



AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE OF THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THE CRIMES COMMITTED BY THE KIEV REGIME ANNUAL REPORT ON THE CRIMES COMMITTED BY THE KIEV REGIME

2024

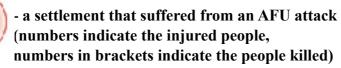
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### UKRAINIAN SHELLING AND RESULTING CIVILIAN VICTIMS ON THE RUSSIAN TERRITORY



- battle contact line

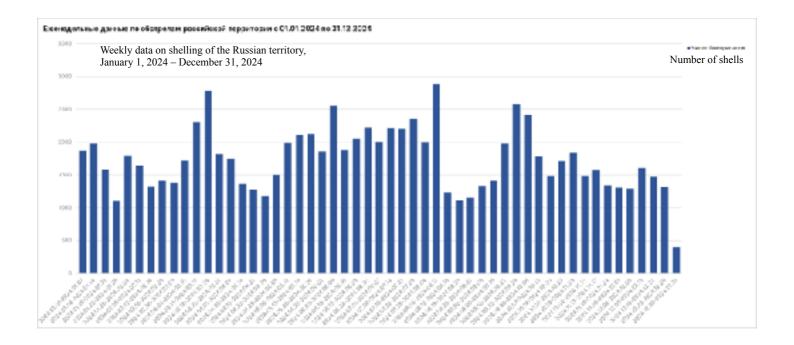


- a settlement

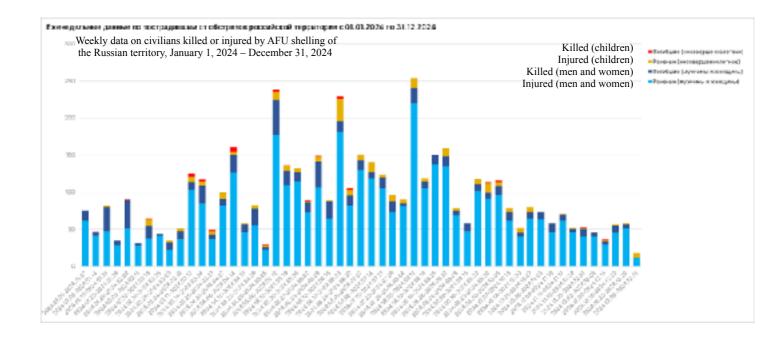
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Map scale: 1 cm = 26 km

### AFU SHELLING OF CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE



### **RUSSIAN CIVILIANS KILLED OR INJURED BY THE UKRAINIAN ARMED FORCES**



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## **SUMMARY**

The annual report presents an overview of the crimes committed by the Kiev regime on the Russian territories, predominantly adjacent to the battle contact line, and those, controlled by the Kiev regime, in the period between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

In total, in the 12 months of 2024, Ukrainian armed formations launched at least 87,885 pieces of ammunition at civilians and civilian infrastructure on the territory of the Russian Federation. On average, 240 strikes were carried out each day with the use of the entire available arsenal of weapons supplied by the West at the expense of the taxpayers of the countries involved.

The Belgorod Region is ranking first in terms of recorded incoming munitions fired by the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) at civilian infrastructure. Approximately every third piece of Ukrainian ammunition, 32.7 % of the total number, was launched at its civilian facilities and housing. Almost every fourth projectile, 21.99 %, targeted the territory of the Donetsk People's Republic. 20 % hit the Kursk Region, 14.38 % – the Kherson Region, 8.52 % – the Bryansk Region.

Prominent surges of shelling of civilian objects on the Russian territory by the AFU were politically motivated, while being closely linked to the narratives promoted by the Kiev regime or its sponsors. The maximum shelling peak, recorded between August 5 and August 11, was directly related to the Ukrainian terrorist foray in the Kursk Region, with the daily number of strikes at civilian infrastructure exceeding 410 in 24 hours. Another surge was associated with Kiev's attempts to disrupt presidential elections in the border areas – in Belgorod, Kursk, and Bryansk Regions – in March 2024. In the last decade of September, the number of daily shelling of civilian objects reached 370 per day and was intended to create a favorable 'background' for Vladimir Zelensky's trip to the United States to attend the UN General Assembly session as well as to support Kamala Harris, the US democratic presidential candidate.

In total, in 2024, no less than 5,399 civilians on the Russian territory became victims of Ukrainian aggression, at least 809 of them died. Thus, according to the presently available data, no less than 15 civilians suffered from criminal actions of Ukrainian armed formations each day.

However, the statistics does not yet include civilian deaths at the hands of AFU militants in the frontline areas, being liberated by Russian troops. At the time of preparing the report, we have evidence and circumstantial confirmation of at least 300 more civilian deaths in the 'grey zone' at the hands of Ukrainian fighters. The facts and testimonies collected are being verified. Once the procedure is completed, the data will be supplemented.

## In a year, at least 347 children suffered from the actions of the Kiev regime and its formations. 51 children were killed!

The youngest of the killed children was only 4 months old. The largest number of killed and injured children was recorded in the Donetsk People's Republic.

With the failure of a number of Kiev's military operations, Russia completely took over the initiative on the ground. In an attempt to somehow compensate for its military defeats, the Kiev regime resorted to targeted and deliberate attacks on civilian objects and civilians. Almost the entire arsenal of Western-supplied weapons was used to this end. The highest number of killed and injured civilians – more than 41 % – is attributed to barrel artillery strikes on civilian targets with 155 mm NATO calibre shells. Their main suppliers were the United States and Germany as producers of these munitions as well as 18 other satellite countries, which financed the purchase of shells to supply to the Kiev regime at the expense of their taxpayers' money instead of spending it on economic development, science or social protection programmes for their own population.

In 2024, the number of civilians killed and injured by unmanned aerial vehicles of various systems and modifications increased from 18 % in the first quarter of the year to the annual average of 31 %. Every third civilian victim was the result of a kamikaze drone attack or the targeted drop of ammunition by a Ukrainian UAV. The vast, overwhelming majority of the attempts to kill civilians with this type of weapons were premeditated and envisaged by the political strategy of the Kiev leadership, communicated to the Ukrainian military in the form of orders.

Energy and nuclear terrorism have become Kiev's routine practice. The AFU regularly attempt hitting the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant, its infrastructure and the adjacent town of Energodar. Some of the attempted strikes threatened to turn the Kursk Nuclear Power Plant into a source of radiation contamination. The number of recorded Ukrainian UAV attacks on nuclear facilities exceeded 3,500 cases.

Throughout the year, Kiev used the tactics of daily strikes at civilian power substations and energy infrastructure, causing power outages for hundreds of thousands of civilians and multiple civilian infrastructure objects, including residential buildings, hospitals, maternity and intensive care centres, children's educational institutions, etc.

We observed Ukraine's propensity for the terrorist tactics of deliberately targeting ambulances, medical institutions and facilities, which, in accordance with the norms and principles of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), enjoy special protection and patronage. The attacks targeted city hospitals and outpatient clinics, paramedic and ambulance stations, ambulances and medical staff.

Over the past year, 137 emergency and utility service employees were injured and 19 died while performing their professional duty as a result of the AFU attacks. There are 97 injured and 4 killed rescuers of the Ministry for Emergencies; 40 injured and 15 dead utility service workers. In most cases, they were subject to deliberate Ukrainian strikes, including repeated ones, aimed at killing and injuring rescuers and emergency teams arriving to help victims and restore tolerable living conditions for civilians.

According to the norms and principles of the IHL, medical staff and vehicles can under no circumstances serve as a military target, which is completely ignored by Ukrainian militants. The AFU systematically target medical facilities and ambulances. In 2024, nearly 30 medics performing their professional duty suffered at the hands of Ukrainian armed formations. 24 of them were injured, 5 - killed. In the overwhelming majority of cases, they fall victim to deliberate UAV attacks on ambulances, repeated shelling of recently struck sites, targeted strikes at civilian medical infrastructure.

In 2024, the Kiev dictatorship continued its assault on the Orthodox faith. Many churches, monasteries and holy sites of the Orthodox Church in the front-line zone were subjected to intensive shelling. Cathedrals of significant cultural value were destroyed. Clergy, novices and parishioners of the Orthodox Church were killed and injured.

On the territory controlled by the Kiev regime, with the blatant connivance of the regime's leadership, Ukrainian radicals have seized dozens of cathedrals, temple complexes and parishes of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Dozens of clergy and parishioners of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, the largest religious organisation in the country, to which more than 7 million parishioners in Ukraine remain faithful, were subjected to beatings, violent detentions and unlawful arrests.

The Verkhovna Rada passed and Vladimir Zelensky signed a law that in a few months could make the largest religious organisation in Ukraine illegal, deprive the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of its property and legal protection, and classify its parishioners as lawbreakers, which completely ignores the fundamental right of freedom of religion.

In 2024, Russian law enforcement and judicial authorities ensured the inevitability of punishment with regard to offences committed by militants and mercenaries of the Kiev regime. In the past year, Russian investigative authorities initiated more than 1,500 criminal cases on shelling of civilian infrastructure, recognizing approximately 2,500 civilians as victims and more than 132,000 ones– as the affected, including 24,340 children.

By the beginning of 2025, the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation has completed the investigation and sent to the prosecuting authorities 415 criminal cases involving 558 persons. In 346 criminal cases, the courts have passed sentences on 484 persons, including approximately 140 militants from the *Azov* unit and more than 40 mercenaries from other armed formations of the Kiev regime.

In 2024, the investigation of 163 criminal cases was completed against 185 AFU miltarymen and foreign mercenaries who deliberately attacked 106 civilians, of which 47 were killed.

### MOST TRAGIC CASES OF SHELLING AND BOMBARDMENT OF CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE BY THE UKRAINIAN ARMED FORCES IN 2024

By the end of 2024, Ukrainian militants launched at least 87,885 pieces of ammunition at civilian infrastructure on the territory of the Russian Federation. The most heavily shelled by the AFU Russian settlements along the battle contact line are Gorlovka in the DPR, the Shebekino and Graivoron municipal districts in the Belgorod Region, Alyoshki, Kakhovka and Novaya Kakhovka in the Kherson Region, Lissichansk and the Kremennaya district in the LPR, Tokmak and Kamenka-Dneprovskaya in the Zaporozhye Region, Novye Yurkovichi, Suzemka, Khoromnoye in the Bryansk Region, Tetkino, Krupets and Veseloye in the Kursk Region.

