

Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

January 22 - 28

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22.01

- > By the end of this year, the EU will be able to produce 1.3 million shells. European Commissioner for the Internal Market Thierry Breton said that this is a priority task, as the EU should help Ukraine with ammunition and replenish its own stocks. By March or April, production capacity should reach a million shells per year.
- > The Dutch company Hospitainer has handed over a Role II mobile **field hospital** to the Ukrainian border quards, which will save the lives of wounded soldiers.
- Heavy-duty pyrotechnic vehicles based on MAN trucks were assembled for Ukrainian rescuers. The HALO Trust donated two of these vehicles to the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU). This international organization conducts humanitarian demining and eliminates the threat of explosive remnants of war.
- Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyi met with Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk in Kyiv. Following the talks, Zelenskyi announced a new defense package that Ukraine will receive from Poland. Poland also joined the Joint Declaration of Support for Ukraine, which was agreed by the G7 countries last July at the NATO summit in Vilnius. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said that this declaration is intended to mobilize democratic countries to support Ukraine. He also added that Poland and Ukraine would create joint arms companies and projects, as well as invest in defense systems.
- ➤ This year, **Belgium** will provide Ukraine with **€611 million in military aid** and help modernize the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Defense Minister Rustem Umerov announced after a conversation with his Belgian counterpart. The parties also discussed prospects for defense cooperation between the two countries.
- ➤ NATO invests \$1.2 billion in the production of 155 mm artillery shells. It makes about 220,000 rounds of ammunition. Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg says that Russia's war against Ukraine has turned into a battle for ammunition, so it is important to replenish stocks. Part of the ammunition will be transferred to Ukraine.
- ➤ In 2024, Ukraine will receive weapons that it does not yet have, which will help to defeat the Russian military and its logistics hubs, said Illarion Pavliuk, head of the Ministry of Defense's Press and Information Department, following the **18th meeting of the Contact Group on Ukraine's Defense** in the Ramstein format. In particular, there was a commitment to provide Ukraine with long-range weapons.
- Formany's total contributions to the Energy Support Fund for Ukraine have already amounted to 225 million euros. The country has also sent 89 cargoes of energy sector aid to Ukraine. This was announced by Deputy Energy Minister Svitlana Hrynchuk during a meeting with representatives of the Bundestag.
- ➤ **Germany** announces that it will provide six Sea King Mk41 **multipurpose helicopters** to Ukraine. German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius announced this following the 18th meeting of the Contact Group on Ukraine's Defense in the Ramstein format. The German side will also provide **training** for the Ukrainian military.
- ➤ In February, Canada will provide civilian instructors, aircraft, and support staff to help train Ukrainian pilots as part of the F-16 coalition, along with Denmark and France. This support is estimated to be worth approximately 15 million Canadian dollars. The training will begin in February 2024 and will last until 2025. The announcement was made by Canadian Defense Minister Bill Blair during the 18th meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group.
- > The Biden administration intends to provide Kyiv with \$11.8 billion in budget support as part of its request for additional funding. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen stated this during a virtual meeting with Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal, Voice of America reports.



