



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

January 4 – 9

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4-5.01

- **The European Union** disagrees with Ukraine's calls to punish European **pharmaceutical companies** still operating in Russia with sanctions - Politico.
- **French** President Macron announced the transfer to Ukraine of **AMX-10 RC** heavy armored personnel carriers, which are also classified as **wheeled tanks**. *"This is the first time that Western-made tanks have been delivered to the Ukrainian Armed Forces,"* the Elysee Palace stressed.
- Biden confirmed that **the United States** may provide Ukraine with **Bradley infantry fighting vehicles** to help Ukrainians fight the Russian invasion. He added that the combat vehicles would help the Ukrainian military provide *"increased ground combat capabilities"* and the US has a large number of these vehicles.
- **Norway** has donated **10 thousand artillery shells** to Ukraine. They can be used for several types of artillery fire, including the M109, which Norway provided earlier.
- **Turkish President Erdogan** in a telephone conversation with **Putin** called on him to *"unilateral ceasefire"*. Instead, Putin said that Russia is open to dialogue on Ukraine, but Kyiv should take into account *"new territorial realities"*.
- **Germany** will provide Ukraine with **Patriot** air defense systems and **Marder** infantry fighting vehicles. The decision on military assistance was made after a telephone conversation between German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and US President Joe Biden – a statement of the German government.
- *"If Putin wanted peace, he would bring his soldiers home and the war would be over. But, apparently, he wants to continue the war, after a short break"*, - reacted German Foreign Minister **Annalena Burbock** to Putin's statement about the **"Christmas truce"** (ceasefire for 36 hours, starting from 12:00 on January 6).
- **France** calls on Russia to withdraw troops from Ukraine and says that the Kremlin's unilateral declaration of a "ceasefire" on the occasion of Orthodox Christmas will not mislead anyone, the country's Foreign Ministry said.

6.01

- **US** to provide Ukraine with **Sea Sparrow radar-guided air defense missiles** for the first time - Politico. The missiles are part of a new package of military assistance from the United States. It is reported that such missiles can be fired from the sea or land to intercept cruise missiles or aircraft.



6.01

- **The German government** wants Ukraine to receive more **Gepard anti-aircraft cannons**, so it is negotiating with two states that still have stocks of Gepard and a lot of ammunition of 35-millimeter caliber. According to the military, Gepard anti-aircraft cannons have shown particular effectiveness in the fight against drones launched by Russia.
- **Germany** plans to supply Ukraine with about **40 Marder armored personnel carriers** in the first quarter of 2023 - spokesman for the Social Democratic Party of Germany Parliamentary faction on foreign policy. In addition, the delivery of Patriot air defense systems is planned for the same time.
- **The United States** is providing Ukraine with a new **package of defense support** worth more than **\$3 billion**, which will include, among other things, Bradley infantry fighting vehicles, HIMARS ammunition, MRAP armored vehicles, and Sea Sparrow air defense missiles.

8.01

- **Greece** is ready to give up Marder armored personnel carriers in favor of Ukraine, which may speed up the delivery of these armored vehicles to Kyiv. *"The agreement on the exchange of armored combat vehicles from Germany to Greece and armored personnel carriers from Greece to Ukraine is being implemented normally,"* Greek Defense Minister Nikos Panagiotopoulos said.

9.01

- **Italy** will **not** make a decision on the **supply of new weapons** to Ukraine until February due to political tensions, considerations of the cost of weapons, and lack of military equipment - La Repubblica. Citing unnamed sources, the newspaper reported that Prime Minister **Meloni** has **faced resistance** to approving a decree on arms supplies to Ukraine from her right-wing allies Matteo Salvini and Silvio Berlusconi. Both politicians have longstanding ties with Moscow.
- A spokesman for the German government said that Berlin currently has no plans to send **Leopard 2 tanks** to Ukraine. The statement came after German Economy Minister Robert Habeck said that Berlin could not rule out the delivery of Leopard tanks.
- A meeting on the **investigation of war crimes** in Ukraine will be held in London in March. It will be attended by ministers of justice from a number of countries and representatives of the International Criminal Court. The meeting aims to increase financial and practical support for the investigation, as well as to provide the court with everything necessary to conduct investigations and prosecute the perpetrators.

