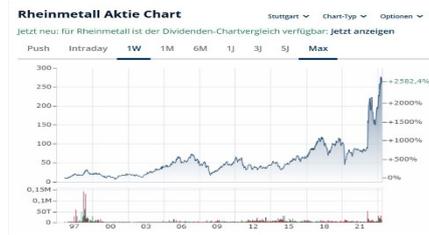


# People are dying, armament stocks are rising

War in Ukraine, disinformation and techno-fascism



March 2026

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### **Photo credits**

Ukrainian graves:

<https://www.dreamstime.com/tomb-ukrainian-soldier-who-died-war-cemetery-flags-high-quality-photo-image270428283>

Russian graves:

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/luhansk-burial-for-fallen-prorussian-soldiers/video/088a384a3ad3716bee1b9ca3ebb089e5>

Armament stocks:

<https://www.isw-muenchen.de/online-publikationen/texte-artikel/5093-rheinmetall-61-gewinn-nach-steuern-titan-der-ruestungsindustrie>

## User Guide

This collection of materials provides information on the war in Ukraine from 2022 to the end of 2025. The perspective is neither 'pro-Russian' nor 'pro-Western', but focuses on the interests of civilians on both sides of the front line. Through contacts across the country, I gained the impression that the information published is often one-sided and decided to investigate for myself. During the research, care was taken to compare Western and Eastern sources and to verify them on the ground wherever possible. Unfortunately, many of those responsible responded evasively or not at all.

The focus here is particularly on the involvement of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The texts were distributed via email on the dates specified at the beginning of each one. They were written in accordance with the situation at the time and have not been updated. They consist either of detailed investigations and fact-checks or short leaflets.

The aim of this collection is to fill gaps in information. On the one hand, this serves the right of every person to be informed. On the other hand, it helps to foster scepticism towards arms lobbyists and their 'stories'. After all, a multifaceted analysis of the situation in Ukraine yields better solutions than continued escalation. We therefore hope that this collection will be useful to individuals, political decision-makers and the peace movement alike.

In addition to the mailings, extensive correspondence was conducted with Members of the Bundestag from all parties, the 'Federal Office for Economic Affairs and (non-existent) Export Control' BAFA, the 'Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action' BMWK, arms-supplying companies and the UNODA ('United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs'). This revealed that a large proportion of decision-makers in the Federal Republic of Germany are prepared to support or cover up war crimes if it suits their political agenda. (The Merz government's decision to no longer publish all arms deliveries must also be understood in this context and in light of the increasing tendency to use weapons prohibited under international law.) This correspondence is not documented here, but is available.

The PDF can be searched (using the magnifying glass at the top of 'Acrobat'); for ease of use, keywords are listed before each article.

There is a German and an English version. Both may be freely distributed, quoted and posted online, provided they are neither altered nor sold (Creative Commons Licence BY-NC-SA 4.0). I myself have not uploaded them anywhere but it can be found at <https://www.evalww.com/people-are-dying-armament-stocks-are-rising-becker/>.

The information can be supplemented by other sources such as [www.strana.news](http://www.strana.news) (Ukrainian + Russian), [www.betterworld.info](http://www.betterworld.info), [www.evalww.com](http://www.evalww.com) (German), <https://www.ir-press.ru/category/current-affairs/> (biased, but good for cross-checking Western information).

Enquiries and comments to [helmut.becker.hamburg@gmail.com](mailto:helmut.becker.hamburg@gmail.com) are welcome.

# **1- Situation analysis**

## 1.1. Time for a balance

*Key words: Dead civilians, diplomacy, peace movement, psychology, war aims*  
28.10.2022

All figures in this fact sheet are uncertain because the sources are very different. These figures are only given to show the extent to which this madness has reached after eight months.

They only refer to the time from the invasion of the Russian army on 24 February 2022, the fighting (and thus around 14,000 victims) from 2014 onwards is not taken into account [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opfer\\_des\\_Russisch-Ukrainischen\\_Krieges](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opfer_des_Russisch-Ukrainischen_Krieges) .

Only Western sources are used to make accusations of 'Russian propaganda' superfluous. If they are controversial, this is marked. For solid research, however, it is useful to read Russian as well to notice gaps in Western reporting. First comes the German, THEN the English link.

Many more detailed statistics can be found at <https://de.statista.com/themen/8939/russland-ukraine-conflict/#dossierKeyfigures> , <https://www.statista.com/search/> .

### Dead soldiers

All messages are dubious <https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/verluste-getoetete-zahlen-ukraine-krieg-russland-100.html> , <https://www.bbc.com/news/explainers-62902029> .

The Ukrainian side puts the Russian losses at 67,000, plus at least 4,000 militiamen from Donetsk and Lugansk.

<https://www.fr.de/politik/news-ticker-ukraine-krieg-verluste-russland-moskau-truppen-soldiers-front-zr-91860497.html> .

Ukrainian losses were given by the Russian side as 23,000 by mid-April [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opfer\\_des\\_Russisch-Ukrainischen\\_Krieges](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opfer_des_Russisch-Ukrainischen_Krieges)

If one adds something for the past period and subtracts propagandistic exaggeration, one must probably assume at least 75,000 fallen in total

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualties\\_of\\_the\\_Russo-Ukrainian\\_War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualties_of_the_Russo-Ukrainian_War) .

### Civilian dead

At least 6306, including at least 397 children in the Ukrainian-controlled area, plus the civilians in the Russian-controlled area, which is shelled with similar weapons, i.e. at least 10000 people <https://de.statista.com/themen/8939/russland-ukraine-conflict/#dossierContentsouterWrapper> , <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1126391> .

### Arbitrarily arrested, tortured and 'disappeared' people

By September, at least 497 <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1126391> . The numbers increase every time an army 'recovers' an area and 'looks for collaborators'.

## Escaped

At least 7 700 000 registered.

<https://interaktiv.tagesspiegel.de/lab/wie-weit-sind-die-soldaten-aktuelle-karte-der-russian-invasion-in-the-ukraine/> , <https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine> .

## Destroyed war material

Russian losses according to Ukrainian data: <https://www.fr.de/politik/news-ticker-ukraine-war-losses-russia-moscow-troops-soldiers-front-zr-91860497.html> ,

<https://www.graphicnews.com/en/pages/42995/ukraine-russian-and-ukrainian-military-losses> .

It would be instructive to convert into schools, hospitals or emergency food for African children what the Federal Republic alone supplies in replacement material

<https://www.nd-aktuell.de/artikel/1167738.waffen-fuer-die-ukraine-alles-was-geht.html> .

## Destroyed housing and other infrastructure in Ukraine

Many towns and villages have changed hands several times, which means intense artillery fire each time. The reconstruction costs are estimated at €750 billion

<https://www.gtai.de/de/trade/ukraine/wirtschaftsumfeld/finanzhilfen-kommen-nur-langsam-in-der-ukraine-an-847876> , <https://www.dw.com/en/ukraine-reconstruction-may-cost-349-billion/a-63069130> .

Data on the Russian-controlled areas and the Russian border area around Belgorod are still missing.

## Consequences for civilians in Europe and the world

The problems with heating, inflation and recession are well known. The connection between the Ukraine war and famines in many countries is more complex than it is usually presented. The concentration of trade in a few companies (Archer Daniels Midland, Bunge, Cargill and Louis Dreyfus) must be taken into account, as well as the fact that despite the grain export agreement, sanctions against the second major wheat and fertiliser producer, Russia, have not been lifted. <https://www.tagesschau.de/wirtschaft/weltwirtschaft/nahrungsmittel-spekulationen-finanzmarkt-101.html> ,

<https://www.aktiongegenhunger.de/aktuelles/ukrainekrieg-und-welthunger> ,

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/global-hunger-ukraine-effect-conflict-and-hunger-june-2022> .

The worst consequences are borne by those who are least to blame, namely the children <https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/osteuropa-und-zentralasien-krieg-treibt-kinder-in-die-not-1.5676787> , <https://www.voanews.com/a/ukraine-war-pushes-4-million-children-into-poverty-un/6792672.html> .

## Psychological consequences for children and young people

Even those who survive do not come out unscathed. The life perspective of the young generation is destroyed, they probably lose faith in the world, no longer want children or can no longer afford to start a family. Mental illnesses as a whole are on the rise

<https://unicef.at/news/einzelansicht/kinder-im-krieg-psychische-folgen-hinterlassen-invisible-scars/> , <https://www.mhe-sme.org/ukraine-crisis-mental-health-impact-young-people/> .

### **Mental health of all affected persons and co-sufferers**

Adults are not protected from this either (sleep disorders, anxiety)

<https://www.zdf.de/gesellschaft/volle-kanne/ukraine-krieg-und-psychische-folgen-100.html>

from min 2.25 , <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/acps.13466>

The consequences of war last for generations and damage has already been proven in unborn children. To this day, the Second World War is still being reappraised in German families etc.

<https://www.pharmazeutische-zeitung.de/ausgabe-362011/die-seele-leidet-bis-heute/> ,

<https://www.nber.org/papers/w30284> .

### **Economic consequences in Europe and the world**

Ukraine is practically sustained by payments from abroad, 2023 budget of 38 billion is debt-financed <https://www.gtai.de/de/trade/ukraine/wirtschaftsumfeld/finanzhilfen-kommen-nur-langsam-in-der-ukraine-an-847876> , <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-budget-deficit-seen-38-bln-2023-interfax-quotes-pm-2022-09-14/> .

The consequences are being felt by all and in their totality cannot yet be overlooked

<https://www.br.de/nachrichten/wirtschaft/der-ukraine-krieg-und-die-wirtschaftlichen-folgen-br24-reihe,T8pGOLW> , <https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/russland-ukraine-krieg-sanktionen-auswirkungen-wirtschaft-100.html> ,

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/billconerly/2022/03/30/long-term-economic-effects-of-the-ukraine-war/> .

### **Consequences for the environment**

Before the Russian invasion, the world had less than 7 years until CO<sup>2</sup> emissions reached the level where climate catastrophe could no longer be controlled

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/projekte/artikel/wissen/klimawandel-aktuell-der-sz-klimamonitor-e203859/#backdashboard> , <https://climateclock.world> .

Instead of saving the survival of the world as a whole, governments are invested in which flag will fly over thousands of kilometres of scorched earth

<https://www.br.de/nachrichten/deutschland-welt/ukraine-krieg-was-bedeutet-der-konflikt-für-den-klimaschutz,SyGd2bS> , <https://www.counterpointknowledge.org/the-new-arms-race-and-the-approaching-climate-havoc-a-tipping-point-for-humanity/> .

Add to this the aggravation of the situation by the war itself, e.g. the methane emission of at least 70000 tons by the blasting of NordStream2 by 'unknown persons'.

[https://www.focus.de/wissen/klima/franzoesische-forscher-weniger-methan-aus-nord-stream-leaks-leaked-as-feared\\_id\\_160094255.html](https://www.focus.de/wissen/klima/franzoesische-forscher-weniger-methan-aus-nord-stream-leaks-leaked-as-feared_id_160094255.html) ,  
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/sep/28/nord-stream-methane-gas-leaks-may-be-biggest-ever-with-warning-large-climate-risk> .

