

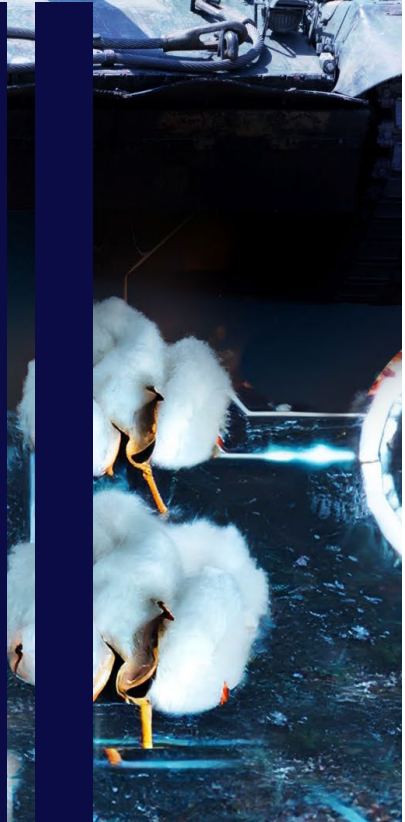


PRIMER

on the Ukrainian National Security Structure

Recent defense news from Ukraine

In partnership with **KSE** | Kyiv School of Economics



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Summary

This document provides an overview of Ukraine's national security structure. As Ukraine is in its third year of Russia's full-scale invasion, it is intended to serve as a historical primer and to provide recent information on this important topic. This report is not intended to be a comprehensive look at the Ukrainian national security apparatus, which is a complex tapestry that spans the Ukrainian government and is currently fighting a full-fledged war that Russia started in 2014.

This report provides an overview and recent news about how Ukraine has focused on improving its defense capabilities through modernization efforts, anti-corruption initiatives, international partnerships, investment, and defense technology innovations, such as significant advances in drone warfare and cybersecurity.

The Ukrainian defense sector also faces several critical gaps and needs, encompassing equipment and ammunition shortages, particularly in air defense, armored mobility, artillery, and drones. A strategic goal is to achieve self-sufficiency and scale up the defense industrial capacity to reduce reliance on foreign military assistance.

Key areas of focus also include innovation and modernization of defense technologies, improving cybersecurity protection of critical infrastructure, securing financing to leverage the existing capacity of the defense industrial base, attracting foreign direct investment, and enhancing the ability to export Ukrainian-produced defense goods beyond local requirements. Additionally, there is a pressing need for intensified research and development efforts and workforce development to support the evolving demands of the defense sector.



Introduction



The situation in Ukraine as of 2024 remains profoundly affected by the ongoing war, which has had far-reaching consequences on both the humanitarian front and the country's economic landscape. The war, started in 2014 and continued by Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022, has led to significant civilian casualties, widespread displacement, and severe destruction of infrastructure.

The war has inflicted immense human suffering and destruction, leading to over 30,000 civilian casualties, confirmed civilian casualties since February 2022. In Russian-occupied cities like Mariupol, it is impossible to confirm the actual number of civilians killed and wounded.



As of March 2024, millions of people inside Ukraine require humanitarian assistance, [with 4.9 million internally displaced persons \(IDPs\)](#) and created [over 6 million Ukrainian refugees](#).

The international community and humanitarian organizations continue to respond to the crisis, focusing on providing essential services and support to affected populations.

Despite the devastating impact of the war, Ukraine has demonstrated remarkable resilience.

The [State Statistic Service of Ukraine has estimated](#) that the country's GDP growth in 2023 at 5.3%, buoyed by improved access to electricity, a better harvest, and increased government spending. Social support remains crucial for the vulnerable households, with pensions and social assistance constituting a significant part of income for the poorest segments of the population. Schools and health clinics have largely remained operational, and businesses have adapted to the challenging conditions.

Introduction

The war has not only caused staggering losses to Ukraine's people and economy, setting back development gains in the last 15 years and increasing poverty, but it has also had profound repercussions for the global economy.

 **\$41 billion**

The international response has included substantial donor support, with the World Bank mobilizing more than \$41 billion in commitments and pledges for Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction efforts.

 **\$480 billion**

The Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (RDNA3) estimates that the cost of reconstruction and recovery will exceed \$480 billion over the next decade.

 **\$155 billion**

[According to the Kyiv School of Economics,](#) over \$155 billion worth of damage has been done to Ukraine's infrastructure.

As the war persists, the need for a comprehensive recovery strategy becomes increasingly pressing. The Ukrainian government, with support from its international partners, is focusing on critical areas such as housing, transport, commerce, industry, agriculture, energy, and social protection. Efforts to attract private sector investment and reforms to improve the investment climate are seen as vital for the country's long-term recovery and development.

The situation in Ukraine highlights the complex interplay between humanitarian needs and economic recovery efforts in conflict-affected areas. As the country navigates its path towards recovery, the resilience of its people and the continued support from the international community will be key to overcoming the challenges posed by the ongoing war.



National Security Strategic Considerations

ESCALATING RECONSTRUCTION COSTS IN UKRAINE



Financial Challenge:

The costs of Ukraine's reconstruction highlight an escalating financial challenge, necessitating global support.

Housing Priority:

With housing as a top priority, there's an urgent need for stable living conditions, emphasizing the human aspect of reconstruction.

Debris and Demolition Costs:

Enormous resources will be required for debris removal and demolition underlines the extensive physical damage to be addressed.

Funding Shortfall:

Shortfalls in domestic and military spending points to an urgent gap in resources that will require international aid and innovative financing solutions.

STRATEGIC MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

NATO Ambitions:

Ukraine's defense reforms and ambitions for NATO membership indicate a strategic pivot towards aligning with Western military standards and practices.

Infrastructure Enhancement:

Ukraine is in the middle of developing a substantial defensive line, cybersecurity enhancements, and undergoing changes in its military leadership.



Modernization Efforts:

Investments in cybersecurity, drone technology, and modern warfare capabilities reflect a comprehensive approach to bolstering defense.

INNOVATIONS IN DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY

Domestic Innovation:

Initiatives such as the "[Army of Drones](#)" and "[People's FPV](#)" projects, as well as the development of naval drones (e.g. Magura V5), unmanned ground vehicles (UGVs), and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), demonstrate significant advances in domestic defense technology innovation.

Technological Advancement:

Emphasis on unmanned aerial vehicles, counter drone technology (CUAS), electronic warfare, and new military equipment showcases Ukraine's commitment to leveraging technology for defense and strategic advantage.



International Partnerships:

Collaborations for technology transfer and joint ventures in weapon production aim to modernize Ukraine's defense capabilities, to better adhere to NATO standards compatibility.

Economic and Venture Capital Initiatives



Venture Capital for Defense:

The creation of Ukrainian and international venture funds and the issuance of military bonds represent innovative financial mechanisms to support the defense sector and stimulate economic growth.



Economic Growth Strategies:

Projects aimed at increasing domestic production and developing strategic logistics hubs are crucial for economic resilience and strategic autonomy.



Support for Startups:

The government's encouragement of tech startups, particularly in defense and security technologies through initiatives like Brave1, indicates a focus on fostering innovation and self-reliance.



Historical Development of the Ukrainian Military

**1991-
2014:**

Establishment and Early Development

Between 1991 and 2014, Ukraine, after gaining its independence from the USSR, faced the challenge of transitioning from being a part of the Soviet Union to establishing its own defense capabilities. Although the country inherited significant military assets, such as the Mykolaiv shipyards capable of accommodating an aircraft carrier and key aerospace companies like Pivdenne and the Antonov company (famous for the An-225 Mriya, the world's largest cargo plane), the lack of perceived threats and influence from Russia, led to policies that did not prioritize military spending.

The initial post-independence period also saw Ukraine adopting a policy of neutrality and disarmament, including the removal of all nuclear weapons from its territory under conditions of the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances and other non-proliferation agreements.

From 1997 to 2013, Ukraine continued to develop its Armed Forces while reducing personnel numbers and implementing reforms to enhance defense effectiveness. This included adopting the State Program for the construction and development of the AFU and transitioning to a tri-service structure. However, these years were also marked by significant challenges, including reducing the military's capabilities and a notable decline in defense spending. By 2013, the personnel strength of the AFU had diminished significantly from earlier periods. This period saw a period of downsizing, particularly evident during the presidency of Viktor Yanukovich.



Historical Development of the Ukrainian Military

Moreover, the Ukrainian defense sector struggled due to insufficient funding and the absence of a substantial domestic market for its products, as the country faced a period of economic difficulty and transition. This situation led to a reliance on exports to keep the defense industry afloat. The limited budget also led to a "brain drain," with many educated and skilled engineers leaving the defense sector for better opportunities elsewhere, further challenging the development of the industry.



These challenges persisted until the political and military upheaval in 2014, which would redefine Ukraine's defense needs and priorities, ultimately leading to a large shift in defense policy and a renewed focus on military development and spending.

The onset of Russian aggression in the Donbas in April 2014, the illegal annexation of Crimea, and the initiation of the Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO), later renamed the Joint Forces Operation (JFO), marked a turning point for Ukraine. In response to the armed conflict in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the AFU underwent sweeping changes and modernization, including the comprehensive relocation of the Naval Forces to Odesa and their organizational reform.

Historical Development of the Ukrainian Military

**2014-
2022:**

War and Reform

The annexation of Crimea and the war in the Donbas catalyzed a revival of Ukraine's defense capabilities. There was a notable shift from export-oriented production to fulfilling the needs of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, as seen with the acquisition of T-64 tanks and BTR-3 APCs. However, the industry had to navigate the loss of Russian partners and find new suppliers amidst trade disruptions. Despite these challenges, companies like the Luch Design Bureau were able to innovate, creating the Neptune missile—a symbol of Ukrainian resilience and capability.

The Maidan Revolution sparked a movement for change in the security sector, with reforms aiming at aligning Ukraine with Euro-Atlantic standards. This involved clarifying roles within the defense institutions, improving coordination and transparency, and strengthening the Ministry of Defense. The Minsk Protocol and the Minsk Memorandum signed in September 2014 and the Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Protocol signed in February 2015 were measures aimed at ending the war in the Donbas, however, hostilities continued. After Minsk II in 2015, the most intense battles ceased, and OSCE monitors were deployed. Prior to the Russian full-scale invasion in February 2022, the OSCE

conducted patrols along the frontlines and documented ceasefire breaches at the border. Furthermore, 2015 was characterized by intensive reforms and the participation of Ukrainian military personnel in international missions, reinforcing the strategic direction towards European integration and NATO membership, with the Russian Federation identified as the primary threat. From 2016 to 2021, continued reforms enhanced combat readiness and material support for the Armed Forces. Implementing a civil-military cooperation system, providing social guarantees for military personnel and their families, and increasing monetary allowances from January 1, 2016, were notable steps towards improving the defense sector.

Historical Development of the Ukrainian Military

The creation of Special Operations Forces and the involvement of NATO and EU instructors in training the Ukrainian military increased the army's combat readiness.

Efforts to tackle corruption have been a critical aspect of recent reforms. The Ukrainian government has worked with the robust NGO community to address this issue, particularly in the defense industrial base (DIB). Initiatives have included anti-corruption drives, open competitions for executive positions, and increased NGO oversight of procurement processes.

