



Transatlantic Dialogue Center

Weekly briefing

October 2 – 8

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02.10

- A **meeting of the foreign ministers of EU countries**, which usually occurs in Brussels, took place in Kyiv. It is the first time such a meeting has been held outside the European Union. The High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell, mentioned that one of the points of discussion during the ministers' meeting would be future **security commitments to Ukraine** in the context of Russia's aggression. Following the meeting, Borrell proposed that by the end of the year, an agreement should be reached to allocate **5 billion euros in military assistance** to Ukraine from the European Peace Fund.
- **Italy** has signed an agreement with Ukraine for the **restoration of the Spaso-Preobrazhenskyi Cathedral** in Odesa, which suffered damage due to a missile strike by Russia. Italy's Foreign Minister, Antonio Tajani, stated that the best Italian architects would be involved in the restoration of the cathedral.
- **Bulgaria** will **ban entry for vehicles** with Russian license plates onto its territory. The ban will take effect from the evening of October 2nd, as announced by the head of the country's border police, Anton Zlatanov. Previously, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Finland, and Norway, which border Russia, had also announced similar bans.
- **Denmark** will open a branch of its **embassy in Mykolaiv** at the request of President Zelenskyi, according to Denmark's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Rasmussen, during the EU Council meeting in Kyiv. He mentioned that Denmark has taken responsibility for the **reconstruction of the Mykolaiv region**.
- **Poland** delivered a batch of refurbished **Leopard 2 tanks** to Ukraine, as reported by Polska Grupa Zbrojeniowa. The exact number of tanks is unknown, but the company mentioned that repair work on other tanks is ongoing. The head of Rheinmetall also confirmed the intention to start tank production in Ukraine soon, noting that the country has well-equipped tank factories dating back to Soviet times.
- **Denmark** will allocate over 13 million euros for a joint European order of **155mm artillery ammunition** for Ukraine under the auspices of the European Defence Agency (EDA). It is expected that the ammunition will be delivered to Ukraine in 2024.
- **Germany** announced another package of **military aid to Ukraine**, as reported on the country's government website. This package includes all-terrain vehicles, tractors, engineering vehicles, ammunition, and satellite communication terminals. According to Spiegel, Ukraine also became the largest importer of German weapons in the first three-quarters of this year.

03.10

- **The European Parliament** has endorsed an initiative that entails the creation of a **Ukraine Facility** – a new financial instrument for Ukraine with a budget of up to 50 billion euros. Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal announced this. Ukraine is currently working with the European Commission to implement the necessary changes that would provide access to the program. This includes digitalization, integration into European markets, human capital development, and energy independence.
- The European Union is preparing to begin **official negotiations** with Ukraine regarding its future **accession** at the end of this year, according to Estonian Minister of Foreign Affairs Tsahkna. Earlier, Politico reported that negotiations were set to commence in December of this year. The President of the European Council, Michel, stated that **Ukraine could become a member of the EU by 2030**, if both sides do their homework: Ukraine by implementing reforms, combating corruption, and meeting legal requirements, and the EU by expediting decision-making processes.
- The Ministries of Agricultural Policy of Ukraine, Lithuania, and Poland have reached an important agreement. Starting from October 4, all Ukrainian **agricultural cargoes** will undergo inspections not at the Ukrainian-Polish border but at the Lithuanian port of Klaipeda, significantly **speeding up transit** corridor operations. On September 21, the Ukrainian and Polish ministers agreed to find a common solution to the agricultural conflict that considers both countries' interests.

04.10

- The Foreign Ministers of Ukraine and Sweden, Kuleba and Billstrom agreed to initiate bilateral negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement on so-called **security guarantees** based on the G7 declaration.
- By the end of this year, the **United Kingdom** plans to train over **30,000 Ukrainian military personnel**, including pilots, according to the British Ambassador to Ukraine Harris in an interview with Suspilne. He also stated that Ukraine's integration into NATO is happening "very quickly", and he believes that the Alliance will become stronger with Ukraine.
- **The United States** has transferred a batch of confiscated Iranian cartridges to Ukraine. The United States government has provided approximately **1.1 million rounds of 7.62mm ammunition** for the needs of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- **The IMF has resumed operations in Kyiv**, as announced by the IMF Managing Director, Kristalina Georgieva. The IMF representation in Ukraine had ceased its activities following the start of Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022.
- **Germany** will provide Ukraine with **additional air defense systems to protect grain routes**. Berlin will send an additional IRIS-T system and over 10 Gepard anti-aircraft installations to cover shipments heading to Romania. The weaponry is expected to arrive in Ukraine by the end of this year.
- Rheinmetall provided Ukraine with SurveilSpire systems to counter drones. The German government funded the order for Ukraine.