- ▶ Ukraine and Slovakia will deepen military-technical cooperation and will work together on Ukraine's defense. Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal said that Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico agreed not to block Ukraine's purchase of weapons and equipment from Slovak businesses. Following the meeting, a joint statement was signed that will strengthen bilateral relations based on mutual trust and respect. They also emphasized the importance of developing military-technical cooperation on a commercial basis. The Slovak Pravda writes that Fico came with humanitarian aid and invited Shmyhal to visit Bratislava.
- > Denmark allocates 91 million kroner (\$13.3 million) for projects to support cybersecurity and defense of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine. This was reported by the Ministry of Defense of Denmark. The donation is provided under the auspices of the IT Coalition for Ukraine.
- The French Ministry of Defense has transferred an additional number of LRU multiple-launch rocket systems to Ukraine as part of the Artillery for Ukraine coalition. This was reported by the official website of the French Ministry of Defense. As part of this coalition, France has handed over two additional LRU multiple-launch rocket systems to Ukraine, bringing the total number of French systems to six.
- Sweden and the United Kingdom joined the newly established Drone and Electronic Warfare Coalition, which was created by Ukraine and Latvia earlier this year. It now has four member countries. The main task of this association is to help Ukraine scale up the production of drones and electronic warfare systems for the needs of the war. The Ministry of Defense said that Ukraine currently produces more than 70 UAVs, which are legalized and used on the front line.
- > The process of screening Ukrainian legislation for **compliance with European law** has officially begun in Brussels. This lays the groundwork for negotiations on the country's accession to the EU.
- ➤ The European Commission allocates €15 million for the construction of **new bomb shelters for schools** in Ukraine; Lithuania provides an additional half a million euros and takes responsibility for the project. This is stated in a statement by the Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine.
- German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius talks about plans to supply Ukraine with weapons in 2024. This is stated on the website of the German Ministry of Defense. The list of aid includes air defense systems, tanks, armored vehicles, and ammunition.
- Denmark and the Czech Republic have signed a defense cooperation agreement, including to secure future military aid packages for Ukraine. This is stated in a statement by the Czech Ministry of Defense. The essence of the cooperation is to provide additional supplies of high-quality weapons and military equipment and fast delivery to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- > An office of the Danish Embassy was officially opened in Mykolaiv. It will play a key role in the reconstruction of the Mykolaiv region, which suffered from the Russian invasion.







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> In the Volyn and Polissia directions, the operational situation remains without significant changes.

- In the Severskyi (Chernihiv) and Slobozhanskyi (Kharkiv) directions, the Russian army maintains a military presence in the border areas, conducts active sabotage activities to prevent the transfer of Ukrainian troops to threatening directions, increases the density of mine-explosive barriers along the state border in the Belgorod Oblast.
- > In the Kupiansk direction, Ukrainian defenders repelled several enemy attacks near Tabaivka (Kharkiv Oblast), and Stelmakhivka (Luhansk Oblast).
- In the Lyman direction, Ukrainian soldiers repelled several invaders' attacks near Terny and Torske (Donetsk Oblast).
- In the Bakhmut direction, the Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled some enemy attacks in the areas of the settlements of Bohdanivka, Ivanivske, Klishchiivka, and Andriivka.
- In the Avdiivka direction, Ukrainian defenders continue to restrain Russian forces that do not abandon attempts to encircle Avdiivka. The Ukrainian military steadfastly holds the defense, causing significant losses to the invaders.
- > In the Marinka direction, Ukrainian soldiers continue to deter Russians near Heorhiivka, Pobieda, and Novomykhailivka (the Donetsk Oblast), where Ukrainian troops repelled several attacks.
- > In the Shakhtarsk direction, the Ukrainian defenders repelled the attack of the invaders in the Zolota Nyva area of Donetsk Oblast.
- > In the Zaporizhzhia direction, Ukrainian soldiers repelled several enemy attacks north of Pryiutne, south of Chervone, west of Verbove and Robotyne (the Zaporizhzhia Oblast).
- > In the Kherson direction, the Ukrainian Defense Forces continue to expand the bridgehead. Despite significant losses, the enemy does not abandon attempts to dislodge Ukrainian units from their positions.

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- > There were 68 combat engagements in the frontline over the past day.
- > The war in Ukraine has undermined Russia's confidence in its conventional armed forces, Reuters writes. According to the publication, this has increased the importance for Moscow of non-strategic nuclear weapons as a deterrent in a potential future conflict with NATO.

> There were 56 combat engagements in the frontline over the past day.