### **Roughening of warfare**

As the escalation continues, the violations of international law by both sides become more pronounced

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/ukraine-kriegsverbrechen-osze-1.5566654> ,  
<https://blogs.icrc.org/law-and-policy/2022/03/17/armed-conflict-in-ukraine-a-recap-of-basic-ihl-rules/> .

Incidents like

- The blasting of NordStream 2 by 'unknown persons'.
- the attack against Duguin, killing his daughter, and other civilians such as bloggers and administrators in Russian-controlled zones by 'unknown persons'.
- the Russian attack on the Krywyj Rih dam

<https://www.fr.de/politik/wsa-koennen-wir-gegen-die-kriegsbedingten-umweltschaeden-tun-91859204.html> and the discussion about who will attack the dam at Kherson

- the attack by 'unknown persons' on the Crimean Bridge
- the bombing of the electricity infrastructure by the Russian army are a very bad 'example' for the rest of the world.

### **Destruction of the coexistence of the different nations**

The treatment of works by long-dead Russian-language authors and living cultural workers is very questionable

<https://www.nzz.ch/feuilleton/putin-in-uns-selbst-mehr-kritik-im-umgang-mit-russlands-culture-ld.1683881> , [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anti-Russian\\_sentiment#2022\\_Russian\\_invasion\\_of\\_Ukraine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anti-Russian_sentiment#2022_Russian_invasion_of_Ukraine)

### **Development of democracy in the participating countries**

Russia has not met the minimum criteria for a democracy for a long time. Ukraine meets them less and less. As a young person from Kiev said after the arrest of friends for anti-war statements in Tiktok: "It's becoming like Russia here, only the other way round." (eyewitness account)

<https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/verbot-parteien-ukraine-krieg-russland-100.html> ,  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/20/ukraine-suspends-11-political-parties-with-left-to-russia> .

### **Development of the press**

Press freedom in Russia is at the same level as democracy. That in Ukraine is increasingly approaching that

<https://www.dw.com/en/ukraine-zelenskiy-bans-three-opposition-tv-stations/a-56438505> .

Unfortunately, similar tendencies also occur in liberal democracies

<https://www.euractiv.de/section/eu-aussenpolitik/news/niederlaender-wehren-sich-gegen-eu-censorship-of-russian-media/>

Even respected media outlets have large gaps in their reporting. It is claimed that this is no coincidence <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2UC3Eo4FS0> (already 2014) ,

<https://www.jungewelt.de/artikel/436092.kriegspropaganda-mission-russenbashing.html> (source close to a party).

Those were the 'costs'. Now let's see if there are also advantages in terms of:

### Fulfilment of official war aims

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russischer\\_%C3%9Cberfall\\_auf\\_die\\_Ukraine\\_2022#Milit%C3%A4r](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russischer_%C3%9Cberfall_auf_die_Ukraine_2022#Milit%C3%A4r)

For ease of reading, only links are provided where the info is not common knowledge.

<b>Russia</b>	
Stop NATO's expansion to the East	Ukraine is practically integrated, Finland and Sweden want to join.
Protection of the population of the areas not controlled by Kiev	Shelling of densely populated areas by Ukraine continues (as well as vice versa , partly disturbing photos) <a href="https://dan-news.info/en/photos/aftermath-of-kiev-gunmens-artillery-attack-at-central-donetsk-indoor-market/">https://dan-news.info/en/photos/aftermath-of-kiev-gunmens-artillery-attack-at-central-donetsk-indoor-market/</a> (Press agency of the government of the 'People's Republic of Donetsk')
Denazification of Ukraine	The Nazi units can present themselves more as 'national defenders' during the war.
Demilitarisation of Ukraine	The losses are compensated by forced mobilisation.
<b>Ukraine</b>	
Defending freedom and European values	See 'Parties' and 'TV' and the language laws <a href="https://uepo.de/2022/01/28/sprachpolitik-ukraine-embattled-russian-language-per-">https://uepo.de/2022/01/28/sprachpolitik-ukraine-embattled-russian-language-per-</a>

	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_language_in_Ukraine">law/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian language in Ukraine</a>
Recovery of the non-controlled territories and Crimea	There are completely different forecasts about this, which I think is unlikely.
<b>NATO</b>	
Defence of freedom and democracy (also against Russian support for right-wing forces in the EU) and international law	In order to mitigate the consequences of the Ukraine war, the Arab dictatorships involved in the Yemen war are being supported, among others. <a href="https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/scholz-gulf-states-energy-101.html">https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/scholz-gulf-states-energy-101.html</a>
Making an example to avoid further aggression	How the Russian regime would react to a defeat is difficult to predict. The internal Ukrainian problems will not be solved by 'regaining' Crimea and the Donbass.

### Fulfilment of real war aims

<b>Russia</b>	
Keep NATO at a distance	The opposite has happened.
Take over industry	Yes, but destroyed (see Azovstal Mariupol). The territorial gains are small in percentage terms.
Continue to get gas/electricity	No.
Get mineral resources	Mainly coal.
Secure drinking water supply to Crimea <a href="https://www.mdr.de/nachrichten/welt/osteuropa/politics/ukraine-russia-water-krim-100.html">https://www.mdr.de/nachrichten/welt/osteuropa/politics/ukraine-russia-water-krim-100.html</a> , <a href="https://www.eurasiareview.com/16042020-the-water-crisis-in-crimea-analysis/">https://www.eurasiareview.com/16042020-the-water-crisis-in-crimea-analysis/</a>	Yes.
<b>Ukraine</b>	
Achieving Western Integration	Largely. However, for many years a s

	debtors, probably large parts of industry and mineral resources will have to be transferred.
Recovering the Industry of the Donbass	No.
Sell gas/electricity to the West	Now and then.
<b>USA/UK</b>	
Weaken Russia <a href="https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB10014.html">https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB10014.html</a>	Yes.
Utilising the capacity of the defence industry	Yes.
Eliminate competition from the EU	Yes.
Sell fracking gas	Yes.
<b>EU</b>	
Develop additional market	In the long term perhaps, currently no purchasing power.
Get electricity	Now and then. However, there is also the risk of a radioactive cloud entering the country due to the Ukrainian shelling of the Russian troops who are standing around the Zaporiyia nuclear power plant and also firing. <a href="https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/krieg-ukraine-nuclear-power-station-zaporiyia-1.5670802?reduced=true">https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/krieg-ukraine-nuclear-power-station-zaporiyia-1.5670802?reduced=true</a> (number version)

### Prospects of a victory

Internet is full of contradictory forecasts by 'experts'. After watching the front lines daily (see 'camarada Fibrik' on Youtube, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-gtHTM85bp-49qvYOvMGFw> , Latin American Spanish, quite objective in comparing Ukrainian and Russian maps despite clear ideology) it seems that there will be no complete victory by any side, but years of slaughter. The end result will be scorched (and mined !) earth divided, with the 'offensive/defensive weapons' distinction being absurd.

### Diplomatic activities

March 2022, an almost finalised ceasefire was reported from Istanbul. Whether the process was halted by the intervention of Austin, Blinken and Johnson or because of the discovery of bodies in Bucha is disputed (the exact composition of the dead in Bucha and responsibility will not be discussed here due to lack of space, a list can be ordered from the sender)

<https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/wagenknecht-dagdelen-ukraine-war-russia-100.html> , [https://www.ippnw.de/commonFiles/pdfs/Frieden/Waffenstillstand und Frieden Ukrainekonflikt.pdf](https://www.ippnw.de/commonFiles/pdfs/Frieden/Waffenstillstand%20und%20Frieden%20Ukrainekonflikt.pdf) , <https://peoplesdispatch.org/2022/05/09/ukrainian-news-outlet-suggests-uk-and-us-governments-are-primary-obstacles-to-peace/> , [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022\\_Russia %E2%80%93Ukraine peace negotiations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022_Russia%E2%80%93Ukraine_peace_negotiations) .

Since then, only the wheat export agreement and various prisoner-of-war exchanges have been carried out.

There is no lack of results from peace research on how to de-escalate such conflicts, but rather a lack of good will [https://pzk.de/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Stellungnahme-AG-Friedenslogik-PZKB Friedenslogik- statt- Kriegslogik-1.pdf](https://pzk.de/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Stellungnahme-AG-Friedenslogik-PZKB-Friedenslogik-statt-Kriegslogik-1.pdf) <https://pzk.de/publikationen/the-logic-of-peace-information-sheet/> .

## Conclusion

As the table of stated war aims shows, they are empty words. And the real ones ?

Russia and Ukraine are at an impasse and will at best win a Pyrrhic victory or bleed each other dry for years.

The EU is well on its way to committing political and economic suicide.

The US/UK governments can be satisfied in the short term as long as their people put up with it.

## Who can take action to bring the warring parties to their senses?

<https://www.fr.de/politik/wer-ist-bereit-den-weg-zum-frieden-zu-weisen-91863891.html> , <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/10/24/biden-ukraine-liberals/> (later put into perspective)

As it stands, nothing good can be expected from the governments involved in the war. They seem ready to march unflinchingly towards the abyss with ever more escalating steps until some miscalculation or misunderstanding wipes us all out.

Biden and Putin will be at the G20 summit in Bali on 15-16 November and have both expressed that they would talk to each other if the other approached them. There is no more time for such posturing, they need to be 'moved' to negotiate. The answer "the time has not yet come" must not be prolonged into eternity.

The only hope of achieving this at the moment are:

- the UN and third countries
  - a minority of MPs in different countries
  - the peace movement, which, however, would have to coordinate itself more closely
- INTERNATIONAL.**

### 1.2. Zelenski wants to "free the Donbass and Crimea from occupation".

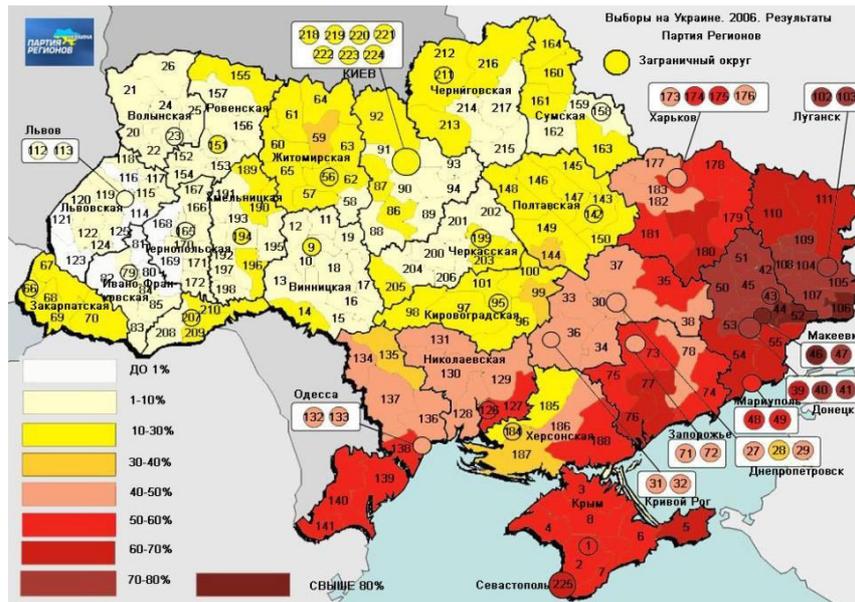
11 February 2023; keywords: election, language, party, russian, ukrainian