05.10

- President Volodymyr Zelenskyi stated that the main outcome of the meetings at the European Political Community summit was agreements to enhance Ukraine's air defense capabilities. **Spain** will provide Ukraine with six launchers for **Hawk air defense systems** to protect critical infrastructure. At the same time, **Germany** is working on providing Ukraine with an additional **Patriot system**, as mentioned by Volodymyr Zelenskyi.
- The committees of the European Parliament on budget and foreign affairs have voted in favor of creating a **special fund of up to 50 billion euros** for the years 2024-2027 to support the recovery, reconstruction, and modernization of Ukraine, as reported by the correspondent of Suspilne.
- The **United Kingdom** will provide over 500 million dollars in **humanitarian aid** to Ukraine for the winter period, according to British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. This financial support includes allocating over 41 million dollars to the UN and charitable organizations that provide housing and winter clothing. Additionally, more than 12 million dollars will be directed towards ensuring access to electricity.
- The EU's chief diplomat, **Josep Borrell**, labeled Russia's missile **strike on the village of Hroza** in the Kharkiv region [in which 52 people died], as a **war crime** and promised inevitable punishment. Austria's Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned Russia's ambassador over this attack, as announced by the ministry on social media X. It condemned Russia's attack and referred to it as a war crime.

06.10

- The government of Sweden announced the allocation of the **14th package of military assistance** to Ukraine in the amount of 143 million euros. It includes ammunition, spare parts for armored vehicles, communication tools, and infantry gear. Defense Minister Paul Johnson also stated that the Swedish Armed Forces will explore the possibility of **transferring or exporting Gripen fighters** to Ukraine. He added that Sweden's membership in NATO is a mandatory condition for providing the fighters.
- The European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (**Europol**) **joined** the international group **investigating Russia's war crimes in Ukraine**. Europol will provide analytical and forensic support to JIT members. Additionally, it will assist in collecting and analyzing data obtained legally from open sources (social media, television and radio broadcasts, and OSINT).



Military positions

- The Russian Federation continues to wage aggression against Ukraine. Despite significant losses, Russia has not abandoned its plans to fully occupy Ukrainian territory. The enemy continues to ignore the laws and customs of war, uses terror tactics, and strikes at both military and civilian targets. Unfortunately, Russian terrorist attacks against civilians continue.
- The operational situation in eastern and southern Ukraine remains difficult.
- On the Siverskyi (Chernihiv oblast) and Slobozhanskyi (Kharkiv, Sumy oblast) directions, the enemy maintains a military presence in the Russian regions bordering Ukraine. The enemy continues to shell Ukrainian settlements from the territory of Russia and increases the density of minefields along the state border of Ukraine.
- Kupiansk direction: Ukrainian defenders repelled enemy attacks in the vicinity of Synkivka and Ivanivka (Kharkiv oblast).
- Lyman axis: Ukrainian troops repelled enemy attacks in the area east of Makiivka (Luhansk oblast).
- Bakhmut direction: Russian troops made unsuccessful attempts to regain lost territory in the area of Andriivka (Donetsk oblast).
- Near Mariinka, Ukrainian defense forces successfully repelled a series of Russian attacks in the areas of Mariinka and Novomykhailivka (Donetsk oblast).
- Shakhtarsk direction: Ukrainian defenders repelled enemy attacks near Vuhledar, Zolota Nyva, Staromayorske (Donetsk oblast) and north of Pryutne (Zaporizhzhia oblast).
- Zaporizhzhia oblast: Ukrainian troops successfully repelled enemy attacks in the area northeast of Novopropkivka.
- At the same time, Ukrainian defense forces continue offensive operations along the Melitopol axis and along the Bakhmut axis, inflicting losses in manpower and equipment on the occupation forces, exhausting the enemy along the entire front line.