- > The Russian media published the moment of the crash of the IL-76 aircraft in the Belgorod region. According to the Russian Defense Ministry, there were allegedly Ukrainian prisoners of war on board. In his evening address, Volodymyr Zelenskyi said that he had heard from all military leaders about the situation with the downing of the IL-76 and the exchange of prisoners. "We need to establish all the clear facts. As much as possible, given that the downing of the aircraft occurred on Russian territory, which is beyond our control. Our state will insist on an international investigation," the President emphasized.
- > Ukrainian electronic warfare helped to repel a Russian missile attack, BBC reports. For the first time, the Ukrainian military command has claimed that it was able to "neutralize" two dozen Russian missiles using electronic warfare rather than air defense. Western analysts say this is a "turning point" in defending Ukraine's skies.
- The Defense Intelligence of Ukraine informs about the destruction of the Russian Space Hydrometeorology Center Planeta database. The enterprise is engaged in receiving and processing data from satellites. It also provides the Ministry of Defense, the General Staff, and the services of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Russian Federation with relevant products. The penetration of the center's database allowed it to destroy 280 servers and about 2 petabytes (200 million gigabytes) of data. The work of the supercomputers is paralyzed and cannot be completely restored. The cost of the digital array lost by Russia may comprise at least \$10 million.
- In the temporarily occupied territories of the Donetsk Oblast, mercenaries from Malaysia, who were recruited by the Russian Federation to fight against Ukraine, were spotted, the National Resistance Center (NRC) reports. The Center noted that Cubans, Nepalese, Belarusians, Serbs, and representatives of other countries where mercenary activities are formally prohibited have also been repeatedly spotted in the Russian Armed Forces.

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- > Over the past 24 hours, there were 58 military clashes on the front line.
- The Russian Federation is increasing the use of gas grenades with banned lethal substances. This was reported by Captain Andrii Rudyk, a representative of the Center for Research of Trophy and Advanced Weapons and Military Equipment. In December 2023 alone, 81 such cases of gas grenades were recorded.
- > Over the past 24 hours, there were 82 military clashes on the front line.
- > There is a threat from Russian sabotage and reconnaissance groups in the Sumy oblast, said the commander of the Joint Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Serhii Naiev. Military personnel note that the Russians have become more active recently.
- Russia may try to attack in the border areas of Belgorod and Kharkiv oblasts in the coming weeks. This was stated by the head of the General Staff of the Estonian Defense Forces, Colonel Eero Rebo. According to his forecasts, the offensive will be attempted to distract the Ukrainian military from the Kupiansk direction, which is under the main attack of Russian troops.
- > "The Ukrainian Armed Forces have advanced in some areas of the frontline," ISW reports. Thus, according to analysts, Ukrainian defenders have advanced along a section of the front line south of Novomykhailivka in Donetsk Oblast. They also pushed back the occupiers northeast of Zavitne Bazhannia and advanced southwest of Myrne.

Losses of the Russian army from 22.01.2023 to 28.01.2023

Liquidated personnel	6320
Tanks	98
IFVs	207
Artillery systems / MLRS	217/4
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	3
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	88
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	258
Special equipment	46



27.01

The exchange list of 65 Ukrainian prisoners of war, which Russia distributed after the downing of the IL-76, includes military personnel who were exchanged earlier. This was reported by Ukrainian Ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets. The report by the US Institute for the Study of War also states that, according to several Russian and Ukrainian sources, at least one prisoner of war from this list was already exchanged on January 3. In addition, Lubinets said earlier that it is impossible to say if there were prisoners of war in the IL-76. According to him, this should be determined by international experts. Meanwhile, the Ukrainian military intelligence service claims that only 5 bodies were delivered to the morgue in Belgorod after the plane crash. This corresponds to the number of crew members.

- ➤ Putin is sending signals to the US through unofficial channels that he is open to discussing security measures for Ukraine, Bloomberg reports, citing Russian sources. Allegedly, Putin is ready to consider giving up the demand for Ukraine's neutral status and non-membership in NATO but will insist on recognizing Russia's control over the occupied territories.
- > Over the past 24 hours, there were 98 military clashes on the front line.
- Russians have significantly increased the number of offensive and assault operations for the second day in a row they have been conducting 50 combat engagements daily, said Oleksandr Tarnavskyi, commander of the Tavria operational and strategic group of troops. "A dozen and a half occupants surrendered over the last week. The enemy also conducted 100 air strikes in the operational area of the Tavria Joint Forces Operation within seven days. Most of them were UAVs, and the invaders dropped most of them on Donetsk Oblast," noted Tarnavskyi.
- Russia's recent military gains in Ukraine are "strategically insignificant," British intelligence believes. "The pre-war population of Vesele was 102, and Krokhmalne was 45. This is a continuation of Russia's minor advance, while Ukraine focuses on active defense," the review says. British intelligence believes that despite an attempt to infiltrate the rear of Ukrainian positions in Avdiivka through tunnels, Ukrainian counterattacks are holding back Russian forces from further advance within the city.
- ➤ On the day the IL-76 crashed, it was indeed proposed to exchange 65 Ukrainian defenders from Russia's list, according to the Coordination Headquarters for the Exchange of Prisoners. At the same time, the interviewed relatives of the Ukrainian servicemen on this list, having watched videos from Russian propaganda materials from the crash site, found no signs that their relatives were on the plane. Defense Intelligence of Ukraine still does not know for sure whether these prisoners were on board at the time of the crash.