U.S. and European security assistance played a role in enhancing Ukraine's military effectiveness during this period, contributing to institutional strengthening alongside Ukraine's own reform efforts.



Historical Development of the Ukrainian Military

**2022-
2024:**

Innovation and Current Challenges

In recent years, Ukraine's defense sector has embraced innovation, with teams winning competitions in the NATO TIDE Hackathon. Ukraine has also worked on establishing a military tech cluster, indicating a focus on cybersecurity and defense technologies. Initiatives such as the Ukrainian Startup Fund and the development of drones with direct battlefield experience underline a drive towards strengthening national defense capabilities through technology.



Ukraine has pursued greater self-reliance and integration with American and European partners in the defense industry. The establishment of the defense alliance groups and the hosting of international defense forums in Ukraine have led to numerous agreements and partnerships for joint weapon production, including drones, military vehicle repairs, and armored vehicles.

Despite these efforts, mass production of Ukrainian-developed weapons has yet to realize its full potential. During this time of war, investment, including direct foreign investment in Ukrainian enterprises and the construction of manufacturing facilities in less vulnerable regions, is still urgently needed. Some international groups have pursued strategies to produce and maintain weapons in Ukraine, which could provide a model for further international collaboration.

Historical Development of the Ukrainian Military

The Ukrainian government also launched [Brave1](#), a defense technology cluster and a centralized coordination platform designed to enhance collaboration among all entities involved in the defense tech industry. Brave1 provides organizational, informational, and financial support to facilitate defense technology projects throughout Ukraine. Brave1 aims to build partnerships and cooperation between public and private sectors, offering access to a variety of events such as pitches, demo days hackathons, and meetups.



The war led to sweeping changes in Ukraine's defense policy and military capabilities, as the country was forced to modernize its armed forces rapidly, leading to increased local production and procurement of military equipment, as well as reform across national security and defense institutions.

BRAVE¹

 **UKRAINIAN DEFENSE
INNOVATIONS**

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL SECURITY STRUCTURE

In Ukraine's governance and security structure, the President of Ukraine holds a pivotal role as the head of state and the highest-ranking official in the executive branch. The President oversees national security matters, including command over the armed forces, and conduct foreign policy. Ukraine also has a National Security and Defense Council, which is a governmental body tasked with formulating and coordinating policies related to national security and defense.

UKRAINIAN MILITARY STRUCTURE:

At the apex of the hierarchy of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) is the High Command of the AFU, which is responsible for strategic leadership and defense policy development. The General Staff of the AFU is a management body that coordinates the different types of forces: Land Forces, Air Force, and Navy.

In addition, the AFU has specialized units such as the Joint Forces Command, Airborne Assault Troops, Special Operations Forces, and the Territorial Defense Forces. The AFU has a Logistics Force, Military Communications and Cybersecurity, and Medical Forces.

GROUND FORCES



The largest component of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, responsible for land-based military operations. This branch conducts a range of operations including defensive, offensive, and peacekeeping missions. It's organized into mechanized, aviation, armored, artillery, and missile units, among others.

AIR FORCE



Provides air defense and air support to ground forces, as well as independent air operations. The Air Force operates a variety of aircraft, including fighters, bombers, transport planes, and drones, and is responsible for protecting Ukrainian airspace, including through the use of Surface-to-air missiles (SAMs).

NAVY



Conducts naval operations to protect Ukraine's territorial waters and maritime interests. The Navy operates several surface ships and boats, as well as naval aviation and marine infantry units, focusing on coastal defense, reconnaissance, joint military operations, and anti-shiping operations.

NATIONAL GUARD OF UKRAINE



While not part of the AFU, the National Guard is a military and law enforcement force that operates under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The National Guard is responsible for internal security, public order, counterterrorism, and offense and defense operations alongside the Armed Forces. The National Guard also has special forces units, such as Omega.

STATE BORDER GUARD SERVICE OF UKRAINE:



Also not part of the AFU, during the full-scale war, the Border Guards of Ukraine have been deployed to support and lead combat missions against Russia. The Border Guards also contain Ukraine's coast guard service, which is called the Ukrainian Sea Guard.

Ukrainian Intelligence Community

The Main Directorate of Intelligence of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine

The Main Directorate of Intelligence of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine (HUR), also known as the Defense Intelligence of Ukraine (DIU), is a cornerstone of the nation's military intelligence apparatus. Established in 1992, following Ukraine's independence, HUR emerged from officers with prior experience in Soviet intelligence units on Ukrainian soil.

A military intelligence service that operates under the Ministry of Defense. It specializes in military espionage, reconnaissance, and gathering information critical to national defense. GUR plays a key role in understanding foreign military threats and capabilities.

Today, HUR coordinates intelligence activities, analyzes external threats, and collaborates extensively within the Ukrainian intelligence community. Its structure encompasses specialized departments and units for defense, military construction, military-technical, and cyber security intelligence.

THE SECURITY SERVICE OF UKRAINE



The Security Service of Ukraine (SSU), also known as the SBU, established on March 25, 1992, is the nation's principal security agency, tasked with counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and combating organized crime. The SSU plays a crucial role in national security, especially in areas related to state secrets and the counteraction of espionage. The service has both domestic and external espionage mandates.

Tasked with a broad range of responsibilities, the SSU engages in counterintelligence, counterterrorism, cyber security, combating corruption, and organized crime. It has developed specialized units, including a military counterintelligence sector, a unit dedicated to protecting statehood, and a special forces unit called "Alpha Group".

The reform initiated in 2019 aims to modernize the SSU, emphasizing enhancing its counterintelligence capabilities and cyber security measures, reflecting a strategic pivot towards addressing contemporary security challenges. This reform is also part of a broader effort to align the SSU's functions with European and Euro-Atlantic standards, ensuring the SSU remains a pivotal element in the national and international security landscape.

THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OF UKRAINE

The Foreign Intelligence Service of Ukraine (FISU) operates as an autonomous state entity, gathering intelligence across various domains, including political, economic, military-technical, scientific-technical, informational, and ecological spheres. FISU's structure encompasses various units dedicated to HUMINT, SIGINT, technical operations, analysis, and internal security.



Ukrainian Defense Industry

GAPS AND NEEDS OF THE UKRAINIAN DEFENSE SECTOR

Equipment and Ammunition

There is a pressing need for comprehensive upgrades and replenishments across various domains, including air defense systems, armored mobility solutions, artillery, and drones. These enhancements are crucial for maintaining operational readiness and effectiveness.

Self-Sufficiency and Scale

Ukraine is focused on reducing its dependence on foreign military assistance. This involves expanding its defense industrial base to increase the production of essential military equipment and supplies domestically, thereby enhancing its self-reliance.

Innovation and Modernization

Ukraine requires significant investment in innovation and the modernization of existing defense technologies and platforms. This includes adopting new technologies and improving the capabilities of current systems to meet modern warfare demands. Cybersecurity protection of critical infrastructure is also a priority innovation need.

Financing to Leverage Remaining Capacity of the Defense Industrial Base

Leveraging the remaining capacity of the Ukrainian defense industrial base necessitates substantial financial investment. This includes funding for upgrading facilities, procuring materials, and supporting the development of new defense products.

Ukrainian Defense Industry

GAPS AND NEEDS OF THE UKRAINIAN DEFENSE SECTOR

Foreign Direct Investment

Attracting FDI is seen as a vital component for the growth and modernization of Ukraine's defense industry. Such investments can bring in capital, technology, and expertise, facilitating the development of advanced military technologies and systems.

Ability to Export Ukrainian-Produced Defense Goods that Exceed Local Requirements

Enhancing the ability to export Ukrainian-produced defense goods that exceed local requirements is essential for the sustainability of the defense sector. This not only supports the industry financially but also will help integrate Ukraine more closely with global defense markets.

Research and Development

There is an enormous need for increased investment in R&D to foster innovation within the defense sector. This includes developing new technologies, improving existing systems, and ensuring that Ukrainian defense capabilities remain at the forefront of technological advancements. There is also a need to apply lessons learned from the battlefield to provide effective training and updates to tactics and strategy.

Defense Industrial Workforce Development

Developing a skilled defense industrial workforce is critical for the Ukrainian defense sector's growth and innovation. This involves training and retaining engineers, technicians, and other professionals essential for the design, development, and production of advanced military technologies and systems.

DRONE COMPANIES TO WATCH

- **A. Drones**
- **AERODRONE**
- **Aerorozvidka**
- **Athlon Avia**
- **Defender**
- **DeViRo**
- **Drone UA**
- **MARSS**
- **Nebesna Kara**
- **Skyeton**
- **SkyLab UA**
- **Skynetua**
- **SPE UKRJET**
- **Temerland**
- **Terminal Autonomy**
- **UA DYNAMICS**
- **UAV Solutions**
- **UAVVision**
- **UkrspecSystems**



General Defense News



[Link to more information.](#)

CZECH DEFENSE FIRM IN TALKS TO MANUFACTURE AMMUNITION IN UKRAINE

The Czechoslovak Group (CSG) is negotiating with Ukrainian entities to establish joint ventures for ammunition production, aiming to start within three years with an investment of hundreds of millions of euros.

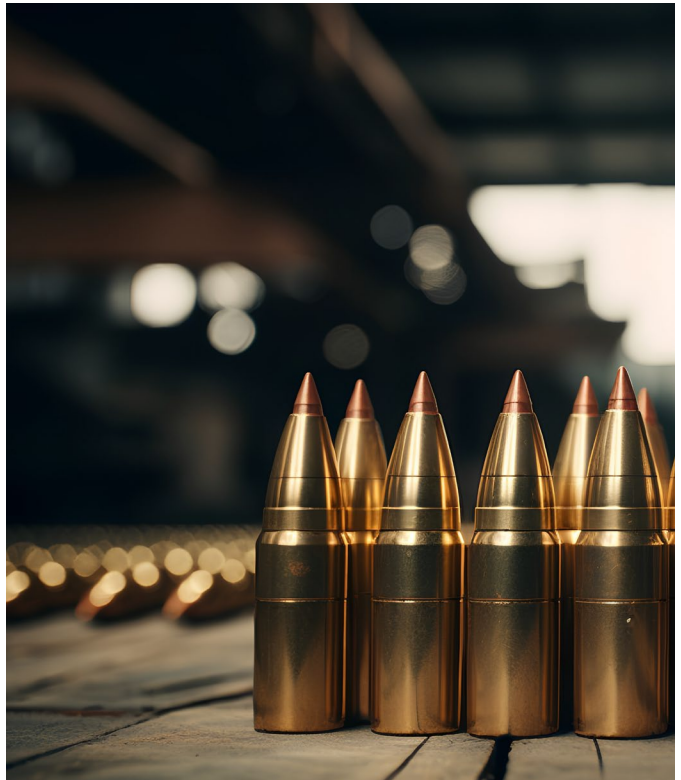
This initiative, supported by the Czech Ministry of Defense, seeks to bolster Ukraine's defense industry amidst the ammunition shortage.