02.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In September, Russian forces launched a record number of Shahed drones - 521. The previous record was set in May 2023 - 413 kamikaze drones were used. Summer attacks were less intense: 197 in June, 246 in July, and 167 in August. This is the estimate of military observer Oleksandr Kovalenko. ➤ There were 22 combat engagements on the frontline during the day. The Russian Federation struck at Ukraine using 7 Shahed-136/131 attack UAVs from the southeast. Ukrainian air defense forces destroyed 4 enemy drones. ➤ Ukrainian strike drones attacked a Russian aircraft factory where X-59 missiles were produced, the Defence Intelligence of Ukraine (HUR) reports. On October 1, 2023, a strike on the Smolensk Aviation Plant disrupted the production of X-59 missiles of various modifications. According to confirmed reports, three of the four drones hit the target, causing significant damage to the production facilities of the Russian military enterprise. ➤ Last week, Ukraine's "Army of Drones" hit a record number of Russian artillery, according to Ukraine's Minister of Digital Transformation Mykhailo Fedorov. "The Russians have minus 69 cannons and 17 self-propelled artillery systems. More artillery destroyed means fewer shells at the positions of our military and frontline cities." ➤ Russians are drawing silhouettes of Tu-95 strategic bombers at the Engels air base, The War Zone reports. Planet Labs satellite imagery from September 29 shows two-dimensional decoys on the Engels apron. The War Zone believes that the Russian tactic may work with low-resolution satellites, but it is unclear how effective it can be. ➤ Russia has deployed old naval aircraft in the Black Sea, British intelligence reports. According to analysts, in recent weeks, the naval aviation of the Russian Black Sea Fleet has taken on an important role in the operations of the fleet, which is trying to cope with parallel threats on the southern flank of the war in Ukraine. Thus, the key Russian asset in these operations is the Be-12 MAIL amphibious aircraft developed in the 1950s, which flies from bases in the temporarily occupied Crimea.
03.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There were 26 combat engagements in the frontline over the day. Also, Russia struck at Ukraine, using an Iskander-K cruise missile and 31 Shahed-136/131 attack UAVs. Air defense destroyed a cruise missile and 29 enemy Shaheds. ➤ The French company Turgis & Gaillard signed an agreement with the Ukrainian company Antonov on the joint production of UAVs, - LaTribune. The drones will be produced on the basis of a MALE class drone called Aarok. The Aarok drone was first introduced this summer, and it is a MALE class UAV with a wingspan of almost 22 meters. However, according to the publication, a smaller version is being offered for Ukraine.
04.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There were 45 combat engagements on the front line over the past day. ➤ Minefields, lack of ammunition and anti-aircraft weapons are the main difficulties for the Ukrainian military to advance the counteroffensive, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyi said in an interview with Sky TG24. "Winter is another challenge for our population and the Ukrainian military. We have to go through it without losing the initiative on the battlefield," Zelenskyi said. ➤ Ukraine and the United States will start producing air defense systems on Ukrainian territory. This was stated by the head of the Ministry of Strategic Industry, Oleksandr Kamyshyn. According to him, the first results of such joint production will be at the end of 2023. ➤ The Stuhna and Bratstvo special forces as part of the Tymur special unit of the Defence Intelligence of Ukraine (HUR) landed on the Crimean peninsula and inflicted fire on the Russian troops. The special forces landed on the territory of the occupied Crimea, attacked the enemy, and after completing the task, withdrew. There was a battle with the Russian invaders, and there are many dead and wounded among the invaders' personnel. There are losses among the Ukrainian defenders too, which are still not comparable to the Russian ones though.

Losses of the Russian army from 02.10.2023 to 08.10.2023	
Liquidated personnel	3710
Tanks	119
IFVs	132
Artillery systems / MLRS	228/10
Anti-aircraft warfare systems	5
Aircraft / helicopters	0/0
UAVs	147
Ships/boats	0
Vehicles & fuel tanks	228
Special equipment	26