Losses of the Russian army from 22.01.2023 to 28.01.2023

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✓ During the past week, Russians launched 77 missile and 315 air strikes and fired over 564 MLRS attacks.

Attack on the night of January 23

Air defense forces destroyed 21 targets, including 15 Kh-101/Kh-555/Kh-55 cruise missiles, 5 "Iskander-M" ballistic missiles, and one Kh-59 guided missile.

- In Kharkiv, explosions occurred in the morning and evening. More than 4,000 windows were smashed, more than 120 buildings, two boiler houses, and a water supply system were damaged. There were 62 wounded, and 15 people were killed, including an 8-year-old girl and her mother.
- Several fires sparked in Kyiv due to the missile strike in the Sviatoshynskyi, Solomianskyi, and Pecherskyi districts. In total, 22 people were affected, including four children, and one person died. Twenty-eight objects were damaged, including residential buildings, a medical facility, educational institutions, and cars.
- > Two multi-story buildings, a private house, commercial buildings, and cars were damaged in the Bucha district of Kyiv Oblast. Three people were injured.
- > One person died and another was wounded as a result of the attack on Pavlohrad.
- > The Russian military also launched a missile at critical infrastructure in Shostka, Sumy Oblast.

Kirovohrad oblast

On 21 January, Kirovohrad Oblast was shelled by the Russian forces: no people or civilian objects were damaged. On the night of 27 January, air defense forces shot down four drones in Kropyvnytskyi district, and the debris damaged the fence of an abandoned private house. There were no casualties.

Zaporizhzhia and oblast

During the week, the Russian military attacked the towns and villages of the Zaporizhzhia region more than 700 times. In particular, they attacked Novodarivka, Novoandriivka, Mala Tokmachka, Charivne, Shcherbaky, Huliaipole, Lobkove, Kamianske, Piatykhatky, Novoiakovlivka, Poltavka, Levadne, Chervone, Malynivka, Huliaipilske, Bilohirya, Bilenke, Novodanylivka, Mali Shcherbaky, Orikhove, Stepnohirsk.

Donetsk oblast

On 24 January, two people were killed and nine injured as a result of a missile attack on Hirnyk. The shelling of the town took place around 4 pm. Two multi-story buildings as well as 43 private houses on five streets were damaged.

In the Pokrovsk district under fire: Krasnohorivka, Avdiivka, Kurakhove, Marinka, Ocheretyne, Kurakhove, Hrodivka communities, Illinka, Romanivka, Novobakhmutivka, Novohrodivka, Myrnohrad, Tsukuryne, Dachne, Hostre, Veselyi Hai, Kurakhove, Trudove. Private houses, multi-story buildings, hospital buildings, a shop, an enterprise, and cars were damaged.

In the Kramatorsk district, Sloviansk, Kostiantynivka, Lyman, Illinivka, Kostiantynivka communities, Terny, Oleksiievo-Druzhkivka, Torske, Yampil, Zarichne, Yampolivka, Stara Mykolaivka, Zvanivka, and Siversk are affected by shelling. An industrial building, multi-story buildings, a kindergarten, an infrastructure facility, and a boarding school were damaged.

In the Bakhmut district, Chasiv Yar and Toretsk communities were under fire. Residential buildings, an industrial building, an administrative building, and multi-story buildings were damaged.

In the Volnovakha district, Novoukrainka and Vuhledar community are suffering. There are wounded or dead in all sectors.