✓ Russians continue to strike Kharkiv and civilian infrastructure in Donetsk, Mykolaiv, and Kherson regions. There is a threat of air and missile strikes throughout Ukraine. The situation is escalating on the part of Belarus and Russia, according to the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine. The situation on the border with Belarus remains controlled, but "tense". From January 16 to February 1, Belarus will hold joint air exercises of the armed forces with Russia, the Belarusian Defense Ministry said. Russian planes have already arrived in the country.

06.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The White House believes that the unrestrained desire of the Wagnerites to capture Bakhmut is connected with the desire of the owner of the Wagner Group, Yevhen Prigozhin, to have access to salt and gypsum deposits. Prigozhin has already worked out a scheme for the illegal use of natural resources in the Central African Republic, Mali, Sudan, and other countries - this was reported by the US mission to the UN in October 2022. ➤ Russia has never adhered to the ceasefire: The Ministry of Defense of Ukraine raised statistics on Russian statements for the previous 9 years. In none of the 10 declared "ceasefire regimes" did the occupiers observe the ceasefire, often violating it in the first hours after its announcement. ➤ The General Staff confirmed the strike of the Ukrainian Armed Forces on the enemy in Havrylivka Druha, near the administrative border with Crimea. It is known that at least 100 occupants were hospitalized.
08.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Russian so-called "Christmas truce" expectedly turned out to be fake: during January 6-7, the invaders repeatedly resorted to assault actions against Ukrainian positions, fired from MLRS, mortars, tanks, and cannon artillery and conducted air strikes. ➤ On January 8, the exchange of prisoners took place. 33 officers and 17 privates and sergeants returned home. ➤ Ukrainian defense forces continue to liberate territories from the enemy. Fierce fighting is currently taking place in the south, in particular around the Kinburn Spit in the Mykolaiv region. However, neither side has absolute control over the islands nearby.
09.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Russians launched a new powerful assault on the city of Soledar in the Donetsk region. At present, the enemy has engaged a large number of assault groups formed from the best reserves of the Wagnerites. They are using artillery, multiple rocket launchers, and mortars, covering even their own fighters with fire. In total, over 15 localities came under fire in the Bakhmut area on the day. ➤ In the Kupiansk and Lyman directions, the enemy fired from tanks, mortars, cannons, and rocket artillery at 16 localities. In the Zaporizhzhia direction, the areas of 13 localities were subjected to fire. ➤ Ukrainian aviation carried out 17 strikes on the areas of concentration of the invaders and 3 strikes on the positions of enemy anti-aircraft missile systems. The enemy continues to suffer losses. Thus, up to 300 occupants were taken to the city hospital of Lysychansk, Luhansk region, only in the first week of this year. ➤ In recent days, the enemy has been launching a lot of reconnaissance drones in search of targets, which indicates preparations for a new attack. This was stated by Natalia Humeniuk, head of the press center of the Security and Defense Forces of the "South" Joint Forces Operation. According to her, due to the lack of necessary ammunition, the occupants began to choose more carefully where and when to strike. However, currently, there is only one observer ship at sea due to bad weather. "The enemy ship grouping has critically decreased and on certain days amounted to zero in the Black Sea. Now there is only one observer left there. Missile-carrying ships are in the basing points. And such a long stay there may indicate preparations for the upcoming departure. Most likely, they are waiting for the weather to improve to go on combat duty."
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Washington Post published an op-ed by Condoleezza Rice and Robert M. Gates titled "Time is not on Ukraine's side" calling on partners to immediately step up military support to prevent Russia from seizing the chance to cause more trouble. Here are the main theses of this text: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When it comes to the war in Ukraine, the only thing that is certain now is that the fighting and destruction will continue. ➤ Vladimir Putin remains fully committed to bringing all of Ukraine back under Russian control or - if that fails - destroying it as a viable country. ➤ Putin believes that time is on his side: that he can exhaust the Ukrainians and that the unity of the United States and Europe in supporting Ukraine will eventually fracture and break down. ➤ For Putin, defeat is not an option. If he fails to succeed militarily this year, he must maintain control of positions in eastern and southern Ukraine that provide future staging grounds for a renewed offensive to occupy the rest of Ukraine's Black Sea coast, control the entire Donbas region, and then move west. ➤ Although Ukraine's response to the invasion was heroic and its military performed brilliantly, the country's economy is in shambles, its infrastructure has been destroyed, and much of its mineral wealth, industrial potential, and much of its agricultural land is under Russian control. Ukraine's military capability and economy now depend almost entirely on lifelines from the West - primarily the United States. ➤ Under the current circumstances, any ceasefire agreement will give Russian troops a strong position to resume the invasion when they are ready. This is unacceptable. ➤ The only way to avoid such a scenario is to urgently provide Ukraine and its allies with a dramatic increase in military supplies and capabilities - sufficient to deter a new Russian offensive and enable Ukraine to push back Russian forces in the east and south.