The highest number of killed and injured civilians was recorded after deliberate attacks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine on civilian multi-storey residential buildings and overcrowded public places – local squares and streets during holidays and weekends, markets, shopping centres, cafes, social institutions.

The AFU plaguing civilian transport constitutes a separate type of crime. There were dozens of attacks on cars, buses, trams, ambulances, fire trucks and other special vehicles belonging to emergency or utility services.

According to the recorded data, in 2024, the most violent Ukrainian crimes of the above-mentioned types were the following.

### ARTILLERY SHELLING OF A LOCAL MARKET IN DONETSK, DPR: 27 KILLED, 27 INJURED

On January 21, in the morning, the AFU repeatedly struck civilian infrastructure of the DPR from 155 mm NATO caliber barrel artillery.

They targeted the *Tekstilshiki* residential cluster in the Kirovsky city district of Donetsk. To begin with, they hit a few neighbouring multi-storey residential buildings, then targeted an overcrowded local market.



According to the DPR JCCC, the site was shelled from the enemy stronghold in the settlement of Aleksandropol. In the core of the impact was the territory of the local *Mercury* market and adjacent residential houses. No military facilities were located in the affected area.

As a result of the shelling, 27 civilians were killed on the spot, another 27 – were injured, including two children born in 2007. Most were diagnosed with penetrating shrapnel wounds to vital organs, some suffered traumatic amputations.



## **ROCKET ARTILLERY SHELLING OF LISSICHANSK, LPR: 29 KILLED, 10 INJURED**

On Saturday, February 3, at around 2 p.m., AFU militants deliberately hit a café combined with a bakery, located in the town of Lissichansk, LPR, from a HIMARS MLRS.

The two-storey building was almost completely destroyed by two highpowered precision missiles. About 40 people were trapped under the concrete slab rubble.



28 civilians (18 men, 9 women and a child), died on the spot. Rescuers were removing their bodies from under the rubble for two days.

Later, one more café customer died in hospital. Another ten injured civilians were hospitalised at various medical facilities of the LPR with the shrapnel wounds and traumas they suffered as the building collapsed. Among the killed there were four married couples as well as a pregnant woman and her 6-year-old elder child.



#### ROCKET ARTILLERY STRIKE AT RESIDENTIAL HOUSES IN TOKMAK, ZAPOROZHYE REGION: 16 KILLED, 28 INJURED

On April 12, the AFU hit a residential area of the town of Tokmak, Zaporozhye Region, from an MLRS. On top of that, the Kiev regime's militants used GLSDB small-diameter land-based bombs, developed and given to Ukraine by NATO countries, to attack the site.

16 civilian, including 3 children, were killed as a result of the criminal acts, committed by Ukrainian armed formations. 28 civilians were injured, most of them seriously. Some of the houses that came under fire were completely destroyed.



#### **COMBINED STRIKE ON SHCHORSA STREET IN BELGOROD: 19 DEAD, 27 WOUNDED**

On Sunday, May 12, around noon, the Armed Forces of Ukraine carried out a combined attack on a high-rise residential area in the Kharkovskaya Gora city district of Belgorod.

The relentless barrage by *Vampire* and *Olkha* MLRS caused a jamming of the air defence system that protected the city from attacks; after that, at least six *Tochka U* missiles were fired at the residential area. One of the missiles hit the foundation of a block of flats on Shchorsa Street. The resulting explosion caused the entire section of the building from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor to collapse in a matter of seconds. 15 people, including 2 children, died under the debris.



The rescue effort was further complicated by the ensuing fire and the subsequent partial collapse of the roof. Three Ministry for Emergencies rescuers were injured while trying to help the victims. The rescue team extracted 17 people, including 2 children, from under the rubble.

In addition to residential buildings, some of the ammunition hit the nearby *City Mall* shopping centre, where 2 civilians suffered injuries of varying severity.

By the evening, the same residential area became the target of a second attack on Belgorod. At about 8 p.m., a new series of strikes followed, killing another 4 civilians and injuring 8. 15 blocks of flats were damaged.

There were no military facilities in the targeted area.



# ATACMS MISSILE STRIKE ON LUGANSK, LPR: 6 KILLED, 60 WOUNDED

On June 7, AFU militants attacked high-rise residential area of Lugansk with US-manufactured ATACMS high-precision long-range ballistic missiles.

About 11 a.m., one of the projectiles hit a multi-storey residential building No. 22 in the residential cluster named after Nikolai Vatutin. As a result, a block of flats from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor collapsed. 6 civilians died, 7 were rescued from under the debris. 60 civilians were injured, including 3 boys aged 8, 15 and 16. Search and rescue operation lasted through the night.

The missile strike damaged at least 30 civil facilities, including multi-storey residential buildings in Vatutin and Budyonny streets, as well as Lugansk Information Technology and Entrepreneurship College, two schools, three kindergartens. Due to the nearby detonation of a shell, fractures appeared on the façade of Secondary School No. 8.



### A HIMARS MLRS STRIKE ON A GROCERY STORE IN SADOVOYE, KHERSON REGION: 22 KILLED, 15 INJURED

On June 7, in the evening, Ukrainian militants shelled the village of Sadovoye in the Golaya Pristan district of the Kherson Region from HIMARS MLRS. As a result, a grocery store was destroyed. Many customers and shop assistants were inside at the moment of the attack.

After the first strike, local residents hurried to the scene of the tragedy to help the injured. On arrival of the emergency services, the AFU launched a deliberate second attack to ensure as many victims as possible.

In total, the strikes of missile artillery complexes claimed the lives of 22 civilians, 15 people sustained injuries of varying severity. Among the killed, there were 2 children. The majority of the injured were hospitalised in severe condition.

There were no military facilities in the targeted area.



# MISSILE STRIKE ON THE BEACH IN SEVASTOPOL: 4 KILLED, 153 WOUNDED

On Sunday, 23 June, at noon, the AFU attacked Sevastopol with US ATACMS ballistic missiles equipped with cluster warheads. Four missiles were launched from the vicinity of the city of Nikolayev. A direct strike was aimed at the beach zone of Sevastopol – Uchkuyevka and Lyubimovka. As a result of fragment dispersion and detonation of submunitions, 2 city beaches and their neighbourhood ended up within blast range.

153 civilians, including 27 children, were injured as a result of the attack. 5 children were taken to hospital in severe condition. 4 civilians were killed, including 2 girls – a 3-year-old and a 9-year-old. All the victims were civilians either relaxing on the beach with their families or walking around nearby.

There were no military facilities in the vicinity of the beach.



#### MASSIVE SHELLING OF DONETSK FROM BARREL ARTILLERY: 11 INJURED

On August 16, the AFU shelled Petrovsky district of Donetsk from 155 mm calibre barrel artillery, injuring 11 civilians, including a child. The attack targeted the *Galaktika* shopping center, the Central City Hospital No. 14 and several blocks of flats on Petrovsky and Dobrovolsky streets.

As a result of the strike, the shopping center caught fire. The shelling was going on as the flame was engulfing the building, which complicated the work of fire brigades. The shopping center burned down completely.



On top of that, a number of shells directly hit multi-storey residential houses destroying flats. Besides, a gaspipeline was damaged on Petrovsky street.



## MASSIVE ROCKET ARTILLERY STRIKE ON BELGOROD: 5 DEAD, 46 INJURED, INCLUDING 7 CHILDREN

On August 30, in the evening, several residential areas of Belgorod were subjected to a massive artillery attack by the Ukrainian armed formations. At least 40 rockets from the Czech-made *Vampire* MLRS were fired at the residential areas. Five people died of their wounds: a woman and 4 men. Another 46 civilians, including 7 children, were injured.

At least 15 blocks of flats, 2 social and 2 commercial facilities, 3 garages, an infrastructure object, 48 civilian vehicles were damaged.

There were no military or dual-use facilities in the targeted area.



#### **ARTILLERY SHELLING OF A MARKET IN DONETSK: 12 WOUNDED, 4 KILLED, INCLUDING 2 CHILDREN**

On September 4, in the afternoon, AFU militants targeted the crowded *Sokol* market in the Kirovsky district of Donetsk with 155 mm caliber artillery.

3 civilians were killed on the spot, including two children. Two of them, a father and his 13-year-old daughter, died when a shell hit their car. The men's wife and 11-year-old son were hospitalised with severe injuries. The woman died 24 hours later in the intensive care unit. The boy lost his family all at once.



### SHELLING OF A BUS STOP IN NOVAYA KAKHOVKA, KHERSON REGION: 5 KILLED, 23 INJURED

On November 26, about 2 p.m., the Kiev regime's militants shelled a bus stop in Novaya Kakhovka with cluster munitions.

The AFU hit the bus stop from rocket artillery when there was a shuttle bus leaving for Tavrijsk there.

As the result of the attack, 5 civilians were killed: 3 women and a man died on the spot, one more person died at the hospital of his wounds. 23 civilians were injured, including 2 children.









## **KIEV REGIME'S CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN**

In 2024, at least 347 underage Russian citizens suffered from the criminal actions of the Kiev regime: 296 children were injured, 51 - killed. The youngest of the children killed by Ukrainian armed formations was only 4 months old.

During the past year, children fell victim to artillery and rocket attacks, mines and cluster submunitions. There are recorded cases of children being blown up by explosive objects disguised as toys and household items scattered in public places by Ukrainian militants. 55 children suffered from Ukrainian drone strikes in 2024: 44 of them sustained injury, 11 were killed by the impact.

The drones caught up with them inside the cars they were travelling in with their parents, at home and on local playgrounds. The largest number of children injured by the criminal actions of the AFU was recorded in the Donetsk People's Republic (127 injured, 11 killed), the Belgorod Region (88 injured, 12 killed) and the Kursk Region (24 injured, 4 killed).