Kherson and oblast

On 22 January, Russians dropped explosives from a drone in Beryslav. A man was killed. On 23 January, the occupiers attacked the Korabelnyi district of Kherson. A 70-year-old man was killed near the entrance of a house. A 74-year-old woman was wounded as a result of the strikes on Kindiika. On the same day, Russians launched several air attacks on Beryslav district, destroying residential buildings. Three people were killed. In addition, the occupiers again shelled the center of Kherson and dropped six guided bombs on the settlements of Beryslav district. A house in the Shliakhove village was hit, and a woman died. On 24 January, the Russian forces shelled the Dniprovskyi district of Kherson, injuring a man. In addition, three medical workers were injured during the shelling of a hospital in Kherson, as well as a woman and a man. Novoberyslav was also under attack during the day. On 26 January, Russians attacked Novotiahynka, injuring a woman. On 27 January, Russians dropped explosives from drones on Beryslav. A man was killed, and another person was injured.

Kharkiv and oblast

During the week, under the Russians' artillery and mortar fire were: Balakliia of the Izium district; Stohnii, Udy, Ivashky of the Bohodukhiv district; Veterynarne, Kozacha Lopan, Lyptsi, Velyka Rohan of the Kharkiv district; Nesterne, Hatyshche, Hrafske, Vilcha, Ohirtseve, Vovchansk, Budarky, Mykolaivka, Okhrymivka, Zemlianka, Starytsia, Bochkove, Zemlianyi Yar, Zybyne, Vovchanski Khutory, Rozdolne of the Chuhuiv district; Kupiansk, Komisarove, Kolodiazne, Khatnie, Dvorichna, Kyslivka, Synkivka, Tabaivka, Krasne Pershe, Pishchane, Masiutivka, Petropavlivka, Ivanivka, Berestove, Vilkhuvatka, Hryhorivka in Kupiansk district;

Private buildings, educational institutions, a fire station building, a modular base point for emergency medical assistance brigades and an ambulance, a gas pipeline, a cafe, a shop, cars, and an enterprise were damaged, and a petrol station was set on fire as a result of the shelling.

Dnipro and Dnipropetrovsk oblast

On 24 January, two missiles were shot down over the Dnipro district. The debris landed on an enterprise in Dnipro. A 38-year-old man was injured. The building and equipment were damaged.

Odesa and oblast

On 24 January, the attack by Russian drones on Odesa resulted in damage to civilian residential infrastructure. In the Khadzhybeiskyi district of Odesa, a residential multi-story building was damaged, warehouses were burnt out, and one person was injured. Another targeted drone pierced the roof of a two-story building in Prymorskyi district. One more drone crashed in the same residential block. Four people were injured. There was also a hit to the warehouse of a furniture factory, which started a fire. One person was injured.

Belarus Russia Kyiv The biggest shelling of the week (the mark size is related to the number of victims and damage caused) The week of shelling Shelling of critical infrastructure 22-28.01.2024 facilities has been officially confirmed Occupied **before** February 24, 2022 Occupied after February 24, 2022 **Kyiv**





Odesa



Kharkiv









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> The Commissioner for Human Rights of the **Council of Europe**, Dunja Mijatović, emphasizes that **Ukrainian children** who are separated from their parents during the humanitarian emergency cannot be considered as orphans and therefore **cannot be adopted in Russia**.

> The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child intends to find out **how many children were deported by Russia**, as well as what Moscow has done to protect "the right of such children to preserve their identity, including citizenship, name and family relations". This is reported by Voice of America.

In the temporarily occupied territory of the Zaporizhzhia oblast, Russia has **closed 70% of medical facilities**, turning them into military hospitals. Access to medical care is provided only to those who have been issued a Russian passport, said the mayor of Melitopol Ivan Fedorov.

Russia plans to hold "presidential elections" in the occupied territories of the Kherson oblast early. This was reported by the deputy of the Kherson Regional Council Serhiy Khlan.

Over the past two months, the Ukrainian economy has lost more than 1.5 billion euros due to strikes that have blocked the work of checkpoints on its western borders. Ukrainian entrepreneurs lost their contracts and customers in European countries since their goods were not delivered on time. This was stated by the Deputy Head of the Ukrainian Agri Council (UAC), Denys Marchuk.

➤ According to foresters, **84 forestries** in Chernihiv and Sumy oblasts fell under the zone where hostilities were conducted and almost 19 thousand hectares of forests **remain mined**. This was reported by the Northern Forestry Office.

