



United States Mission to the OSCE

The Russian Federation's Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine

As delivered by Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Tracey Newell
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
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We cannot – and will not – become numb to Russia's relentless barrages aimed at breaking the spirit of the Ukrainian people. Day after day, Russian forces kill and wound more Ukrainian civilians and destroy more of Ukraine's civilian infrastructure.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' Financing and Partnerships Division told the UN Security Council on May 14 that since March 22nd, there have been five waves of attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure, particularly in Kharkiv and Dnipro regions. The attacks caused rolling power outages and affected millions nationwide. Attacks on ports are threatening Ukraine's ability to export grain at a time of rising food insecurity worldwide.

To illustrate the daily toll of Russian bombardments, some examples from the past few weeks include the following:

- Russian forces struck a residential building in Kherson, wounding at least 19 and severely damaging the building. Separate Russian attacks in Kherson Oblast injured 69-year-old, 75-year-old, and 76-year-old women and a 15-year-old boy, among others.
- Russia struck an infrastructure facility in Dnipro, reportedly killing at least two civilians and wounding several others.
- Russian forces struck a truck delivering supplies, including water, to a settlement in Kherson Oblast, reportedly killing the driver and wounding four others.
- And Russian strikes killed at least 10 people, including a pregnant woman, and injured 25 others in two attacks in northeastern Kharkiv.

Amid Moscow's intensifying attacks on Ukraine's civilian infrastructure makes the delivery of humanitarian assistance even more dangerous. The attacks are causing extensive damage to energy facilities, compromising water supply in certain areas, and disrupting electricity access for millions of civilians. The UN Humanitarian Affairs' Financing and Partnerships Division said the UN and its humanitarian partners have delivered vital supplies to 20,000 people in front-line areas, yet reaching civilians in front line and Russia-occupied areas of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhia remain difficult and perilous. We call on Russia and its proxies to stop obstructing humanitarian relief to the 1.5 million people in these areas who require life-saving assistance. We are deeply concerned for the people

remaining in Vovchansk and surrounding areas. We know that when Russia holds territory, aid access plummets.

We and Ukraine's many international partners will not stop exposing the viciousness of Russia's attacks on its sovereign neighbor.

We must – and we will – also seek to hold Russia accountable for the suffering it inflicts on the many thousands of Ukrainian civilians arbitrarily detained by Russia and its proxies, including OSCE employees Vadym Golda, Maxim Petrov, and Dmytro Shabanov; on the children forcibly transferred within Russia-occupied parts of Ukraine or deported to Russia; on the 3.4 million civilians still internally displaced; the 6.5 million living as refugees; and on Ukraine's brave soldiers on the frontlines who are fighting to defend Ukraine's freedom and its chosen future in the Euro-Atlantic community.

The United States and our Allies and partners will continue to support Ukraine for as long as it takes.

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