As a result of barbaric shelling, children from the DPR, LPR, Kherson, Zaporozhye, Belgorod, Bryansk and Kursk regions were deprived of the opportunity to attend educational institutions. According to the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation, in 2024, 20,242 children were deprived of the opportunity to attend kindergartens; 173,762 pupils of general education institutions as well as 12,439 students of secondary vocational training institutions were transferred to the distance learning format. During the year, at least 396 kindergartens (9 destroyed), 503 general educational institutions (5 destroyed) were damaged in the above-mentioned regions.

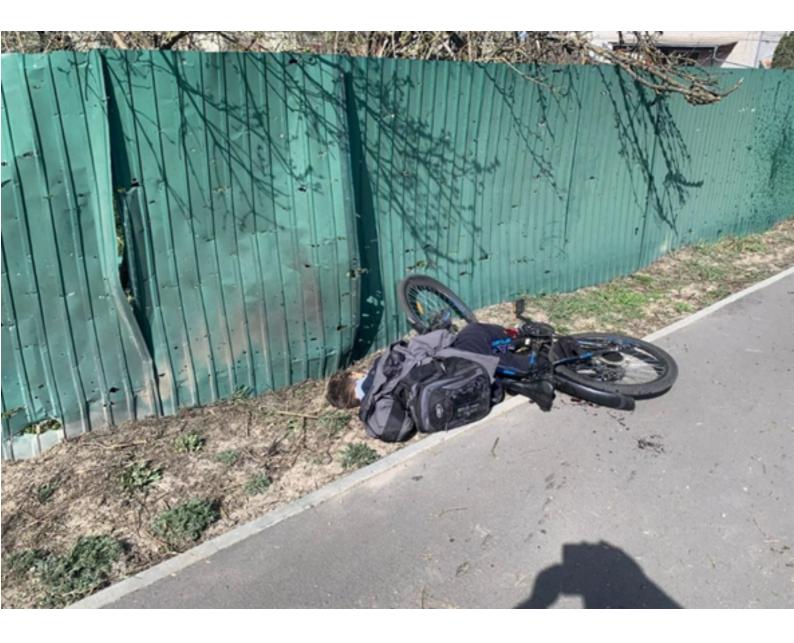
The most heinous cases of the AFU injuring or killing children are the following.

On February 15, 2024, a 4-month-old girl was killed by shrapnel from a rocket projectile that exploded near a school stadium in Belgorod. At the time of the attack, the baby was outside sleeping in a pram taken for a walk by her grandmother. The AFU targeted the centre of Belgorod from an MLRS, originating from the Czech Republic. The rocket projectiles they used to strike at the peaceful city contain more than 9,000 metal balls each. Some of them pierced through the pram and the baby in it. Liza died on the spot.



On April 9, the AFU struck on the central part of the settlement of Klimovo, Bryansk Region, with long-range artillery shells killing Aleksandr Kashevsky. The 12-year-old boy was riding back from school on his bicycle, when the shelling started. The shell exploded 2-3 meters away from him. The child suffered shrapnel wounds to his head and torso and died on the spot.

Aleksandr was a pupil of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. He got excellent marks, defended the school's honour in sports competitions, and was repeatedly awarded for his academic and sporting achievements.



On April 10, a Ukrainian drone attacked a civil vehicle by dropping an explosive device on it in the village of Apanasovka of the Kursk Region. At the time of the strike, a man and his two daughters, aged 9 and 12, were in the car. All three of them died.

The two schoolgirls, Margarita and Ekaterina, were diligent pupils. Margarita attended a fine arts club. She was good at painting.



On May 17, a Ukrainian kamikaze drone attacked a passenger car in the settlement of Oktyabrskoye, Belgorod Region. There was a driver and a family of three with a little child in the vehicle. The wife died on the spot of the injuries she received in the resulting explosion. Without waiting for an ambulance to arrive, switching cars, the driver and the woman's husband took the injured child to Belgorod for medical assistance. The boy was in critical condition. Doctors did their best, but he could not be saved. Kirill Kuznetsov, 4-year-old, died in hospital.

On July 11, a Ukrainian drone deliberately dropped an explosive ordnance on a playground surrounded by multi-storey residential houses in the town of Shebekino, Belgorod Region, injuring 5 children. The youngest one was 8 years old. Three boys were hospitalised in serious condition. Ivan Shalnev, aged 16, sustained the worst injuries. Medics fought for his life for a week, but he could not be saved. The teenager died in the intensive care unit.

Ivan attended the Academy of Sports. He was a prize-winner of the Belgorod Region championship in boxing.



On December 14, a Ukrainian UAV targeted a single-family residential house in the settlement of Maisky, Belgorod Region. The drone crashed through the roof and damaged the wall, killing a 9-year-old boy. As the air alert signal sounded, Ivan tried to find shelter in the bathroom but failed to escape the impact. The boy died on the spot. His mother and 7-month-old sister were injured.



### **RESCUERS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES EMPLOYEES TARGETED BY THE AFU**

Rescuers of the Ministry for Emergencies and employees of municipal emergency utility services are among the most life-threatening jobs in the areas adjacent to the frontline. For these are the people who arrive first at the shelling sites of civilian facilities and housing. In 2024, almost 160 emergency services employees suffered at the hands of the Kiev regime. 97 rescuers received injuries and traumas, at least 4 - were killed. As of the emergency utility services, 40 employees were injured and 15 – died.

Most often, Ukrainian armed formations resort to drone strikes to deliberately deprive injured civilians of the possibility of being rescued, with UAVs circling over the sites of recent attacks waiting for rescue and emergency teams. Ukrainian drone operators are preventing rescue teams from arriving at the shelling sites to save civilians and extinguish fires. The repeated strikes are aimed not only at destroying special equipment belonging to emergency services but also at killing their employees.

The criminal tactics of hampering the work of rescuers and harming emergency utility services was most widely used by Ukrainian armed formations in Donetsk and Gorlovka in the DPR, the Shebekino and Graivoron city district as well as the Belgorod and Borisovka districts of the Belgorod Region, the town of Alyoshky in the Kherson Region.

Below we present some of the documented cases of criminal acts committed by Ukrainian armed formations against employees of the emergency services.

### **AFU TARGETING A FIRE BRIGADE IN GORLOVKA, DPR: 4 FIREFIGHTERS INJURED**

On October 3, the AFU carried out a massive UAV raid on the Nikitovsky district of Gorlovka, killing 1 civilian and injuring 7, while targeting civilian cars and residential houses.

One of the drones attacked a multi-storey residential building: the roof and a flat on the upper floor caught fire as a result of the strike. Luckily, a young woman, blocked there by the flames, was rescued by her neighbours.

Operators of Ukrainian UAVs also set several single-family houses on fire. On top of that, the AFU attacked a fire brigade, extinguishing a fire in a residential area. 4 firefighters of the Ministry for Emergencies were taken to hospital with resulting injuries. Their fire truck burned down completely.



# DELIBERATE UAV ATTACK ON FIREFIGHTERS IN GORLOVKS, DPR: 4 INJURED

On May 13, in Gorlovka, a Ukrainian drone attacked a fire truck on its way to a fire scene. As the result of the explosion, 4 firefighters of the Ministry for Emergencies were injured. The fire truck was badly damaged.



#### UKRAINIAN UAV HITS AN EMERGENCY REPAIR TEAM IN VASILEVKA, ZAPOROZYHE REGION: 3 EMPLOYEES INJURED

On November 11, AFU militants attacked the settlement of Vasilievka with UAVs. A Ukrainian FPV-drone operator targeted a Tavria-Energo (energy supply company) emergency team that was trying to repair damaged electric power lines.

As the result of the strike, 3 employees were injured. Their utility vehicle burned down completely. The Ukrainian perpetrators shared the video of the attack in one of their military-related Telegram channels.



### KAMIKAZE UAV ATTACK ON EMPLOYEES OF AN ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY COMPANY IN GORLOVKA: 2 KILLED, 1 INJURED

On November 8, the Kiev regime's militants carried out a massive UAV raid on the civilian infrastructure of Gorlovka, DPR. One of the kamikaze drones attacked a service truck of the *Central Electricity Networks* civilian power supply company in the settlement of Ozeryanovka, Central City District of Gorlovka. Three employees were hit by the explosion. The power engineer died on the spot. The electrician died of his wounds at the hospital. The driver was the only one, who survived. He was hospitalised with serious injuries.



## AFU ATTACKS ON MEDICS AND MEDICAL FACILITIES

According to Article 12 of Additional Protocol 1 to the Geneva Conventions, 'Medical units shall be respected and protected at all times and shall not be the object of attack'. However, it has become a well-established practice of the Ukrainian armed formations to do everything possible in order to prevent medical personnel from performing their duty, for example by targeting ambulances, that have arrived at site of shelling, as well as medical facilities with no military or paramilitary units deployed on their territory.

In 2024, almost 30 medics suffered from the Kiev regime's actions while performing their professional duty: 24 were injured, 5 - killed. There are dozens of recorded cases of Ukrainian attacks on ambulance teams on their arrival to the site of the recent strike to provide medical assistance, of shelling of the buildings and infrastructure belonging to local civilian medical facilities, as well as of targeted destruction of ambulances at the parking lot.

Medics and patients fall victim to deliberate AFU UAV attacks, while Ukrainian drone operators tend to track the approach of an ambulance, wait till a patient is loaded into it and finally strike at the vehicle.

Below we provide examples of AFU attacks on medics and medical facilities proving the deliberate violation of the above-mentioned norms of the International Humanitarian Law by the Kiev regime's militants.

### UAV ATTACK ON AN AMBULANCE IN THE SUDZHA DISTRICT, KURSK REGION: 2 KILLED, A RESUSCITATION DOCTOR INJURED

On August 7, a Ukrainian strike drone attacked an ambulance on its way to Sudzha to evacuate one of the civilians injured as a result of Kiev regime's criminal acts.

