

### Humanitarian aspect:

As of the morning of July 27, 2022, more than 1,048 Ukrainian children are victims of full-scale armed aggression by the Russian Federation. **The official number of children who have died has not changed in the past day - 358. The number of wounded is more than 690, which also did not change.** However, the data is not conclusive since data collection continues in the areas of active hostilities, the temporarily occupied areas, and liberated territories.

At night, the Russian forces shelled the town of Marhanets, Nikopol district, **Dnipropetrovsk Region**. A 54-year-old woman was injured. According to the head of the Dnipropetrovsk Regional Military Administration (RMA), Valentin Reznichenko, eight [residential] 9-story buildings, a hospital, and a kindergarten were damaged in the city due to enemy shelling.

At 4:25 a.m., the enemy fired S-300 missiles at the Industrialny District of **Kharkiv**. As a result of Russian shelling in Kharkiv, six people were injured, according to Kharkiv Mayor Terekhov. Rescuers are on the site.

Around 6:20 a.m., enemy rockets hit the industrial zone and a repair enterprise in **Mykolaiv**. A building and a private vehicle were also damaged. There were no reported deaths or injuries.

In **Bakhmut, Donetsk Region**, the Russians targeted a hotel. As a result of the morning shelling, two people died, one was rescued from the rubble, and three people were injured, the State Emergency Service reported.

In the **Kherson Region**, due to enemy shelling, about 200 hectares of crops were destroyed over the past day, reported the National Police of Ukraine.

### Occupied territories:

For the first time in three months, in Russian-occupied **Rubizhne, Luhansk Region**, the occupiers began organizing the burial places for previously spontaneous burials. It is known that the remains of 10 town residents were recovered. Hundreds of Ukrainians remain buried near their own homes. More than 400 victims of the Russian invasion have been officially identified in Rubizhne, said the head of the Luhansk RMA Serhii Haidai. Also, there are still no communications in the city. The occupying authority cannot organize even garbage removal.

According to the information of the Mariupol City Council, the occupiers have stopped issuing humanitarian aid in **Mariupol**. Now only children will receive it.

In **Kherson**, Ukrainian partisans eliminated a police officer of the occupation authorities. Another one was injured. This is reported by Ukraine's Military Intelligence Directorate.

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### Operational situation

*The 154th day of the strategic air-ground offensive operation of the Russian Federation Armed Forces against Ukraine continues ('Donbas Defense Operation' in the official Russian terminology). The enemy is trying to establish full control over the territory of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts and maintain the land corridor with temporarily occupied Crimea.*

The enemy shelled civilian and military infrastructure in the areas of Znob-Novhorodske, Hrynivka, Senkivka, Mykolaivka, Tovstodubove, and Volfyne. They conducted aerial reconnaissance near Znob-Novhorodske and in other border areas of the Chernihiv and Sumy regions.

The Republic of Belarus prolonged the restrictions on the civilian population to visit forests in the border areas with Ukraine. Aerial reconnaissance by UAVs in the border areas of the Volyn region is recorded.

The Russian command transfers units from other directions to the Kherson direction and in the Berdyansk and Mariupol areas. By this, it is weakening its *Vostok, Don, and Izyum* groupings. However, so far, the command does not want to bring into operation the reserves concentrated in the Belgorod region of Russia.

The enemy builds up the air component of their grouping in the southern direction. Up to 35 strike aircraft are concentrated at the main airbases in Taganrog, Saki, and Belbek. The number of tactical aviation deployed at advanced airfields/fields in the Southern operational zone is up to 38 helicopters (half of which are attack helicopters) and at least 20-22 attack aircraft.

**The morale and psychological state of the personnel of the invasion forces remain low; the enemy is demoralized.** The enemy has a systemic problem replenishing personnel - the Russian Federation is already trying to recruit mercenaries from among citizens of Central Asian countries, representatives of remote regions, and imprisoned criminals.