[Link to more information.](#)

PENTAGON HIGHLIGHTS ESCALATING THREAT TO UKRAINE DUE TO DELAYS IN U.S. ASSISTANCE

Pentagon official Major General Patrick Ryder highlighted the increasing risk of failure for Ukraine due to delays in U.S. aid. This lack of funds is affecting the battlefield, where Ukrainian forces face deteriorating conditions and a critical shortage of artillery ammunition. Despite these challenges,

Ryder commended the Ukrainian military's resilience and determination to hold their ground against Russian advances, emphasizing ongoing efforts to support Ukraine and prevent further Russian territorial gains.



General Defense News

STRENGTHENING DEFENSES: UKRAINE'S AMBITIOUS TASK

During a Supreme Command Staff meeting on March 11, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy discussed front-line situations and fortifications. Key military figures, including Chief of General Staff Anatoliy Bargilevich, reported on various operational directions and armament supplies.

A notable focus was the construction of a triple-layer defense line spanning 2000 kilometers, a vast and crucial endeavor. Zelenskyy expressed satisfaction with the current pace, emphasizing the importance of timely completion.

[Link to more information.](#)

APPOINTMENT OF FORMER CINC GENERAL ZALUZHNY AS AMBASSADOR TO THE UK

The process for appointing General Valeriy Zaluzhny as Ambassador to the UK has commenced. President Zelenskyy approved Zaluzhny's candidacy earlier. The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has forwarded the request for agreement to the British side. Zelenskyy dismissed Zaluzhny as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in February 2024, appointing General Oleksandr Syrskyi in his place. Zelenskyy awarded Zaluzhny the title of Hero of Ukraine on February 9.

[Link to more information.](#)



General Defense News



ENHANCING GOVERNANCE IN UKRAINE'S DEFENSE

The seminar "Integrity Building Project in the Defense Sector of Ukraine for 2024-2027" held in Braşov, Romania, featured detailed exchanges on implementing standards for integrity within the defense sector through effective legal frameworks and procedures aimed at minimizing corruption. Ukrainian representatives from the National Agency

on Corruption Prevention, Ministry of Defense, and other institutions engaged in bilateral meetings, solidifying a collaborative action plan. This plan focuses on anti-corruption mechanisms, managing military personnel policies, and ensuring proper governance in defense procurement.

[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINE'S MILITARY LEADERSHIP CHANGE

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy replaced General Valeriy Zaluzhny with General Colonel Oleksandr Syrskyi as Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Zelenskyy highlighted the need for urgent reforms in the army, citing regained air control but limited land progress in 2023. He advocated for innovative mobilization and rotational systems to enhance military effectiveness.

[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINE ENHANCES FRONTLINE STRATEGY WITH SOLDIER ROTATIONS

Chief of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, General Colonel Oleksandr Syrskyi, announced the commencement of rotations and replacements for long-serving frontline units, aiming to stabilize the situation and boost soldier morale. His statement on Facebook reflects a strategic move to refresh combat forces amid challenging conditions. Syrskyi's recent visit to the Zaporizhzhia front led to pivotal decisions to strengthen brigade combat capabilities, signaling a proactive approach to maintaining Ukraine's defensive posture and the well-being of its troops.

[Link to more information.](#)

General Defense News



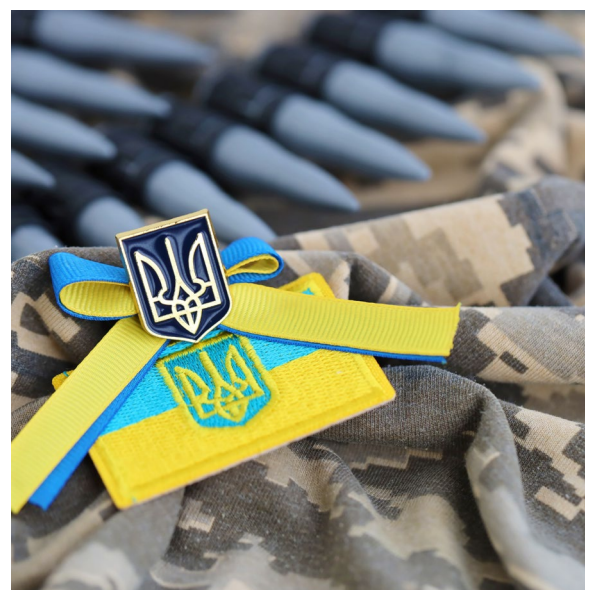
KEY REFORMS AND NATO INTEGRATION PATH FOR UKRAINE

In November 2023, at the first Ukraine-NATO Council meeting, Ukraine was guided on essential reforms for NATO integration, covering security, defense, and political-economic aspects. The 2024 National Annual Program, focusing on energy security, innovation, and NATO compatibility, mandates digital reforms and legislative overhauls, including anti-corruption measures in military procurement. Despite no guaranteed timeline for accession, these steps align Ukraine closer to NATO standards, emphasizing the strategic shift from Soviet-era armaments to full operational compatibility with NATO forces, under close monitoring by alliance member states.

[Link to more information.](#)

DRAFT MOBILIZATION LAW RETURNED FOR REVISION

The Ukrainian parliament deferred a draft mobilization law for further development after a closed session with parliamentary committee heads, the Armed Forces' Commander-in-Chief, the Defense Minister, and the Chief of the General Staff. Speaker Ruslan Stefanchuk highlighted that the reviewing Committee on National Security, Defense, and Intelligence proposed several amendments and recommendations. These have been sent to the Cabinet of Ministers, representing a unified stance among political factions, government officials, and military leaders on refining the mobilization legislation..



[Link to more information.](#)

General Defense News

UKRAINE'S PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM: TOWARDS EU STANDARDS IN 2024

In 2024, Ukraine is set to implement public administration reform, introducing a new salary system for civil servants based on job classification. The reform aims to make the compensation structure more transparent and performance-oriented, aligning with European Union standards. Salaries will consist of a 70% base pay and a 30% bonus, incentivizing efficiency and excellence in the public sector.

[Link to more information.](#)

MINISTRY OF DEFENSE APPROVES NEW FEMALE BODY ARMOR MODEL

The Ukrainian Ministry of Defense has approved a new model of body armor tailored for female service members, featuring damping pads for an adjustable fit and a special groin-protecting pouch. Designed to match the ballistic standards of men's body armor, this innovation underwent extensive three-month testing for comfort and performance. With over 40,000 women serving in the Armed Forces, Deputy Minister Vitaliy Polovenko emphasized the importance of this advancement in ensuring the safety of female personnel, particularly those in frontline positions.

[Link to more information.](#)

UKRAINE-NATO COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS DEFENSE INTEGRATION

In the February 2024 Ukraine-NATO Council meeting, Defense Minister Rustem Umerov spotlighted Ukraine's defense reforms aimed at NATO integration. Advocating for a robust defense-industrial base through partnerships with NATO countries, Umerov underscored interoperability's role in enhancing collective defense. The upcoming Washington Summit was framed as pivotal for Ukraine's membership path, with gratitude extended towards allies for new military aid and support commitments. The meeting concluded with plans to establish the NATO-Ukraine Joint Analysis, Training, and Education Centre (JATEC), fostering closer Ukraine-NATO collaboration.

[Link to more information.](#)



General Defense News

UKRAINIAN ARMY DIGITALIZATION LAW ENACTED

On January 16, 2024, the Ukrainian Parliament passed Bill No. 10062 to update the military conscription data system, enabling online services for combat status acquisition. Despite constitutional concerns over personal data handling without consent, the law aims to modernize military data management and streamline processes.

KEY FEATURES:

"Obereg" register expansion will include comprehensive personal and military data.

Automatic online registration for combatant status.

Data storage on foreign cloud servers with a \$100 million maintenance budget sparks national security and privacy debates.

The law marks a move towards digitizing military services amidst discussions on its implications for data protection and national security.

[Link to more information.](#)



Ukrainian Defense Industrial Base News

UK FIRM TO RESUME M777 HOWITZER PARTS PRODUCTION FOR UKRAINE

BAE Systems, a British defense company, announced plans to restart production of parts for the M777 howitzer, in response to intensified use in Ukraine and renewed demand.

The last order was made five years ago, but recent engagements have spurred interest from at least eight countries seeking to purchase the artillery. Ukraine, having more M777s than any other army, benefits from its accuracy and mobility, especially in challenging terrains. The M777's simplicity aids in operation and maintenance, crucial for quick adaptation by Ukrainian crews. This move is part of broader efforts to support Ukraine amidst ongoing conflicts.

[Link to more information.](#)



UKROBORONPROM MOVES FORWARD WITH CORPORATE CHANGES

Ukroboronprom, a key player in Ukraine's defense industry, has recently turned five of its enterprises into limited liability companies, making a total of 33 companies that have undergone this transformation.

This change is part of efforts to update and improve Ukraine's defense capabilities, inspired by the best practices in corporate management worldwide. According to German Smetanin, the General Director, this step is aimed at making Ukroboronprom a modern and competitive company on a global scale. This move is also seen as a way to drive broader economic growth in Ukraine.

[Link to more information.](#)

Ukrainian Defense Industrial Base News



UKROBORONPROM FORGES PARTNERSHIPS WITH LITHUANIAN DEFENSE COMPANIES

UkrOboronProm has entered into cooperative agreements with four Lithuanian defense companies—NT Service, Brolis Semiconductors, RSI Europe, and DMEXS—marking a notable step in bolstering Ukraine's defense capabilities through innovation.

These collaborations aim to enhance military technologies, including anti-drone rifles, electronic warfare tools, electro-optical and laser systems, as well as advanced radio-electronic and optical systems for defense applications.

LOCAL PRODUCTION BOOST: A CATALYST FOR UKRAINE'S ECONOMIC GROWTH

[Link to more information.](#)

The Ukrainian government's strategic shift towards localizing defense production, as outlined by First Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Economy Yulia Svyrydenko, holds promising potential for economic acceleration. Emphasizing key economic objectives, including budget deficit coverage and investment attraction, Svyrydenko highlights the importance of comprehensive localization.

The government's focus on defense industry localization, along with the initiation of the "Made in Ukraine" national program, aims at bolstering domestic manufacturing, diversifying exports, and ensuring swift economic development. This approach, supported by direct financing and export guarantees, alongside the need for expert support and coordination with American counterparts, signifies a critical step towards achieving short-term economic growth through increased local production volumes.

[Link to more information.](#)

Ukrainian Defense Industrial Base News

STREAMLINING PROCUREMENT FOR UKRAINE'S DEFENSE

Ukrainian light industry advocates for transparent procurement processes to support the Armed Forces effectively. Emphasizing the economic and security benefits of local production, stakeholders call for clear, fair criteria for all suppliers to minimize corruption and enhance efficiency. Discussions highlight the necessity of equitable advance payment practices and the crucial role of domestic production in national defense. The industry's push for transparent, fair procurement aims to bolster both Ukraine's defense capabilities and its economy, ensuring a strategic balance of national interests and resource utilization.

[Link to more information.](#)

UK OPENS TENDER FOR AIR DEFENSE AND NAVAL EQUIPMENT FOR UKRAINE

The United Kingdom has launched a tender inviting global manufacturers to supply air defense systems and naval equipment for Ukraine, as reported by Military, referencing the UK government's website. The initiative seeks tactical radars, decoys for ground systems, anti-drone rifles, and electronic warfare systems to bolster Ukraine's air defense capabilities.

For naval operations, the tender includes boats, as well as surface and underwater drones. This procurement effort is part of the International Fund for Ukraine, a financing mechanism utilizing contributions from international partners to purchase priority military equipment for Ukraine.

