



Situation Room

**** UKRAINIAN CRISIS ****

Period under review: from 18 April 2022 to 24 April 2022.

[This report is based on publicly available sources to describe a changing situation. Information subject to change.]

Situation analysis recap:

- The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has recorded 5,264 civilian casualties in the country: 2,345 killed (703 men, 429 women, 44 girls, and 63 boys, as well as 70 children and 1,036 adults whose sex is yet unknown) and 2,919 injured (339 men, 271 women, 61 girls, and 66 boys, as well as 158 children and 2,024 adults whose sex is yet unknown).
- According to the International Organization for Migration, 600,000 additional people were internally displaced in the first 17 days of April, bringing the total number of internally displaced persons to 7.7 million. In total, nearly 12.8 million have been displaced internally or across borders since the start of the invasion.
- The hostilities continue to be concentrated in eastern and southern parts of Ukraine, primarily in eastern Donetsk, Kharkiv and Luhansk oblasts. Russian forces have likely begun large-scale offensive operations in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts focused on the cities of Rubizhne, Popasna, and Marinka.
- Russian forces continue to pressure Ukrainian defenders in the Azovstal steel plant in Mariupol.
- As intense fighting and airstrikes continue to cause civilian casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure, the Parliament of Ukraine extended the duration of martial law until 25 May 2022.
- UNICEF reported that 1.4 million people are currently without running water across eastern Ukraine and that an additional 4.6 million people across Ukraine are at risk of losing access to piped water.
- The International Monetary Fund has predicted a 35% decrease in Ukraine's economy this year and that the ongoing war would also negatively impact global commodity markets, trade and financial channels. Meanwhile, IMF forecasts that the Russian Federation's gross domestic product would only decrease by 8.5% this year and then a further 2.3% in 2023.
- On **18 April**, missile strikes were reported in the western Ukrainian city of Lviv. Russian cruise missiles struck a Ukrainian vehicle repair shop. The Russian Ministry of Defence claimed that Russian forces destroyed a logistics centre in Lviv used to store weapons arriving in Ukraine from the United States and the European Union.
- Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy has formally submitted a completed questionnaire as a first step toward European Union membership.
- The UN humanitarian aid chief Martin Griffiths said that humanitarian ceasefires between Ukrainian and Russian forces in Ukraine are not on the horizon right now, but may be possible in a couple of weeks.
- On **19 April**, Russian and Ukrainian officials announced that the next phase of the Russian invasion of Ukraine has begun. Russian forces conducted intensive artillery and air bombardments of many areas along the front line from Izyum to Mykolaiv.
- UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has appealed for a four-day truce in Ukraine after Russia launched a new offensive in the country's eastern Donbas region.
- German Chancellor Olaf Scholz has said that Russian president Vladimir Putin is responsible for war crimes in Ukraine that have already left thousands of civilians dead.
- In the afternoon of **20 April**, Russia's latest ultimatum to Ukrainian fighters holding out in Mariupol expired with no sign of mass surrender.

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- Russia has said it had conducted a first test launch of its *Sarmat* intercontinental ballistic missile.
- The European Union is preparing new measures to prevent Russia from evading sanctions imposed over the war in Ukraine.
- On **21 April**, satellite imagery from near Mariupol shows a mass grave site that has expanded in recent weeks to contain more than 200 new graves.
- Russian forces continue offensive operations in eastern Ukraine but have made only marginal gains.
- On **22 April**, a briefing by the Russian deputy commander of the Central Military District restated the standing Russian objectives in the current phase of the war: capturing the entirety of the Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts and defending Russian positions in southern Ukraine against Ukrainian counterattacks.
- On **23 April**, Russian forces continue their pressure on the Azovstal facility in Mariupol. Russian troops, drawn from the retreat from Kyiv, are re-entering combat in eastern Ukraine.
- Russian forces conducted localised attacks on Ukrainian positions south of Izyum but did not make any advances.
- According to the governor of Ukraine's eastern Kharkiv region, the Ukrainian forces retook three villages near the border with Russia.
- Ukraine President Zelenskyy renewed his call for a meeting with Russian leader Vladimir Putin to put an end to the war.
- On **24 April**, reports emerged that Ukrainian civilians in occupied Kharkiv Oblast are reportedly organising volunteer movements to resist Russian occupation measures.
- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has called for immediate and unimpeded access to Mariupol to facilitate safe passage of civilians and wounded.
- Pope Francis has called for halt to attacks in Ukraine so aid can reach the exhausted population.
- Ukraine's president Zelensky hosted US secretary of state Antony Blinken and US defence secretary Lloyd Austin in Kyiv. The US has announced it would return diplomatic staff to its embassy.

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