That sounds logical, but it never hurts to take a closer look:

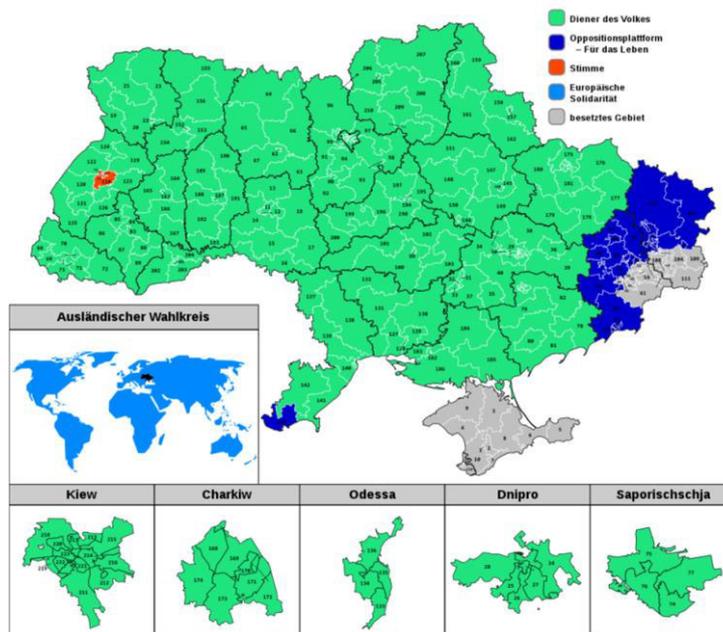
#### Election results

The south-east of Ukraine has been voting differently from the north-west for years:

2006: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partei\\_der\\_Regionen#/media/Datei:Ukr\\_elect06\\_pr.jpg](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partei_der_Regionen#/media/Datei:Ukr_elect06_pr.jpg)



2019: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parlamentswahl\\_in\\_der\\_Ukraine\\_2019#/media/Datei:Результати\\_Парламентських\\_виборів\\_в\\_Україні\\_2019\\_року\\_за\\_округами.svg](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parlamentswahl_in_der_Ukraine_2019#/media/Datei:Результати_Парламентських_виборів_в_Україні_2019_року_за_округами.svg)



Currently, the parties that the Southeast votes for are suspended and probably soon banned: <https://www.fr.de/politik/kritik-an-selenkyjs-verbot-unliebsamer-parteien-91457194.html> .



(Incidentally, the procedure is also used in cases of suspicion of other offences by all state organs that supposedly defend "European values":

<https://observers.france24.com/en/europe/20220404-ukraine-poles-public-humiliation-punishment-looting>)

Meanwhile, the German government (with your support?) continues to pump Ukraine full of weapons: <https://t.me/donbassinsider/30415>

This is absolutely incomprehensible. The think tank RAND, funded by the Armed Forces and the intelligence services, is already preparing the US for a change of strategy:

<https://www.rand.org/pubs/perspectives/PEA2510-1.html>

"The increase in energy prices alone is likely to lead to nearly 150,000 excess deaths (4.8 percent more than average) in Europe in the winter of 2022-2023." (page 10)

"We conclude that, in addition to averting possible escalation to a Russia-NATO war or Russian nuclear use, **avoiding a long war is also a higher priority for the United States than facilitating significantly more Ukrainian territorial control.**" (page 25, emphasis HBH)

The solutions for the Donbass and Crimea are not an extension of the war, but autonomy within Ukraine, UN administration and the like. There are enough proposals. Something like that has to be negotiated, for that a ceasefire is needed.

Or do you want to continue with "eyes closed - more guns in" and then set up a committee of enquiry in 20 years' time (if there's anyone left to do it then)?

### 1.3. Who is actually defending Ukraine?

8 January 2024

Keywords: Army, Azov, Brotherhood, foreigners, International Legion, National Guard, Partisans, Right wing, Secret Services, Special Forces, Territorial Defence

We are informed punctually and in detail about Russian war crimes, military mishaps and dodgy private armies such as the Wagner Group.

On the other hand, we regularly read reports on how "heroically and resourcefully Ukrainians are defending their country".

<https://youtu.be/WoP1i9ZzwOs>

<https://youtu.be/EWjMr3RZ8Ss>

Ukraine is now a candidate for EU membership.

So a closer look at the structure of the army and comparable forces is certainly worthwhile. The whole network of armed forces, 'special units', partisans and secret services with its grey areas is described.

#### 1) Regular army

This is probably most comparable with the armed forces of other countries. It consists of

+ army

+ navy

+ air force

+ airborne troops

+ special forces

+ territorial defence

Border defence is also part of this in times of war, the National Guard is subordinate to the Ministry of the Interior.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armed\\_Forces\\_of\\_Ukraine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armed_Forces_of_Ukraine)

<https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/1403261/umfrage/truppenstaerke-der-streitkraefte-der-ukraine/>

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukrainische\\_Streitkr%C3%A4fte](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukrainische_Streitkr%C3%A4fte)

At present, the picture is somewhat more complicated:

#### 2) Territorial defence

These are people with basic training who should be deployed in their neighbourhood. Recently, however, they have been sent to the front more and more often.

##### 2.1) International Legion

Theoretically, the IL also belongs to this group, but it is always sent to the front. In addition to individual volunteers/mercenaries, members of private armies such as Blackwater/Academy and NATO soldiers on leave are probably also active there

<https://veterantoday.com/2022/03/04/blackwater-mercenaries-natos-secret-weapon-in-ukraine-war/> (difficult to verify)

<https://silentprofessionals.org/jobs/extraction-protective-agents-ukraine/> (permanent display)

<https://correctiv.org/faktencheck/hintergrund/2023/06/22/hohe-anzahl-von-nato-soldaten-in-der-ukraine-experten-halten-das-fuer-unwahrscheinlich/>

##### 2.2) Foreign military advisors

Officers working in the hinterland are to be distinguished from soldiers

<https://eprimefeed.com/latest-news/turkey-is-aware-of-50-french-officers-blocked-in-mariupol/67687/> (difficult to verify)

<https://www.europere-loaded.com/french-involvement-in-ukraines-azov-battalion-and-macrons-call-to-putin/> (difficult to verify)

<https://deutsche-wirtschafts-nachrichten.de/517464/Ukrainischer-Botschafter-Bei-uns-sitzen-seit-Jahren-strategische-Berater-des-Bundesverteidigungsministeriums>

<https://www.jungewelt.de/artikel/465125.us-gelder-f%C3%BCr-ukraine-krieg-selenskij-macht-enkeltrick.html> (last sentence)

### 3) National Guard

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Guard\\_of\\_Ukraine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Guard_of_Ukraine)

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nationalgarde\\_\(Ukraine\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nationalgarde_(Ukraine))

#### 4.1) Right-wing extremist units

These were to be disbanded following the Minsk Agreements, but have been integrated into both the National Guard and the army while maintaining their structure. They are on the front line, sometimes as barrier units that prevent the territorial defence soldiers in front of them from retreating.

#### Ideological background

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right\\_Sector](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_Sector)

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pravyj\\_Sektor](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pravyj_Sektor) (text not identical)

#### Organisations

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/fr/2023/01/24/dossier-et-enquete-armee-ukrainienne-a-quoi-ressemble-t-elle-vraiment/> (somewhat polemical, but good overview)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azov\\_Battalion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azov_Battalion)

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regiment\\_Asov](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regiment_Asov)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Svoboda\\_\(political\\_party\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Svoboda_(political_party))

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allukrainische\\_Vereinigung\\_%E2%80%9ESvoboda%E2%80%9C](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allukrainische_Vereinigung_%E2%80%9ESvoboda%E2%80%9C)

<https://www.amnesty.de/informieren/amnesty-journal/ukraine-regierung-hat-rechtsextreme-nicht-unter-kontrolle> (old article, but still valid)

<https://www.barth-engelbart.de/?p=242952> (polemic)

#### 4.2) Prisoners

Selenski proposed the use of prisoners shortly after the Russian invasion, and the idea was copied on a large scale by the Wagner Private Army in Russia

<https://www.20min.ch/story/selenski-bietet-haeftlingen-amnestie-an-wenn-sie-fuer-die-armee-kaempfen-497868650697>

### 5) Special Forces

The network of Special Forces with different categorisations is almost impossible to overlook; they include intact right-wing extremist units

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special\\_forces\\_of\\_Ukraine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special_forces_of_Ukraine)

<https://sprotyv.mod.gov.ua/en/who-are-we>

#### 5.1) Partisans

They are coordinated by the 'National Resistance Centre', an institution of the Special Forces

<https://sprotyv.mod.gov.ua/en/who-are-we/>

The Special Forces, which are themselves trained by US and British units and the KSK of the German Armed Forces, train and supply them, but officially have nothing to do with them

<https://www.fr.de/politik/ostap-ukraine-partisanen-geheimdienst-russland-krieg-militaer-angriffe-dscharylhatsch-kiew-zr-92492197.html>

<https://www.zdf.de/politik/frontal/ukrainische-partisanen-kampf-hinter-feindlichen-linien-ukraine-krieg-100.html>

<https://www.nzz.ch/international/ukraine-krieg-partisanenkrieg-gegen-putins-armee-ld.1685892>

<https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/organisation/heer/aktuelles/ksk-bildet-ukrainische-spezialkraefte-aus-5713832>

They also kill civilians, e.g. bloggers and journalists they don't like

<https://armedforcesconnect.org/2022/07/18/ukrainian-partisans-target-russian-sympathizers-as-the-war-enters-a-bloody-new-stage/>

<https://www.blick.ch/ausland/mit-kabelbindern-gefesselt-und-zur-schau-ausgestellt-das-droht-den-ukrainischen-kollaborateuren-in-cherson-id18052786.html>

or simply disliked residents,

<https://t.me/donbassinider/42647>

without this bothering the EU or the German federal government

<https://www.jungewelt.de/artikel/465377.belohnter-terror.html>

Partisans actually have little protection under international law

<https://www.zeit.de/politik/ausland/2022-03/humanitaeres-voelkerrecht-ukraine-krieg-zivilisten-schutz/komplettansicht>

while according to other sources they are treated as members of the army under pension law

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/06/ukrainian-partisan-attacks-surge-russia>

## 5.2) Brotherhood

The position of this battalion is not entirely clear. It is supported by a civilian organisation, operates in Ukraine and Russia and appears to have links to the army and special forces.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNuTY3uz6Oc>

<https://www.facebook.com/BrotherhoodOfUkraine/>

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/more-ukrainian-units-claim-raids-russian-soil-kyiv-disavows-them-2023-03-07/>

## 6) Civil resistance

The portal of the 'National Resistance Centre'

<https://sprotyv.mod.gov.ua/en>

mixes instructions for armed and unarmed resistance <https://sprotyv.mod.gov.ua/en/support-2/>

But there have also been real actions of non-violent social defence

<https://www.soziale-verteidigung.de/artikel/ziviler-widerstand-gegen-krieg-ukraine>

## 7) Secret services

There is the domestic intelligence service SBU, the military HUR and the foreign intelligence service FISU

