

HIGHLIGHTS

RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR CHRONICLES

№114, 4-11 October, 2022

MASS MISSILE STRIKES IN UKRAINE ON 10-11 OCTOBER KILLED AND INJURED DOZENS OF PEOPLE

On the morning of 10 October, missile [attacks](#) by the Russian armed forces hit 15 regions of Ukraine, one of the largest attacks since the start of the full-scale invasion. A total of 84 cruise missiles and 24 drones were launched, about half were neutralised by air defence forces. At least six people were killed in [Kyiv](#) and over 50 were wounded. The buildings of the Philharmonic Hall, museums, the university, train station and civilian infrastructure were [damaged](#) by shelling in central districts.

In 11 oblasts as well as Kyiv, energy infrastructure was destroyed, disrupting the [electricity supply](#) in almost all of the country. Water supply problems occurred in eight oblasts, but [restoration work began](#) on the same day. Meduza [collected](#) photos of the bombed cities.

The missile strikes [continued](#) the next day. The Ukrainian Energy Ministry [said](#) that Russia had targeted Ukraine's energy infrastructure for the first time since the invasion and had damaged about 30 percent of it in two days.

As of the morning of 11 October, the [death toll](#) from the massive missile strike on Ukraine had risen to 19 people and 105 injured.

According to military experts, Ukraine's air defence [prevented](#) Russia from achieving its goals of destroying infrastructure and destabilising the country.

Forbes [estimates](#) that Russia spent between \$400m and \$700m on this missile attack.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy [called](#) on international partners to create an air shield for Ukraine by providing a sufficient number of modern and effective air defence systems. The [USA](#) promised to provide Ukraine with advanced air defence systems. The [EU](#) said that additional military assistance from the EU was on the way. [Germany](#) has provided Ukraine with the first of four IRIS-T SLM air defence systems. Ukrainian Defence Minister Oleksiy Reznikov [announced](#) the beginning of a new era of air defence in Ukraine.

RUSSIA CONTINUES SHELLING RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN ZAPORIZHZHIA

Part of Zaporizhzhia Oblast is under temporary occupation, in particular the cities of Berdiansk, Melitopol and Enerhodar (together with the Zaporizhzhia NPP). Ukrainian-controlled settlements are regularly subjected to Russian shelling. On 6 October, for example, massive missile strikes on Zaporizhzhia destroyed individual and apartment buildings, [killing](#) at least 18 people.

On the night of 9 October, most of the rockets struck houses [again](#): a nine-story building and five private houses were partially [destroyed](#). At least 13 people were [killed](#) and 89 injured, among them 11 children.

On the night of 10 October, missile attacks completely destroyed one of the entrances to a multi-storey building, and the strikes continued on [11](#) and [12](#) October.

Other regions of Ukraine, in particular [Dnipropetrovsk](#), have been subjected to similar mass shelling.

EXPLOSION ON CRIMEAN BRIDGE

On 8 October, there was an [explosion](#) on the Crimean bridge linking Russia and Russian-occupied Crimea, which is used to transport reinforcements for the Russian armed forces, and two [spans](#) of the road surface were [destroyed](#). It also caused fuel tanks on the railway part of the bridge to [catch fire](#).

According to official information from Russia, the bridge was damaged by a truck bombing. Russian President Vladimir Putin [said](#) that the designers, perpetrators and instigators of the Crimean bridge bombing were the Ukrainian special services. The Russian Federal Security Service [said](#) that Kyrylo Budanov, chief of the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence, had organised the explosion on the Crimean bridge and said that a number of suspects, including five Russian and three Ukrainian nationals, had been detained. Suspilne [reports](#) on the progress of the investigation.

The Ukrainian presidential administration [believes](#) that the explosion on the bridge is linked to the conflict between the Russian Federal Security Service, the Ministry of Defence and the General Staff.

