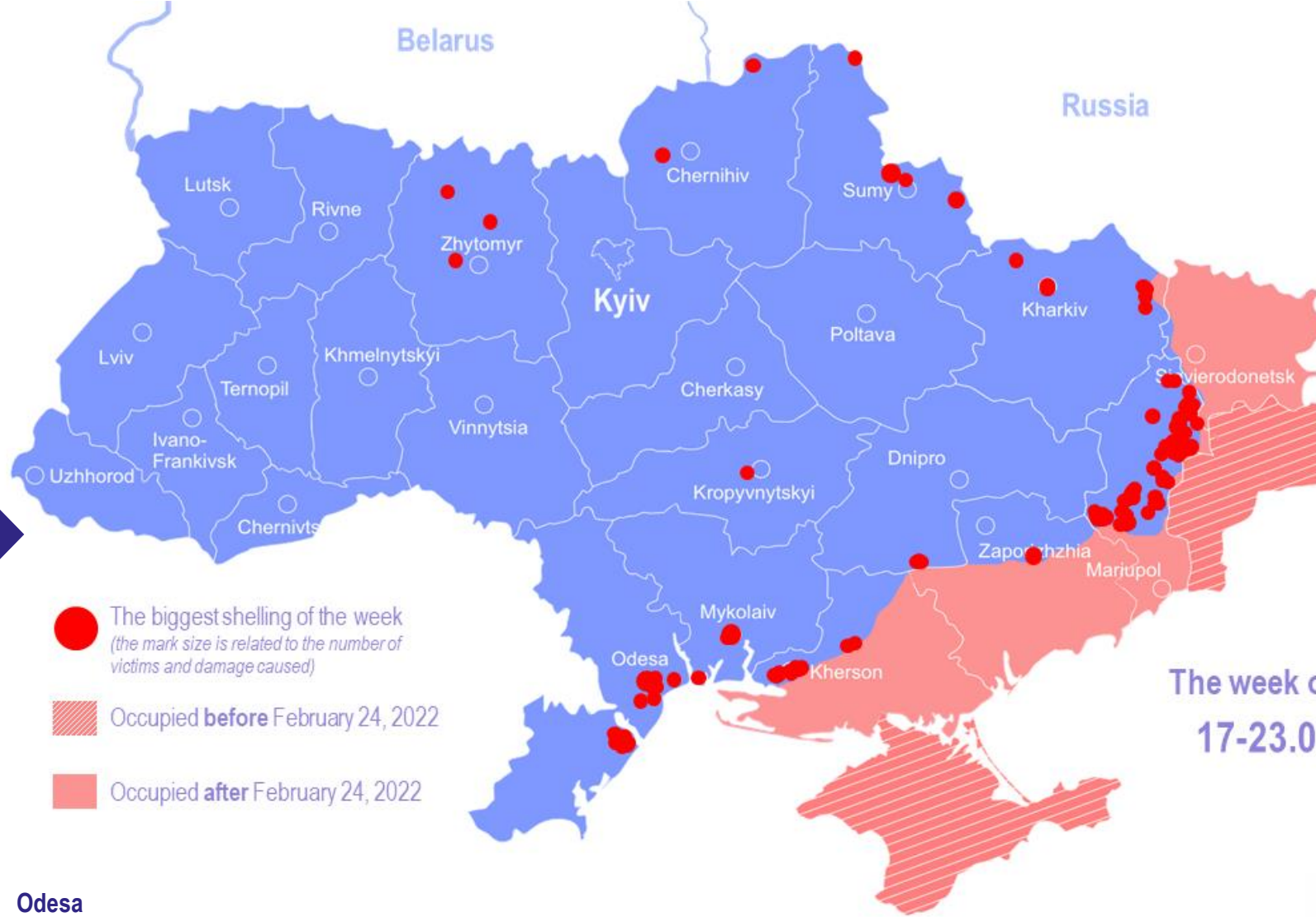
On the night of July 21, Russians hit the grain terminal in Odesa oblast with Kalibrs: 100 tons of peas and 20 tons of barley were destroyed, and two people were injured. In the afternoon of July 21, the occupiers fired seven rockets at the Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiyi district. An infrastructure object was hit, but there were no casualties. On the night of July 23, Russians fired 19 rockets at the Odesa region. Ukrainian Air defense forces managed to shoot down nine. As a result of the attack, six residential buildings in Odessa were destroyed, two architectural monuments and a temple were damaged, many houses in the historic center of the city had broken windows and damaged facades, and dozens of cars were mutilated. One person died, and 22 were injured, including four children.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

On the night of July 21, four workers were killed and two more people were injured in the Poloh region due to an attack by Russians on an infrastructure facility.



