

War in Ukraine. Daily update. 10:00 am, 13.04.2022.

Cities under attack. 40% of apartment blocks in Mariupol are fully destroyed, reports the Head of the Donetsk Regional Military Administration Pavlo Kyrylenko. According civil society activists the Russian troops continue terrorizing villages in **Kherson region** - searching for former ATO veterans or people with active pro-Ukrainian position, checking people for tattoos that could be related to Ukrainian army. People are brought and tortured in Nova Kakhovka and Kherson outskirts. Food and medical resources remain scarce, while the occupants also steal agricultural machinery. Around 100 settlements of Kherson region remain without electricity and water. Two missile attacks targeted the Myrgorod, **Poltava region**, destroying critical infrastructure. Missile hit an infrastructure object in the city of **Chudniv, Zhytomyr region**. Situation in the **Luhansk region** remains [intense](#) - Russian troops fire at everything, without differentiating civilian or critical (water, gas, electricity, ect) infrastructure. Around 400 civilians have been buried in the town of Severodonetsk near the frontline in eastern Ukraine since the start of the Russian invasion according to the governor of the Lugansk region. Morgues are overfilled with bodies as well as the cemetery is impossible to reach under the constant shelling, thus locals bury bodies in the backyards of the buildings. In the Kharkiv **region** due to constant shelling, 17 people were injured and 1 killed. A Russian missile hit a railway road in central Ukraine causing up to 3 hours delays in the railway schedule. Today 13 humanitarian corridors [could not be launched](#) since Russian troops blocked evacuation buses in Zaporizhzhya region, as well as constant shelling in Luhansk region.

Foreign policy. Ukraine [rejected the visit](#) of German President Steinmeier to Kyiv. The information first appeared in the German newspaper Bild, however later confirmed by Steinmeier himself. Steinmeier had planned to travel to Kyiv with the presidents of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland on Wednesday. However, his request for a meeting was rejected by the Ukrainian President. Alleged reason for the visit rejection is due to his close ties with Russia and support of the Nord Stream 2. Ukraine's Ambassador to Germany [informed](#) that in a way Kyiv would very much welcome German Chancellor Scholz.

Meanwhile, the presidents of [Estonia](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), and [Poland](#) are on their way to Kyiv. As Lithuanian president stated, he is on his way to Kyiv to show a 'strong message of political support'.

US President publicly [accused](#) Putin of committing genocide in Ukraine. Actions committed by Putin indicated the efforts of destroying the mere idea of Ukraine, said Biden. *'We'll let the lawyers decide internationally whether or not it qualifies, but it sure seems that way to me'*. President Zelenskyi [congratulated](#) the US President on calling the things by their real name.

Ukraine [has started working](#) on filling out the questionnaire to obtain EU candidate status, handed over to President Zelenskyi last Friday. Prime Minister Shmyhal stated that they expect Ukraine will be able to receive such a status no later than June this year. Meanwhile [the EPP group](#) in the European Parliament called to provide candidate status immediately.

Energy security. Europe has started assisting Ukraine in rebuilding its energy infrastructure. The first shipment of emergency equipment [has arrived in Ukraine](#). The equipment will help repair energy infrastructure damaged during the ongoing Russian war in Ukraine. The delivery of the shipment was supported by the Secretariat of the Energy Community. The next batch [will follow](#) based on the list of needs from the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine following urgent requests of critical energy infrastructure operator companies.

The Russia-backed hacking group, known as Sandworm, [attempted to disconnect](#) Ukraine's power grid. The group sought to damage high-voltage electrical substations, computers and networking equipment, according to a statement on Tuesday from Ukraine's Computer Emergency Response Team. The attackers breached the energy provider's network 'no later than February 22', according to the security advisory, and had planned to cut power in a Ukrainian region on April 8. Ukraine's power grid [has been knocked offline twice](#) before, in 2015 and 2016, causing widespread blackouts. Therefore the planned attack could leave up to 2 mln without electricity and connection.

Provocations. Russian special services are preparing to stage a series of terrorist attacks in Russia and the occupied Crimea to instigate anti-Ukrainian hysteria. Over the last week, Russian authorities [has announced](#) an increased risk of terrorist attacks in four regions neighbouring to Ukraine and in occupied Crimea. In particular, in the Belgorod and Kursk regions, [local authorities](#) informed about digging of the trenches in order to be prepared in case of an offensive from alleged Ukrainian volunteer battalions and sabotage groups.