### **Kharkiv direction**

*Zolochiv-Balakleya section: approximate length of combat line - 177 km, number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 10, an average width of combat area of one BTG - 17.7 km;*

*Deployed BTGs:*

- *north of Kharkiv - 7 BTGs from 1st and 6th armies, 11th Army Corps, and 1st Army Corps of so-called DPR,*
- *in the area of Malynivka - 3 BTGs from 29th and 36th armies,*
- *operational reserve of the grouping in the area of Olkhovatka, Russia: 9 BTGs from 1st and 20th armies and Airborne troops.*

The enemy fired artillery at the positions of the Ukrainian Defense Forces in the areas of Kharkiv, Chuhuiv, Shevelivka, Krasnopillya, Borshchova, Sosnivka, Petrivka, Rubizhne, Mospanov, Svitlychne, and Slatyne, and carried out airstrikes near Zalyman, Mospanov, and Yavirske. The enemy is trying to provide logistical support for its grouping with the help of pontoon crossings across water obstacles.

The enemy's reconnaissance group tried to expose the defense construction of Ukrainian troops in the area of Chepil; the group was neutralized.

The enemy shelled Ukrainian Defense Forces positions from tanks and barrel and rocket artillery in the areas of Nortsivka, Bohorodychne, Dolyna, Chepil, Velyka Komyshevakh, Adamivka, Mazanivka, Hrushuvakha, Krasnopillia, Husarivka, and others. They tried to advance near Bohorodychne but failed and retreated.

### **Kramatorsk direction**

*Balakleya - Kostiantynivka section: approximate length of the combat line - 300 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 54, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 5.6 km;*

*Deployed BTGs:*

- *in the area of Izyum - 20 BTGs from 1st, 20th, 35th, and 36th armies, 11th Army Corps, 106th airborne division,*
- *in the area of Lysychansk - 7 BTGs from 5th, 8th, and 41st armies, 2nd, and 7th brigades of Rosguard; 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR;*
- *in the area of Popasna - 17 BTGs from 1st, 5th, 8th, 41st, and 58th armies, 68th Army Corps, 1st Army Corps of the so-called DPR, 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR;*
- *reserve (in Starobilsk district) - 2nd, 41st armies, and 201st military base.*

Enemy shelling was recorded in the vicinity of Kryva Luka, Zakitne, Raihorodok, Tetyanivka, and other villages. The enemy UAVs were actively used.

In the **Siversk** direction, the enemy is concentrating their primary efforts on improving the tactical position and creating conditions for an offensive on Siversk. They shelled Ukrainian Defense Forces positions near Spirne, Hryhorivka, Berestove, Bilohorivka, Zakitne, Serebryanka, Verkhnyokamyanske, Vyimka, and Pereizne, and carried out airstrikes near Hryhorivka and Serebryanka. The enemy led an assault in the area of Verkhnokamianske but did not succeed and withdrew. Ukrainian troops successfully repelled the Russian occupiers' attempt to improve the tactical position in the Ivano-Daryivka area and forced the enemy to flee.

In the direction of **Bakhmut**, the enemy shelled civilian infrastructure, particularly in the areas of Bakhmut, Yakovlivka, Soledar, Bakhmutske, Vesela Dolyna, Vershyna, Kodema, Mayorsk, Toretsk, Pokrovske, and New York. They carried out airstrikes directly on Pokrovske and Novoluhanske and conducted close-fire battles in the area of Soledar and Berestove, but did not achieve success. The enemy conducted a reconnaissance attack near Semihirya, but suffered losses and retreated. Fighting with an assault group continues in the Pokrovske area.

### **Zaporizhzhya direction**

*Konstantynivka - Nikopol section: approximate length of the line of combat - 310 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 22, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 14 km;*

*Deployed BTGs:*

- *from 8th, 58th armies, Airborne troops, 1st Army Corps of the so-called DPR, and 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR*

The Ukrainian Defense Forces' activity in the Shcherbaky area, in the Hulyaipole-Polohy direction, and in the Vuhledar area forced the enemy command to transfer reserves to this operational zone. Over the last few days, the enemy began to concentrate in the Melitopol area up to two battalion tactical groups (BTGs) from the 810th separate marines brigade, a BTG in the Yuryivka-Podlisne-Bolharka-Vyacheslavka area (probably troops from the 58th Combined Arms Army: up to 20 BMP/MTLB, 15-16 armored personnel carriers, 9 tanks, and two BM-21).