[Link to more information.](#)



Ukrainian Defense Industrial Base News

EUROPE TRIPLES AMMUNITION PRODUCTION FOR UKRAINE, STILL INSUFFICIENT

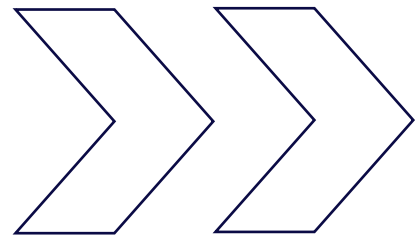
Europe has tripled its ammunition production for Ukraine, but according to Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas, it's still not enough to meet the ambitious goal of one million artillery rounds.

Speaking in Brussels, Kallas highlighted the shortfall in defense capabilities among European nations and advocated for NATO members to allocate 2% of GDP to defense.

Estonia commits to annually providing Kyiv with €14 million in military aid, contributing to Ukraine's defense development. By the end of 2024, the EU aims to produce over 1.3 million rounds, mainly for Ukraine.

[Link to more information.](#)

RHEINMETALL BOOSTS UKRAINE'S DEFENSE: PLANS FOR FOUR FACTORIES INCLUDING ARTILLERY SHELL PRODUCTION



Rheinmetall plans to build at least four factories in Ukraine for arms and ammunition production, including critical 155mm artillery shells, contributing to Ukraine's defense against Russian aggression. Construction begins soon, with the first plant resembling Rheinmetall's facility in Germany.

Additionally, Rheinmetall aims to start ammunition production in Lithuania, estimating Ukraine's market potential at €2-3 billion annually. These initiatives are part of Rheinmetall's strategy to expand production in Ukraine, including plans for armored vehicle manufacturing in 2024.

[Link to more information.](#)

Ukrainian Defense Industrial Base News

CZECHOSLOVAK GROUP EYES MAJOR INVESTMENT IN UKRAINIAN AMMUNITION PRODUCTION

The Czech company Czechoslovak Group proposes to invest hundreds of millions of euros in Ukraine for the production of ammunition. Owner Michal Strnad is negotiating with "Ukroboronprom" for a joint venture. CSG has already expanded production in Slovakia, Spain, and Serbia. The company is also building new factories in the Czech Republic and has acquired an ammunition business in the USA.



[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINE REVEALS LONG-RANGE MISSILE CAPABILITIES AMIDST HYBRID DEFENSE ADVANCEMENTS

Ukrainian Minister of Strategic Industries, Alexander Kamishin, disclosed that Ukraine possesses long-range missiles capable of hitting targets 700 kilometers away inside Russia. While details remain undisclosed, the missile has proven its effectiveness. Kamishin also hinted at successful ground operations and the development of hybrid air defense systems combining Soviet-era and Western technologies.

[Link to more information.](#)

Funding Defense Innovation News



UKRAINE RAISES OVER 20 BILLION UAH WITH MILITARY BONDS

On December 26, 2023, Ukraine's Ministry of Finance raised 20.7 billion UAH through the issuance of domestic government bonds, aimed at bolstering the country's financial stability amidst ongoing challenges. This initiative, executed through the Electronic Trading System (Bloomberg), underscores the national effort to support the Ukrainian Armed Forces and maintain economic resilience. The purchase of military bonds, available to citizens, businesses, and foreign investors, directly contributes to supplying the military with essential resources, reinforcing the nation's defense capabilities while ensuring financial steadiness.

[Link to more information.](#)

BOOST FOR UKRAINIAN STARTUPS: \$10 MILLION VENTURE FUND

In 2024, SMG Capital, a venture fund with an anticipated volume of \$10 million, was launched in Ukraine, aiming to support early-stage tech startups. This initiative, reported by AIN.UA and spearheaded by managing partner Alexander Shynkarov, is nearly 50% funded by personal and partner contributions, integrating resources from three venture funds across the US, Europe, and Ukraine.

SMG Capital's strategy focuses on investing in companies with Ukrainian founders targeting the US market, with plans to back 100 startups. Additionally, a three-month program for startup enthusiasts, SMG Builder, is set to provide essential knowledge, skills, and resources, offering \$25,000 investments, co-founding opportunities, and guidance for joining the US market.

[Link to more information.](#)

Funding Defense Innovation News

BAYKAR INITIATES CONSTRUCTION OF DRONE MANUFACTURING PLANT IN UKRAINE, EYES PRODUCTION OF TB2 AND TB3 MODELS

Turkish defense company Baykar has initiated the construction of a drone manufacturing plant near Kyiv, Ukraine, aiming to employ around 500 people. The facility will produce either TB2 or TB3 drone models, with an annual capacity of about 120 units. Baykar's drones, notably the Bayraktar models, gained recognition for their effectiveness in the early days of the Russo-Ukrainian war. Despite the ongoing war, the company's CEO, Haluk Bayraktar, asserts that construction plans are proceeding without interruption.

[Link to more information.](#)



TURKISH FIRM TO DEVELOP LOGISTICS HUB AT ANTONOV AIRPORT

Mabtec Engineering and Consultancy, a Turkish company specializing in engineering project design, implementation, and management, aims to establish a logistics and transportation hub at the Antonov Airport near Kyiv. The hub is set to commence operations following the reopening of Ukraine's airspace. The announcement follows Mabtec's reveal of the Antonov airport reconstruction concept based on the Bucha Techno Garden industrial park on December 19, 2023.

[Link to more information.](#)

Funding Defense Innovation News



UKRAINIAN INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE IN 2024: A RESILIENT MARKET

Ukraine's investment market in 2024 is cautiously optimistic amidst challenges. The ongoing war has led to a cautious investment climate, yet efforts from venture funds and governmental initiatives show resilience.

Focus remains on sectors like AI, Military Tech, and Security, highlighting a strategic pivot towards high-growth industries. Despite a slowdown in M&A activities, interest in the IT sector persists, suggesting an adaptive investment strategy.

[Link to more information.](#)

INVESTMENT CLIMATE 2024: A CAUTIOUS COMEBACK

In 2024, the investment scene is cautiously rebounding amidst ongoing challenges. With venture investments hit by economic downturns and geopolitical tensions in 2023, Ukraine's new investment insurance law offers a glimmer of hope, promising a safer environment for backers.

The focus remains on burgeoning sectors like AI, defense-tech, and fintech, highlighting innovation amidst adversity. Despite a cautious market, there's a budding optimism for a revival, especially with Ukraine's potential rise in dual-purpose technology ventures, signaling a slow yet hopeful recovery in the venture capital landscape.



[Link to more information.](#)

Funding Defense Innovation News

UKRAINE BOLSTERS DEFENSE: ALLOCATES 5 BILLION HRYVNIAS FOR MILITARY DRONE ACQUISITION

On March 18, 2024, Ukraine allocated an additional 5 billion hryvnias for the purchase of military drones, including strike UAVs, to enhance defense capabilities against Russian aggression.

Prime Minister Shmyhal announced the funding, stating it would be sourced from the state budget's reserve fund. Deals worth approximately 30 billion hryvnias have already been made with UAV manufacturers. Ukraine's defense industry is also developing and producing various classes of combat drones.

[Link to more information.](#)

DEFENSE INNOVATION NEWS



2024: YEAR OF MILITARY INNOVATIONS IN UKRAINE, SAYS PM SHMYHAL

Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal announced 2024 as the year dedicated to military innovations in Ukraine, emphasizing the development of robotic technologies on the battlefield, enhancing the defense of Ukrainian airspace, and focusing on electronic warfare systems. Highlighting the importance of automatic turrets and demining projects, Shmyhal also mentioned the significant impact of drones on Russian military targets. With defense as a top priority, substantial funding will ensure the Ukrainian military has the necessary resources, acknowledging the contributions of volunteers, engineers, and entrepreneurs to these efforts.

[Link to more information.](#)

Defense innovation news

MACHINES IN COMBAT: THE DEFENSE MINISTRY'S HACKATHON TRIUMPH

The Ministry of Defense's inaugural hackathon, "Advance of Machines," has successfully spotlighted the burgeoning field of unmanned systems in warfare, drawing over 450 innovative minds. This initiative not only emphasized the pivotal role of drone technology in modern conflicts but also underscored Ukraine's strategic shift towards integrating cutting-edge solutions on the battlefield. By fostering a collaborative environment among tech innovators, the event aims to enhance the Ukrainian military's capabilities, marking a key step towards technological supremacy in defense strategies.



[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINE TO INTRODUCE NEW MISSILES, ROBOTS, AND DRONES IN 2024

Lieutenant General Ivan Havrylyuk, Deputy Minister of Defense of Ukraine, announced the accelerated introduction and operational approval of new weaponry and military equipment in the first week of 2024, including robotic systems, UAVs, electronic warfare devices, engineering equipment, and ammunition. Among the innovations are a ground robotic platform for remote mining, logistic robots, an upgraded "Leleka" UAV version, and FPV drones designed for enhanced resistance to Russians electronic warfare. Additionally, a semi-trailer mine-clearing device and the mobile anti-tank missile system "Sturm-SM" with Ukrainian missiles have been coded, alongside a two-seater quadbike with a tactical trailer, boosting Ukraine's defense capabilities.

[Link to more information.](#)

Defense innovation news

UKRAINE'S CABINET APPROVES MEASURES TO BOOST DEFENSE INNOVATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has approved a procedure for providing financial support to foster the development of innovations and technologies for defense needs. This includes the testing of developments funded for defense innovation, which will be conducted according to established procedures.

Additionally, the Innovation Development Fund will introduce "Brave 1" grant programs, offering competitive grants up to 8,999,999.99 UAH for defense-related developments. Amendments have also been made to the use of funds for the Innovation Development Fund, ensuring collaboration across various ministries and recommending that military and security services submit requests for "Brave 1" grant competitions, promoting advancements in defense technology and innovation.

[Link to more information.](#)

KEY TASKS FOR UKRAINE'S ARMED FORCES IN 2024

In 2024, Ukraine's Armed Forces must address five critical operational tasks to pave the way for a successful counteroffensive in 2025.

These include the integration of modern and traditional technologies, optimizing force massing and dispersion, making missile and drone defense more cost-effective, balancing long-range and close combat capabilities, and advancing towards Russia with innovative strategies.

Achieving these objectives demands a concerted intellectual effort, comprehensive testing, effective leadership, and a strategic approach to military innovation and adaptation.



[Link to more information.](#)

Defense innovation news

UKRAINE UNVEILS UNIQUE MEDICAL EVACUATION TRAIN

Ukraine introduced its first-of-its-kind medical evacuation train, now totaling 62 carriages, equipped with generators for autonomy and essential medical equipment, including ventilators and cardiac monitors.

