



*And must have whiskey  
Oh, you know why*

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**April 19, 2022**

## **Russia Has Launched Phase Two Of Its Operation In Ukraine**

The neo-conservative 'Institute for the Study of War' (ISW) releases daily 'Russian offensive campaign assessments'. A lot of people in Washington DC seem to read them.

They are of course pure propaganda only slightly aligned with the actual tactical situation in the Ukraine. I confess that I read them once a while purely for my amusement.

Their main source seems to be the Ukrainian defense ministry which is of course lying left and right about the state of the war.

This for example is from their assessment [from Sunday](#), April 17:

**Russian forces continued to amass on the Izyum axis and in eastern Ukraine, increasingly including low-quality proxy conscripts, in parallel with continuous – and unsuccessful – small-scale attacks.** Russian forces did not take any territory on the Izyum axis or in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts in the past 24 hours. Russian forces deploying to eastern Ukraine reportedly continue to face significant morale and supply issues and appear unlikely to intend, or be able to, conduct a major offensive surge in the coming days. Deputy Ukrainian Minister of Defense Anna Malyar stated on April 17 that the Russian military is in no hurry to launch an offensive in eastern Ukraine, having learned from their experience from Kyiv – but Russian forces continue localized attacks and are likely unable to amass the cohesive combat power necessary for a major breakthrough.

I have no idea how anyone could have come to those conclusions.

- "appear unlikely to intend, or be able to, conduct a major offensive surge in the coming days"

and

- "the Russian military is in no hurry to launch an offensive in eastern Ukraine"

and

- likely unable to amass the cohesive combat power necessary for a major breakthrough

What are these guys smoking?

Yesterday evening heavy artillery attacks on Ukrainian frontline positions announced the launch of the expected offensive.

Belatedly ISW took note of that:

ISW @TheStudyofWar - 23:40 UTC · Apr 18, 2022

#Donetsk and #Luhansk Oblasts Update:

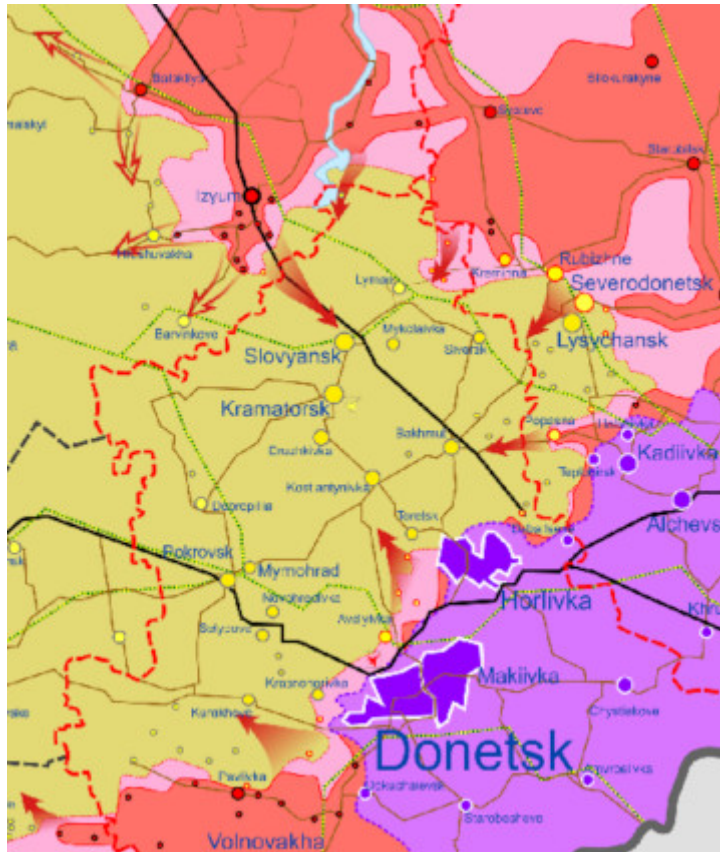
#Russian forces likely began large-scale offensive operations in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts on April 18. These offensive operations are unlikely to be dramatically more successful than failed operations around #Kyiv.

Today the start of phase two of the Russian operation was officially announced:

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Tuesday that Moscow was starting a new stage of what it calls its special military operation in Ukraine which he predicted would be a significant development.

"Another stage of this operation (in eastern Ukraine) is beginning and I am sure this will be a very important moment of this entire special operation", Lavrov said in an interview with the India Today TV channel.

After the heavy artillery preparations last night several offensives were launched into multiple directions.



Source - [bigger](#)

A major one is from Izyum (in the upper left on the map) towards Slovyansk. The distance between the two cities is 27 miles (47km).

Several villages on that route have already been taken. The "low quality proxy conscript" who "continue to face significant morale and supply issues", as ISW claims, might have something to do with that.

Phase two will include the liberation of all of Donetz and Luhansk as demarcated on the above map by the dashed red lines.

I expect the whole phase two operation to take four to six weeks with maybe some extra time necessary to clean up the well defended cities Kramatorsk and Slovyansk.

Questions remain. Will there be a third phase? What will it include?

Posted by b on April 19, 2022 at 17:49 UTC | [Permalink](#)

## Comments

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well, they are well paid to come to these conclusions, they will find a way to do it.

Posted by: pretzelattack | Apr 19 2022 17:57 utc | [1](#)

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The Institute for the Study of War is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kagan/Nuland Family Enterprises as most people here probably know.

Why bother to debunk their obvious propaganda?

Posted by: Opport Knocks | Apr 19 2022 18:02 utc | [2](#)

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Maybe the third phase is Crimea

Posted by: Alejandro | Apr 19 2022 18:07 utc | [3](#)

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thank you b! i think there will be a phase 3... there is too much at stake in all this for their only to be 2 phases...

@ Opport Knocks | Apr 19 2022 18:02 utc | [2](#)

in answer to your question.. my impression is that b is not bothering to debunk the bunk... or flunk the funk.. or whatever want to call it.. it is pointless.. as many of us have said all along - it is the details on the ground that matter here... all the soothsayers can say what they want.. it matters not..

Posted by: james | Apr 19 2022 18:08 utc | [4](#)

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Thanks for the posting b about the ongoing Empire of Lies keeping this shit show going

I am not in favor of a protracted military action but whatever it takes to back the bully of empire into its grave is ok with me.

Here in America the fog of lies keeps the zombies of my country in their fear induced stupor....sad

The inertia of empire is keeping it alive. It certainly isn't the merit.

Where is the knockout blow going to come from?

Maybe Russia can break through the fog to show the war crimes of the Ukraine but I haven't seen a crack yet...even about the biolabs...sigh

Maybe Le Pen will win in France and it will cause further empire crisis.

Maybe Pakistan will evolve back to the China/Russia axis and this will be the straw.

Maybe Occupied Palestine will do something stupid causing response from Iran/Syria/???