[According](#) to the American Institute for the Study of War (ISW), the Kremlin is trying to put the responsibility for the explosion on the Russian Ministry of Defence so as to deflect criticism from the Russian leadership, in particular President Vladimir Putin. However, an [investigation](#) carried out by the global OSINT community Molnar does not support the truck bombing theory, which is Russia's main explanation. According to the investigation, it has been invented to conceal the embezzlement of budget funds, as 2 billion roubles had been [allocated](#) to secure the bridge in 2022.

The Kremlin's "[recommendations](#)" for Russian state media coverage of the explosion on the Crimean bridge urge them to emphasise that the bridge is not destroyed, but only damaged, and that reconstruction work has already begun.

AFU COUNTEROFFENSIVE CONTINUES

The AFU counteroffensive continues. By October 7, Ukraine had already [liberated](#) over 2400 square kilometres of Kherson Oblast, with over five hundred square kilometres in the [first week](#) of October. As of 4 October, it was reported that Ukrainian service personnel had managed to [de-occupy](#) over 1500 settlements in Donetsk, Luhansk, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv and Kherson Oblasts. [At least seven](#) settlements have been liberated in Luhansk Oblast in recent days. Radio Svoboda [reports](#) on the process of de-occupation.

According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, as of the morning of 12 October, over 63,000 Russian service personnel had been [killed](#). [According](#) to the publication Vazhnie Istorii, which cites two sources in the Russian security services, Russia's irrevocable losses in the war against Ukraine exceeded 90,000 people.

Residents of not yet de-occupied settlements face [problems](#) with access to basic needs, including medical care. Ukrainian Health Minister Viktor Liashko has [spoken](#) about how the situation has changed since the de-occupation of Izyum in Kharkiv Oblast.

RUSSIA HAS LEFT MORE EQUIPMENT ON THE BATTLEFIELD THAN WESTERN COUNTRIES HAVE TRANSFERRED TO UKRAINE DURING THE WAR

The USA has [announced](#) a new military aid package to Ukraine worth \$625 million. This package will [include](#) new HIMARS units (four of which have already been [delivered](#)), artillery systems and ammunition, as well as armoured vehicles. In addition, the [United States Agency for International Development](#) will give Ukraine \$55 million to prepare for the heating season.

Germany, Denmark and Norway [will provide](#) Ukraine with 16 Zuzana self-propelled artillery units, having purchased them from Slovakia. Germany is also planning to give Ukraine a new aid package worth 11 million euros, as [reported](#) by Der Spiegel citing its own government sources, which will include mostly winter equipment for the AFU.

[Finland](#) has announced the ninth military aid package for Ukraine, its content was [not disclosed](#) for security reasons.

[Spain](#) is donating off-road vehicles, ambulances and medical supplies to Ukraine.

The head of the European Parliament [called](#) on EU countries to supply Ukraine with tanks, noting that they would be able to receive reimbursement from the European Peace Fund.

Meanwhile, the Wall Street Journal [has reported](#) that the Russian army is leaving more military equipment and weapons on the battlefield and in retreat than any Western country has transferred to Ukraine during the entire war, citing open data analysts and military officials.

The International Monetary Fund [will provide](#) an additional \$1.3 billion to Ukraine, raising the total allocation since the start of the full-scale invasion to \$2.7 billion. This tranche will be used to support defence capacity, pension payments and social programmes, as well as to strengthen the sustainability of Ukraine's economy.

French President Emmanuel Macron [announced](#) the creation of a special fund of 100 million euros, through which Ukraine will be able to buy required weapons directly from French manufacturers.

DETAILS OF THE EIGHTH EU SANCTIONS PACKAGE

The eighth [package](#) of anti-Russian sanctions [approved](#) by the European Union includes new bans on Russian trade, which should deprive the Russian economy of \$7 billion in

revenues, and lays the legal foundation for the Russian oil price cap previously [proposed](#) by the G7. It also contains restrictions on 7 companies and 30 Russian citizens, including "ruskiy mir" ideologue Alexander Dugin.

The European Union, thanks to a new package of sanctions against Russia, will be able to punish people and organizations from third countries that help Russia evade the EU's restrictive measures, Bloomberg [writes](#). In particular, they could have their assets frozen in the EU territory and be banned from entering.