This week shelling and strikes



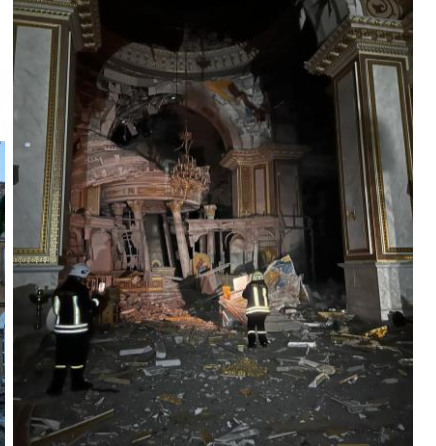
Other regions

Sumy oblast: On July 17, Russians shelled the center of Bilopillia, four shells exploded in the center of the city, three more on the outskirts. In particular, they hit the fire department where five rescuers were injured. Three people died, nine people were injured. On July 22, the occupiers shelled the village of Uhroidy, Krasnopillia community: a 56-year-old man was killed and four people were injured. Private houses and civil infrastructure were damaged. In the afternoon of the same day, the Russians dropped explosives from a drone on the center of Seredyna-Buda. Two men were injured.

Dnipropetrovsk oblast: On July 21, Russians shelled Nikopol, three people were injured. At night, the city was shelled again - without casualties.

Chernihiv oblast: On the morning of July 21, Russians fired four rockets at a settlement in the Chernihiv region. The bodies of two dead people were recovered from the rubble of the cultural center.

The week of shelling
17-23.07.2023



Odesa



Humanitarian crisis



17.07

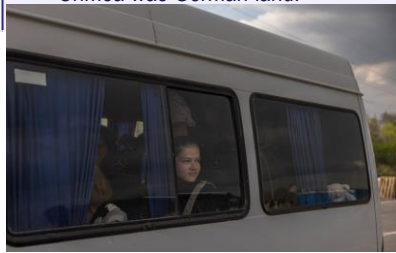
- On July 17, Dmytro Kuleba, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine held urgent consultations at the UN headquarters in New York regarding Russia's withdrawal from the **Grain Deal**. In recent weeks, Russian officials have threatened to withdraw, and on July 17, Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, stated that the grain deal was effectively terminated. *"We had two agreements: Ukraine, Turkey, and the UN; the other agreement was between Russia, Turkey, and the UN. Therefore, when Russia says that it is suspending its participation, it breaks its agreements with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and President Erdogan. Not with us. We have not had any agreements with them,"* Volodymyr Zelenskyi said in a comment to African media.
- The **forced evacuation of children** was announced from some settlements of the border community of **Vovchansk** in Kharkiv Oblast, which is under Russian shelling almost daily, the head of the Kharkiv Regional Military Administration said.
- Residents of the **occupied territories** of Zaporizhzhia Oblast cannot receive **medicines** without a Russian "passport". This was reported by the National Resistance Center.
- NNEGC Energoatom regularly receives information about the **plant being mined** by the Russian military. *"In fact, the Russian occupiers continue to use it as their military base. We regularly receive reports that they are mining our plant,"* said Energoatom CEO Petro Kotin. He emphasized that the IAEA inspectors are also at **Zaporizhzhia NPP**, whose information helps to understand what is happening at the nuclear facility. At the same time, the Russians do not allow the agency's representatives to enter all areas that need to be inspected.

18.07

- Internally displaced persons (**IDPs**) in Ukraine have been allowed to change their actual residence and cancel their IDP status online via the state-owned Diia app. More than 1.4 million Ukrainians have already used the service. Previously, IDPs had to go to the social security authorities in person to receive public services. *"And you had to do it every time you moved or changed your place of residence,"* said Mykhailo Fedorov, Minister of Digital Transformation of Ukraine.
- The government has approved a decree for a pilot project to begin **rebuilding the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant**, which was destroyed by Russians, as stated by Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal. *"Restoring the irrigation systems in southern Ukraine will be a crucial element of support for our agricultural sector. The Kakhovka HPP has played and will continue to play a vital role in this regard,"* Shmyhal emphasized. The project is expected to take 2 years, and construction work will commence after the de-occupation of the hydroelectric power plant.