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sicherheitsdienst\\_der\\_Ukraine](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sicherheitsdienst_der_Ukraine)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Directorate\\_of\\_Intelligence\\_\(Ukraine\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Directorate_of_Intelligence_(Ukraine))

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign\\_Intelligence\\_Service\\_of\\_Ukraine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_Intelligence_Service_of_Ukraine)

They also have military units and a killing programme

<https://www.watson.ch/international/ukraine/686423483-das-ist-die-gefaehrlichste-elite-spezialeinheit-der-ukraine>

<https://www.economist.com/europe/2023/09/05/inside-ukraines-assassination-programme>

There is a conspicuous division of labour with a portal that has long been denouncing all kinds of 'enemies of Ukraine' such as politicians and journalists and publishing the data necessary for their assassination

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myrotvorets>  
<https://www.bpb.de/themen/europa/ukraine-analysen/230418/dokumentation-stellungnahmen-zum-skandal-um-die-webseite-mirotworez-friedensstifter/>  
<https://www.state.gov/reports/2016-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/ukraine/> (Sect. 2 A)  
<https://www.donbass-insider.com/fr/2023/12/06/mirotvorets-la-liste-ukrainienne-de-la-honte/>  
[https://fondfbr.ru/fr/articles\\_fr/myrotvorets-kids-politicians-fr/](https://fondfbr.ru/fr/articles_fr/myrotvorets-kids-politicians-fr/) (difficult to verify)

This list should not be confused with a second one, which was run by the Ministry of the Interior's 'Centre against Disinformation' and was deleted after the German SPD parliamentary group leader Mützenich protested against its mention. It was more of a 'pillory' than a death list

<https://www.swr3.de/aktuell/fake-news-check/terrorliste-ukraine-muetzenich-faktencheck-100.html>  
<https://cpd.gov.ua/en/golovna-storinka-czentr-protydiyi-dezinformacziyi-pry-rnbo-english/>

CIA complicity is not proven

<https://www.globalresearch.ca/cia-helps-ukraine-compile-death-list-website/5792906>

Recently, such murders have also been officially approved

<https://www.nd-aktuell.de/artikel/1178349.russland-getoeteter-ueberlaeufer-die-dritte-front-im-ukraine-krieg.html>

## Summary:

We have before us a conglomerate of armed forces, 'special forces', partisans and secret services attacking military targets and killing civilians (when they are not fighting each other <https://www.kyivpost.com/post/11480> ).

Targeted attacks on civilians violate the international law of war.

<https://www.icrc.org/en/doc/war-and-law/protected-persons/civilians/overview-civilians-protected.htm>  
<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/regelbasierte-internationale-ordnung/voelkerrecht-internationales-recht/humanitaeres-voelkerrecht/213012>

The chain is therefore particularly worrying:

Western special forces train Ukrainian special forces  
Ukrainian special forces train partisans →  
Partisans and special forces kill civilians.

Russian contract killings are fortunately prosecuted in Germany

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mordfall\\_Selimchan\\_Changoschwili](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mordfall_Selimchan_Changoschwili)

How little the 'investigations' of German 'law enforcement authorities' would achieve in a similar case with Ukrainian perpetrators can be seen in the example of the Nord Stream II blast

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022\\_Nord\\_Stream\\_pipeline\\_sabotage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022_Nord_Stream_pipeline_sabotage)  
[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anschlag\\_auf\\_die\\_Nord-Stream-Pipelines](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anschlag_auf_die_Nord-Stream-Pipelines)

What would the German justice system do if Ukrainian special forces went from word to deed and killed German politicians whom they regarded as 'enemies of Ukraine'?  
Or 'repatriate' people who evade military service?

Do we really want to have (another) 'the end justifies the means' state in the EU?

## **2- Economic background**

## 2.1. Economic background of the war in Ukraine

7 January 2024

Keywords: energy, lithium, military spending, profit, wages

The term "blood for oil" has become commonplace for the wars in the Middle East. In contrast, the discussion about the war in Ukraine is more about history and geopolitics. The economic background tends to be a blank spot. So here is some information to fill it in:

### Agriculture

Thousands of soldiers are dying for the 'Ukrainian country's defence', while the country itself is being 'peacefully' sold to foreign corporations

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-investment-climate-statements/ukraine/>

<https://www.fr.de/wirtschaft/ukraine-bodenschaetze-rohstoffe-schwarze-erde-krieg-russland-westen-agrar-landwirtschaft-zr-92661153.html>

<https://eltabanoeconomista.wordpress.com/2023/05/28/guerra-y-robo/>

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/fr/2023/11/30/zelensky-et-soros-lempoisonnement-des-terres-ukrainiennes/>

### Energy

The disconnection from the eastern/Russian power grid and connection to the western European grid was prepared long before the Russian invasion

<https://www.bpb.de/themen/europa/ukraine-analysen/344564/analyse-die-anbindung-der-ukraine-an-europas-stromsystem-zwischen-technischen-details-und-harter-geopolitik/>

<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/schwerpunkte/krieg-in-der-ukraine/ukraine-moldau-eu-stromnetz-2016702>

There was also a 'small war' on gas long before the 'mysterious' blowing up of Nord Stream II

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia%E2%80%93Ukraine\\_gas\\_disputes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia%E2%80%93Ukraine_gas_disputes)

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russisch-ukrainischer\\_Gasstreit](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russisch-ukrainischer_Gasstreit)

### Lithium

It is a key metal for electric cars and thus the move away from fossil fuels. Some of the largest deposits in Europe are located in the Donbass, currently under Russian control

<https://www.geo.gov.ua/wp-content/uploads/presentations/en/investment-opportunities-in-exploration-production-strategic-and-critical-minerals.pdf> Page 7

<https://www.renewablematter.eu/articoli/article/ucraina-tutte-le-riserve-di-litio-e-le-risorse-minerarie-nelle-zone-di-guerra>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEgqafjfa50>

Does this explain the attitude of leading German Green politicians towards the war in Ukraine? This time 'blood for lithium'?

### Wage levels

An hourly wage of €1.30 is very convenient for investors now that it has risen to €1.45 - €3.24 in China and the transport routes from Ukraine are much shorter. The ban on strikes due to martial law is also 'very practical'.

<https://www.timedoctor.com/blog/average-salary-in-ukraine/>

<https://www.sozonline.de/2023/11/ich-weiss-nicht-wie-man-dieses-system-bekaempft-aber-ich-fang-jetzt-damit-an/>

<https://www.sozonline.de/2023/12/eindruecke-von-einer-reise-in-die-ukraine/>

So much for Ukraine in particular. In view of the high number of wars, however, the question arises: are they perhaps part of the economic system, like getting wet is associated with rain?

There are two theories that point in this direction:

1) Military spending counteracts the fall in the rate of profit

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10242694.2020.1832394>

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Permanente\\_R%C3%BCstungswirtschaft](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Permanente_R%C3%BCstungswirtschaft)

<http://www.mxks.de/files/other/Deutschmann.FiskusProfitrat.html#footbackV.15> , especially 206+207

2) Military spending stabilises the economy in the sense of Keynes, just like social spending.

<https://vdocuments.net/sweezy-baran-monopoly-capital.html?page=116> , p.212+213

<https://www.lunapark21.net/ruestungsproduktion-und-kapitalismus/> 'Wie geschmiert'

(The former is more favourable to the owners of the capital goods industry in particular than social spending, which strengthens wage earners).

Let's take a closer look at the special features of military spending:

1) They are not negotiated on the market, but with the state, which is easier, especially if senior politicians/officials later want to move into well-paid positions in defence companies

<https://www.dielinke.at/artikel/international/drei-apokalyptische-reiter-krieg-kapitalismus-und-globalisierung/> , rider no. 1

2) The ability to plan is higher due to purchase guarantees,

<https://www.lunapark21.net/ruestungsproduktion-und-kapitalismus/> , 'Mit Wachstum'

3) The profit margin as well

<https://vdocuments.net/sweezy-baran-monopoly-capital.html?page=114> , p.208

<https://www.lunapark21.net/weltweite-ruestungsbranche-und-ukraine-krieg/>

However, there are also some pitfalls:

1) The employment effect decreases as the technology of weapons becomes more complex

<https://vdocuments.net/sweezy-baran-monopoly-capital.html?page=117> , p.214

The only thing that 'helps' is an increase in the number of wars and an increase in the share of armaments production in gross national product (see 2 per cent target 'military expenditure/GNP')

2) If not all expenditure is financed by taxes distributed among wage earners and companies, the payments to wage earners and companies are not matched by a purchasable commodity, resulting in permanent inflation.

<https://www.lunapark21.net/ukraine-krieg-und-inflation/>

3) The ecological consequences undermine the prerequisites of the economy in the long term

<https://www.3sat.de/wissen/nano/231020-sendung-krieg-ist-ein-turbo-fuer-die-erderwaermung-nano-100.html> , first two contributions

4) The military-industrial-political complex emerges

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military%E2%80%93industrial\\_complex](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military%E2%80%93industrial_complex)

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Milit%C3%A4risch-industrieller\\_Komplex](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Milit%C3%A4risch-industrieller_Komplex)

<https://www.lunapark21.net/diese-armee-muss-raus-auf-die-strasse/>

5) Contrary to the propaganda of the 'Zeitenwende armourers', security decreases with increasing armament, any misinterpretation can make the entire world uninhabitable through escalation

<https://vdocuments.net/sweezy-baran-monopoly-capital.html?page=117> , P.215

<https://www.ipnw.de/atomwaffen/gesundheitsfolgen/artikel/de/ein-atomkrieg-wuerde-das-globale-klim.html>

What does this mean for the peace movement?

1) It must be prepared for the fact that wars do not 'break out', but are systematically produced and provoked. They are part of the 'business model'. Even if there are other causes of war - peace work remains Sisyphus work as long as capitalism exists.

2) However, it would be a mistake for the peace movement as such to propagate socialism as an economic system. Firstly, because this would exclude many pacifists of other ideologies and secondly, because there are few examples that work in practice. 😞

3) However, we can and must point out that war and armaments necessarily entail either tax increases or cuts in social spending or permanent inflation.

4) In addition, parliamentarians and politicians who represent armaments companies and not citizens must be clearly named. They are out of place.

### Examples:

The price of a 155mm bullet rose from €2000 (2021) to €3300/unit (2023) for Rheinmetall and up to €8000/unit for others.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/nato-urges-common-standards-curbs-protectionism-boost-artillery-output-2023-10-2>

[https://t.me/ukr\\_leaks\\_fr/5703](https://t.me/ukr_leaks_fr/5703)

<https://www.businessinsider.de/politik/deutschland/so-gut-verdient-rheinmetall-an-munitionslieferungen-fuer-die-ukraine/>

<https://www.neopresse.com/wirtschaft/ukraine-so-viel-verdient-der-ruestungskonzern-rheinmetall/>

The state assumes the entrepreneurial risk for investments in the war zone Ukraine

<https://www.gtai.de/de/trade/ukraine/wirtschaftsumfeld/bundesregierung-erweitert-investitions Garantien-fuer-die-ukraine-1026478>

<https://www.nd-aktuell.de/artikel/1177301.ruestungskonzern-rheinmetall-wenn-die-violinen-schweigen.html>

<https://www.jungewelt.de/artikel/461814.ukrainekrieg-vor-mageren-jahren.html>

The money for military 'aid' mainly benefits the industry in their own country

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/11/29/ukraine-military-aid-american-economy-boost/>

The positions of Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann ( <https://www.strackzimmermann.de/> ), chairwoman of the Bundestag's 'Defence' Committee, harmonise conspicuously with the interests of Rheinmetall, which is based in her constituency of Düsseldorf.