UKRAINE RETURNS 32 PRISONERS OF WAR AND 37 DEPORTED CHILDREN

On 11 October, Ukraine conducted another [exchange](#) of prisoners of war which resulted in the release of 32 servicemen. Ukraine also managed to [return](#) 37 children deported by the Russian occupiers.

UKRAINIAN NGO RECEIVES NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, 2 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OF CIVILM+ PLATFORM

In 2022, the Nobel Peace Prize was [awarded](#) to the Ukrainian NGO Center for Civil Liberties and the Russian human rights organisation Memorial, participating organisations of the CivilM+ platform, as well as the human rights activist from Belarus Ales Bialiatski. For the first time in history, the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) was awarded, among others, to a Ukrainian NGO. The Nobel Committee said that this year's laureates are fighters for human rights and "for the peaceful coexistence in the neighbour countries". The Center for Civil Liberties' main activities include identifying and documenting Russia's [war crimes](#), while Memorial also works to protect the [rights](#) of Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia. The head of the Center for Civil Liberties, Oleksandra Matviychuk, said that she [supported](#) the Nobel committee's decision, while advisor to the head of the presidential office Mykhailo Podolyak [criticised](#) the awarding of the prize to organizations from Russia and Belarus.

DEBUNKING FAKES

SHELLING OF UKRAINE NOT A "RESPONSE" TO CRIMEAN BRIDGE EXPLOSION

Following Russia's mass missile attack on regions of Ukraine on 10-11 October, pro-Russian media started spreading reports on Ukraine's responsibility for what happened. In doing so, they called the missile strikes on Ukraine "Russia's response to a terrorist attack", "[high-precision](#)" and "focused on Ukraine's [military infrastructure](#)".

However, these claims are false. Propaganda media refer to Russian President Vladimir Putin's speech at a meeting of the Russian Security Council on 10 October, calling the shelling a "response" to the 8 October explosion on the Kerch Strait bridge. Putin also said that the strikes were carried out with "long-range air, sea and land-based precision weapons against Ukrainian energy, military lines of communication and facilities".

At the same time, an attack of such scale cannot be organised in two days. Intelligence from the Ukrainian Defence Ministry [reported](#) that Russia had been preparing this attack on Ukraine since early October, and the White House National Security Council Speaker John Kirby made the same [statement](#). Former commanding general of the US Army Europe Ben Hodges also [believes](#) that Russia's escalation plan could have been prepared even before the attack on the Crimean bridge, as evidenced by the scale of the strikes.

On 10 October, Russia did not attack military targets, but civilian infrastructure in Ukraine, and [dozens](#) of civilians were killed and injured as a result of the missile strikes. The strikes were targeted at the most [populated](#) locations: [town centres](#), pedestrian [bridges](#), and [diplomatic](#) facilities. In Kyiv, some 70 [buildings](#) were damaged and much of [Lviv](#) was left without light. In [Dnipro](#), critical infrastructure, residential buildings and bus stops were targeted.

The Russian armed forces fired 84 cruise missiles and 24 drones, including kamikaze drones to hit critical infrastructure. More than half of them were neutralised by Ukrainian air defences.

Dozens of countries, alliances and international organisations [condemned](#) Russia's mass missile strikes on Ukrainian cities. US President Joe Biden [called](#) the Russian attack on civilians a brutal and illegal attack on non-military targets. EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell [stressed](#) that attacks on civilians have no place in the 21st century. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights [notes](#) that missile strikes on civilian targets can amount to a war crime. The presidents of 11 European countries also stressed in a joint [statement](#) that the Russian missile attacks on Ukrainian cities were a war crime with no statute of limitations. Russia needed no external reason: neither the bombing of the Crimean bridge, nor any other reason, for a mass attack on Ukrainian cities, nor for launching a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The purpose of both these and any other Russian attacks is not to "respond to an act of terrorism", but to intimidate the people of Ukraine and encourage them to refuse to continue military action according to Russia's conditions.