Due to transferring up to one PMC Wagner battalion to the Vasylivka area and at least two BTGs to the Tokmak area, the enemy command of the 58th Army managed to somewhat consolidate the battle formations in the direction of Hulyaipole-Polohy and Shcherbaki-Myrne.

The enemy is systematically shelling civilian and military infrastructure in the areas of Pisky, Vremivka, Krasnohorivka, Maryinka, Karlivka, Opytne, Vuhledar, Hulyaipole, Kamianske, Vesele, Novomykhailivka, Pavlivka, Shevchenko, Velyka Novosilka, Novopil, Malynivka, Novoselivka, Novoandriivka, Mali Shcherbaky, and a number of others. They carried out an airstrike near Malinivka, and an enemy UAV conducted aerial reconnaissance in the area of Pavlohrad.

The enemy assaults in the areas of Pavlivka and Blahodatne were repulsed, and the occupiers retreated with losses.

### **Kherson direction**

*Nikopol - Stanislav section: approximate length of the battle line - 252 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 13, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 19 km;*

*Deployed BTGs:*

- *from 8th and 59th armies, 7th Air assault division, 1st Army Corps of so-called DPR, and 2nd Army Corps of so-called LPR*

In the area of Andriyivka, two enemy assault groups of the 237th air assault regiment of the 76th air assault division were ambushed by a Ukrainian Defense Forces unit. As a result of the battle, the enemy suffered significant losses in manpower.

The enemy also attacked in the area of Bilohirka, was unsuccessful and retreated.

Over the past week, up to three BTGs (consisting of the 76th air assault division and 98th airborne division, including the artillery and anti-aircraft missile regiments of these formations) were transferred to the enemy forces' "South" operational grouping. Given the presence of units of the 7th air assault division and 11th separate airborne assault brigade at the Kherson-Beryslav bridgehead, the largest grouping of Russian airborne forces in Ukraine is concentrated in this direction.

The enemy's primary efforts are focused on preventing the advance of Ukrainian troops. The enemy actively uses UAVs for reconnaissance. The aggressor is systematically shelling Ukrainian Defense Forces positions near Osokorivka, Trudolyubivka, Tokareve, Kiselivka,

Partyzanske, Kavkaz, Lozove, Prybuzke, Polyana, and Luparevo, and carried out airstrikes near Lyubomirivka and Novomykolaivka.

Based on statements from both Ukrainian and Russian authorities, the Antonivskiy bridge, across the Dnipro river, near the city of Kherson, came under fire from Ukrainian forces overnight on July 27. Based on video and witness accounts, up to 18 impacts were made on the bridge, which again raises a question about Russia's ability to defend against rocket and missile attacks, despite its own claims of being able to counter HIMARS. A spokesperson for the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Natalia Humeniuk, confirmed that the bridge had come under attack but also claimed that the strikes had been "intricate," with the attacks having been planned to not entirely destroy the bridge.

In order to replenish the losses of weapons and military equipment in the area of the Antonivsky Bridge and to the northeast of Mylove, the enemy command deployed several field assembly points of damaged vehicles, where up to 120-150 units are concentrated (up to 84-86 infantry fighting vehicles/armored personnel carriers, up to 34-36 other armored combat vehicles, up to 30-40 trucks and special vehicles).

#### **Azov-Black Sea Maritime Operational Area:**

There are 2 Kalibr cruise missile carriers in the open sea (project 11356P frigate Admiral Makarov and small project 21631 missile ship), which are ready to launch a missile attack on Ukraine. Up to 16 Kalibr missiles are on board.

In the Sevastopol Naval Base, there are frigate Admiral Essen (project 11356P), two patrol ships "Ladny" and "Pytlivy" (project 1135), two small missile ships (project 1239), one patrol ship (project 22160), one small missile ship (project 21631), six large amphibious ships (project 775) (three of them under repair at the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense), one large amphibious ship (project 1171), three small anti-submarine ships (project 1124M) one of them under repair, one anti-sabotage boat (project 21980), a floating workshop (project 304 PM-56), one submarine "Rostov-on-Don" (project 636.3), and other vessels.