Disinformation. Putin gave a speech about Russia's invasion in Ukraine in his now rare offline appearance along with Belarusian comrade. Putin said that Moscow had 'no choice' but to intervene to protect separatists, defeat neo-Nazis and 'help people'. The goal of the special operation to protect Donbas is noble and it will be achieved. Russian president also [noted](#) that Kyiv had publicly refused to comply with the Minsk agreements, 'and it was impossible to continue enduring the genocide'. Its campaign now [aims](#) to capture more territory on behalf of separatists in two eastern provinces, a region known as the Donbas. It includes Mariupol port, which has been reduced to a wasteland under Russian siege.

Russia's Fifth Column. The Secret Service of Ukraine arrested top Putin ally, [Viktor Medvedchuk](#). Medvedchuk is a leader of the 'Opposition Platform - For Life' party, pro-Russian political party in Ukraine, as well as godfather of Putin's daughters. In February he escaped from his house arrest and yesterday was caught trying to escape Ukraine, wearing the uniform of the Ukrainian Army. President Zelenskyy [offered to exchange](#) him as a prisoner of war for Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, who were captured by Russians.

Church 'beyond' politics. The Vatican [planned to invite](#) a Ukrainian woman and a Russian woman to carry the cross together during the pope's Way of the Cross service at Rome's Colosseum April 15. However, the idea outraged the Ukrainian community as the idea was considered a call for 'reconciliation' with Russia. [Diplomats](#) and Archbishop of Ukrainian Catholic Church have already addressed the papacy to reconsider the idea. Archbishop Shevchuk [said](#), calling the plan '*incoherent and even offensive, especially in the context of the expected second, even bloodier attack of Russian troops on our cities and villages*'.

Reading corner.

- [At what point do Russian war crimes in Ukraine qualify as genocide? | Atlantic Council](#) - Bohdan Vitvitsky a former Resident Legal Advisor at the US Embassy in Kyiv and Special Advisor to Ukraine's Prosecutor General, believes that acknowledging that a genocidal campaign is underway in the heart of Europe would set off all manner of geopolitical alarm bells and spark calls for action throughout the international community.
- [Why Russian TV propaganda is crucial to understanding the war in Ukraine - CNN](#) - have a glimpse on how Russian propoganda is shaping the image of the war in Russia's public discourse.
- [Can We Be Worthy of Ukraine? - The Atlantic](#) - George Packer believes that alongside the war in Ukraine Americans need to cure what ails democracy, ridding themselves of incipient Russification.

Podcasts.

- [Listen to a talk 'A Ukrainian Philosopher on What Putin Never Understood About Ukraine' – Volodymyr Yermolenko discusses at The Ezra Klein Show](#) how Russia's invasion has reshaped Ukrainian identity.
- [Listen to Economist's Talk with Lithuania's PM Ingrida Simonyte 'Does today's Russia threaten the Baltic states?'](#)

Statistics:

- 1,540 Russian missiles were launched during the war against Ukraine.
- more than 870,000 people who fled abroad since Russia's invasion have returned back to Ukraine. Currently between 25,000 and 30,000 Ukrainians are returning daily.
- General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine announced the total estimated losses of the Russian military as of 10 a.m., April 13, 2022: personnel – around 19 800, tanks – 739, APV – 1964, artillery systems – 358, MLRS – 115, anti-aircraft warfare systems – 64, fixed-wing aircraft – 158, helicopters – 143, soft-skinned vehicles – 1429, boats and light speed boats – 7, fuel tankers – 76, operational-tactical level UAV – 132, special equipment – 25, mobile SRBM system – 4. Also follow the interactive [counter](#) of Russian losses.

Every action counts, no contribution is too small!

- Support [ComeBackAlive.ua](#) and [Prytula Foundation](#). While Ukraine is calling international partners to provide arms, the two biggest funds procure all possible gear and equipment for Ukrainian army and territorial defense units.
- Subscribe to our daily updates on [Twitter](#) and [our website](#).
- You can support our project with donations via PayPal. More information [here](#).

Thank you for supporting Ukraine! Slava Ukraini! Glory to Ukraine!