04.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Over the past month, the "Army of Drones" has destroyed almost 140 tanks and 270 artillery systems of the enemy. The total number of destroyed vehicles reached 793. ➤ The Russians shot down their own Su-35 fighter jet near the occupied Tokmak, Zaporizhzhia oblast, British intelligence reports. According to the intelligence, Russia has lost about 90 fixed-wing aircraft since the beginning of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The incident near Tokmak was the fifth loss of a Su-35, which is considered Russia's most advanced fighter jet.
05.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Within the last day, 30 combat engagements took place on the frontline. The enemy launched 3 missile and 49 air strikes, fired 26 times from multiple launch rocket systems at Ukrainian troops' positions and populated areas. In addition, Russia attacked Ukraine with 29 Shahed-136/131 strike UAVs from the southeast. Air defense destroyed 24 enemy Shaheds. ➤ Russia has moved 14 ships of the Black Sea Fleet from annexed Sevastopol to Novorossiysk, according to American OSINT researcher MT Anderson. According to him, in order to protect them from attacks, the Russians moved two Project 11356 frigates, Admiral Essen and Admiral Makarov, as well as three diesel submarines, five large amphibious assault ships and several small missile ships to the Krasnodar Territory. ➤ Russia intends to install sea mines on the approaches to Ukrainian ports to prevent grain exports through the temporary "humanitarian corridor". This was reported by the press service of the British Foreign Office. British intelligence believes that Russia is trying to jeopardize civilian ships passing through the "humanitarian corridor." ➤ Russia is considering a scenario of freezing the war against Ukraine, - Volodymyr Zelenskyi. "It needs this in order to recover by 2028 and start a new war against the Baltic states. These are the intelligence data," the President said at the summit of the European Political Community.
06.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the day on October 6, the Russian Federation launched another attack on Ukraine, using 33 Iranian Shahed-136/131 strike UAVs. Ukrainian air defense forces shot down 25 enemy UAVs. ➤ During a nighttime drone attack on the port infrastructure of the Izmail district, Russians destroyed 9 trucks and damaged a grain storage facility and administrative buildings. ➤ The owner of the Wagner PMC, Prigozhin, planned to stage a coup d'état in Moldova in early 2023 to remove the current president from power. This was stated by Moldovan President Maia Sandu in an interview with the Financial Times. According to her, Russia has used various methods to bribe voters and protesters and continues to do so. ➤ North Korea has started supplying Russia with artillery for the war against Ukraine, CBS News reports. ➤ Ukraine has returned home the bodies of 64 more fallen defenders. This was reported by the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War. ➤ Ukrainian troops are making progress in the Bakhmut sector, while the Russian army is unsuccessfully trying to storm Klishchiivka and Andriivka. This was stated by the head of the press service of the Eastern Group of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Iliia Yevlash.
07.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ukraine has increased drone production a hundredfold over the past year, Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal said. "200 companies have started developing drones," he said. Approaches to the development of the Ukrainian military-industrial complex have been radically changed. A new company has been created on the basis of Ukroboronprom, according to modern corporate governance standards, the prime minister said. ➤ The General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces reports that during the day, the aviation of the Defense Forces conducted 11 strikes on areas of concentration of personnel, weapons and military equipment and three strikes on Russian anti-aircraft missile systems. Missile units hit a control center, an air defense facility, six artillery pieces, a personnel concentration area, and an enemy electronic warfare station.

Liquidated personnel	3710
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✓ During the past week, Russians launched 32 missiles and 387 air strikes and carried out over 291 attacks from multiple launch rocket systems.

Kharkiv and Kharkiv oblast

On the morning of 2 October, Russians launched at least five strikes on the outskirts of Kharkiv, and S-300 missiles were reported to have hit the area. There were no casualties. On the same day, Kupiansk was attacked twice. Three people were injured. Apartment buildings, at least seven private houses were damaged, and the cars of local residents were destroyed. On 5 October, Russian occupiers struck a cafe in the village of Hroza in Kupiansk district with an Iskander missile. At the time of the attack, about 60 people were in the cafe, holding a memorial service for a local soldier. His wife, son, and daughter-in-law were killed in the attack. Law enforcement officials suspect that the target of a Russian strike was "guided" by a local, as the hit was accurate. **The missile strike was the deadliest in Kharkiv oblast since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion. The strike on Hroza killed 52 people, and four people remain missing, including two children.** On 6 October, Russians launched two strikes on Kharkiv with Iskander missiles. In the central part of the city, one of the missiles hit the ground, damaging two nearby residential buildings and other structures. A three-story building was hit in the Sloboda district. Under the rubble of the building, rescuers found the bodies of a 10-year-old boy and his grandmother. 30 people were injured (including an 11-month-old child), and 12 of them were hospitalized. On the same day, three people suffered burns and carbon monoxide poisoning as a result of shelling in Vovchansk. On 7 October, the Russians attacked the village of Peresichne, hitting a three-apartment building with a rocket between two two-story apartment blocks. The roofs and facades were damaged, glass was smashed, and a fire broke out. A 66-year-old man and a 64-year-old woman needed medical assistance due to an acute stress reaction.