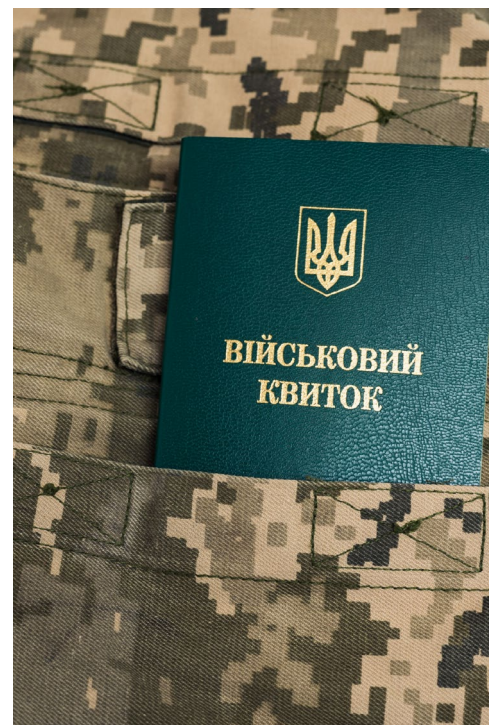
Some are ICU-capable with oxygen stations, and surgeries can be performed while in transit. Launched in March 2022 amidst urgent need without prior designs, the initial carriage was adapted in four days.

Yevhen Lashchenko of Ukrzaliznytsia announced plans to expand the fleet by eight more carriages by year-end, showcasing a groundbreaking effort in medical evacuation and care.

[Link to more information.](#)

UKRAINIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE INTRODUCES ARMY+: A MOBILE APP FOR STREAMLINING MILITARY OPERATIONS

The Ministry of Defense is developing a mobile application, Army+, for Ukrainian military personnel. It will streamline paperwork with standardized report templates and offer features like electronic ID for accessing services, a knowledge base for service information, feedback forms, and online courses. Developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Digital Transformation, the app is set to launch in the summer.



[Link to more information.](#)

Defense innovation news

DELTA MILITARY SYSTEM RECOGNIZED AS MOST PROMISING PROJECT BY UKRAINE'S DEVELOPER COMMUNITY

The DELTA military system received an award for "Most Promising Project in the military-tech field" from Ukraine's largest developer community, DOU. Developed by the Ministry of Defense's Innovation Center,

DELTA enhances battlefield visibility in real-time, aiding Ukrainian forces in successful operations. The system promotes transparency and collaboration among military IT specialists, aligning with NATO standards for effective warfare.

[Link to more information.](#)

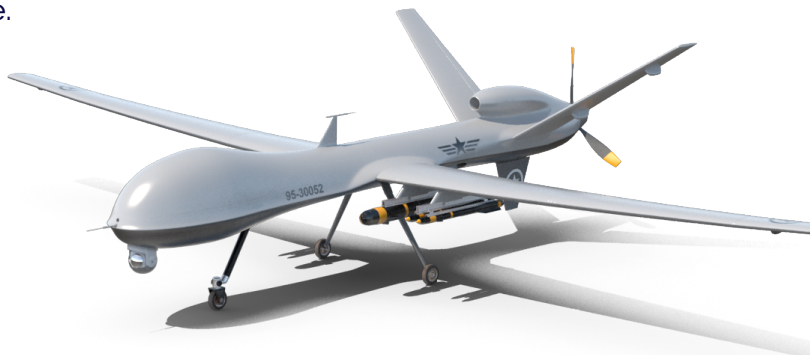
Drone News

UKRAINE BOOSTS DRONE PRODUCTION FOR DEEPER STRIKES

Ukraine plans to produce thousands of long-range drones capable of striking deep within Russia, reflecting a large increase in drone production. Mykhailo Fedorov, Minister of Digital Transformation, highlighted this advancement, noting the shift towards drones with up to 1000 km range. The initiative is part of broader efforts to enhance Ukraine's military capabilities, with private sector involvement.

The government's deregulation and increased funding aim to match Russia's drone capabilities, demonstrating Ukraine's commitment to technological innovation in defense.

[Link to more information.](#)



Drone News

UNMANNED GROUND VEHICLES: REVOLUTIONIZING MODERN WARFARE

The shift of unmanned ground vehicles (UGVs) from experimental projects to essential battlefield tools, especially evidenced in the Russo-Ukrainian War, underscores their growing importance in modern military operations.

These vehicles have served in varied roles, from logistics and reconnaissance to infantry support and the evacuation of the wounded, proving their efficacy in combat.

Ukraine's advancements in UGV technology stand out, particularly with the development of platforms like the Phantom UGV and Skorpioń-3, which have broadened the scope of UGV applications to include not just logistics and reconnaissance, but also direct fire support.

[Link to more information.](#)

CIVILIAN DRONE BUILDERS BOOST UKRAINE'S DEFENSE: THE PEOPLE'S FPV PROGRAM

The "People's FPV" program in Ukraine has mobilized civilians to assemble FPV drones for military use against Russian forces. Launched by Victory Drones, over 17,000 participants have joined, contributing over 500 drones.

The initiative, emphasizing practical skills and community support, has received positive military feedback and aims to enhance local drone production capabilities.

[Link to more information.](#)



Drone News

SHMYHAL: UKRAINE'S DRONE PRODUCTION SKYROCKETS

Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal announced that Ukraine's defense industry capacity has tripled, and drone production has increased a hundredfold. At the "Ukraine. Year 2024" forum, he emphasized the transformation of Ukraine's defense capabilities, including rockets, artillery, ammunition, and new military technology production.

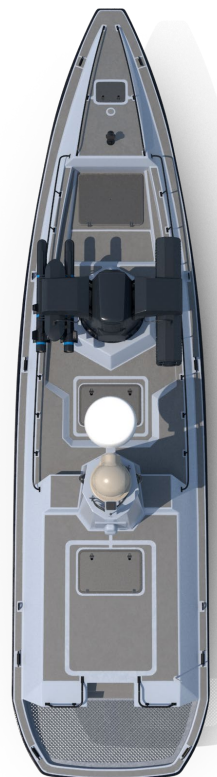
This expansion is felt by the Russia and is part of a broader effort to sustain the economy, with a more than 5% GDP growth and \$74 billion in external financing arranged for 2022-2023. The goal is to maximize Ukrainian weapons production while ensuring financial support for the nation.

[Link to more information.](#)

UKRAINE'S INNOVATIVE SEA DRONE, MAGURA-V5, MARKS A NEW ERA IN NAVAL WARFARE WITH SIGNIFICANT RUSSIAN VESSEL LOSSES

Ukraine has innovated with the development of the sea drone, Magura-V5, showcasing their strategic creativity. This unmanned surface vessel has greatly impacted Russian naval forces in the Black Sea, sinking the 22nd vessel since the invasion began, with Ukraine claiming 26. The Magura-V5, developed by SpecialTechnoExport, represents a leap in maritime warfare, evolving from simple prototypes to sophisticated unmanned systems capable of operational impact.

[Link to more information.](#)



Drone News

SBU TESTS "AVDIIVKA" SEA DRONE WITH IMPRESSIVE RESULTS

The SBU has unveiled the "Avdiivka," its first maritime drone, boasting enhanced navigability and versatility for various armaments. According to Brigadier General Hunter of the SBU's military counterintelligence, this drone demonstrated its efficacy by targeting five Russian ships near the Sevastopol bay last autumn.

Developed and assembled in Ukraine with the support of UNITED24, monobank, Igor Lachenkov, and Sergiy Sternenko, the "Sea Baby" drones are designed to carry over a ton of payload and travel more than 1000 km. Following successful trials, these robust and resilient drones are now set to challenge the Russian fleet.

[Link to more information.](#)

UKRAINE'S 'LUTYI' STRIKE DRONE MAKES SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH PRECISION STRIKES IN RUSSIA

The Ukrainian strike drone "Lutyi" (Fierce) has been actively deployed since the beginning of 2024, targeting strategic objects in Russia this March.

Announced by "Ukroboronprom" in October 2022, it's designed to carry a 75kg warhead over 1,000 kilometers. With a production rate of dozens per month, its design includes a twin-boom pusher configuration with a fixed landing gear, facilitating launches from various terrains. Its guidance system enables long-range strikes, enhancing Ukraine's capability to impact deep into Russian territory.



[Link to more information.](#)

UKRAINIAN 'LANCET' STYLE DRONES CLEAR PRELIMINARY TESTS, SET FOR COMBAT TRIALS

Ukrainian drones akin to "Lancet" passed preliminary tests, gearing up for combat trials, as announced by Vice Prime Minister of Digital Transformation, Mykhailo Fedorov. Among four tested drones, two succeeded. Production potential stands at around 100 units per month. "Lancet" offers an extended range of 30-40 km and daily operation, controlled via video channel. Market introduction emphasized, expecting 2-3 competitive products initially, scaling to a dozen within a year. Next step involves battlefield testing.

[Link to more information.](#)

UKRAINE'S INNOVATIVE TRACKED DRONES FOR BATTLEFIELD EVACUATIONS

In Rivne, Ukraine, the public organization "Wolf's Ravine" unveiled two innovative tracked drones designed for evacuating wounded soldiers from battlefields. Developed as part of a collaboration, with the first drone created in Kharkiv and the second in Rivne, these drones represent advancement in unmanned ground vehicle technology. The project aims for serial production, with local support but seeks further assistance due to high demand. Despite challenges in sourcing parts and assembly, the drones are highly maneuverable, capable of operating in difficult terrains.

[Link to more information.](#)

UKRAINE-LATVIA DRONE COALITION

Ukraine and Latvia are forming a Drone and Electronic Warfare Coalition, inviting allied nations to join. Initiated by Latvia, this coalition aims to enhance Ukraine's military capabilities, particularly in drone warfare. Latvian Defense Minister Andris Spruds and Ukrainian Minister Rustem Umerov emphasized the strategic value of drones in current conflicts. Deputy Minister Katerina Chernogorenko outlined Ukraine's need for unmanned systems and EW technology. This coalition is a step towards technology-driven warfare, reducing human casualties and transforming military operations. Supported by partner countries, further discussions and plans will be addressed in an upcoming Defense Contact Group meeting.

[Link to more information.](#)

Drone News

ENHANCED ANTI-DRONE CAPABILITIES FOR UKRAINIAN FORCES

The Ukrainian military has enhanced its capacity to counter Russian drones of all types, thanks to equipment worth 1.7 million UAH provided by the "Come Back Alive" foundation and produced by Infozahyst. This includes the "Pluton" detection system, specifically designed to identify Russian UAVs.

The foundation has distributed these tools to various military units, including artillery, mechanized, airborne assault, and special forces, demonstrating effectiveness in combat. This collaboration underscores the crucial role of responsible business in supporting defense forces through innovative solutions that can alter the dynamics of combat to benefit Ukraine. The "Come Back Alive" foundation continues to seek investment for strengthening and modernizing the Ukrainian army.

[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINE CHALLENGES RUSSIA IN ELECTRONIC WARFARE

Ukraine is rapidly advancing in electronic warfare (EW), quickly adapting to Russian technologies. Ukrainian engineers can develop countermeasures against new Russian weapons within days, showcasing exceptional firmware and software update speeds. This progress, highlighted by DroneUA's Valeriy Yakovenko, includes custom drone firmware and expanded EW applications.