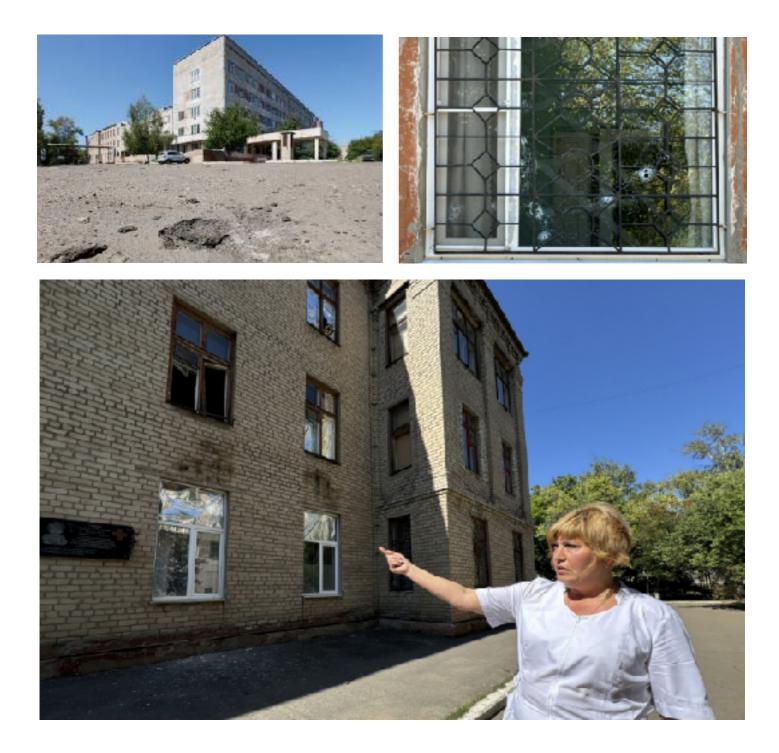
The paramedic and the driver were killed on the spot. A young woman, resuscitation doctor, was taken to hospital with serious injuries.





#### SHELLING OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN GORLOVKA, DPR: 6 INJURED

On September 7, Ukrainian militants intensively shelled the center of Gorlovka with cluster munitions. Several such ordnances hit the territory of the Children's Hospital. As a result, 6 civilians were injured, including a teenage girl. The building of the hospital as well as civilian cars parked nearby were damaged. The building of the *Family and Health* medical group also suffered in the attack.



# AFU SHELLING OF THE KREMENNAYA CENTRAL DISRTICT HOSPITAL, LPR

In 2024, the Kremennaya Central District Multi-profile Hospital was subject to multiple AFU attacks.

On July 2, around 7 p.m., the AFU attacked civilians present in the courtyard of the Kremennaya Hospital with a drone. Three of them received mine blast wounds of varying severity, two of the wounded were the nurses of the hospital.

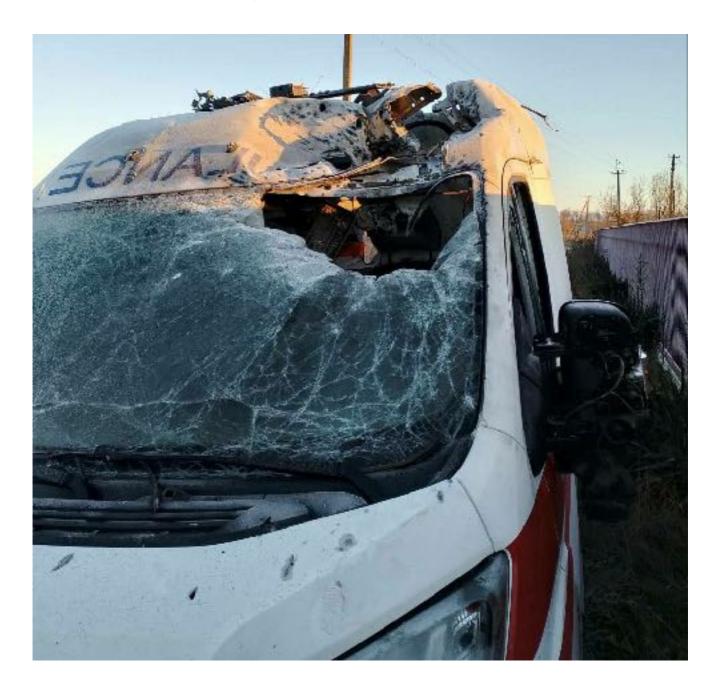
On July 8, as a result of yet another attack on the Hospital, the roof was destroyed completely in the therapeutic and the surgical departments. Serious damage was done to the roof, ceilings and part of the brickwork in the department for infectious diseases. The roof and ceilings were also damaged in the pediatrics; on top of that, windows and doors were broken in the department. One of the shells destroyed the passage between two medical buildings. In the outpatient clinic, with the ceilings destroyed in the attack, the roof literally fell down to the third floor.

On 9 August, the Kremennaya Hospital was shelled by the Ukrainian Armed Forces once again. Several buildings of the medical facility and two ambulances were damaged. A laboratory technician, a woman aged 1968, sustained shrapnel wounds and required medical assistance.



#### UKRAINIAN DRONE ATTACKS AN AMBULANCE ON ITS WAY TO THE PATIENT; A WOUNDED CIVILIAN DIES WITHOUT MEDICAL AID IN MALAYA KARDASHINKA

On November 25, in the settlement of Malaya Kardashinka, Kherson Region, AFU militants used a UAV to attack an ambulance on its way to a civilian, who had been seriously wounded by a Ukrainian shelling. The drone pursued and on catching up with it hit the ambulance in the roof above the driver's seat. The medics managed to escape the vehicle and remained unscathed. However, the ambulance was set out of order and they failed to reach the injured person on time. Without medical aid, the civilian died of his wounds.



#### A STRIKE ON ENERGY WORKERS AND AN AMBULANCE CREW IN GORLOVKA: 2 KILLED, 7 INJURED

On January 12, the AFU shelled the settlement of Golmovsky in the vicinity of Gorlovka with cluster munitions, targeting a group of employees of the *Regional Energy-Providing Company*, who were repairing an infrastructure facility of critical importance to the town. As the result, 4 energy workers sustained injury of varying severity.

On arrival of an ambulance, Ukrainian militants attacked the site once again, this time with a UAV, killing a female employee of the energy company and an ambulance paramedic and injuring 3 more of the medical team.



### VICTIMS AMONG JOURNALISTS

One of the Kiev regime's strategies is preventing the disclosure of inconvenient information about the real situation on the battle contact line while disseminating disinformation, including about fake "violations of International Humanitarian Law". A direct consequence of this approach is the undeclared hunt for Russian journalists who cover the course of the special military operation and tell the truth about the situation on the front. For a large amount of verified information on military crimes committed by Ukrainian militants is made public thanks to the work of Russian war correspondents and reporters.

According to the Russian Union of Journalists, four media workers were killed by Ukrainian armed formations in 2024. Many journalists have been attacked, injured or maimed. The word 'PRESS' on the clothing or equipment of journalists, that used to be considered at least a relative defence against targeted strikes, today only invites the attacks of Ukrainian militants. The overwhelming majority of strikes at camera crews came after deliberate tracking and pursuit of media workers in the frontline zone. To attack journalists, Kiev regime's militants often use strike drones.

#### SHELLING OF A CAMERA CREW IN THE SUBURB OF KREMENNAYA, LPR

On April 9, in the suburb of the town of Kremennaya, a camera crew of the Lugansk Television and Radio Broadcasting Company came under AFU artillery fire. First, the crew was tracked down by a Ukrainian drone, after that they were targeted with artillery fire. Cameraman Denis Shum was injured. Journalist Artem Yundas received a concussion – a shell exploded right behind his back.

The AFU tried to finish off the wounded by sending a combat drone - it attacked the vehicle with the journalists later. Luckily, they managed to escape.



#### ATTACK ON A CAMERA CREW OF THE NTV TV CHANNEL IN THE SETTLEMENT OF GOLMOVSKY, DPR

On June 13, an NTV camera crew got under a targeted barrel artillery strike in Nikitovsky District of Gorlovka. As the result of the shelling, journalist A. Ivliyev and cameraman V. Kozhin were seriously wounded. The camera crew had arrived to film a report on constant attacks of Ukrainian militants on local civilians.

Valery Kozhin did not survive – he died in hospital. He was 46 years old. He had been working on the NTV channel since 2006.

Alexey Ivliyev was severely injured. Doctors had to amputate his arm.





#### MURDER OF JOURNALIST NIKITA TSITSAGI IN THE SETTLEMENT OF NIKOLSKOYE, DPR

On June 16, photojournalist Nikita Tsitsagi from the *News.ru* news portal was killed while performing his professional duty in the vicinity of Nikolsky Monastery near Ugledar. Ukrainian drone operators tracked down the Russian camera crew, preparing a report from the frontline zone and targeted it with a UAV.

Nikita Tsitsagi, 29-year-old, died of the injury he sustained.



#### ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A WAR CORRESPONDENT YEVGENY PODDUBNY IN THE KURSK REGION

On 7 August, Yevgeny Poddubny, own war correspondent of *Rossiya 1* TV channel, was driving down the Kursk-Sudzha highway in a civilian car towards the town of Sudzha. As he approached the city, his car was attacked by a Ukrainian FPV drone.

The explosion damaged the car and at speed the vehicle was thrown into a ditch, where it burnt out completely. Despite his serious injuries, Evgeny made it out of the burning car. Other drivers, who happened to be on the highway, spotted the burning car, provided first aid to Evgeny Poddubny and helped him to get to the nearest hospital.



According to the treating physician, Evgeny Poddubny suffered "severe burns, craniocerebral trauma and facial skeletal injury."

There is evidence that an attempt on Evgeny Poddubny's life was premeditated and that, directing a UAV at a moving civilian car, the operator of the Ukrainian knew it for sure that he was targeting a journalist who was performing his professional duty.



### UKRAINIAN UAV KILLS YULIYA KUZNETSOVA, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE *NARODNAYA GAZETA* NEWSPAPER, IN THE KURSK REGION

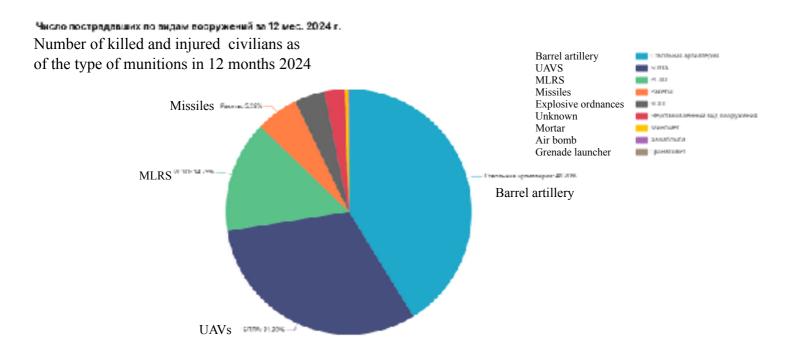
On November 17, the Kiev regime's militants attacked a civilian car on the highway in the Bolshesoldatsky district of the Kursk Region with an FPV-drone. Inside the vehicle, there were employees of a local newspaper – Narodnaya Gazeta (The People's Newspaper).