Losses of the Russian army from 05.01.2023 to 09.01.2023	
Liquidated personnel	2040
Tanks	39
IFVs	39
Artillery systems / MLRS	18/8
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	2
Aircraft / helicopters	1/4
UAVs	12
Vehicles & fuel tanks	50
Special equipment	4

✓ During the week, Russians **launched 25 missile and 82 air strikes** and carried out more than **255 attacks from MLRS**.

Zaporizhzhia and Zaporizhzhia oblast

During the week Russians shelled civilian infrastructure of the Zaporizhzhia, Polohy, Huliaipole, Orikhiv and Vasylivka districts of the region. Due to the **shelling of Zaporizhzhia with cluster shells**, infrastructure facilities, multi-story buildings, a kindergarten, warehouses, and other auxiliary premises were damaged. Two people were injured. Two people were killed and three more wounded as a result of the shelling of **Prymorske** village. One killed and one wounded were employees of the village council who were on their way to distributing firewood to the citizens.

Sumy oblast

Russians shelled Znob-Novgorod, Esman and Serechno-Buda communities with mortars, cannon artillery, and self-propelled artillery systems. 32 hits in total. A fire broke out on the territory of a local enterprise. There were no casualties.

Kharkiv and Kharkiv oblast

During the week, enemy shelling of border settlements with artillery, tanks and mortars was recorded in the Kupiansk, Chuhuiv, and Kharkiv districts of the region. A civilian building was damaged in Kupiansk, and 2 people were wounded. In **Dvorichna** of Kupiansk district a lyceum, a private house and a building of the SES unit were partially destroyed. 2 tankers and an operational vehicle of firefighters were damaged. One firefighter was injured. Two **rocket attacks** on the town of Merefa, Kharkiv district, resulted in 1 death. A civilian industrial facility was damaged. On the morning of January 9, occupiers **shelled a local market in Shevchenkove**, Kupiansk district - 7 people were injured. Among them is a 13-year-old girl, who was sent to Kharkiv for surgery. A fragment hit her in the neck, near the carotid artery. It is also known about two dead women aged 50 and 60.

Mykolaiv oblast

The enemy continues shelling Kutsurub and Ochakiv communities. Residential buildings and outbuildings were damaged. In the afternoon of January 9, the occupiers attacked **Ochakiv**. 15 wounded, among them a 2-year-old child. **More than 100 houses were damaged** - windows and roofs particularly.

Kherson and Kherson oblast

Occupiers shelled the territory of the region **more than 300 times** - 11 dead, 24 wounded. In Kherson, enemy shells hit a shipyard, a gas pipeline, private and apartment buildings, a thermal power plant, the territory, and the building of the fire and rescue unit. The occupants also shelled **Beryslav**. One of the enemy shells hit a house. A family died - a husband, wife and their 12-year-old son. During the shelling of the central part of Kherson - a 20-year-old boy died, a shell hit a residential building. On the night of January 8, occupiers shelled the Tavriyskyi district of Kherson with incendiary ammunition. There were no casualties.

Donetsk oblast

Russians continue shelling along the entire frontline. In the **Volnovakha sector** Vuhledar, Vodiane, and Prechystivka are under fire.

In the **Donetsk sector** Kurakhove, Hirnyk, Vesele of Ocheretyne community, Avdiivka, Maryinka, Ostrovske, Vovchenka came under fire. Private houses, shops and equipment at the infrastructure facility, residential high-rise buildings, a hospital building, and heating networks were damaged. There are casualties and dead.

In the **Horlivka sector** Kramatorsk, Kostiantynivka, Soledar community, Blahodatne, Paraskoviyivka, Nykyforivka, Bakhmut, Chasovyi Yar, Krasna Hora, Predtechyne of Kostiantynivka community, Soledar are under fire. Private houses, industrial zone, school, historical building, hospital were damaged. There are dead and wounded.