For the past 19 months, Russia has concealed the status and location of 1600 captured Ukrainian defenders, both men and women, from Azovstal and Mariupol, which constitutes a violation of the Geneva Convention norms. This is emphasized by the Association of Families of Azovstal Defenders.

➤ The Save Ukraine team has **rescued four more Ukrainian children** from the temporarily occupied territories and Russia. Over this time, 231 Ukrainian children have been returned from Russia and the temporarily occupied territories. It is stated that this was the 15th rescue mission of Save Ukraine.

➤ 18 million tons of cargo have been **exported via the Ukrainian Black Sea Corridor** since August 16, 2023. The goods were exported to 32 countries around the world. According to the results of the year, the ports of Ukraine transshipped about 62 million tons of cargo. This was reported by the Ukrainian Sea Ports Authority (USPA).

As of today, more than 8,000 people are in captivity, including over 1,600 civilians. Ukraine has carried out 49 prisoner exchanges and returned 2,828 people home, including 2,681 military personnel and 147 civilians. However, tens of thousands of people, both civilians and prisoners of war, remain missing. This was reported by Yurii Taraniuk, a representative of The Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War (KSHPPV).

As a result of Russian strikes in Ukraine, more than 200 schools have been destroyed and another 1,600 have been damaged, said Andriy Stashkiv, Deputy Minister of Education and Science. Today, about 900,000 children in Ukraine are studying remotely.







> The occupation authorities in Crimea are implementing a "special regime" for entry and exit on the administrative border with the temporarily occupied territory of Kherson Oblast. This information is reported by "Krym. Realii." According to the decree issued by the "head" of Crimea, Sergey Aksyonov, the pass regime in that area "is equivalent to the regime of passing through the state border of the Russian Federation."

Russia is establishing "youth centers" in the occupied territories to recruit Ukrainian children. These centers, along with coordinators brought in from the Russian Federation, are responsible for implementing a policy aimed at altering the self-identification of Ukrainians. This information is reported by the Center for National Resistance.

➤ The Ministry of Defense of Ukraine has reported that the engineering and sapper battalion of the Support Forces Command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine will soon **begin clearing de-occupied Ukrainian territories** using GCS-200 mechanized demining machines. GCS platforms are used in over 40 countries around the world. The equipment has proven itself to be reliable and effective for demining operations.

Captain Andrii Rudyk, a representative of the Center for Research of Captured and Prospective Weapons and Military Equipment, stated that Russia is increasingly using gas grenades containing prohibited lethal substances. He pointed out that the development of new grenades using chloropicrin might indicate that Russia falsely claimed in 2017 to have fulfilled its obligations under the 1993 Chemical Weapons Convention. In December 2023 alone, 81 cases of the use of such gas grenades were recorded. Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, there have been 626 documented cases of chemical attacks against Ukrainian defenders.

➤ The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) has adopted a resolution urging EU member states to recognize the **deportation of Ukrainian children by Russia as genocide**. The decision was unanimous, as reported by Yevheniia Kravchuk, a member of the permanent delegation of the Verkhovna Rada to PACE.

➤ Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration Iryna Vereshchuk has stated that **payments to internally displaced persons need to be optimized**, as required by international partners. In 2022, Ukraine allocated UAH 57 billion (USD 1.48 billion) for payments to displaced persons, and this amount increased to UAH 73 billion (USD 1.9 billion) in 2023. It is planned that in 2024, the amount will again be approximately UAH 57 billion.

SE NNEGC "Energoatom" reports that the six-year period of allowed nuclear fuel stay, according to the manufacturer's specifications, in all six reactors of the temporarily occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP is coming to an end. Continuing the operation with such fuel violates technical specifications and may lead to the compromise of fuel element integrity, resulting in a potential radiation accident.

Russia has not given consent to an international investigation into the crash of a military II-76 aircraft on January 24, which, according to Russia, was transporting Ukrainian prisoners of war. Russian officials rejected the idea of an international investigation involving third countries and UN representatives. Additionally, Russia has failed to provide evidence supporting the claim that prisoners of war were on board the plane. The UN Deputy Secretary-General stated that the UN is currently unable to determine whether there were people on board and what happened to the plane.

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