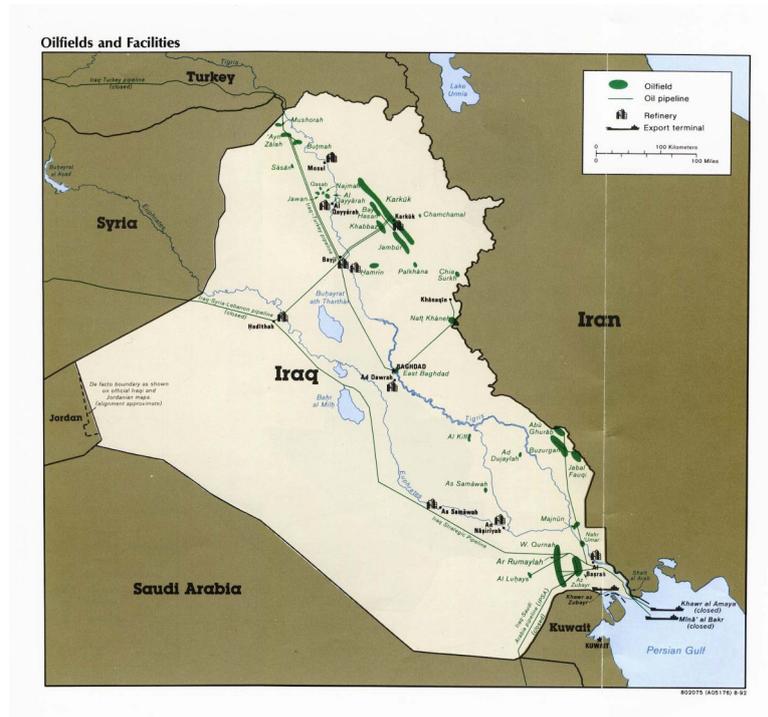
And for the private contractors of the SCAAP munitions plant in Scranton, Pennsylvania, it is certainly no disadvantage that President Biden was born there

[https://www.army.mil/article/263789/secretary\\_of\\_the\\_army\\_discusses\\_modernization\\_efforts\\_during\\_scaap\\_visit](https://www.army.mil/article/263789/secretary_of_the_army_discusses_modernization_efforts_during_scaap_visit)

This raises questions even for children:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmNTfMvHzdA>

## Iraq 2003: Blood for oil



[https://www.weltkarte.com/fileadmin/\\_migrated/pics/karte-oelquellen-irak.jpg](https://www.weltkarte.com/fileadmin/_migrated/pics/karte-oelquellen-irak.jpg)

## Ukraine 2022 - ?: Blood for lithium?

### Lithium ore spots



<https://www.geo.gov.ua/wp-content/uploads/presentations/en/investment-opportunities-in-exploration-production-strategic-and-critical-minerals.pdf>

(Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia are mostly outside Kiev's sphere of influence).

**Does the attitude of the US and German governments to the war in Ukraine have anything to do with this?**

### **3- (German) weapons against civilians**

# We need a strong NATO



For each PzH 2000 you have paid about 17 million € from tax money. © <https://imgur.com/gallery/C2aMicM>

## to defend us !



Kindergarten/school 392, Aristova str. 11, Donetsk, 6.3.2022 © [www.yaplakal.com/forum2/topic2407946.htm](http://www.yaplakal.com/forum2/topic2407946.htm)

### 3.2. Fact sheet: What are the consequences of the use of heavy weapons for the civilian population ?

29 October 2022

Keywords: civilian victims, HIMARS, howitzer 2000, weapons

Some people believe they can only end the war in Ukraine by sending more and more increasingly heavy weapons.

Here we examine the consequences for the civilian population in whose interest this is officially being done.

The analysis is not written by active professional soldiers, so there may be technical inaccuracies.

The question of what happens when one army systematically deploys its units in hospitals, schools and residential areas and another army just as systematically shoots at them is not addressed here: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/08/ukraine-ukrainian-fighting-tactics-endanger-civilians/> . Nor does it reflect the consequences of faulty targeting or deployment clearance: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luftangriff\\_bei\\_Kundus](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luftangriff_bei_Kundus) .

It is exclusively about damage to the civilian population resulting from the technology of the weapons themselves. Here is some preliminary information:

The accuracy of artillery is highly dependent on the weather, wind strength, air pressure, dust, temperature of the barrel and decreases with the increase of the range: <https://www.n-tv.de/politik/Haubitzen-und-Langrohrwaffen-im-Ukraine-Krieg-Wie-zielt-und-trifft-die-Artillerie-article23303299.html> .

In all statements, it must be taken into account that the statements of military sources about 'undesirable side effects' of weapons are always too optimistic:

The use of armed drones, for example, was presented as a great advance because of their 'accuracy'. In reality, the results in Afghanistan, for example, were devastating, with 4,000 - 10,000 civilians killed, 40% of them children: <https://www.fr.de/politik/9-11-september-2001-drohnen-krieg-terror-afghanistan-al-kaida-bin-laden-fbi-90974084.html> .

Let us now turn to two systems:

#### HIMARS

This multiple rocket launcher is described as very accurate because the rockets are satellite-guided  
<https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/products/high-mobility-artillery-rocket-system.html> .

The deviation is given as one to ten metres, depending on the type of rocket, and the use is mostly at night: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/07/01/ukraine-himars-rocket-launch-system/> , <https://de.topwar.ru/83249-obzor-artillerii-chast-4-rakety-ot-strelby-po-ploschadyam-do-vysokotochnogo-udara.html> ,

<https://en.topwar.ru/83249-obzor-artillerii-chast-4-rakety-ot-strelby-po-ploschadyam-do-vysokotochnogo-udara.html> ).

However, one case of a deviation of 300 m became known, which was denied later:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M142\\_HIMARS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M142_HIMARS) .

The missiles with the types M30A1, M39, M39A1 are comparable to cluster munitions, the use of which neither Ukraine nor Russia exclude:

<https://handicap-international.de/de/streubomben/> .

Some sources (topwar.ru) speak of damage within a radius of 70 m, others of large areas in the case of certain munitions (M30A1): [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M142\\_HIMARS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M142_HIMARS) .

It is a weapon that usually hits its target and also destroys a large part of the surrounding area. It can also be used as a fire trigger: <https://asc.army.mil/web/portfolio-item/ms-himars-m142/>

Due to its high cost, it is probably used less frequently than the self-propelled howitzer 2000.

### **Tank howitzer 2000**

<https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/ausrustung-technik-bundeswehr/landsysteme-bundeswehr/panzerhaubitze-2000>

<https://www.bundeswehr.de/resource/blob/46354/6662a740730849593c6e6c899c73d1f6/pdf-f-schiesssicherheit-data.pdf> , Policy 17.2

The range is 30 to 56 km depending on the ammunition, in continuous operation it fires just under 3 shots / minute. These may contain stray ammunition. The deviation should be one minute of arc (sixtieth of a degree):

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze\\_2000](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze_2000)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze\\_2000](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze_2000)

<https://www.kmweg.de/systeme-produkte/kettenfahrzeuge/artillerie/pzh-2000/>

<https://www.rheinmetall->

[defence.com/de/rheinmetall\\_defence/systems\\_and\\_products/weapons\\_and\\_ammunition/indirect\\_fire/artillery/index.php](https://www.rheinmetall-defence.com/de/rheinmetall_defence/systems_and_products/weapons_and_ammunition/indirect_fire/artillery/index.php)

According to statements from the field, the deviation is 150 m:

<https://www.welt.de/geschichte/article134740116/Die-Artillerie-zeigt-das-Dilemma-der-Bundeswehr.html>

The impact is lethal within a radius of 200 m: <https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/praezise-feuerkraft-schiessen-treffen-artillerie-4484462>

This means that if he was 150 m from the target and the effect extends 200 m further, there are casualties up to 350 m from the target.

To reduce the number of civilians killed, there are NATO 'Rules of Engagement'. For example, the Bundeswehr guidelines for practice firing specify which facilities may not be fired over because the risk of misses is too high:

<https://www.bundeswehr.de/resource/blob/46354/6662a740730849593c6e6c899c73d1f6/pdf-schiesssicherheit-data.pdf> , No. 1716 and that a minimum height distance of 200 m must be maintained, No. 1718 .

They also stipulate a target area of at least 500 x 500 m, No. 1726.

Indeed the targeting app used by the Ukrainian army contains information on 'collateral damage avoidance': <https://www.watson.ch/digital/analyse/588967715-gis-arta-so-funktioniert-die-heimliche-superwaffe-der-ukraine> .

But if one takes into account that even the instruction manual for the self-propelled howitzer is not followed: <https://www.dbwv.de/aktuelle-themen/blickpunkt/beitrag/panzerhaubitzen-2000-nach-vier-wochen-im-ukraine-einsatz-reparaturbeduerftig> , it is very questionable that the loss of time due to trade-offs is accepted, especially when the position has to be changed as quickly as possible after the first shot.

In summary:

the HIMARS hits its target and a surrounding area of varying distance depending on the type of missile, at least the same building, each time with 5 or 6 shots in quick succession.

The howitzer sometimes hits its target, but in any case far away areas.

By the way, the range has nothing to do with the question 'offensive or defensive weapon', the howitzer can also be an offensive weapon, just at a shorter range than HIMARS.

For Ukraine and especially the Donbass, this means that we are not talking about an empty desert, but an area with a population density of around 165 people/km (Germany: 233). A glance at the map shows that in many areas the distance between military targets and residential areas is less than 100 m, not to speak of 350 m distance or 500 x 500 m.

For the exact calculation

*(shots fired by HIMARS/tank howitzer per day) x (number of units stationed) x (percentage of targets without enough distance to civilians) = civilian casualties*

the data is missing. They are likely to be as bad as the numbers of civilian casualties in the siege of major cities like Mariupol by Russian troops.

Is there really no alternative to the 'liberation' of southern and eastern Ukraine than to turn it into fine dust, and the inhabitants into thousands of 'collateral damage' ?

These are questions for another fact sheet.

### 3.3. Are civilians being killed with German or NATO weapons in Ukraine? If so, who is responsible for this?

8 december 2022; keywords: CAESAR, civilian victims, Donetsk, HIMARS, howitzer 2000, neonazi, responsible

#### 1- Target group

- Peace groups in Germany
- International peace groups and individuals
- Bundestag and participating ministries, companies and members of the armed forces

For readers in a hurry, most paragraphs are followed by a box with the conclusion.

#### 2- What is the question?

The fact that Russian weapons are also used to kill civilians on a large scale is assumed to be known. This is being investigated by many institutions as a war crime. Currently, Germany or NATO do not supply weapons to Russia, so they are not partly responsible for this.