The Novoozerne Naval Base (Sakskiy district, Crimea) has a project 18280 medium reconnaissance ship "Ivan Khurs", a project 12417 large missile boat, a project 21980 anti-sabotage boat, three project 11770 landing boats, one project 21820 landing boat, and others.

In the Novorossiysk Naval Base, there are two project 1124M small anti-submarine ships, a project 22160 patrol ship, three project 775 large landing ships, a project 11711 large landing ship "Petro Morgunov", three project 363.3 submarines "Veliky Novgorod", "Staryi Oskol", and "Kolpino", and others.

In waters of the Mariupol and Berdyansk seaports, 6 patrol ships and boats of the Russian Black Sea Fleet and the Caspian Flotilla are on combat duty to ensure anti-sabotage protection.

In the military airspace, the enemy front-line assault aircraft from Crimea continue to be used over the northwestern part of the Black Sea. On the territory of the Belbek military airfield,

there are up to 50 Su27/35 fighters, up to nine MiG-29SMTs, and up to nine Su-34s. Several hypersonic *Kinzhal* missiles were found at fighter jet sites, probably for attacking the launch positions of anti-ship missiles of the Ukrainian Navy.

On Wednesday, July 27, the Joint Coordination Center became operational in Istanbul as part of implementing the provisions of the initiative to safely transport grain from Ukraine's ports. The center will monitor all movements of vessels leaving the three ports of Ukraine. Vessels using the corridor created in the Black Sea will, if necessary, be checked before passing through the straits.

Since the start of its full-scale invasion, the Russian Federation has already stolen half a million tons of Ukrainian grain and 11,000 tons of metal. In addition, another 28,000 tons of stolen metal are waiting to be shipped. This is stated in a report of the Initiative for the Study of Russian Piracy (ISRP).

More than 500,000 tons of grain, mainly wheat and corn, were illegally exported from Ukrainian ports. Based on the prices of raw materials in the USA, the products stolen from Ukraine until July 15 have a total market value of almost \$154 million. The ISRP also emphasized that the Russian Federation stole up to 11,000 tons of Ukrainian metal products from Azovstal and IlyichMetallurgical Plant in Mariupol, mainly hot-rolled. At least another 28,000 tons were loaded onto vessels moored in the Mariupol port. As per a price of \$1,100 per ton, the stolen 11,000 tons are worth approximately \$12.1 million.

ISRP used a combination of non-classified analytical tools to derive the report's data. In particular, AIS (Automatic Identification System) marine traffic information provided by MarineTraffic.com, ShippingExplorer Live vessel Tracking, VesselFinder.com and BalticShipping.com was collected; reports from individual [entities] in Ukraine and Turkey who closely monitor the movement of ships using satellite images, and interviews conducted with confidential sources in the USA and Eastern Europe.

**The enemy's total combat losses from February 24 to July 24 amounted to approximately:**

Personnel – almost 34,070 people (+200)  
Tanks – 1738 (+1)  
Armored combat vehicles (APC) – 3,971 (+12)  
Operational tactical missile systems – 4 (0)  
Artillery systems – 883 (+3)  
Multiple rocket launchers (MLRS) – 258 (0)  
Anti-aircraft warfare systems – 117 (0)  
Vehicles and fuel tanks – 2,847 (+12)  
Aircraft – 222 (0)  
Helicopters – 190 (+1)  
UAV, operational and tactical level – 726 (+4)  
Intercepted cruise missiles – 174 (0)  
Boats/cutters – 15 (0)



Andriy Kostin, Member of Parliament (MP) from the *Servant of the People* party, became the new Prosecutor General of Ukraine. 299 MPs voted in favor of the appointment, based on President Zelenskyi's proposal. Starting from May 2020, Kostin was a member of the TCG for resolving the situation in the Donbas, working in the subgroup on political issues. At the end of March-April 2022, Kostin also participated in the negotiation process with the Russian Federation.

Naftogaz announced a default on Eurobonds. Today, July 26, 2022, the deadline for payments by Naftogaz to holders of Eurobonds expired. In its official letter to the government, the national company indicated the availability of funds in its accounts sufficient for payments on Eurobonds, and also described the risks and negative consequences for Naftogaz and the country in the event of a "hard default" on the company's Eurobonds. In turn, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine did not allow Naftogaz officials to fulfill their obligations to Eurobonds holders and make the necessary payments on the principal amount and interest (for the 2022 issue) and interest (for the 2024 issue).

European Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson said that this week the European Union would be able to double the export of Ukrainian electricity. She said this in Brussels at a press conference after the end of the informal meeting of energy ministers of the EU member states with her Ukrainian colleague Herman Halushchenko, which took place on the sidelines of the extraordinary meeting of the EU Council on energy issues.

Ukraine is ready to help the European Union to replace gas from the Russian Federation, the Ukrainian Minister of Energy Herman Halushchenko stated. According to him, the full use of Ukraine's electricity export potential - more than 1.5 GW - will allow EU countries to replace 5-6 billion cubic meters of gas from the Russian Federation. Halushchenko also offered European countries to use Ukrainian gas storage facilities for strategic gas reserves. In particular, according to him, Ukraine is ready to provide 12 billion cubic meters to store European stocks.

### **International diplomatic aspect:**

Eighty-four percent of Ukrainians are against any territorial concessions in possible talks with Russia, according to the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology survey. Only 10% are ready for some concessions in return for peace and independence. The highest level of opposition to any concessions is in the West and Centre of Ukraine (87% and 86%). Even among the residents of the eastern regions, where intense fighting is now taking place, 77% are against concessions, and among the southern regions - 82% are against concessions (only 10% are ready).

It is worth noting that from May to July, the number of those against any concessions in the East of Ukraine increased from 68% to 77% (there were no significant changes in other regions). This again ultimately contradicts the Kremlin's justification of its all-out war by the notion that it aims to protect Ukrainians of the Eastern/Southern part of Ukraine from "nazi" Ukrainians and "liberate" "Russian Ukrainians" living on these Ukrainian territories.

Meanwhile, 35% of Europeans are rather for peace (the war should end as soon as possible, and concessions are on the table) than justice (22% believe the more pressing goal is to punish Russia), according to the ECFR poll. The most pro-peace campers are Italy and Germany (52% and 49%, accordingly), while the most pro-justice ones are Poland and the UK (41% and 21%). The most swing votes are in the UK and Portugal (32% and 30%).

Interestingly, the UK Conservative party members put the highest mark (62%) on Liz Truss's stance on Ukraine, according to YouGov. The second highest mark (55%) during the debate for the leadership in the party went to Liz Truss again but for a purely domestic hot issue – the cost of living.

Der Spiegel reports that the German government approved the sale of a hundred PzH 2000 self-propelled howitzers to Ukraine worth €1.7 billion. The news came about in the background of CDU leader Friedrich Merz's accusations against Chancellor Olaf Scholz for "unwillingness to lead." "The German public and parliament are being deceived. And the federal government is not doing what the Bundestag decided: namely to supply heavy weapons," said Friedrich Merz. He also called for direct military supplies after the scheme's failure with circle ones. Other countries provide legacy weaponry (Soviet/Russian) to Ukraine, and Germany replenishes them with its more modern ones. Slovenia is to provide Ukraine with the equipment for mine clearance.

The Russian President expressed Moscow's interest in cooperation with the Baykar company that produces UAVs, CNN Türk quotes the President of Türkiye. Early this month, the CEO of Baykar rejected the very idea that his company might sell its UAVs to Russia. The Philippine government scrapped a deal worth \$227 million to purchase sixteen Russian Mi-17 military helicopters, fearing the US sanctions. Yet Russia secured a deal with Iran on supplying parts and equipment for civilian aircraft and technical services.

Lithuania banned the Russian orthodox church's patriarch for supporting the war of aggression. Earlier, the EU failed to include Kirill Gundayev on the blacklist in June because of the Hungarian threat to block the whole sanctions package.

### **Russia, relevant news**

Smartphone sales are falling in the Russian Federation. Russian mobile operators report that in the second quarter of this year, Russians bought about 4.5 million smartphones, 30% less than in the corresponding period last year. Chinese devices were purchased the most, accounting for up to two-thirds of all sales. Also, Russians began to buy used smartphones more often. Analysts explain that the population's real incomes are decreasing while smartphones continue to become more expensive.

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