The journalists were evacuating the archive of the newspaper. As the result of the attack, 2 of the passengers sustained injury of varying severity and Yuliya, editor-in-chief, died on the spot. She was 34 and had 2 young children.



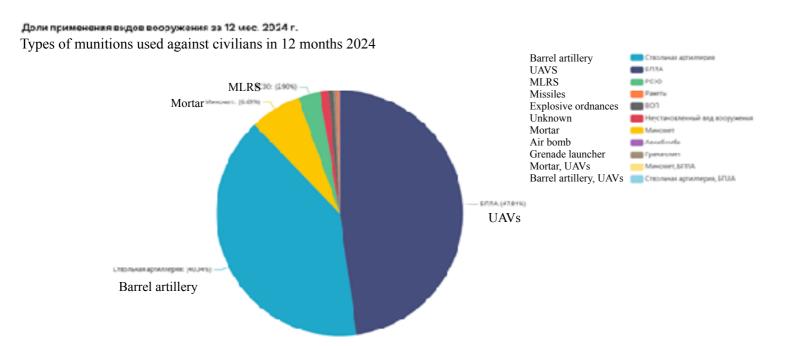
# WEAPONS USED AGAINST CIVILIANS

During 2024, the Kiev regime used all weapons available to attack civilians and civilian infrastructure. The overwhelming majority of the arsenal – from small arms and mortar to high-precision munitions for HIMARS MLRS, ATACMS, Storm Shadow and SCALP-EG ballistic missiles – is made and provided to Ukraine by the West.

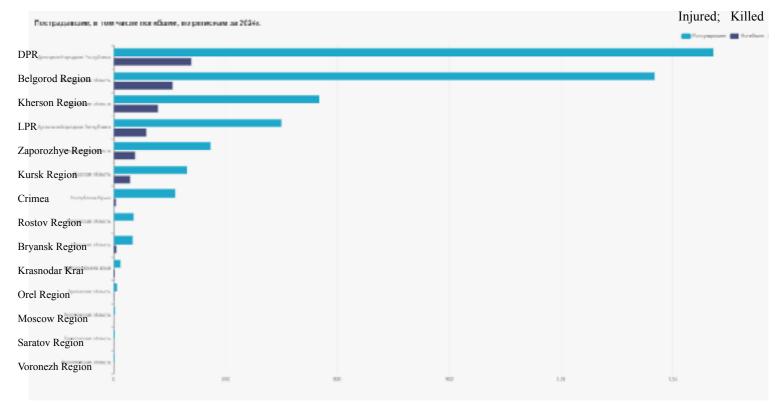


In 2024, the majority of civilians suffered from 155 mm NATO calibre barrel artillery used by AFU militants. According to the recorded data, almost 2,000 civilians, 41.2% of all civilian victims of Ukrainian aggression in the past year, were killed or injured as the result. Increasing the supply of such munitions to Ukraine is now being actively discussed in the countries of the collective West. The Czech Republic planned to provide 1 million 155 mm shells in 2024. 18 countries joined this initiative. According to official data, a total of 1.6 billion euros was raised. Among the main contributors are the USA, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium.

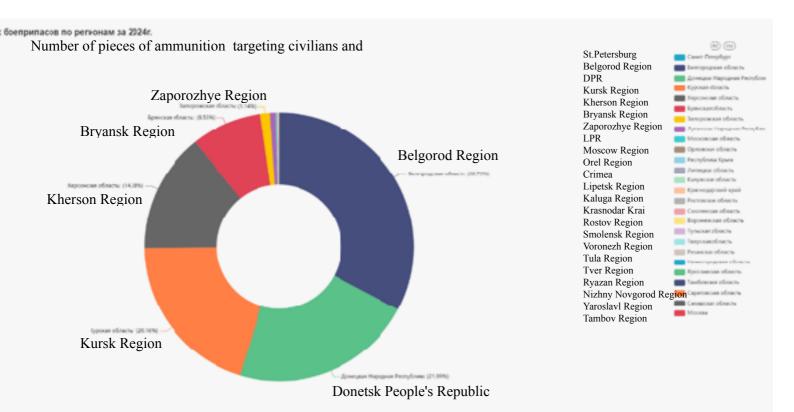
The second dangerous to civilians over the past 12 months were UAVs of different modifications. More than 1,500 people, which makes 31.3% of the total number, suffered from Ukrainian drone attacks. It is important to take into account the significant increase in the use of UAVs by the AFU against civilians. At the beginning of 2024, the share of UAVs was about 15% of all types of weapons used, while by the end of the year this figure reached 47%.



The use of West-made high-precision ballistic missiles deserves special attention. Despite their limited number, they are especially dangerous because of their capability to carry hundreds of cluster submunitions. A strike by such a modification of ATACMS was carried out on June 23, 2024, targeting a beach in Sevastopol. As a result of the detonation of submunitions, 4 people were killed, including 2 children, and 153 injured, including 27 children.



Number of injured and killed civilians as of the region in 2024



# USING UAVS AGAINST CIVILIAN POPULATION

A significant increase in the use of various UAV systems by the Ukrainian Armed Forces to kill and injure civilians and attack civilian infrastructure is a tragic trend of 2024.

Whereas drone strikes accounted for only 15% of civilian victims at the beginning of 2024, by the end of the year, the annual average reached approximately 30%. This change indicates a rapid increase in deliberate strikes on civilians. In the overwhelming majority of cases, the quality of live video footage from the cameras of modern drones eliminates any possibility of error. A UAV operator always clearly sees and recognises the target of the attack.

During the year, targeted by drones were at least 1,481 civilians, of whom 1,271 were injured, including 44 children, and 210 people were killed, including 11 children.

In 2024, the most frequent targets of Ukrainian UAV attacks were civilian cars, emergency, utility, construction and medical vehicles, public transport, private residential houses and blocks of flats, shopping centres, energy and water supply facilities and other objects of civilian infrastructure. In addition, drones targeted crowded public areas, including public transport stops, playgrounds, courtyards and precincts.

High on the list of crimes is "hunting" civilian private and public transport. Drone strikes on civilian cars, buses, lorries and specialised civilian transport were recorded daily in the frontline regions. Most frequently subjected to such attacks were the Belgorod Region and the DPR. From August to November 2024, in Gorlovka, DPR, on some days there were up to 3-5 strikes on public transport alone. Since early November, there was a significant increase in the number of UAV strikes on civilian vehicles in towns and settlements of the Kherson and Zaporozhye regions, too.

#### MASSIVE STRIKE UAV RAID ON THE BORISOVKA DISTRICT, BELGOROD REGION: 9 KILLED, 44 INJURED

On May 6, about 7 a.m., 3 Ukrainian strike drones attacked civilian vehicles near the village of Beryozovka in the Borisovka district, Belgorod Region.

They targeted two GAZelle vans, transporting cattle farm employees of the Agro-Belogorye group of companies, and a civilian car that was driving nearby. At least 3 explosive objects were deliberately dropped on them. As the result, 7 workers of the agricultural companies were killed on the spot and 43 people received wounds of varying severity. Two of them died later in the hospital.

In addition, 3 underage brothers, aged 6, 9, 17, were injured in the car driving behind the van.



#### A SERIES OF AFU UAV RAIDS ON TRAMS IN GORLOVKA, DPR: 1 KILLED, 4 INJURED

On July 29-30, AFU militants actively used FPV drones to attack public transport in Gorlovka, damaging 2 trams and a local shuttle bus.

One of the UAVs was deliberately aimed at the roof of the vehicle directly above the driver's seat. As the result, the tram driver was killed and 2 female passengers sustained injury. The impact was so strong that a teenage girl, born in 2007, who was in a passing bus N 101, was injured, too.



On top of that, a female driver was injured in another UAV attack on a tram.



# ATTEMPTS ON THE LIFE OF CHIEF DOCTOR OF THE ALYOSHKI HOSPITAL, KHERSON REGION

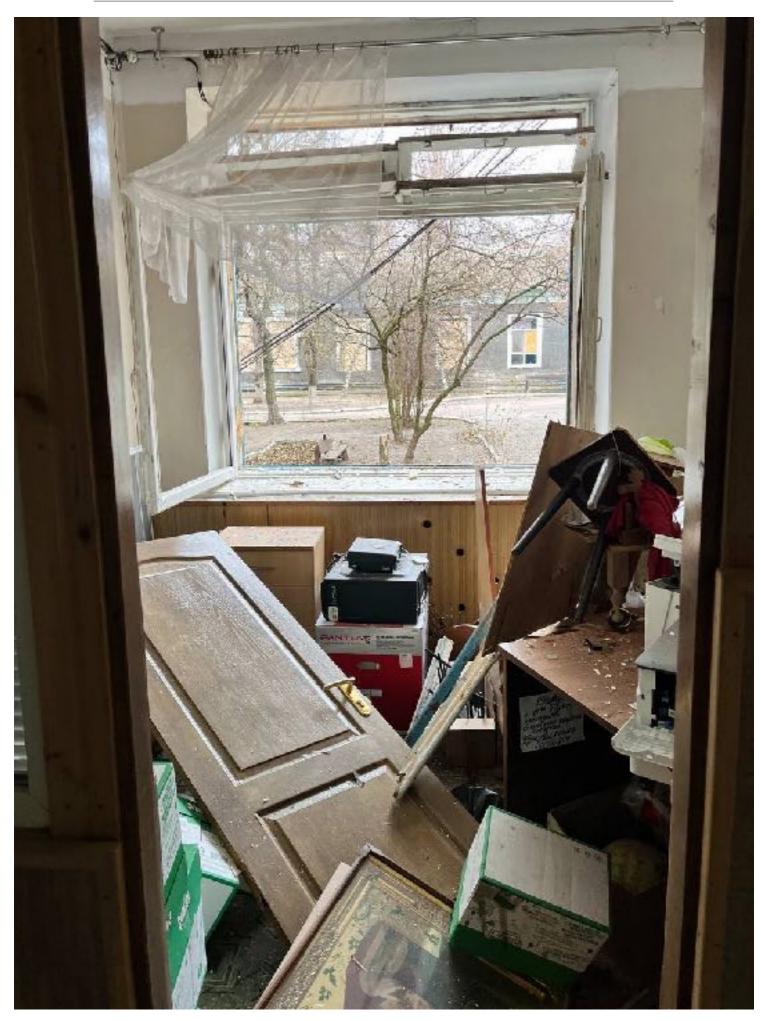
On September 23, the Kiev regime carried out yet another terrorist attack. The AFU targeted Vladimir Kharlan, chief doctor of the local hospital, and his family in the town of Alyoshki, Kherson Region. The Ukrainian militants deliberately hit his white medical *Niva* car with a kamikaze drone that crashed through the window and exploded near V.Kharlan's wife who was at the back seat, injuring the doctor and killing the woman.