On the other hand, they supply heavy weapons to Ukraine, the consequences of which are explored here. As an example, the self-propelled howitzer 2000 and its French counterpart CAESAR are used, affecting the inhabitants of Donetsk, capital of the oblast of the same name.

#### 3- What are the properties of the PzH 2000? (Impact, dispersion, etc.)

According to Colonel Dietmar Felber, head of the Bundeswehr artillery school in Idar-Oberstein, who twice refers to the Ukrainian soldiers trained there as 'comrades' in the interview below, 60 - 80 % of the losses in the last wars were caused by artillery. The explosive power of an artillery shell of 40 kg is equivalent to 10 kg of TNT. After the old Soviet ammunition was used up, the Ukrainian army needed new ones from NATO with calibre 155, which cannot be fired with Soviet equipment of other calibres, so Western guns had to be supplied. According to him, the Ukrainian army only shoots at military targets and accurately because it has too few weapons and ammunition. Target acquisition is done in minutes/seconds, it is automated by an app, it uses commercial hardware and communicates with Starlink (jam resistant).

The training took place 7 days/week 10-12 h/day, 36 - 45 (*conflicting sources*) days, after which the participants went straight back into combat. At this intensity, concentration drops, another problem was the writing barrier. The German PzH have German operating dialogues, the Dutch English, the Ukrainians read Cyrillic characters, but the system needs input to execute an order. For this purpose, the fields were taped over and the inputs learned by heart. There was a lot of practice with 'smart bombs', but even they miss their target from time to time or choose the wrong one because the final selection is not humanly controlled:

<https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/aktuelles/meldungen/ukrainekrieg-deutsche-geschuetze-bewahren-itself-5461086>

<https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/ausrustung-technik-bundeswehr/landsysteme-bundeswehr/panzerhaubitze-2000>

For operating errors see 'Ukraine' in: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze\\_2000#Ukraine](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze_2000#Ukraine)

The COBRA homing system combined with this can trace the trajectory of enemy projectiles. The question is what happens when the enemy gun is surrounded by civilian installations, which is common in the Ukraine war. <https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/ausrustung-technik-bundeswehr/landsysteme-bundeswehr/artillery-locating-radar-cobra>

The range is 30 to 56 km depending on the ammunition, in continuous operation it fires just under 3 shots / minute. These may contain cluster munitions.

The deviation shall be one minute of arc (sixtieth of a degree):

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze\\_2000](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze_2000)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze\\_2000](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze_2000)

<https://www.kmweg.de/systeme-produkte/kettenfahrzeuge/artillerie/pzh-2000/>

<https://www.rheinmetall->

[defence.com/en/rheinmetall\\_defence/systems\\_and\\_products/weapons\\_and\\_ammunition/indirect\\_fir](https://www.rheinmetall-defence.com/en/rheinmetall_defence/systems_and_products/weapons_and_ammunition/indirect_fir)

[e/artillery/index.php](https://www.rheinmetall-defence.com/en/rheinmetall_defence/systems_and_products/weapons_and_ammunition/indirect_fir) with the unword of the century "immediately available innovative lethality solutions

According to statements from the field, the deviation in 2012 was up to 150 m with computer support: <https://www.welt.de/geschichte/article134740116/Die-Artillerie-zeigt-das-Dilemma-der-Bundeswehr.html> .

Another source (Russian military blogger) reported up to 1 km in 2015:

<https://en.topwar.ru/81934-kompaniya-rheinmetall-perevodit-proizvodstvo-i-ispytaniya-artillerijskih-boepripasov-v-yuzhnyu-afriku.html>

According to another statement by a non-soldier, it is currently 5-10 metres:

[https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/ukraine/id\\_100051946/gegenoffensive-der-ukraine-deutsche-panzerhaubitze-half-bei-rueckerung.html](https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/ukraine/id_100051946/gegenoffensive-der-ukraine-deutsche-panzerhaubitze-half-bei-rueckerung.html)

According to the manufacturer, 85% of DM 121 ammunition falls on the size of a football field (100 - 105 m by 64 - 68 m), 15% outside:

<https://www.bundeswehr-journal.de/2019/tausende-artillerieschosse-dm121-fuer-die-bundeswehr/>

With fragment ammunition, trajectories are largely unpredictable:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fragmentation\\_\(weaponry\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fragmentation_(weaponry)) ,

this is also produced in Ukraine: <https://www.watson.ch/digital/analyse/588967715-gis-arta-so-funktioniert-die-heimliche-superwaffe-der-ukraine> , see ad for Kvitnyk.

Alongside this, firing accuracy suffers outside shadows, according to a Russian source:

<https://uz.sputniknews.ru/20220704/nemetskaya-sau-panzerhaubitze-2000-protiv-rossiyskoy-koalitsii-sv-v-donbasse-25901919.html> .

The impact is lethal within a radius of 200 m: <https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/praezise-feuerkraft-schiessen-treffen-artillerie-4484462>

**This means that if he was 150 m from the target and the effect extends 200 m further, there are casualties up to 350 m from the target.**

In order to reduce the number of civilians killed, there are NATO's 'Rules of Engagement'. For example, the Bundeswehr's guidelines for practice firing specify which facilities may not be fired over because the risk of misses is too high:

<https://www.reservistenverband.de/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/pdf-schiesssicherheit-data.pdf> , no. 1716, formerly also at:

<https://www.bundeswehr.de/resource/blob/46354/6662a740730849593c6e6c899c73d1f6/vorschrift-schiesssicherheit-data.pdf> , and that a minimum height distance of 200 m must be maintained, No. 1718 .

They also provide for a target area of at least 500 x 500 m, No. 1726, see also 17.2.

While the targeting app used by the Ukrainian army does contain information on the 'Collateral damage avoidance':

<https://www.watson.ch/digital/analyse/588967715-gis-arta-so-funktioniert-die-heimliche-superweapon-of-ukraine> .

But considering that even the manual for the self-propelled howitzer is not followed:

<https://www.dbwv.de/aktuelle-themen/blickpunkt/beitrag/panzerhaubitzen-2000-nach-vier-wochen-in-ukraine-use-needs-repair> ,

it is very questionable that the loss of time due to trade-offs is accepted, especially if after taking up the shooting position and the first shot, the position has to be changed as quickly as possible.

By the way, the range has nothing to do with the question 'offensive or defensive weapon', the PzH can also be an offensive weapon, just at a shorter range than HIMARS.

Due to the combination of factors: too fast training, different writing, deviation of the bullet trajectory, impact strength and uncontrollable ammunition, the PzH2000 should not be used near civilians.

#### 4- Where are the locations?

Currently Ukraine has about 15 PzH from Germany and some from the Netherlands and Italy, it is unclear how many of them are functioning, as of mid-August 10 of the German ones were out of service:

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze\\_2000#Ukraine](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panzerhaubitze_2000#Ukraine)

There are reports of use in

**Kupjanks / Kharkiv** (where a neo-Nazi unit 'Kraken' is located, which is not under the army but the secret service. It is accused of shooting bound prisoners of war in the legs and also of shooting at its own commanders. In the interview with its commander, it is not clear whether its artillery has direct command of the PzH):

[https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/ukraine/id\\_100051946/gegenoffensive-der-ukraine-deutsche-panzerhaubitze-half-bei-rueckeroberung.html](https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/ukraine/id_100051946/gegenoffensive-der-ukraine-deutsche-panzerhaubitze-half-bei-rueckeroberung.html) ,

<https://www.derstandard.at/story/2000137691405/unterwegs-mit-den-kaempfern-des-asow-regiments-in-the-ukraine>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/06/03/ukraine-kraken-volunteer-military-unit/> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D\\_xoW2sU5V4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_xoW2sU5V4) , Min. 3.47

<https://www.hrw.org/de/news/2022/03/31/ukraine-mutmasslicher-missbrauch-von-prisoners-of-war-were-a-war-crime>

<https://exxpress.at/rechte-kraken-einheit-meutert-ukrainer-feuern-auf-eigene-kommandanten/>

#### 2 in **Kharkiv**

<https://www.bild.de/politik/ausland/politik-ausland/ukraine-krieg-aufklaerung-strategie-waffen-so-much-nato-stuck-in-ukraine-success-81277432.pic.html>

**Bakhmut**, bullet type DM 121, some of the soldiers wear Bundeswehr clothing, which is probably not in keeping with the German government's efforts not to be seen as a party to the war.

<https://www.bild.de/politik/ausland/politik-ausland/schlacht-um-bakhmut-panzerhaubitze-2000-im-insert-80889460.picture.html>

<https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-russia-germany-howitzers-panzerhaubitze-artillery/31978884.html> , minute 2:41 Photo DM 121

It possibly scatters fragments:

<https://cat-uxo.com/explosive-hazards/projectiles/155mm-dm-121-projectile>

### ***Lysychansk***

<https://newsrnd.com/news/2022-06-30-heavy-weapons-from-germany--panzerhaubitze-2000-is-apparently-used-in-lysyhansk.rkZ5OUHicq.html>

### ***Donbass in general*** (=Donetsk and Lugansk)

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2022/07/panzerhaubitze-2000-the-german-artillery-gun-slamming-russia-in-ukraine/>

### ***Lugansk***

<https://www.extremnews.com/nachrichten/weltgeschehen/af3618d8b18a60e> (quoted Russian source)

### ***Donetsk Region***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcstnlckwaM>

Of the few functioning PzH, a low single-digit number are located in the Donetsk region, not necessarily with the city of Donetsk.
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### **5- Impacts with civilian victims in Donetsk**

The first question is whether civilians in Donetsk are being hit by shells at all. This has been true for many years and is still true today:

<https://odysee.com/@AlwaysTheTrue:0/Donbass,-huit-ans-apr%C3%A8s-Anne-Laure-Bonnel:5>  
*Caution Disturbing Images* Minutes 7, 14, 32, Floor 21 (if font is blurred, change resolution).

