

HIGHLIGHTS

RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR CHRONICLES

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UKRAINE LIBERATES KHERSON

On November 9, Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu [ordered](#) troops to retreat from the right bank of Kherson Oblast, particularly from Kherson. At the same time, the Kremlin continues to [claim](#) that Kherson Oblast is part of Russia. The Russian Ministry of Defense [reported](#) that the withdrawal took place without casualties, but Russia's statements contradict Ukraine's assessments. Representatives of the Ukrainian Joint Coordinating Press Centre of the Southern Defence Forces [note](#) that Russian troops left a large amount of [equipment](#) and weapons during the retreat.

After the retreat, Russian armed forces began to build up defensive fortifications on the left bank of the Dnipro River and try to hold on to the seized territories. [They are reported](#) to be moving 15-20 kilometres deep into Kherson Oblast in an attempt to defend themselves against artillery attacks by the AFU. They also blew up [bridges](#) across the Dnipro River and severely damaged the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant [dam](#). However, according to some experts, conducting a forced crossing of the Dnipro River is [not necessary](#) to continue de-occupation.

On November 11, the Ukrainian Armed Forces entered Kherson, the only regional centre that had been captured by the Russian army since the start of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Western press and analysts called Russia's withdrawal from Kherson a "humiliating [defeat](#) for Putin" and a [loss](#) of its main achievement during the entire war.

The city and regional [administrations](#) and [police](#) have resumed their work in the city, and travel in and out of the city is restricted until [demining](#) is completed. Work has begun on documenting war crimes committed during the occupation, including instances of [torture](#) – according to official data, at least [400](#) cases have already been registered. Hromadske [reports](#) from the de-occupied city. [The Washington Post](#), [The New York Times](#) and [The Times published](#) residents' accounts of what happened during the occupation.

In total, from November 7 to 13, the AFU [de-occupied](#) 179 settlements on the right bank of the Dnipro River, covering more than 4,5 thousand square kilometres. The authorities are [urging](#) residents of the de-occupied settlements to leave for safer regions due to the high risk of shelling. According to the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), the withdrawal of Russian troops from Kherson fuels an ideological [rift](#) between Russian figures who publicly support the [war](#) and the Russian president, whose confidence in his ability to fulfil his military promises has been undermined.

10 STEPS TO PEACE FOR UKRAINE: SPEECH AT THE G20 SUMMIT

On November 14, the summit of the G20 leaders took place. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy also took part in it. During his [speech](#), he proposed 10 steps to peace that would restore Ukraine's territorial integrity, and stressed the impossibility of adopting agreements similar to the Minsk Format as an alternative. In particular, among the steps mentioned were radiation and nuclear safety, food security with the extension of the "grain initiative" to other Ukrainian ports, energy security and the introduction of price caps on Russian energy resources, the release of all prisoners and deportees, as well as the restoration of the territorial integrity of Ukraine, the withdrawal of Russian troops and an end to hostilities, the creation of a special tribunal for Russia and an international mechanism for the compensation of losses.

Russia, which did not take part in the summit to avoid confrontation with other countries, [said](#) that Ukraine's conditions were "unrealistic".

Furthermore, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine may [urge](#) the G20 states to exclude the Russian Federation from the group.

Most participants of the G20 summit strongly condemned the war in Ukraine. This is stated in the draft joint [statement](#) of the G20 leaders made at the end of the meeting. The international civil society platform CivilM+ [issued](#) a joint statement calling on the G20 countries to restore international order, support Ukraine and involve civil society in the reconstruction process.

MOST WIDESPREAD SHELLING OF UKRAINE SINCE FEBRUARY 24

On November 15, after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy spoke at the G20 summit and announced conditions for a possible peace, Russia launched missile strikes against Ukraine, which may be the largest scale attacks since the early days of the war. The country's energy infrastructure was once again targeted, at least fifteen energy facilities in [Zhytomyr](#), [Lviv](#), [Rivne](#), Vinnytsia, [Volyn](#), [Kharkiv](#), [Poltava](#), [Kirovohrad](#) Oblasts and other regions were [hit](#). According to the AFU, Russia fired a total of about 100 cruise missiles. [Experts](#) predicted that after losing Kherson, Russia would launch missile and bomb attacks in Ukrainian energy infrastructure and networks. At the same time, they noted that such could not be prolonged because Russia does not have the capabilities to do so currently. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba [said](#) that these missile attacks on Ukraine demonstrate Russia's true attitude to the idea of peace talks.

SITUATION ON THE FRONT

The Armed Forces of Ukraine have liberated almost the entire [Mykolaiv](#) Oblast, and 12 settlements in [Luhansk](#) Oblast.

According to [experts](#), the Russian armed forces will intensify their offensive in Donetsk Oblast in the coming weeks, as additional mobilised Russian servicemen will arrive there, along with units withdrawn from the right bank of Kherson. The likelihood that their actions will be successful is low: they are insufficiently trained, demotivated, and poorly equipped, but a cessation of prolonged slowdown in hostilities over the next few months is also unlikely. It has also been [noted](#) that the AFU may continue their [offensive](#) in the south or in Donbas without waiting until spring. After Russia surrendered Kherson, Ukraine gained fire [control](#) of the roads leading to Crimea.

According to the AFU General Staff, as of the morning of November 15, Russian losses exceeded 82,000. According to the [US](#), Russia has lost over 100,000 service personnel since the start of the full-scale war in Ukraine.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL AID TO UKRAINE

The European Commission has officially [proposed](#) an 18 billion euro aid plan for Ukraine, the funds will be used to ensure macroeconomic stability and the reconstruction of critical infrastructure. The decision is expected to be supported by the European Parliament, and the first payment is [expected](#) to be made to Ukraine in January 2023.