[Link to more information.](#)

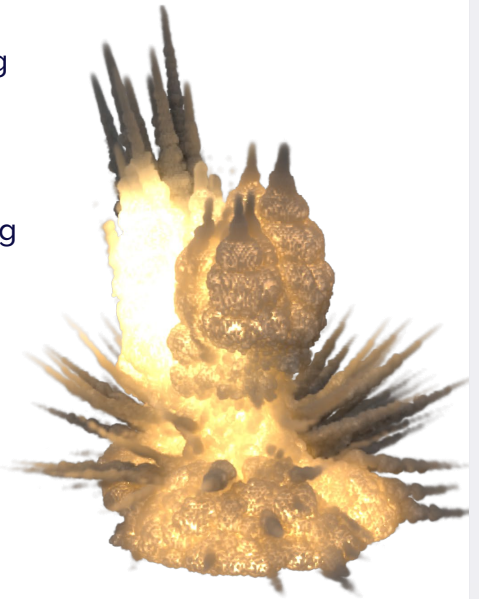
Drone News

UKRAINE BOOSTS MILITARY CAPABILITIES WITH ROBOTIC GROUND PLATFORMS

Ukraine is advancing its military technology by initiating mass production and extensive field testing of over 50 robotic ground platforms through the Brave1 cluster.

These platforms, designed for a range of tasks including combat, logistics, and medical evacuation, have successfully demonstrated their battlefield readiness. Plans are underway to deploy hundreds of these units, acquired via UNITED24, to the front lines in the coming months, aiming to reduce human risk in combat zones.

[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINE'S DRONE INDUSTRY SURGE

In 2022, Ukraine successfully established a burgeoning drone market, now featuring hundreds of companies thanks to a policy of market liberalization aimed at fostering competition.

The past year saw substantial growth in domestic drone production, with 67 models codified and 58 securing state contracts. At a recent gathering with over 120 drone manufacturers, the emphasis was on the need for scale-up in 2024 to meet rising demands.

Key initiatives include standardizing drone specifications, enhancing AI for target acquisition, and developing anti-drone technologies. The Brave1 cluster supports this innovation by offering grants and aiding in NATO standard codification, signaling a robust future for Ukraine's defense technology sector.

[Link to more information.](#)

Drone News



UKRAINIAN ENGINEERS CRAFT GROUND DRONES FOR DEFENSE

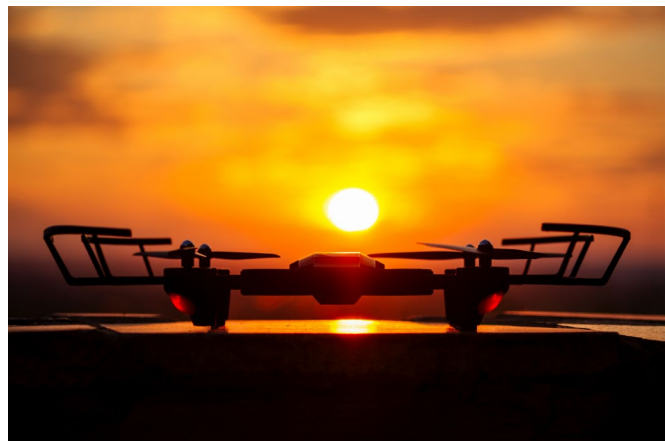
In Ternopil, Ukraine, engineers have developed robotic ground platforms to support the Ukrainian military. These drones are engineered for evacuating the wounded, supplying the frontlines, and conducting remote mining operations. The "Ant" and "Minion" models, designed for versatility, can be equipped for remote mining and armed for combat support, capable of traveling up to 20 kilometers.

[Link to more information.](#)

SKYLAB UA UNVEILS SHOOLIKA MK6 DRONE: PRECISION, NIGHT VISION, AND RESISTANCE TO ELECTRONIC WARFARE

SkyLab UA introduced the Shoolika mk6 drone, lauded for precision and night vision, with a range of up to 10 km and a payload capacity of 6 kg, it's resistant to electronic warfare. Tested by Ukraine's military, it's crucial for tactical operations.

The drone is undergoing NATO codification and will potentially incorporate AI for autonomous missions, enhancing target identification and strike accuracy.



[Link to more information.](#)

ADVANCED CYBER ATTACKS BY RUSSIA ON UKRAINE STARTED AS FAR BACK AS 2016

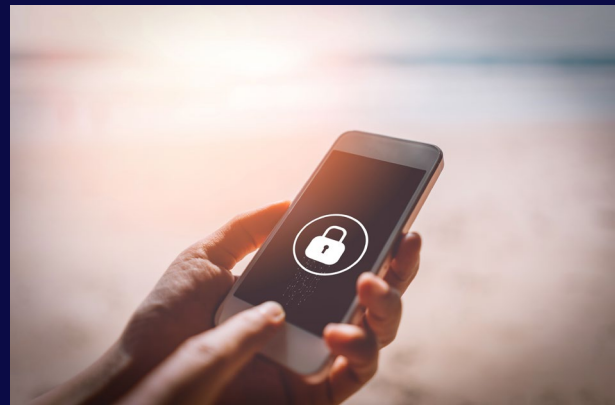
SBU reports indicate Russia's national cyber aggression system has been operational since at least 2016, with GRU and FSB officers training students in cyber warfare disciplines. Russian investments in cyber operations continue to grow, aiming to merge kinetic, psychological, and cyber operations.

[Link to more information.](#)



MASSIVE CYBERATTACK ON KYIVSTAR DEMONSTRATES RUSSIAN CYBERWAR CAPABILITIES

In December 2023, Kyivstar, Ukraine's largest telecom operator with over 24 million subscribers, suffered a massive cyberattack, the largest on telecom infrastructure globally. The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), led by Illia Vitiuk, is investigating, revealing early hacker attempts since March 2023. Despite a potential telecom blackout, quick restoration efforts and government intervention prevented additional consequences.



[Link to more information.](#)

Cyber News

SUSPECTED RUSSIAN HACKERS TARGETED KYIVSTAR: SBU REVEALS

According to SBU's Cybersecurity Department head, the December 2023 cyberattack on Kyivstar, Ukraine's major mobile operator, may have been facilitated by Russian hackers infiltrating the network since May 2023. The attack, possibly planned since

March, was partially thwarted by SBU's intervention, preventing a potentially devastating second wave.

Investigations continue amid extensive damage to servers and computers. The disclosure was made at the Kyiv International Cybersecurity Forum 2024.

[Link to more information.](#)

SBU CYBER UNIT BLOCKS SUPPLY OF COMPONENTS FOR RUSSIAN WEAPONS

According to the head of the SBU's Cyber Department, Ilya Vitiuk, the SBU's cyber specialists intercepted shipments of parts for 1600 drones "Shahed" and 4000 microchips for cruise missiles. SBU also engages in frontline operations, destroying Russian electronic warfare systems, intercepting drones, disrupting supply chains, and repelling cyberattacks. In 2023 alone, SBU repelled 4,500 cyberattacks, with nearly 10,000 thwarted over two years of full-scale conflict.

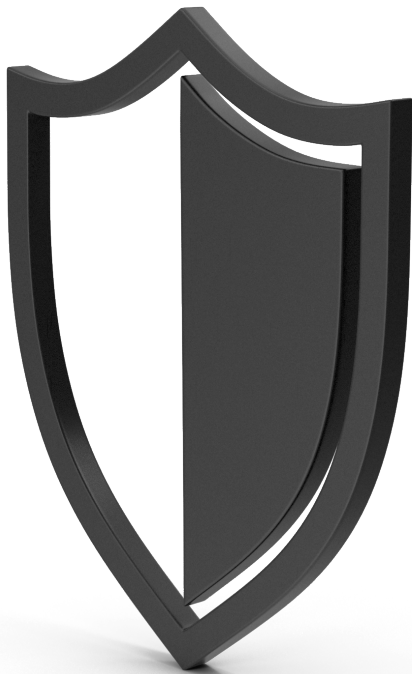
[Link to more information.](#)



"BRAMA" CYBERCRIME PREVENTION PROJECT: HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The "BRAMA" project, succeeding the nationwide initiative "STOPRUSSIA/MRIYA," aims to combat Russian cybercrime and disinformation in Ukraine. It has already blocked over 172,000 Russian digital resources. Citizens can participate by subscribing to the "BRAMA" Telegram channel and reporting suspicious content, contributing to the project's mission of cleansing the information space from propaganda and illegal content.

[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINIAN REGIONS IMPLEMENT CYBERSECURITY PROJECTS FOR RESILIENCE

During the International Cybersecurity Forum "Resilience During Cyber Warfare," Ukrainian regions showcased over 20 cybersecurity projects. Initiatives include regional training exercises, cyber competitions, and the introduction of cybersecurity systems in schools. Plans focus on audits, training sessions, and infrastructure protection measures. Collaboration with organizations like USAID, aims to bolster critical infrastructure cybersecurity.

[Link to more information.](#)

Cyber News

UKRAINIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY'S CYBERSECURITY PRIORITIES REVEALED BY DEPUTY MINISTER CHERNOGORENKO

[Link to more information.](#)

During the first Kyiv International Cybersecurity Forum, titled "Resilience During Cyber Warfare," in February 2024, Deputy Minister of Defense Katerina Chernogorenko outlined short-term and long-term goals for cyber defense for Ukraine. The Ministry aims to enhance IT services to meet evolving challenges and is bridging legislative gaps while establishing cyber defense operations centers. Additionally, Ukraine is collaborating with a 12-country IT coalition to bolster cybersecurity resources against multifaceted threats.

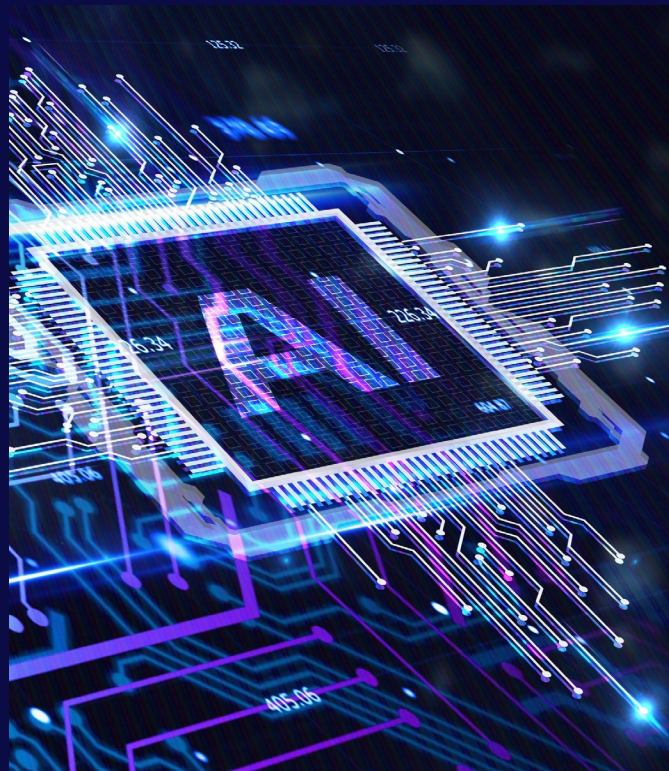
DEMINING

UKRAINE PARTNERS WITH PALANTIR FOR AI-POWERED DEMINING

Ukraine's Ministry of Economy has signed a partnership agreement with Palantir Technologies to utilize artificial intelligence (AI) in demining efforts.

The deal aims to digitize demining operations, enhance coordination, and leverage Palantir's AI platform to optimize demining processes, potentially accelerating and reducing the cost of demining across the country.