In the **Lysychansk sector** Torske and Zarichne of the Lyman community came under fire. There were no casualties.

Dnipro and Dnipropetrovsk oblast

Occupiers continue to terrorize the Dnipropetrovsk region. **Nikopol** is particularly affected. Residential buildings and several outbuildings, a car, a gas pipeline, a social infrastructure facility, and power lines were damaged. Russians also hit the communities of Chervonohryhoriv, Marhanets and Myrove. There were no casualties.



This week shelling

Zaporizhzhia region



Kharkiv region



Humanitarian crisis

05.01

- Since the beginning of the great war and until the end of 2022, Ukraine exported almost **39 million tons of grain**, oilseeds, and products of their processing.
- The Ministry of Economy has previously estimated the **fall in Ukraine's GDP** at the end of 2022 totaling to **30.4%** with an error of 2%, which is a better indicator than predicted by previous forecasts.
- Pavlo Kyrilenko, Head of the military administration of Donetsk oblast, said that as a result of hostilities, **Bakhmut was destroyed by more than 60 %**.
- At a government meeting, Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal, says that in 2023, Ukraine will deploy security infrastructure - an extensive network of modern equipped shelters within walking distance. In public places, there will be additional verification tools - frames and scanners.

06.01

- Due to the significant temperature fall (which puts strain on energy facilities) and another possible Russian attack on the Ukrainian energy infrastructure, Ukrainians are preparing for **emergency power outages**.

07.01

- In **Enerhodar**, Zaporizhzhia oblast, the occupiers **forced** about 3000 employees of the Zaporizhzhia NPP **to obtain Russian passports**. Threatening entrepreneurs with fines and seizure of property in the city, the **Ukrainian hryvnia was withdrawn from circulation**. The number of residential premises seized by the occupiers, which were abandoned by internally displaced persons, has significantly increased.
- In the occupied territories, Russians **restrict the movement of Ukrainians** and prepare for **mobilization**. According to the new rules, residents of Berdiansk and Melitopol are allowed to leave settlements only with passes, which can be obtained at the local 'commandant's office'. At the same time, searches are being conducted in cities to expose underground movements.
- With the new wave of mobilization, the so-called Crimean 'universities' received a directive to expel all students of 3-5 years of study **who are subject to mobilization** and have academic debt. Also, in the temporarily Russian-occupied Crimea, security companies began training 'volunteers'.

07.01

- In Donetsk oblast, the occupiers are removing mobilization "booking" from civil servants, and in Horlivka, the military registration and enlistment offices have set a plan to **mobilize 2000 people**. To do this, the number of patrols in the city has been increased.
- Occupiers continue to illegally **deport children** from occupied Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine to the territory of Russia. Allegedly due to "serious injuries", **300 children** were sent to Moscow for "treatment", said the head of the Luhansk Regional Military Administration Serhiy Haidai. *"It is hard to imagine how many children from our region were deported to other localities of the Russian Federation under the pretext of hospitalization."*
- The State Emergency Service presented an **interactive map of the territories** of Ukraine where **explosive devices** have been found or are likely to be found. It also shows the degree of threat according to the information available to the SES. The error is up to 30 m. It is recommended to use information from the interactive map when visiting places where military operations were conducted.

08.01

- On the temporarily occupied territories, in Melitopol and Pryazovske, Zaporizhzhia oblast, the occupiers have **stopped broadcasting all Ukrainian TV channels**, only Russian TV is broadcasting.

09.01

- Defense Minister Oleksiy Reznikov reports that the occupiers wanted to **use Ukrainian children for military purposes through a mobile game**. According to him, the occupiers tried to 'find out' important information from Ukrainian children through a mobile game, namely data on the location of strategically important facilities. *"This is not just a dirty trick, but a war crime,"* says the Minister. He stresses that the UN Security Council resolution of 1999 lists six types of serious violations against children during armed conflicts and the Russian Federation has committed them all.
- A new scheme of **power supply** is being developed for Kyiv to ensure uninterrupted water supply and heating in the capital. According to the Director of the Center for Energy Research, Kharchenko, from mid-February Kyiv will not be threatened with any blackout. The city will have backup generation for water utilities and thermal power plants. In the future, other large Ukrainian cities are planned to follow the capital's example.