The German government has [allocated](#) an additional 1 billion euros from its 2023 budget to help Ukraine. The money will be used to protect Ukraine from Russian cyber attacks and gather evidence of war crimes. The [Netherlands](#) will also allocate an additional 110 million euros for Ukraine. These funds are intended to repair water pipes and houses, as well as to buy gas, food and electricity. [Britain](#) is sending the first \$5.8 million to the Ukraine Energy Support Fund. These funds will help with the repair of critical infrastructure damaged by ongoing Russian attacks.

PARTNERS HELP STRENGTHEN UKRAINE'S AIR DEFENSE

The European Union has officially launched a [mission](#) to train 15,000 Ukrainian service personnel. It is [scheduled](#) to start at the end of November and will last two years, with a total of 106 million euros allocated to it.

The US announced a new \$400 million military [aid](#) package for Ukraine, which includes Avenger air defense systems and Stinger missiles, as well as Hawk air defense missiles. [It is assumed](#) that the Avenger surface-to-air missile systems can become an effective and cheap means to counter Iranian drones. [Canada](#) will provide Ukraine with \$500 million in military aid, while Britain will provide Ukraine with additional surface-to-air [missiles](#) for air defense and winter [equipment](#), and [Italy](#) is preparing to provide Ukraine with air defense systems. [Spain](#) will give Ukraine two more Hawk air defense systems, howitzers and additional generators. [Germany](#) has donated 30 armoured vehicles, missiles and tractors.

[Norway](#) will allocate about \$144 million for military support to the International Fund for Ukraine, which is headed by Britain. The [Netherlands](#) will also donate 100 million euros for these needs.

[Lithuania](#) raised \$250,000 for a marine drone for the Ukrainian Special Naval Fleet, and the [Czech Republic](#) is raising money for anti-aircraft systems that will help shoot down kamikaze drones.

NEW SANCTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA

The [United States](#) is imposing sanctions against a transnational network that is supplying technology to the Russian military-industrial complex. Fourteen individuals and 28 legal entities have been targeted, and a number of aircraft have been blocked.

[Canada](#) will impose sanctions on 23 employees of the Russian judicial and security sectors.

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION CALLS FOR REPARATIONS FROM RUSSIA

The UN General Assembly has adopted a [resolution](#) calling for Russia to be held financially responsible for its invasion of Ukraine. The draft was introduced by Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the UN, Serhiy Kyslytsya. The countries that supported it confirmed that Russia should be held accountable for violating international law, as well as international humanitarian law and human rights. The resolution envisages the creation of a register for recording the damage caused and working out a mechanism for paying reparations, but unlike decisions of the UN Security Council, such resolutions are not binding.

The document was supported by 93 countries (including the United States and all EU countries), 13 countries voted against it (including Russia), and 74 abstained. Russia is categorically [against](#) the resolution.

EU REVISES PRINCIPLES OF INTERACTION WITH RUSSIA

EU member states have begun a [discussion](#) on future relations with Russia after the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Josep Borrell presented a draft of new principles of interaction. According to it, the EU "stands for isolating Russia internationally, imposing and implementing restrictive measures against Russia and preventing their circumvention, in order to prevent it from waging war." The EU also intends to hold "Russia, perpetrators, and accomplices" responsible for violations of international law and war crimes committed in Ukraine. At the same time, the EU intends to continue supporting civil society in Russia.

UKRAINE RETURNS 45 SERVICE PERSONNEL IN EXCHANGE

Ukraine has managed to return 45 service personnel during another prisoner [exchange](#). The number of prisoners returned to Ukraine since the beginning of the war has thus [reached](#) 1,183.

The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has released a [report](#) on the detention of prisoners of war in Ukraine. According to the report, both Ukrainian and Russian service personnel have been tortured in captivity, but the cruel treatment of

Ukrainian prisoners of war by the Russian side was systematic, while, in contrast, on the Ukrainian side, it was not systematic. In addition, Ukraine confirmed investigations into the abuse of POWs.

The story of a woman who had been held captive by the so-called DPR for five years and was returned during one of the previous exchanges can be found [here](#).

DEBUNKING FAKES

RUSSIA CLAIMS THAT UKRAINE INTENDS TO REMOVE KHERSON RESIDENTS

After Kherson's return to Ukrainian control, Russian media have spread a [number](#) of fake statements about the situation in the city. In particular, they are claiming that Ukraine intends to [evacuate](#) its residents. At the same time, the publications do not mention that they are not talking about the forced evacuation, de facto deportation, of residents of Kherson which was carried out by [Russia](#), but about the recommended departure of the residents of [right-bank Kherson](#) due to the continuing possibility of Russian missile and artillery shelling. Ukrainian Minister for the Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories Iryna Vereshchuk [stressed](#) that it would not be a mass evacuation, but that it was primarily offered to vulnerable populations in order to survive the winter.

During their retreat, Russian troops [destroyed](#) critical infrastructure in the city and [looted museums](#). According to the Kherson regional military administration, 70-80 thousand people currently [live](#) in the city. The situation there is close to a [humanitarian catastrophe](#), there is a shortage of medicine, water, and problems with food. Aid has already been sent by a humanitarian centre.

Similar fake statements were promoted by Russia previously, when Ukraine liberated the [Kharkiv](#) and [Kyiv](#) Oblasts. The purpose of this is an attempt to cover up the crimes committed by Russia in the territories it occupies.