Kindergarten of School 392, Aristova Street 11, Donetsk, 6 June 2022

<https://www.yaplakal.com/forum2/topic2407946.htm>

The second question is whether they are being hit by NATO calibre. That, too, has been proven:

<https://www.msn.com/de-at/nachrichten/ausland/autos-in-brand-%E2%80%93-ukrainische-armee-angegriffen-donetsk/ar-AA131ox4> , quoting Russian source, with photo

<https://dan-news.info/en/photos/aftermath-of-kiev-gunmens-artillery-attack-at-central-donetsk-indoor-market/> , DPR source ('People's Republic of Donetsk'), *Caution Disturbing Photos*

<https://www.plenglish.com/news/2022/10/03/ukraine-shells-donetsk-cities/> , quoting Russian source

<https://sckk.info/2022/11/14/evropa-aktivno-pomogaet-ukraine-ubivat-mirnyh-grazhdan-respubliki/>  
DPR source

**The problem in preparing this fact sheet is that Western sources rarely report on casualties in non-Kiev controlled areas and Eastern reports are dismissed as propaganda. Therefore, Eastern sources with dates are selected below and then compared with Western sources.**

Because of very detailed information about bullet types and photos, we start with the 'Russophile' source:

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/>

A search using '*shell civilians donetsk*' returns the following cases:

6 June: <https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/06/07/france-has-been-killing-civilians-in-the-donbass-since-yesterday/>

The NATO-calibre shelling was confirmed by France TV without mentioning civilian casualties: [https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/europe/manifestations-en-ukraine/guerre-en-ukraine-reportage-au-plus-pres-des-artilleurs-ukrainiens-qui-utilisent-les-canons-francais-CAESAR\\_5181262.html](https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/europe/manifestations-en-ukraine/guerre-en-ukraine-reportage-au-plus-pres-des-artilleurs-ukrainiens-qui-utilisent-les-canons-francais-CAESAR_5181262.html)

14 June: <https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/07/15/ukrainian-army-bombs-donetsk-centre-killing-two-and-injuring-five/>

A Reuters photographer took photos of the market, a UN spokesperson confirmed the bullet hit a clinic:

<https://www.reuters.com/business/aerospace-defense/three-killed-artillery-attack-donetsk-market-separatist-news-agency-2022-06-13/>

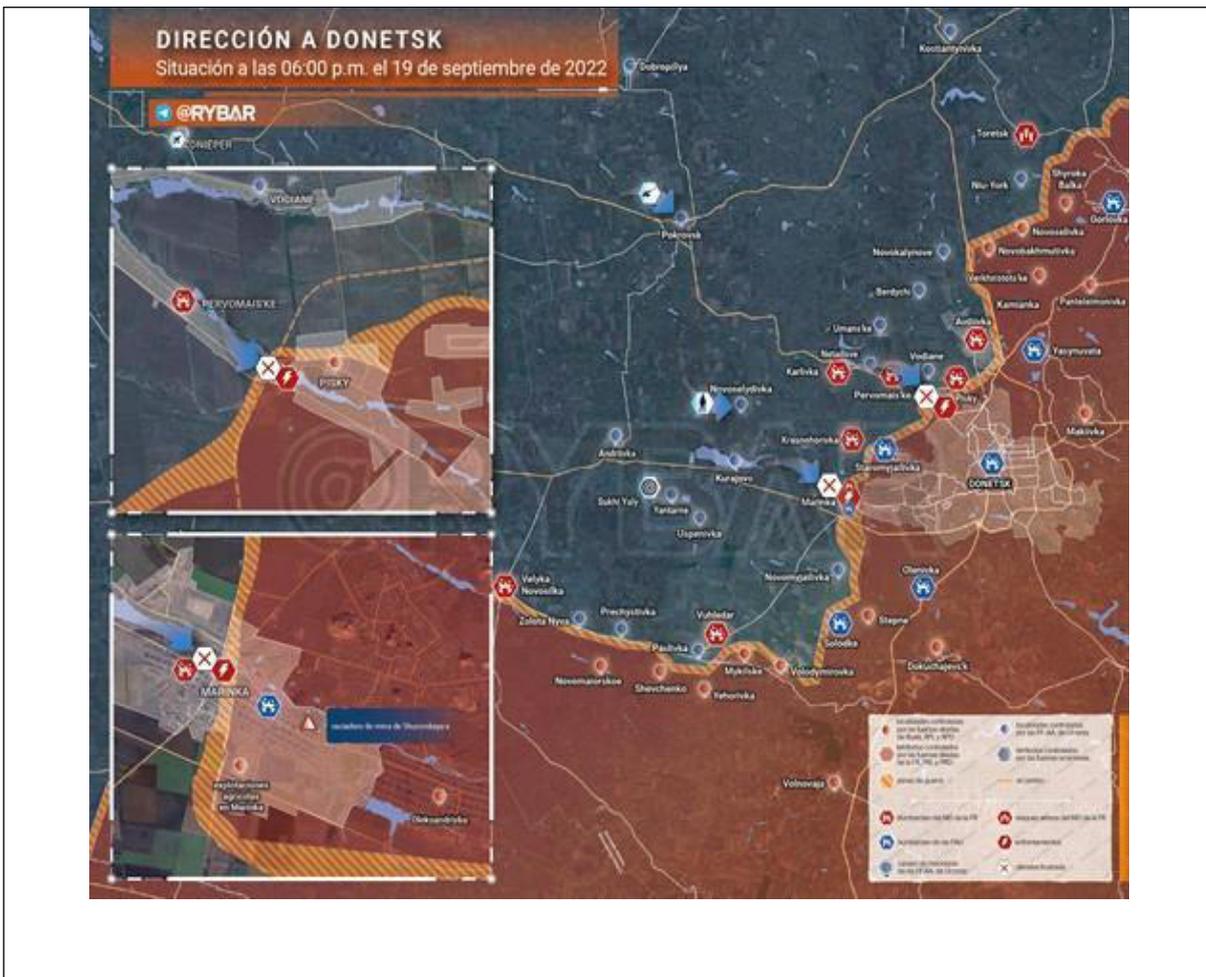
NATO calibre on 4 August: <https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/08/05/dpr-ukrainian-army-bombs-funeral-ceremony-of-colonel-korsa-in-donetsk-killing-eight-including-a-child/>

Grade + NATO-calibre on 5 August: <https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/08/06/ukrainian-army-bombs-hospital-train-in-station-and-bus-in-donetsk-leaving-four-civilians-dead-and-19-injured/>

French CAESAR on 17 September: <https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/09/17/ukrainian-army-shells-donetsk-centre-with-french-guns-killing-four-civilians-and-wounding-eight/>

Reuters also reports this with 'unable to confirm': <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/shelling-donetsk-city-kills-13-russian-backed-separatist-mayor-2022-09-19/>

On 19 September, the Russian Telegram blog Rybar states bombardment of the city centre:



French CAESAR on 22 September: <https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/09/22/ukrainian-army-shells-donetsk-centre-with-french-shells-killing-six-civilians/>

Next, the news about the bombing of a market on 22 September is reviewed:

1) Camarada Fibrik' (Latin America) reports 'massive attacks': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-HOLiF-110w> , minute 20.52

2) The DPR successor to the former OSCE mission gives location and dead: <https://dnr.sckk.info/ezhednevnyaya-oficialnaya-svodka-sckk-dnr-s-06-00-22-sentyabrya-po-06-00-23-sentyabrya/>

3) A Reuters reporter saw the dead: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russian-installed-separatists-say-least-six-killed-shelling-donetsk-market-2022-09-22/>

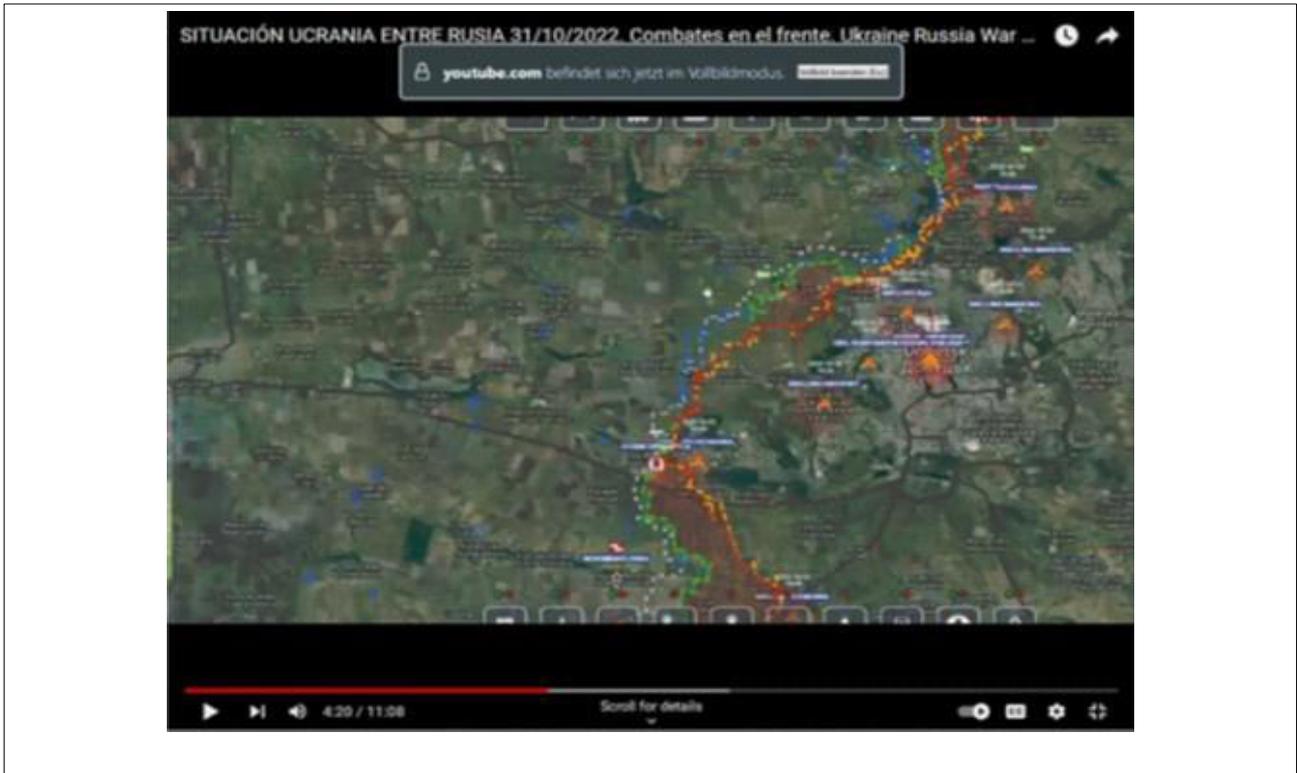
So it seems that the source at crosscheck with western is trustworthy. The list continues with:

HIMARS on 24 September: <https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/09/27/dpr-referendum-on-integration-with-russia-continues-despite-ukrainian-army-shelling/>

Reuter's photos of unexplained calibre attack on administration building on 16 October: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/donetsks-city-administration-building-hit-by-shelling-russian-backed-officials-2022-10-16/?taid=634bd17318d52c0001188ec2>