19.07

- President Volodymyr Zelenskyi revealed that Russians **deliberately targeted the infrastructure of the grain deal** during the night attack on Odesa. Russia is attempting to cripple the ability to ship Ukrainian grain with these attacks on Odesa and Chornomorsk. The port in Chornomorsk was also targeted, **destroying 60,000 tons of grain** intended for shipment to China. Following Russia's withdrawal from the Grain Deal, the Russian Black Sea Fleet is likely to take a more active role in **disrupting any ongoing trade**. Specifically, on July 19, the Russian Ministry of Defense announced that it would assume that all ships approaching Ukraine are carrying weapons.
- On the temporarily occupied Crimean Peninsula, **excavations** of a Ukrainian monument of national importance on the site of the ancient Greek city of **Chersonesos** continue. The excavations are being carried out by Russian archaeologists and local collaborators under the supervision of the military. The main task facing the Russians is to prove that the city "belongs to Russia". It should be noted that during the Second World War, the Nazis also conducted excavations on the peninsula, looking for evidence that Crimea was German land.



19.07

- The head of the **Belarusian Red Cross Society**, Dzmitry Shevtsov, admitted during his recent trip to Donbas that his organization is **involved in the deportation of children from Ukraine**. This was reported by the Belarusian opposition publication Zerkalo, citing a report by Belarus 1 TV channel. The outlet also notes that during his previous trip to the occupied Ukrainian territories, Dzmitry Shevtsov was **spotted wearing camouflage and the letter Z on his sleeve**, although the Red Cross charter requires members of the organization to remain neutral. The International Committee of the Red Cross said it was looking into the incident.

20.07

- Experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency (**IAEA**) conducted additional **inspections** and walkthroughs of the **Zaporizhzhia NPP**. They did not notice any heavy military equipment, explosives, or mines. However, they were not allowed to access the roofs of the reactor buildings, as reported by the IAEA press service.
- The **Ukrainian personnel at Zaporizhzhia NPP** refuse to comply with the order of the Russian occupiers to restart power unit 4, according to the state-owned Energoatom company. Over the past week, about 30 people from the Zaporizhzhia NPP staff left Enerhodar due to **constant physical and psychological pressure** from the occupiers. They managed to leave for the territory controlled by Ukraine.
- The amount of damage caused to Ukraine's environment by Russia's strikes on military facilities is over 305 billion UAH. This includes:
 - Soil contamination by waste from the destruction of infrastructure amounts to over UAH 300 billion.
 - Soil contamination by oil products and other hazardous chemicals is about 700 million UAH.
 - Fugitive emissions of pollutants into the atmosphere amount to about 4 billion UAH.
 - Damage to the forest fund amounted to about 7 million UAH.
- Another water supply system was launched in **Kryvyi Rih**. After the Russians blew up the Kakhovka HPP, the mayor of the city said that if water consumption was not reduced, Kryvyi Rih would be left **without water** in three weeks. After the pipe was launched, Mayor Oleksandr Vilkul clarified that water would still have to be saved for a few more months, but in mid-August, water would not disappear for **500,000 people**, and the Southern Reservoir would not dry up.

21.07

- Ukrainian **journalist Dmytro Khiliuk**, abducted by the occupiers in the Kyiv Oblast more than a year ago, is **illegally detained in a Russian colony** in the Vladimir Oblast. This was reported by the human rights organization Reporters Without Borders.
- Minister of Health Viktor Liahsko presented a plan for the further development of the **country's rehabilitation system**. The Ministry of Health took the Israeli experience as the basis for the rehabilitation development model.
- An investigation by The Telegraph shows that **Russia is abducting** not only Ukrainian children but also **the elderly and people with disabilities**. Socially vulnerable people are being forcibly taken to Russia, imposed Russian citizenship, denied medical care, and forced to donate blood for Russian soldiers. There are frequent cases of death in the occupied territories due to a lack of treatment. The charity organization "Helping to Leave" assists people in returning to Ukraine.