The circumstances of the crime indicate that V.Kharlan was purposefully tracked.

On December 30, AFU militants tried to kill V.Kharlan once again. A UAV smashed the window of the doctor's office in the Aleshki Hospital. The chief doctor was injured, his deputy died.





### FIXED-WING UAVS ATTACKING RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS IN RUSSIAN REGIONS, REMOTE FROM THE BATTLE CONTACT LINE

On October 16, 2024, while presenting the "victory plan" V.Zelensky spoke about the necessity "to bring the war back to the territory of Russia, so that Russians begin to understand what the war is like and redirect their hatred towards the Kremlin". This statement has become the official confession and proof of the premeditated character of Kiev regime's attacks on Russian civilian infrastructure and housing.

Ukrainian armed formations target blocks of flats mostly at night or in the early morning. At this time, local residents are sure to be at home, which significantly increases the number of possible deaths and injuries.

Over the past year, air defence forces destroyed or intercepted about 7,300 fixed-wing UAVs in the skies of Russian regions. In 2024, at least 12 massive raids were recorded that resulted in the damage of civilian infrastructure. Targeted by Ukrainian fixed-wing UAVs were the Republic of Tatarstan, Krasnodar Krai, Orel, Saratov, Kherson, Zaporozhye, Belgorod regions, etc.

#### UAV ATTACK ON A BLOCK OF FLATS IN THE TOWN OF RAMENSKOYE, MOSCOW REGION: 3 INJURED, A WOMAN KILLED

On September 10, at nighttime, the AFU carried out a massive launch of UAVs targeting towns and cities of the Bryansk, Kursk, Moscow, Tula, Belgorod, Kaluga, Voronezh, Lipetsk and Orel Regions. At least 144 drones were shot down by the air defense system. Unfortunately, some of the UAVs still managed to reach their destination. One of them attacked a block of flats on the Sportivny Proezd Street in the town of Ramenskoye, Moscow Region. As a result of the strike, a 46-year-old woman was killed, 3 more civilians received injuries of varying severity. 54 flats were damaged in the multi-storey building.



#### UAV STRIKES ON RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS IN THE SARATOV REGION: 3 INJURED. 1 KILLED

On August 25, in the morning, the AFU carried out a massive fixed-wing UAV raid on the Saratov Region. One of the drones targeted a 40-storey residential building on the Predmostovaya Square, damaging 16 flats and injuring 4 civilians. One of the injured was delivered to hospital in critical condition. The doctors did their best to save her life, but she died in hospital a week later.



Another UAV deliberately hit a residential house on the Pushkin Street in the town of Engels.

In total, 4 private houses, a block of flats and 33 civilian cars were damaged in the region. That morning the air defence system shot down another 9 fixed-wing UAVs in the skies of the Saratov Region.



# **ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES**

Being a signatory to the Ottawa Convention banning the use of anti-personnel mines, Ukraine, nevertheless, actively used - including against civilians - tens of thousands of anti-personnel mines of various modifications and manufacturers throughout 2024.

On a regular basis, the AFU carried out remote mining of territories of the regions adjacent to the frontline, using UAVs and various types of MLRS, including Western-made ones, to plant the mines.

Throughout the year, the highest mine threat remained in the Donetsk People's Republic. During the reporting period, 27 civilians were injured in the region by the detonation of high explosive anti-personnel land mines *Lepestok*.



Anti-personnel land mines PFM-1 *Lepestok* do not have a self-destruction mechanism, so they can lie dormant for years, which in turn seriously complicates the processes of establishing peaceful life in the earlier exposed territories. This is borne out by experience.

Thus, on November 21, 2024, a civilian was injured having stepped on a *Lepestok* mine on Yuzhnogornyatskaya Street in the Kirovsky district of Donetsk, while according to the JCCC DPR, the last shelling of the Kirovsky district of Donetsk with the mines was recorded on August 11, 2022. By the end of 2024, over 20,000 *Lepestok* anti-personnel mines were defused in the special operation area.

To inflict damage on civilians, in addition to *Lepestok* mines Kiev regime's militants used M-864 anti-personnel cluster submunitions, unofficially referred to as *Bells*. A standard NATO 155 mm shell contains 6 such submunitions. After the shell bursts, only part of the *Bells* explode, the rest fall to the ground, effectively becoming mines. This type of mines cannot be cleared, the deminers have to remotely make them detonate. In 2024, the AFU used *Bells* submunitions to mine cities, towns and settlements as well as agricultural land in the LPR, DPR and the Belgorod Region.



Ukrainian armed formations also make so-called booby traps, turning small objects into explosive devices with a TNT charge. In 2024, experts have found booby-trapped mobile phones, torches, books, food and children's toys in the special operation zone. In the towns earlier held by the AFU, cases were recorded of household appliances, such as ovens, refrigerators and microwave ovens, being mined with grenades and directional mines.



It is the local civilian population, who return to their homes after the liberation of towns and the cessation of hostilities, who fall victim to such booby traps.

In the territories of the DPR, LPR, Zaporozhye and Kherson regions, the AFU also mine public roads and railway tracks. To this end, militants use improvised explosive devices with a combined target sensor: magnetic, seismic, and non-retrievable. Mining is also carried out remotely. A copter-type UAV flies into an area, located some kilometers away from the frontline, and drops such a mine on the side of a public road or on a railway track. Often these mines are disguised as shrubs and grass. This type of mines detonate when a car or a railway vehicle passes in the immediate vicinity of the explosive device. Explosion is also possible when attempting to lift or move the mine.



# AFU CRIMES ON THE TERRITORIES EARLIER HELD BY THE KIEV REGIME, UNCOVERED AFTER THE LIBERATION BY THE RUSSIAN ARMED FORCES

### **SHOOTINGS OF CIVILIANS**

As the constitutional territories of the Russian Federation were liberated from Ukrainian militants, Russian troops entering towns and cities eye-witnessed the results of mass shootings of civilians by departing AFU units. At the moment, the precise number of local residents killed by the AFU cannot yet be established. Russian law enforcement agencies have opened criminal cases and have begun to collect evidence and thoroughly investigate the circumstances of the mass killings of local residents. However, based on the testimony of already interviewed witnesses who were evacuated from the towns of Selidovo, Chasov Yar and Avdeevka in the Donetsk People's Republic and the area adjacent to the battle contact line in the Kursk Region, we can confidently speak of at least 300-350 civilians killed by Ukrainian fighters retreating from these territories.

The testimonies of civilians of the Kursk Region contain many facts of looting, forcible detention of civilians, preventing their evacuation as well as of extrajudicial executions committed by AFU fighters on the orders of their political leadership.

### **KURSK REGION**

In early August 2024, Kiev regime's militants carried out a terrorist foray to the territory of the Kursk Region. Among the crimes committed by Ukrainian armed formations are murdering and injuring civilians, violence, including sexual, against civilian population, taking hostages, using civilians as a "human shield", looting, destroying private property on the territories seized, hindering evacuation. The whole list of Kiev regime's crimes in the Kursk Region is yet to be established after the full liberation of the territories and finalisation of the necessary search and investigation procedures.

Proceeding from numerous data provided by witnesses and collected by the Russian Red Cross Kursk office, where relatives of the missing citizens applied, it can be stated that in a number of territories, controlled by Kiev regime's militants 'concentration camps' were set up, where civilians, who earlier had not wanted to or had not been able to leave the territory later captured by the enemy, were forcibly detained. For example, between 70 and 100 civilians were forcibly kept in the basement of the Sudzha Boarding School, subjected to moral violence and used for filming propaganda stories by Ukrainian and foreign journalists who illegally arrived with the militants from Ukrainian territory.

According to the testimonies of displaced residents of border districts of the Kursk Region, Ukrainian militants who raided Russian territory prevented civilians from leaving settlements amid hostilities, shot civilian transport carrying evacuees, used armoured vehicles and UAVs to attack such transport, took people hostage and led them away to unknown destinations.

#### SHOOTING OF THE KASYANOV FAMILY DURING THEIR EVACUATION FROM THE VILLAGE OF POGREBKI

Natalya Kasyanova lived in Pogrebki, Sudzha district. On August 7, her family and she left for Lgov district. In the morning of August 8, her friends called her and said it was calm and quiet in the village and they could come back. However, on the way back to her native village they ran into a Ukrainian military convoy.

Natalya gives her account: "My husband and my brother were in the car ahead of us. My nephew, my sister-in-law and I were in the other car. The distance left was about 300 meters. I saw them take a turn to our country road towards Khitrovka, and I said: "Look, there's a convoy." I saw a flag, it was red and black. Then the armoured vehicle drove to the roadside, and there was a tank there. It fired at the first car. My life flashed before my eyes. The car exploded, was thrown into the air and caught fire".

Because of the shock, Natalya did not feel that she was injured. After that, Natalya, together with her relatives who survived, walked to Ivnitza. There, locals provided her with first aid, bandaged her wounds.