[Link to more information.](#)



DEMINEING

UKRAINIAN MILITARY DEVELOPS REMOTE RATEL DEMINER FOR MINE CLEARANCE

Within Ukraine's defense cluster Brave1, a remote-controlled mine clearance complex called Ratel Deminer has been developed, announced by Minister of Digital Transformation, Mykhailo Fedorov. Ratel Deminer, equipped with daylight camera vision, neutralizes anti-personnel mines like PFM-1, PMN-4, PMN-3, and PMN-2 remotely, enhancing soldier safety. Field-tested near Sviatohirsk, Donetsk Oblast, it's part of Ukraine's ongoing innovations in military technology, alongside trials of over 50 new ground drones for various purposes.

[Link to more information.](#)

INNOVATIVE ARMTRAC 400 MINE CLEARANCE MACHINE UNVEILED BY EMERGENCY SERVICES IN KHARKIV REGION

A newly deployed Armtrac 400 mine clearance machine in Chuhuiv district, Kharkiv region, is hailed as innovative by the State Emergency Service (SES). Equipped with advanced safety features, including armored cabin and remote-control capability up to 800 meters, it ensures safe demining of hazardous areas. SES officials confirm its effectiveness, citing successful detection and destruction of various mines and ordnance.

[Link to more information.](#)

UKRAINIAN DEFENSE FORCES CLEAR 4,766 HECTARES OF LAND FROM EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS

From March 15 to March 22, 2024, 297 demining groups from the Ministry of Defense continued clearing liberated regions of Ukraine from explosive remnants of war. They inspected and cleared 4,766.52 hectares of terrain, including 4,700.3 hectares of agricultural land, 11.93 kilometers of roads, and 0.78 kilometers of pipelines. Utilizing specialized machinery, they neutralized 5,522 explosive items, bringing the total to 320,700 items destroyed since the conflict began.

[Link to more information.](#)

DEMINING

OVER 350 KILOMETERS OF ROADS CLEARED OF MINES IN DE-OCCUPIED KHERSON REGION

Since the beginning of demining operations in the de-occupied Kherson region, pyrotechnic teams have cleared more than 350 kilometers of roads, ensuring safer travel for residents. The ongoing efforts aim to facilitate normal life conditions in the liberated areas. Authorities urge people to stick to paved roads and report any suspicious items for safety.

[Link to more information.](#)



EUROVISION NATIONAL SELECTION VIEWERS' DONATIONS FUND DEMINING EQUIPMENT FOR KHARKIV REGION

Viewers' donations from the Eurovision National Selection were used to purchase demining equipment for Kharkiv region. Over 37,000 viewers contributed via QR code during the final, raising a total of 2,381,837 UAH. The equipment was donated to the State Special Transport Service to support humanitarian demining efforts. The equipment includes 19 demining machines and 70 metal detectors.

[Link to more information.](#)

HUMANITARIAN DEMINING MARKET TO LAUNCH IN APRIL: SVYRYDENKO

Ukraine certifies 33 demining operators, with 50 more awaiting certification, says First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy Yulia Svyrydenko. Increasing operators will foster market competition, lowering demining costs while improving quality. Prozorro will host auctions for demining contracts, with farmers contributing 20% and the state 80%. The program is set to commence in April, with methodology for cost determination currently being finalized.

[Link to more information.](#)

DEMINING

DOK-ING MV-10 DEMINING SYSTEM DEPLOYED FOR MYKOLAIV REGION

The DOK-ING MV-10 demining system has been deployed to clear mines effectively in Mykolaiv region, Ukraine. Operated remotely, it neutralizes anti-personnel and anti-tank mines along with other ordnance. Donated by the European Union as part of a €25 million humanitarian demining support package, it enhances Ukrainian forces' capabilities for safer and faster demining operations.

[Link to more information.](#)

GREECE JOINS COALITION SUPPORTING UKRAINE'S DEMINING EFFORTS

Greece has joined Lithuania and Iceland in a coalition aiding Ukraine's demining efforts. Defense ministers discussed bilateral defense cooperation and NATO's agenda, emphasizing air defense rotation decisions. The coalition aims to coordinate international support for Ukraine's demining, establishing a support fund for equipment procurement and coordination.



[Link to more information.](#)

PROGRESS UPDATE: 53K HECTARES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND INSPECTED FOR DEMINING

Efforts by Ukraine and international partners have led to the inspecting of 53.7 thousand hectares of agricultural land for demining since the beginning of the year 2024. Enhanced capabilities of demining units and improved coordination contributed to the progress. The government focuses on equipping units with domestic technology and optimizing demining processes, including a recent agreement with Palantir for data analysis.

[Link to more information.](#)

DEMINING

UKRAINIAN GOVERNMENT APPROVES COMPENSATION PLAN FOR AGRICULTURAL DEMINING



The Ukrainian government has approved a plan to compensate farmers for 80% of the costs of demining agricultural land. The program, funded with 3 billion hryvnias from the state budget, aims to facilitate contracts with demining operators and increase the capacity of demining equipment manufacturers. Eligible farmers can bid for demining services through Prozorro, with compensation available for each contaminated plot only once. Exclusions apply to sanctioned farmers and those in bankruptcy or with tax debts.

[Link to more information.](#)

AUSTRALIAN PHILANTHROPIST DONATES \$3 MILLION FOR DEMINING EFFORTS IN UKRAINE

Australian businessman and philanthropist Andrew Forrest, through the Minderoo foundation, has pledged a donation of over \$3 million for demining agricultural areas in Ukraine. The initiative targets regions in the northwest and south of Ukraine to restore safety and productivity in vital agricultural zones. Forrest's support aims to neutralize threats, facilitate the return to normalcy for displaced individuals, and bolster agricultural development, addressing a critical need in Ukraine's economy and food security.



[Link to more information.](#)

NEW DEMINING MACHINE UNVEILED ON TRACTOR CHASSIS



Ukraine introduces its third domestically developed demining machine, created by efarm pro in collaboration with Sumy-based agricultural machinery manufacturers. The machine, presented at a testing site, operates on a T-156 tractor chassis, capable of clearing 5,000 square meters of land per hour, exhibiting high precision with a 2-centimeter gap between treated soil strips. Further certification and mass production are planned, meeting the demand for demining equipment.

[Link to more information.](#)

Strategic Priority News



UMEROV: 2024 FOCUS ON BOOSTING UKRAINIAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT PRODUCTION

Ukraine's Defense Minister, Rustem Umerov, announced a strategic shift towards increasing the procurement of domestically produced weapons and equipment for the military in 2024. This includes orders for main caliber ammunition from Ukrainian manufacturers, with plans to expand these purchases. A memorandum of cooperation with the US Department of Defense aims to facilitate the production and exchange of critical ammunition within Ukraine, enhancing defense capabilities and independence. Additionally, the priority for the upcoming year includes scaling up the production of necessary military equipment, with innovations now being approved for battlefield use in just 20 days, significantly faster than before.

[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINE'S CABINET AIMS TO SEXTUPLE MILITARY PRODUCTION IN 2024



Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal announced the Ukrainian government's plan to increase the country's defense industry output sixfold in 2024. This ambitious goal follows a year in which production already tripled, aiming to notably boost the manufacture of drones, ammunition, armored vehicles, and more. Shmyhal highlighted the importance of self-reliance and the support of allies as Ukraine prepares to face new challenges and continues to strive for victory. The effort is supported by substantial budget allocations for defense, including additional funds for military personnel and the procurement, production, and repair of weaponry.

[Link to more information.](#)

Strategic Priority News

WAR DEVELOPMENT IN 2024: ANALYST REVIEW

In 2024, the trajectory of the Russian-Ukrainian war may follow one of three paths as outlined by Gustav Gressel of the European Council on Foreign Relations. The war's dynamics have shifted negatively for Ukraine, with initial optimism fading as Kyiv failed to reclaim occupied territories and Russia regaining strategic initiative by year's end. Western, especially EU, support has fallen short, failing to deliver on promises to replenish Ukraine's military resources, leaving Kyiv more dependent on U.S. support amidst American electoral politics. This review highlights the importance of Western backing in determining the war's outcome, urging a strategic realignment to bolster Ukraine's defense capabilities.



[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINIAN FRONTLINE CHALLENGES IN 2024

In 2024, Ukraine faces critical challenges on the frontline, key among them being the necessity for a decisive offensive operation, particularly focusing on Crimea. Successes in defense and tactical victories have showcased Ukraine's resilience, yet strategic objectives remain partially unfulfilled due to limitations in military support among other factors. The potential acquisition of F-16 fighter jets signifies a strategic shift in air dynamics, potentially limiting Russian air operations. Furthermore, innovative approaches and non-standard decisions in warfare are crucial. The possibility of a renewed Russian offensive from the north remains a concern, necessitating fortified defensive measures to prevent breakthroughs. This year is pivotal for Ukraine to alter the conflict's trajectory fundamentally.

[Link to more information.](#)

Strategic Priority News

SYRSKYI: THE GENERAL OF RISK AND COUNTEROFFENSIVE

In a strategic shift, Ukraine appoints General Oleksandr Syrskyi as Commander-in-Chief, pivoting towards a nuanced approach emphasizing skilled infantry and modern warfare tactics.

Syrskyi's proven track record in both defensive and offensive operations, notably in the battle for Kyiv, highlights his adaptability and strategic foresight. This move reflects an adaptation to the protracted war with Russia, with expectations of enhanced agility and proficiency in combat under Syrskyi's leadership, aligning with Western military insights on effective conflict management and tactical innovation.



[Link to more information.](#)

NEWS FROM THE FRONT LINES

UKRAINIAN TACTICAL MEDICINE: BEYOND THE FRONTLINE

In her 2024 interview, Maria Nazarova highlights the evolution and challenges faced by Ukrainian tactical medicine since the full-scale invasion. Despite adopting NATO standards, the unique warfare conditions in Ukraine necessitate wide-ranging adaptations. Frontline realities, such as prolonged evacuations and the need for immediate blood transfusions under fire, diverge sharply from Western practices, underscoring the harsh realities of war. The scarcity of combat medics and quality medical supplies exacerbates these challenges. Nazarova emphasizes the critical need for more advanced weaponry to alleviate these medical adversities, suggesting that the best medicine for Ukrainian soldiers is effective artillery support on the front.

[Link to more information.](#)

News from the Front Lines

CHALLENGES ON THE EASTERN FRONT – A NOTE FROM THE CINC AF OF UKRAINE

Today's operations revealed the escalating complexities and imminent threats from advancing Russian units on the Eastern Front. Despite strategic enhancements in reserves, ammunition, and electronic warfare capabilities, the situation remains fraught with difficulties especially due to the lack of ammunition.

Russia's offensive maneuvers in key areas signal a pressing need for continual adjustments and reinforcements to our defense strategies. High Russian losses have not deterred their efforts, indicating persistent challenges in securing our positions. Amid these trials, the valor and resilience of our soldiers stand as a testament to our determination to overcome adversity and maintain control over threatened settlements.