Dnipropetrovsk oblast

On 2 October, in the Dnipro oblast, Russians attacked warehouses with power equipment purchased for winterization works. The attack resulted in a fire and destruction of the premises. Cable and wire products, low-voltage transformers, and disconnectors were damaged. No one was injured. On the night of 3 October, air defense forces shot down 13 drones and one cruise missile over the Dnipro oblast. In Pavlohrad, a drone hit an industrial enterprise, causing a fire. A UAV wreckage was also seen falling in the city of Dnipro.

Donetsk oblast

Russians continue to terrorize the oblast by shelling remote settlements and along the entire frontline. On 4 October, Russians launched two rocket attacks on the Shakhove community, hitting the outskirts of Zoloty Kolodiaz and Kucherevyi Yar, without causing any casualties.

In the Volnovakha sector, Novoukrainka, Vuhledar, Velyka Novosilka communities, Shakhtarsk, Yasna Poliana, and Vuhledar came under fire. Residential buildings and power lines were damaged.

In the Donetsk sector, Avdiivka, Mariinka, Kurakhivka, Selidivka communities, Krasnohorivka, Kurakhivka, Kurakhove, Trudove, Yelyzavetivka, Illinka, Vyshneve, Berestky, Hostre, Kostiantynopilske, Hanivka, Veselyi Hai, Novomykhailivka, Zoriane, Katerynivka are affected. Private houses, warehouses, and private cars were damaged.

In the Horlivka sector, Kostiantynivka, Illinivka, Toretsk, Soledar, Kostiantynivka, Druzhkivka, Chasiv Yar communities, Oleksandr-Kalynove, Nykyforivka, Toretsk, Pivnichne, Nelipivka, Ivanopillia, Raiske, Novohryhorivka, Pleshchiivka, Markove, Druzhba, Rozdolivka and Vasiukivka came under fire. Multi-story buildings, infrastructure facilities, private houses, administrative buildings, an industrial building, a non-residential building, a shop, and an outbuilding were damaged.

In the Lysychansk sector, the communities of Lyman, Zvanivka, Torske, Nove, Lyman, Siversk, Perezne, Zarichne, and Yampil were affected. Residential buildings, a non-residential building, and an outpatient clinic were damaged. There are wounded or dead in all directions.

Kherson and Kherson oblast

On 2 October, Russians shelled residential areas of Kherson, injuring two children and their mother. They also shelled Zolota Balka, injuring four people. On the same day, a transport company in Kherson was hit. Two people were wounded in the shelling. One of the patrol policemen injured in the shelling in Kherson died in hospital during surgery. On 3 October, Russian occupiers shelled the Dniprovskiy district in Kherson. Private houses were damaged, and one person was wounded. An air strike was also carried out on Antonivka. Eight local residents were injured, one died. On 5 October, Russians shelled Kherson. Two people were killed, including a utility worker who was pruning trees. On the same day, Russians conducted an air strike on a hospital in Beryslav. The fourth floor of the hospital was completely destroyed, and another floor was partially destroyed. Ambulances were damaged. Two medical workers were injured. On 6 October, Russians dropped a munition on Vysokopillia from a drone. A rescuer was seriously injured. On the night of 8 October, Russians massively shelled Kherson and a village in the Stanislav community - 11 people were wounded, including a 9-month-old child. One of the injured is a 33-year-old Red Cross medic. He has an explosive injury and contusion. Multi-story and private houses, outbuildings, a gas pipeline, and vehicles were damaged. A suburb of Kherson was also shelled, hitting the area near a church. Three women were injured, houses and a car were damaged. A dog died as a result of the attack.

Odesa oblast

On the night of 6 October, Russians attacked the border and port infrastructure of the Izmail district with drones. A granary was damaged and nine trucks caught fire. A nighttime drone attack temporarily suspended the operation of the Orlivka ferry crossing point in Odesa oblast. On the night of 7 October, Russian occupiers attacked Odesa oblast with supersonic Oniks anti-ship missiles fired from the temporarily occupied Crimean Peninsula. The missiles hit the building of a boarding house in a recreational area and a grain storage facility at the port infrastructure. Missile fragments and a blast wave caused a fire in a garage cooperative. Several houses were also damaged. Four people were injured.