The next day Natalya's brother was brought to the same hospital. He had been in the first car, the one that the tank had fired at. Unfortunately, Natalya's husband had died on the spot.



#### MASS SHOOTING OF CIVILIAN VEHICLES IN KORENEVO, KURSK REGION, BY UKRAINIAN ARMED FORMATIONS

Between August 7 and 10, AFU militants entered the village of Korenevo, Kursk Region.

To intimidate local residents, the militants took fire control over Sovkhoznaya Street that was used by the people to evacuate from the village. Positioned at the crossroads like in a shooting gallery, members of the armed formations of the Kiev regime were shooting at point-blank range at private cars in which civilians – old people, women and children – were trying to leave. According to the surviving eye-witnesses of the bloodbath, at least seven civilian vehicles carrying local residents, who were attempting to evacuate to safe areas, were riddled with bullets.

No less than 8 civilians were killed in the AFU massacre. Their bodies, according to eyewitnesses, remained in the shot vehicles on the side of the road for a lengthy period of time.







#### ATTACK ON THE CARS OF THE SAMBORSKY AND THE SERGIENKO FAMILIES DURING THE EVACUATION FROM THE SETTLEMENT OF KAZACHYA LOKNYA, KURSK REGION

On August 7, an acquaintance of Samborskaya Galina, Nikolai Sergienko, came to her and suggested evacuating from the village. They left the village in two civilian cars. The Sergienko spouses with their 93-year-old grandmother were in the first car and the Samborsky spouses were in the second one. They decided to bypass Sudzha, as by that time there had been reports of the shooting of civilian vehicles by AFU militants on the ring road and on the Sudzha-Lgov highway. However, despite the precautions, they came under attack by Ukrainian militants.

Galina recounts: "We just reached this intersection, and suddenly I saw a man in camouflage uniform standing there with a machine gun. And he fired at the car that was ahead of us, fired in one direction and then in the opposite direction – at us. He targeted us. He fired a round on them; he fired a round on us. Two civilian cars. He fired a round at the top of that car, and we were hit a little lower down. So, our car was almost entirely out of order. It got overheated every 300 meters. But finally we reached Bolshoye Soldatskoye in these small leaps.

And only then Galina discovered that she had been wounded: "My light-coloured corduroy three quarter pants of thick fabric became completely red."

Galina describes the actions of the Ukrainian thugs who shot their cars as follows: "It was a man in mid-thirties, in a light camouflage uniform, without insignia, and he was shooting, as if having fun, as if he were in a shooting gallery".



#### UKRAINIAN MILITANTS KILLING LOCAL RESIDENTS IN THE SETTLEMENT OF PLEKHANOVO, KURSK REGION

Nina Kryukova, a resident of the village of Plekhovo, Kursk region, recounted how Ukrainian militants had killed her son. After the AFU entered the village, the locals were afraid to stay in their houses and hid in the forests: "On August 25, they (Ukrainian fighters) came into the houses nearby. Three houses away from mine. There was some shooting, and the house caught fire. They reached neither my house, nor my neighbour's one. They were hindered by the locals still staying in the neighbourhood, who shouted: "What are you doing?" They got on their motorbikes and left. There were two of them".

Two days later, the surviving locals huddled together, found an undamaged abandoned house on the farm and temporarily settled there. "On the 13<sup>th</sup> my son said: "I'll go home and get something to eat from the cellar".

We had some canned food and potatoes left in the cellar. I had a premonition and told him: "Sasha, don't go". He still didn't obey: "Mum, I'll just go there and back". He left and never came back".

The next day Nina's nephew went in search of her son, hoping to find him alive: "...we went to the first house across the road. I went in, and there was Sasha lying there. He had been shot three times in the back on the right side and his head was shot through. He was lying with his hands tied. His legs were not tied".



#### MASS SHOOTING OF LOCAL RESIDENTS IN THE TOWN OF SELIDOVO, DPR, BY AFU MILITANTS

On October 29, 2024, the Russian Armed Forces liberated the town of Selidovo in the Donetsk People's Republic, which had been occupied by the Kiev regime's militants. On their retreat from the town, the Ukrainian armed formations carried out a true massacre. Several sites of mass shootings of civilians have been discovered in Selidovo. According to preliminary data, there could be dozens of places where civilians were shot by fighters of the Kiev regime and foreign mercenaries.

The formal pretext for the killings of local residents was their refusal to evacuate to the territories controlled by the Kiev regime. According to eyewitnesses, the local authorities left Selidovo long before the fighting for the town began. In addition to the authorities, police, emergency and utility services employees were also removed from the city. The actual power fell into the hands of Ukrainian armed formations with foreign mercenaries among them, which resulted in the surge of crimes against civilians.

In mid-October, the AFU leadership received information about the liberation of neighbouring settlements by the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation. Realising that the outcome of the upcoming battle for the town was predetermined, the Ukrainian military command ordered the withdrawal of the main forces from Selidovo and the shooting of local residents who refused to evacuate to Kiev-controlled territories. Starting on October 21, over several days, dozens of people were brutally killed in different parts of the town.

Petr Alekseevich recollects the details of what was going on when AFU militants were withdrawing from the town:

"There were no Russian troops yet, but dead civilians had already been lying across the town for several days. When they (the AFU) were retreating they said: "Are you waiting for the Russians? You, awaiters, you are collaborators!" And they shot down everyone they saw, 70-year-old women and everyone else, too. I saw it personally. And



there was a guy in the opposite house. His father was killed. As he went to

fetch the body, he was shot through his lung. He spent two days in excruciating pain – there was no medical aid at all – and died, too".

The *Solnechny* residential district is located in the very centre of Selidovo. It consists mostly of multi-storey residential buildings and, thus, is densely populated. In this part of Selidovo, AFU militants not only shot down the civilians they saw in the street, but also purposefully entered residential houses, broke the doors of the flats and killed everyone who had failed to hide or run away in their own homes.

Julia Nikichenko, local resident, shares:

"There was a man, he worked in the district utilities service. His family lived in the Solnechny residential district in Shorsa Street, h.19. The AFU went into five sections of the block of flats and shot people down. They did not reach the sixth section, because the Russian Army was entering the town. The AFU just did not have enough time to shoot people down in the last section of the house. The men's wife was wounded. The bullet went straight through her body".



Julia also spoke about Ukrainian thugs killing her husband:

"When the Russian Army was entering the town, the Armed Forces of Ukraine started bluntly shooting at people, killing civilians. My husband and two neighbours were killed at the doorsteps of our house. They were entering the building. One man was on his way to feed his mother. My husband was returning home after having boarded up the windows at his mother's flat, because the glass had been smashed. And all the three men were killed at the doorsteps of our house. And I saw the fourth one lying near the shop, close to School N 2. He had been shot point-blank from a machine-gun. I saw it all with my own eyes".

There were mass killings in other parts of the town, too. In a residential area on Kuznetsov Street, h.23, Ukrainian militants shot a married couple in a single-family house. A family of three was killed in a private house on Kuchurinsky Street. A body of a men with a fracture in the back of his head resulting from a blunt force trauma and a body of a woman with a bullet wound to her head were found on Karbysheva Street. A family of five was shot in the residential area, their bodies burnt by AFU militants. A man is known to have been murdered near a private house on Shevchenko Street, h.56. Bodies of two men - brothers - were found near house No 89 on Kuchurinsky Street. Two local residents were shot in a private house at the intersection of Karbyshev Street

and Kuchurinsky Street. A man was shot dead in house No 8 on Ostrovsky Street.

On Shchorsa Street, people were shot en masse in courtyards and their own flats in multi-storey residential houses No 3, 10, 12, 17, 19, 29. It is these houses and yards that account for the largest number of civilian victims. Two children, aged 4 and 2, were among those killed. According to eyewitnesses, in addition to the firing squads going round the flats, people on the street were being shot at by a sniper.

The body of a 73-year-old local resident was found on Nagornaya Street near house No 17. Two men were shot in the courtyard of house No 37 on Nagornaya Street. At the intersection of Mikhailovskaya Street and Nagornaya Street, at least 6 bodies of shot civilians were found in the yards of houses No 77 and No 29 respectively.

One of the local residents recalls foreign mercenaries shooting his fellow citizens:

"These were the Polish and those from Ukraine. Some terror squads, perhaps. I do not know what orders they were carrying out. But they were wearing similar uniforms, those who were staying here and those who were shooting. Maybe they felt that the Russian troops were coming, I do not know. Two days before the Russian Army came, the militants started killing civilians. We entered some flats and we were utterly shocked. 90-year-old women were lying dead, including my neighbour, who lived close by. They had bullet wounds to their heads and chests. My friend Kolya, who pumped water for the people, was shot through his heart. Bodies were scattered in the streets, nobody dared to take the bodies away, burry them, give them to their relatives. It was allowed to burry the dead". The AFU did not allow us to do it earlier. People were generally afraid to leave their houses".



#### AFU KILLING CIVILIANS WHO WERE TRYING TO FLEE HOSTILITIES

Using drones and barrel artillery, Ukrainian militants blocked and killed local residents trying to leave sites of hostilities and get to the territory controlled by the Russian Armed Forces. Similar episodes were recorded along the entire line of contact from the north of the Kharkov Region to the south of the DPR. Over the past six months, a number of similar crimes were committed in the vicinity of Volchansk in the Kharkov Region as well as in Chasov Yar and Selidovo in the Donetsk People's Republic.



On October 27, 2024, a group of 6 local residents attempted to evacuate from the town of Chasov Yar to the territory controlled by the Russian Armed Forces. Among them, there were elderly people – those over 60 years old. Having raised a white flag, they walked slowly towards the battle contact line. As they approached the bridge over the canal, an AFU mortar crew opened fire at the civilians, after which the group had to take refuge in the nearest empty fortified emplacement.

Servicemen of the Russian Armed Forces, who spotted the group, reached Ukrainian militants via radio communication asking them to stop firing at the civilians. The AFU categorically refused and began attacking the emplacement with FPV drones. As a result of several consequent strikes, 4 people were seriously injured, having suffered deep penetrating shrapnel wounds. Some had their limbs torn off by explosives dropped by UAVs. The survivors attempted to provide first aid, but the injured could not be saved due to the severity of the wounds inflicted.