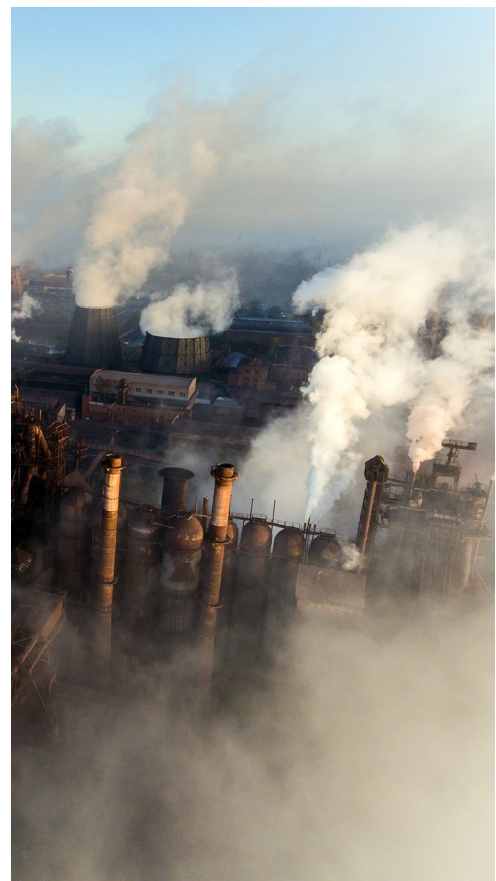
[Link to more information.](#)

CHALLENGES ON THE FRONT: VOICES OF UKRAINIAN DEFENDERS

Interviews with Ukrainian Armed Forces and Territorial Defense fighters reveal the dire realities of frontline life. From enduring harsh living conditions, such as freezing temperatures and constant wetness, to confronting a powerful enemy, these stories highlight resilience and sacrifice. A soldier, "Georgian," shares his initial expectation of death and the subsequent realization of the Russia's vulnerabilities.

Another defender, Sergey, discusses the grueling conditions of trench warfare. Alexander, a former teacher, reflects on the enduring nature of war, while Ruslan emphasizes the importance of motivation among soldiers, criticizing the conscription of the unmotivated.

[Link to more information.](#)



News from the Front Lines

AN UNPREPARED SOLDIER CAN BE A BURDEN": COMBAT MEDIC'S FRONTLINE EXPERIENCE

Facing the realities of war, Iryna Bodnar, a combat medic, emphasizes the critical issue of unpreparedness among soldiers on the frontline. Her journey from a civilian to a vital part of the military highlighted the significant challenges of adapting to the harsh conditions of warfare.

Bodnar encountered situations where the lack of combat readiness not only endangered individual soldiers but could also become a liability to their unit. This realization propelled her to undergo rigorous training, including tactical medicine, weaponry, and psychological preparedness, to ensure she wouldn't become a burden to her team.

Bodnar's experiences underline the importance of comprehensive preparation for all military personnel, showcasing the necessity of physical and mental readiness to effectively contribute to and sustain the collective effort in a conflict zone.

[Link to more information.](#)

CHALLENGES AT SEA: UKRAINIAN SAILOR'S TALE OF COMBAT AND RESILIENCE

[Link to more information.](#)

In an exclusive interview with ArmyInform on March 8, 2024, Ukrainian sailor Dmytro recounts the wide-ranging challenges and harsh realities faced by Ukrainian forces during the full-scale invasion initiated by Russia. On March 4, 2022, amidst the intense onslaught on Odessa, Dmytro's quick action led to the first-ever downing of Russian Su-34 fighter jet from a ship, highlighting the dire circumstances and the sheer determination of Ukrainian defenders.

The encounter with the Su-34 and subsequent engagements, including a naval battle against the frigate "Admiral Makarov" and repelling drone attacks, underscore the relentless pressure and dangers Ukrainian forces confront. Limited communication with loved ones and prolonged periods at sea without setting foot on land compound the strain and uncertainty faced by sailors like Dmytro.

News from the Front Lines

URGENT NEEDS ON THE FRONTLINES

Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda has called for an acceleration of military aid to Ukraine, highlighting a shortfall in support for Ukrainian forces. During discussions at the Davos World Economic Forum, he pointed out the slow delivery of promised aid, underlining that the pace doesn't meet the urgent demands of Ukraine's military engaged in frontline battles.

The call for rapid implementation of decisions comes amidst concerns that delays are hindering Ukraine's ability to counteract Russian military aggression effectively.

[Link to more information.](#)



[Link to more information.](#)

60% OF COMPANIES PRIORITIZE HIRING VETERANS, STUDY FINDS



A study by Work.ua on veteran employment shows 60% of companies favor veterans in job openings, with 36% ready to invest in resources like accessibility and psychological support for their integration. Additionally, 49% are somewhat prepared to accommodate veterans. This reflects a potential commitment to veteran employment, anticipating a future where up to five million veterans may seek jobs, suggesting a widespread corporate readiness to welcome veterans into the workforce.

News from the Front Lines



UKRAINE'S MINISTRY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TAKES A NEW

Turn Amidst a transformative month, the Ukrainian Ministry of Veterans Affairs faces the challenge of changing public perception and improving veterans' lives. Once seen as "theater" and veterans as outcasts, the ministry's new path aims to regain trust, with a focus on dignified reintegration into civilian life.

This responsibility isn't just for tomorrow; it's an ongoing reality. Efforts to enhance veteran policy as part of national security, emphasizing respect, leadership, comprehensive support, and digitalization, reflect a commitment to those who defended the country. With initiatives ranging from enhanced communication with veterans and families to social aid increases and streamlined administrative services, the ministry's actions in just 30 days demonstrate potential for dynamic change.

The future aims for a well-supported, respected veteran community, integral to national recovery and security.

[Link to more information.](#)



Oleksandr Holopotelyuk, veteran: A veteran business should have easy access to financial and technological capital - equipment and technologies. In terms of financial capital, in particular, there may be conditions under which these opportunities could be obtained, state guarantees.

[Link to more information.](#)

RECONSTRUCTION NEWS

UKRAINE'S RECOVERY COSTS SURGE TO \$486 BILLION

A UN report updates Ukraine's reconstruction at \$486 billion, highlighting housing and infrastructure as key areas, with debris removal costing \$11 billion. This reflects increased estimates and the scale of required recovery efforts.

[Link to more information.](#)

Ukraine's RDNA3, facing a \$9.5 billion shortfall for 2024's \$15 billion immediate needs, emphasizes private sector support and leveraging confiscated Russian assets, aiming for a sustainable and inclusive recovery in alignment with EU integration.

[Link to more information.](#)

CANADA PLEDGES \$130 MILLION FOR UKRAINE'S RECONSTRUCTION

Canada has announced a donation of around \$130 million USD to support Ukraine's reconstruction, revealed during Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's visit to Kyiv.

This aid will finance multiple projects, including \$57 million USD for peace and security efforts like demining and cyber support, \$11.5 million USD for completing the National Holodomor-Genocide Museum, nearly \$17 million USD in humanitarian aid, \$30 million USD for development, and almost \$14 million USD for stabilization projects, such as chemical weapon threat mitigation and combating disinformation, showcasing Canada's solid commitment to Ukraine's recovery and stability.



[Link to more information.](#)

RECONSTRUCTION NEWS

UK-UKRAINE MEETING FOCUSES ON INFRASTRUCTURE REBUILD

Oleksandr Kubrakov and Ben Aldred's meeting highlighted the UK's support for Ukraine in rebuilding physical and business infrastructure.

This collaboration aims to expedite Ukraine's recovery by leveraging UK expertise and resources, reflecting a strong international partnership geared towards economic resilience and sustainable development amidst ongoing challenges.

[Link to more information.](#)

REBUILDING AND RESHAPING OHTYRKA AMID WAR

Ohtyrka, despite invasion impacts, rallies around the "Urban Vision" plan, emphasizing sustainability, inclusivity, and innovation for future growth.

Community efforts focus on improving public spaces, cultural life, and infrastructure, showcasing the city's resolve to enhance living conditions and manifest a resilient, hopeful future.

[Link to more information.](#)



UKRAINE'S REBUILDING EMPHASIZES INNOVATION, INCLUSIVITY, AND SUSTAINABILITY

Addressing Ukraine's reconstruction as an intricate challenge, the 2024 architectural practice prioritizes innovation, inclusiveness, and sustainability. Embracing advanced materials and technologies enables breakthroughs in construction and interior design, proving essential for modern restoration efforts. Inclusivity ensures accessibility for all, including those with limited mobility, reflecting the country's immediate need for universally accessible designs.

Sustainability is at the forefront, advocating for eco-friendly construction methods that minimize resource consumption and waste, aiming for a functional and productive environment. This approach underscores the role of the creative community in shaping a future that benefits coming generations, highlighting the human element in architectural practice.

[Link to more information.](#)



[Link to more information.](#)

EU PARLIAMENT'S KEY FOCUS: TRADE SUPPORT, CHILD DEPORTATIONS, AND SANCTIONS ENFORCEMENT

The European Parliament's agenda targets revitalizing trade support for Ukraine and Moldova, tackling the issue of Ukrainian children deported to Russia, and implementing stricter regulations on evading EU sanctions and confiscating illicit assets. This week's discussions emphasize the EU's resolve in promoting regional stability, protecting human rights, and reinforcing the legal framework against sanctions evasion, highlighting a strategic blend of economic, humanitarian, and legal priorities.

UKRAINE'S RECONSTRUCTION

Ukraine's post-war reconstruction, initiated amidst ongoing war, embodies resilience and foresight. It involves restoring critical infrastructure, healthcare, and education facilities, and rehousing displaced persons.

Notably, architects and planners are drafting future-focused urban designs, supported internationally, signaling a commitment to a resilient and prosperous Ukraine.



[Link to more information.](#)

RECONSTRUCTION NEWS



MEDIA FOR RENEWAL: UNITING VOICES FOR UKRAINE'S RECONSTRUCTION

In Ukraine, the "Window for Renewal" media network unites independent media and analytical centers to transparently document reconstruction efforts in areas devastated by Russian forces.

Supported by the UK government, this initiative aims to provide comprehensive coverage, educational opportunities, and expert training, fostering a collaborative approach to national recovery and resilience.

[Link to more information.](#)



EMPOWER RECONSTRUCTION

Ukraine's recovery hinges on citizen engagement. The eDemocracy (eDem) module, integrating into the DREAM management ecosystem, aims for a transparent, effective, and democratic rebuilding process.

Developed with public and government input, eDem encourages public participation, reduces misallocation risks, and builds trust in the reconstruction efforts.

[Link to more information.](#)

CONCLUSION

2024 represents a pivotal year for Ukraine's defense sector, characterized by resilience, innovation, and strategic foresight amidst ongoing challenges. From the immense efforts in reconstruction and economic recovery to the remarkable advancements in military technology and the strategic overhaul of the defense industry, Ukraine has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to safeguarding its sovereignty and securing a peaceful future.

The remarkable increase in domestic production of military equipment, bolstered by significant reforms and international cooperation, highlights Ukraine's determination to achieve self-reliance and enhance its defense capabilities.

However, the journey ahead is not without its challenges. The insights from the battlefield reveal the harsh realities faced by Ukrainian soldiers and the critical need for continued support, both domestically and from the international community. The valor and sacrifice of these individuals underscore the importance of strategic priorities aimed at enhancing Ukraine's military effectiveness and resilience.

In 2024, as Ukraine continues to navigate through these tumultuous times in this full-scale war, the unity and perseverance of its people, along with the strategic partnerships and innovations in the defense sector, stand as beacons of hope.



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