Poltava oblast

On the night of 7 October, Russians attacked Poltava oblast. An enemy rocket exploded in the Myrhorod district. Nine private houses were damaged. There were no casualties.

Zaporizhzhia oblast

On 7 October, Russians attacked the village of Bilenke in Zaporizhzhia region. One person was killed and two others were injured. According to preliminary data, the village was shelled with MLRS cluster shells.

This week shelling and strikes

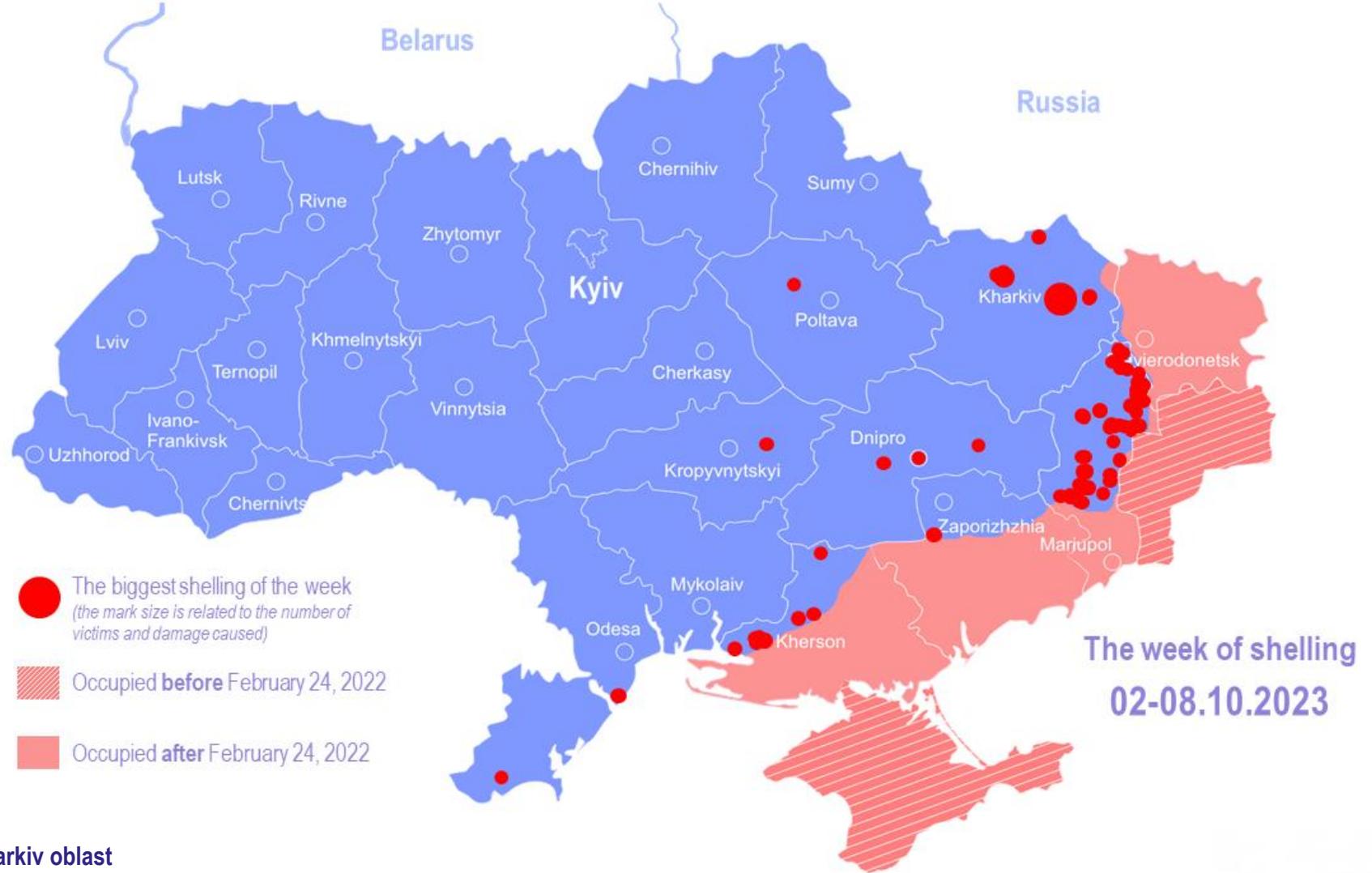
Kherson oblast



Donetsk oblast



Kharkiv oblast



Humanitarian crisis

02.10

- Due to the lack of resources in Ukraine, only about one-sixth of the territory of Kherson oblast, de-occupied in November last year, was demined. Currently, **104,000 hectares** out of 683 have been **cleared of mines**, 86 hectares of which are used for agricultural purposes.
- Only every 50th case of **mental disorders** is diagnosed in Ukraine. According to the study, conducted in August, the mental health of Ukrainians is most affected by: war (88.5%); financial problems (43.1%); living cost /inflation (32.5%).