The surviving married couple decided to move on. They tried to go from shelter to shelter because the Ukrainian militants kept hunting them with drones. The woman sustained a shrapnel injury as a result of one of the strikes. Despite the ongoing attacks, the spouses managed to reach the Seversky Donetz canal and hid under the blocks of a ruined bridge. Ukrainian UAV operators lost sight of them. Several hours later an evacuation group of the Russian Armed Forces took the family to a safe place, where they were provided all the necessary assistance.

Eduard Gorbatenko, one of the surviving couple, recalls:

"There were about 50 meters left (before the bridge) when they started to fire at us from automatic rifles and mortars. We got into a fortified emplacement. We stayed there, then the AFU started to drop explosives on us from UAVs. My neighbour had his fingers ripped off his hand by an explosion. And while we were attending to his wounds, they struck again, dropping something from a UAV. The impact tore off my neighbours head. And Oleg, he was thrown against the wall, sat there faceless. He had no face left at all. Luba's foot was blown off. My wife and I decided to run over to some other shelter. We ran up to the bridge about 50-100 meters away, went down, crossed the canal and hid under some slabs. Apparently, they caught sight of us. They started to drop explosives on us again. We ran further up and again hid under a slab. And they didn't see us. We sat there until dark and finally heard somebody speaking Russian. We called out, they (members of the Russian Armed Forces) came down to us, pulled us out of there, brought us back with them, fed us, treated our wounds and put us to bed... As of the fortified emplacement, where we had been hiding, no one survived there".



A similar situation occurred in Dzerzhinsk, DPR, when local residents organised themselves into a group of six and attempted to leave the area of urban fighting and get to the forward positions of the Russian Armed Forces. They decided to undertake such a dangerous step because of the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation and the 'hunt' after local residents unleashed by the Ukrainian Armed Forces.



Yury Minyajlo, a resident of Dzerzhinsk, spoke about the situation in the town and the actions of the Ukrainian militants regarding the civilian population:

"It was very hard for us to get out of Dzerzhinsk. The AFU were shelling houses, trying to shoot civilians. You couldn't even get water. <...> When the fight for the town started, they knew that there were civilians in the cellar and tried to set it on fire. They were shooting tracers at houses so that the houses would catch fire. They threw smoke bombs so that people would run out for them to shoot".

The rapidly deteriorating situation forced people to go through the terrors of urban fighting in order to escape. During the evacuation the group of civilians was attacked by Ukrainian militants. Only two people managed to survive.

"It was extremely dangerous. There were drones in the sky, they dropped explosives, there was shooting and mortar fire. There were only two of us left. There were six of us trying to escape and only two managed to. Four were killed. They were injured by a mortar strike and the drones killed them by dropping explosives. They (the AFU) saw that these were civilians carrying bags. There was an elderly woman carrying bags and a man who could hardly walk, too. They (the Ukrainian militants) finished off the wounded".

In mid-August in Volchansk, Kharkov Region, two local residents painted on the roof of a house "SOS. We need medical help. Where to go, where to look for it". Russian Armed Forces reconnaissance unit found the message and sent the people a drone with a first aid kit and clean water, and attached a note: 'Follow the copter. We will lead you to a safe place". Two locals put on white T-shirts and followed a Russian Armed Forces drone that was showing them a safe way.

The men were walking slowly because one of them was seriously injured. In an urban area they were detected and attacked by Ukrainian drone operators. As a result of targeted drops of explosive ordnances from Ukrainian UAVs, both civilians were killed.



# CRIMES OF THE KIEV REGIME AGAINST THE ORTHODOX CHURCH

On August 24, 2024, V.Zelensky signed a law creating an intra-Ukrainian pseudo-legal mechanism to make the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (UOC) illegal.

The law was finalised in August 2024 when the text of the document was supplemented with the following paragraph:

For the protection of public security and order, the activity of religious organisations, which directly or as a constituent part of another religious organisation are part of a religious organisation, the centre of management of which is located outside Ukraine in a state that is recognised by law as having carried out aggression against Ukraine or having temporarily occupied part of the territory of Ukraine, shall be prohibited.

This wording of the law can only be interpreted as a de facto ban on the UOC. Enshrined in the legislation, persecution of the canonical Orthodox Church will allow the mechanism of persecution of both clergy and parishioners of the largest religious organisation in Ukraine to be fully launched, legalising the seizure of land, buildings and the looting of property, which is clearly a serious violation of the international law and universal norms.

While the scandalous bill was still being drafted, the Kiev regime, in particular the Security Service of Ukraine and a number of other security agencies, regularly raided churches and cathedrals of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. There were cases of detaining clergy, parishioners and journalists who spoke about repression of the Orthodox Church, as well as of the use of force against both clergy and journalists.

In March 2024, the Security Service of Ukraine carried out an act of intimidation against the editorial office of the Union of Orthodox Journalists. Without charges, the Security Service employees searched the office of the editorial board. Some journalists were detained and computers and mobile phones were seized.

Investigation of the fabricated case lasted more than six months. The Security Service of Ukraine brought charges against the detained journalists, claiming facts were revealed of "illegal activities of the agent network, which performed acts of information sabotage on the order of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation".



One of the episodes of the ideological war against the canonical Orthodox Church was the 'dismantling' of the Vladimir-Olginsky Chapel of the Desyatinny Monastery. In the night of May 17, 2024, it was demolished in accordance with the court decision on the alleged illegality of the building. The Chapel is of special value for parishioners as it was on this very site that the first stone Orthodox church was built under Prince Vladimir more than a thousand years ago.

In addition to the state repressive mechanism represented by the Security Service of Ukraine and schismatics from the Orthodox Church of Ukraine (OCU), civilian "parishioners", consisting of radical nationalists and militants determined to openly rob churches of their property, often take part in the acts of intimidation.

In September 2024, there was a significant increase in the number of seizures of Orthodox churches. The raids became extremely aggressive. In October, supporters of the OCU, accompanied by people in unmarked military uniforms, attacked the Archangel Michael Church in Cherkassy. Armed men burst into the church during the service and brutally assaulted parishioners. The attackers

were armed with truncheons, flash-bang grenades, and some of them had firearms or traumatic weapons.



In 2024, schismatics from the OCU, supported by the Security Service of Ukraine, seized at least 30 churches of the canonical Orthodox Church. The holy sites of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church that have been seized are often blatantly desecrated. Thus, a laundry was organised in one of such churches in Lutsk. In November, OCU schismatics set up a cinema in the seized Transfiguration Cathedral in Chernigov. Beforehand, they had stolen all the icons for further sale.

After the signing of the law banning the canonical UOC, in addition to the seizure of its churches, there has been an increase in the number of arsons.



On September 26, an arson was committed in the village of Starye Koshary in the Volyn Region. A church, being built by the Vladimir-Volyn diocese of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church to substitute for the one seized by the OCU, was set on fire. The rector of the parish, Archpriest Andrej Khomich, said that the suspected arsonist had been threatening priests and members of the UOC community for a long time.



Another episode took place on September 4. An OCU supporter set fire to the Svyato-Pokrovsky Church of the UOC using a tank of petrol. As a result of the arson, the building and all the property of the church were completely destroyed. The Ukrainian court sentenced the arsonist to 60 days of house arrest.

The Kiev regime seeks to harm the canonical Orthodox Church not only on the Ukrainian territory under the regime's control, but also strives to target and destroy churches on the territory of the Russian Federation.

One of the illustrative cases of the Kiev regime's crimes against the Orthodox Church are the events that unfolded in the Gornal monastery during the terrorist attack of Ukrainian armed formations on the territory of the Kursk Region.

The Gornal Monastery, located in the border area of the Kursk Region, has sustained serious damage as a result of numerous Ukrainian shellings. AFU strikes have left holes in the Church, walls of the Sunday schools and the outbuildings. The clergy decided to evacuate when Ukrainian militants had already entered the precinct. AFU militants stopped the column of civilian vehicles on the highway to perform a humiliating "inspection". During the "inspection", the thugs took away valuables and cell phones from civilians. Reassured that the cars transported the clergy, elderly female parishioners and a disabled man who lived at the Monastery, the militants hypocritically let the cars proceed, but then opened small arms fire on the vehicles.

Sergey, monastery worker who had a group II disability, was shot. He had been helping out at the monastery for the past few years. Sergey covered two elderly persons with his body. The bullet hit the young man's upper body, puncturing his lung. He died on the way to hospital.



Churches located in the special operation zone and border regions are most at risk of being attacked. In the DPR and the Belgorod Region, dozens of cases were recorded of the AFU targeting religious sites. The deliberate nature of the strikes is confirmed by the weapons of choice that exclude the possibility of a target selection error.

On September 3, in the morning, Ukrainian FPV drones attacked the Church of St.Nicholas in the settlement of Gruzskoye, Borisovsky District of the Belgorod Region. One of the UAVs hit the dome and set it on fire. The interior of the church was destroyed by flames.





Some churches are subjected to AFU shelling on a regular basis with dozens of killed and injured civilians. One of them is the Holy Dormition Female Monastery in the settlement of Nikolskoye, DPR.

Since February 2022, the battle contact line was in close proximity to the monastery. The AFU's forward positions were less than 7 km away. The churches of the monastery were shelled from almost all types of weapons available to the enemy. Kiev regime's militants organised a competition to knock down a cross from the dome of the Dormition Cathedral. The shelling stopped only in November 2024 after the liberation of the town of Ugledar by the Russian Armed Forces.

Hegumeness Anna, Abbess of the Holy Dormition Nikolo-Vasilievsky Female Monastery, spoke about multiple targeted artillery shelling of the monastery by the AFU. Clerics, parishioners and local residents were injured and killed as the result of Ukrainian strikes: "We saw from where we were shelled. It was from Ugledar. Ugledar was under Ukrainian control, held by the Armed Forces of Ukraine. It is 5 km away from us. There are two mines in Ugledar – the 1st mine and the 3rd one. There is a high shaft at the first mine and they have cameras on top. So that they could see perfectly well where they shot. They were deliberately targeting us. We used to hope they might have made a mistake. Put when they were forced to retreat, the shelling of the monastery stopped instantly. I mean, they saw where they were shooting".