03.10

- Russians transferred Unit 4 of **Zaporizhzhia NPP** from "cold shutdown" to "**hot shutdown**", increasing the possibility of a radiation accident.
- Ukraine created a **digital platform** to publish data on religious buildings, destroyed by Russians during the war. Activists have collected materials on 16 religious sites in Donetsk and Kharkiv oblasts. Information about 8 of them is already available on the platform "**Temples Under Fire**"

04.10

- The explosions in **Olenivka** were not caused by HIMARS missiles hitting, the shells were moving from east to west – conclusions of the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission. The report on the human rights situation in Ukraine also accuses Russia of holding prisoners of war near the front line, which violates international humanitarian law, and of refusing to allow UN representatives access to the scene. The UN has confirmed that Russians are **torturing and killing Ukrainian prisoners of war**. The cases documented in the UN Report are direct evidence of Russian war crimes. It is recorded that these are not individual excesses, but a deliberate policy of the occupiers, implemented by the Russian command in Ukraine.
- Kuleba, head of the organization "Save Ukraine" says that **19 Ukrainian children** have been returned from the occupied territories within the **twelfth rescue mission**. According to him, in total, the Save Ukraine team has already returned 196 children to Ukraine.

05.10

- According to Reuters, which interviewed both Ukrainian and Western experts, Ukraine is entering winter with its **energy system shaken**, meaning that millions of Ukrainians might have to relive a winter of nights without light, heat, and water. Ukraine has neither money nor time to complete preparations for winter.
- Leonid Temchenko, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, reports that more than **26,000 Ukrainians are considered missing** under special circumstances. Among them, 11,000 are civilians, and almost 15,000 are military personnel.

05.10

- Reuters reminds that during the last heating season, lasting from October to March and during which the temperature drops well below zero, the average Ukrainian living far from the front line spent about **35 days without electricity**. Often, the lack of electricity was accompanied by the lack of water supply.
- British Defense intelligence has declassified information showing that Russia may continue to **target civilian shipping in the Black Sea**, including by laying sea mines on the approaches to Ukrainian ports. It intends to hold Ukraine responsible for any attacks. In this way, Russia is trying to curb the export of Ukrainian grain. The British noted that the publication of this report is intended to expose Russia's tactics and prevent its plans.

06.10

- Ukraine returned the bodies of 64 **fallen defenders**. The event was carried out with the assistance and direct participation of representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The Russian side also received the bodies of the dead soldiers. Their number is not specified.
- In Belarus, more than **40 Ukrainian children**, taken from the occupied Lysychansk and Sievierodonetsk, met with foreign diplomats. The massive practice of **abducting** Ukrainian children by Russia is not stopping. Ukrainian children are being taken to Belarus, as well as to Russia, allegedly for **rehabilitation** in "recreation camps." On May 24, the Office of the Prosecutor General reported that Ukraine is investigating the alleged role of Belarus in the forced transfer of Ukrainian children from the territories temporarily occupied by Russia. The Reuters article says that this statement follows a report by the Belarusian opposition in exile that **2,150 Ukrainian children**, including orphans aged 6 to 15, **were taken** to so-called health camps and sanatoriums in **Belarus**.
- Melitopol Mayor Ivan Fedorov reports that the Russian occupation administration is **restricting access to quality medical services** for civilians in Zaporizhzhia oblast. "Most of the medical institutions on the occupied territory have been converted into hospitals and are filled with Russian wounded soldiers from the Zaporizhzhya direction," said Fedorov. He added that several hospitals that accept civilians lack in-patient medical staff, and the waiting list for specialized doctors in the outpatient clinic is at least a month and a half.
- **The Netherlands** is allocating **€102 million in aid** to Ukraine, €30 million of which will be spent on gas purchases and spare parts for the power grid, and €12 million will be used to support the recently liberated territories.