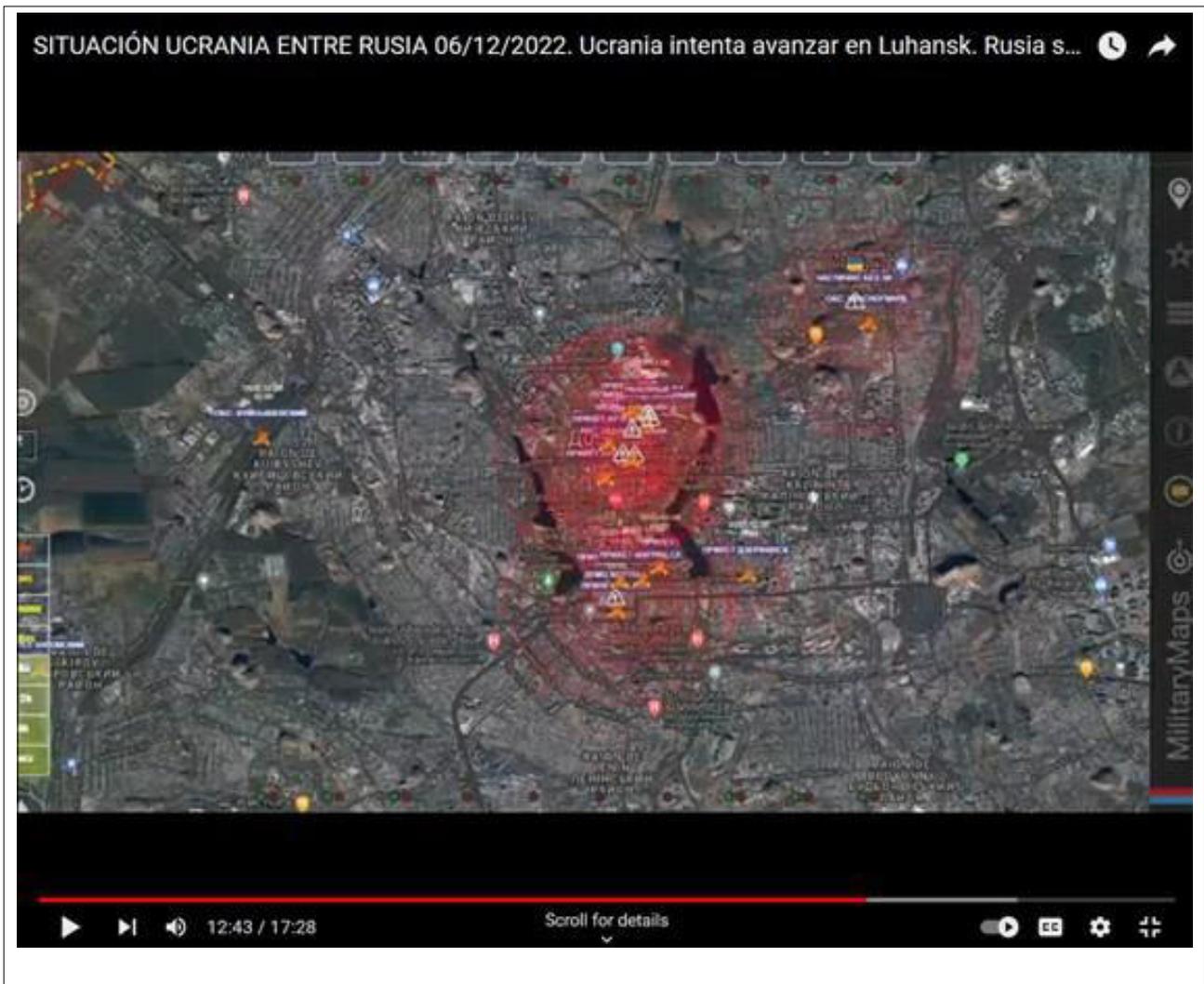
Unknown calibre on 30 Oct, Latin American source comparing Ukrainian and Russian military maps, Russian here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fWbuvBC\\_CI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fWbuvBC_CI) , minute 4.20



Attacks and civilian casualties increased in December, same source as 30 October:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4BIzkbUI0U> , minute 12.43



Bombing of a covered market on 6 December, Western sources with photos from Reuters:  
<https://www.hoy.es/internacional/europa/muerte-tienda-ropa-20221206201717-ntrc.html> , photo series [https://www.hoy.es/internacional/europa/ucrania-bombardea-mercado-20221206193701-garc\\_amp.html](https://www.hoy.es/internacional/europa/ucrania-bombardea-mercado-20221206193701-garc_amp.html) ,  
<https://www.europapress.es/internacional/noticia-rusia-denuncia-nuevo-bombardeo-fuerzas-ucranianas-centro-donetsk-20221206105926.html>

The large city of Donetsk (about one million inhabitants) is regularly bombed. The shells often hit and kill civilians. They are often NATO calibre.

#### 6- Are the numbers of victims reliable?

The top US general, Mark Milley, spoke on 10 November of 40,000 civilians killed since February (and advised ceasefire negotiations):

<https://kurier.at/politik/ausland/ukraine-krieg-mehr-als-100000-tote-und-verletzte-hohe-victim-numbers-on-both-sides/402212631> ,  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/10/world/europe/ukraine-russia-war-casualties->

[deaths.html#:~:text=General%20Milley%20said%20that%20Russia%27s,human%20suffering%2C%E2%80%9D%20he%20said%20.](#)

In Ukraine, no one has an overview any more because of the high numbers of refugees:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/more-than-15000-people-missing-war-ukraine-says-official-2022-11-24/>

The number of civilian casualties is usually underreported by soldiers, which is particularly clear in the example of drones:

<https://www.fr.de/politik/9-11-september-2001-drohnen-krieg-terror-afghanistan-al-kaida-bin-laden-fbi-90974084.html> , see also:

[http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57\\_BanningExplosiveWeapons\\_ENG\\_def.pdf](http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57_BanningExplosiveWeapons_ENG_def.pdf) , page 24.

The situation is similar with the controlled, so-called 'smart' projectiles. The 'circular error probable' is between 6 and 30 metres. 50 % of the projectiles must fall within this range, the other half even further away:

[http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57\\_BanningExplosiveWeapons\\_ENG\\_def.pdf](http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57_BanningExplosiveWeapons_ENG_def.pdf) , page 22, note 73.

The use of "artificial intelligence" does not make things better;

[http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57\\_BanningExplosiveWeapons\\_ENG\\_def.pdf](http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57_BanningExplosiveWeapons_ENG_def.pdf) , page 27/28.

It is even suspected that the use of 'precision weapons' at long ranges causes more civilian casualties

[http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57\\_ES\\_BanningExplosiveWeapons\\_ENG.pdf](http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57_ES_BanningExplosiveWeapons_ENG.pdf) ,Page 2  
[http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57\\_BanningExplosiveWeapons\\_ENG\\_def.pdf](http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57_BanningExplosiveWeapons_ENG_def.pdf) , P.29.

Civilian casualty figures are too low rather than too high. Modern 'accurate intelligent' weapons are no guarantee for lower casualty figures, rather the reverse.
--

## **7- Are the Russian/DPR troops shelling Donetsk itself?**

This theory was often put forward by the Ukrainian side as long as both sides were still using Soviet ammunition. Now that Ukraine has switched to NATO 155 calibre, it is no longer tenable.

The same accusation was made about the shelling of the Zaporiyia nuclear power plant and proved to be false:

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/krieg-ukraine-atomkraftwerk-saporischschja-1.5670802>

"Why don't the IAEA inspectors clearly name horse and rider?"

The two IAEA inspectors stationed at the NPP since the beginning of September only report confidentially to the Vienna headquarters. Their task is to ensure the safety of the nuclear power plant, but not to track military movements or bullet trajectories. For this reason, the IAEA prefers to refrain from clear attributions of blame in the difficult manoeuvring between the Ukrainians and the Russians. Nevertheless, it is providing clues: On Tuesday and Thursday, for example, the inspectors reported on the shelling of

of an industrial area east of the power plant. This suggests that Ukrainian troops probably shelled Russian positions from the other side of the Dnieper."

The city of Donetsk is shelled by Ukrainian troops.

### **8- Are the dead actors or do they come from the morgue?**

That cannot be ruled out from a distance. However, it would be very difficult to regularly bring in bodies so quickly and lay them out unnoticed in broad daylight in the city centre and surround them with destruction. Moreover, some reports are consistent with Western reports of shelling that was not known in advance.

A 'fake' can therefore be ruled out.

### **9- Is the shelling of civilians intentional?**

It is well known that the number of civilian casualties is particularly high in cities (such as Donetsk): [http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57\\_BanningExplosiveWeapons\\_ENG\\_def.pdf](http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57_BanningExplosiveWeapons_ENG_def.pdf), page 19.

It is also known that civilian buildings were shelled in Ukraine as early as 2016:

<https://player.vimeo.com/video/696528534?h=b6a324c5d7> minute 27, 44 ,

the same now applies to the Russian border town of Belgorod:

<https://www.welt.de/politik/ausland/video239705495/Krieg-in-der-Ukraine-Video-soll-Panzerhaubitze-2000-im-Einsatz-an-front-zeigen.html> , minute 2.08.

The answer to the question is difficult because both sides have the 'habit' of housing weapons and soldiers in civilian facilities: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/08/ukraine-ukrainian-fighting-tactics-endanger-civilians/> .

This was still true on 22 November:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_J6rDcD-1i4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_J6rDcD-1i4) , minute 5.30 ff - troops in clinic and 'school 2' and minute 6.20 - troops in residential buildings.

Thus, without being on the ground, it cannot be assessed whether the shelling was deliberately directed against purely civilian targets or was a ricochet when firing at a military target or also hit a military target in a civilian environment.

However, it stands to reason that the attack on a funeral service for a female soldier on 4 August, which was attended by high-ranking soldiers and civilians, and the shelling on 24 September during the referendum were no coincidence.

Deliberate shelling of civilians can be suspected in some cases, but not proven at a distance.

## 10- Was the shelling of civilians an accident ?

Errors certainly occur with the PzH because of the extremely short training and use contrary to the operating instructions: <https://www.businessinsider.de/politik/deutschland/kaputte-panzerhaubitzen-im-ukraine-krieg-a/>

In addition, special ammunition is fired at too great a range, resulting in deviations : <https://www.dbwv.de/aktuelle-themen/blickpunkt/beitrag/panzerhaubitzen-2000-nach-vier-wochen-im-ukraine-einsatz-reparaturbeduerftig> .

The age of the guns (around 20 years) may also play a role in the reduced reliability: <https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/bundeswehr-panzerhaubitze-2000-ukraine-1.5579459> To what extent old or expired ammunition was delivered cannot be determined.

Finally, splinters from missiles intercepted by air defences may fall on residential areas.

There is no reliable information on the extent to which these crews experience 'forward panic', i.e. uncontrolled firing under stress. After all, the constant time pressure and change of position is stressful:

Randall Collins, Violence: A microsociological theory, Publication date 22 Feb 2011 <https://press.princeton.edu/books/paperback/9780691143224/violence> , New Jersey, USA, Chapter 3

It is equally unclear whether there are people in the crews who confuse their mission with a computer game:

<https://www.deutschlandfunkkultur.de/kampfdrohnen-fuer-die-bundeswehr-wo-sind-die-stimmen-the-100.html>

and how drug use is: <https://www.derstandard.de/story/2000135810688/pillen-schnaps- and-no-fire-break-under-which-influence-in-the-war>

In contrast, it is quite possible that part of the operators hate the population of non-Kiev controlled areas as a whole and make no distinction between soldiers and civilians (see remark about 'Kraken' in paragraph 4, 'Kupyansk').

A high percentage of civilian deaths are victims of 'mistakes' and 'oversights'. If the shelling of a large city continues regularly after many 'oversights', it is no longer an oversight.

## 11- Were civilians killed in Donetsk with the French CAESAR?

As reviewed in paragraph 5, no doubt:

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/06/07/france-has-been-killing-civilians-in-the-donbass-since-yesterday/> , [https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/europe/manifestations-en-ukraine/guerre-en-ukraine-reportage-au-plus-pres-des-artilleurs-ukrainiens-qui-utilisent-les-canons-francais-CAESAR\\_5181262.html](https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/europe/manifestations-en-ukraine/guerre-en-ukraine-reportage-au-plus-pres-des-artilleurs-ukrainiens-qui-utilisent-les-canons-francais-CAESAR_5181262.html)

The killing of civilians with NATO calibre is proven. As Soviet ammunition runs out, NATO weapons fire and casualties will increase.

## **12- Were civilians killed in Donetsk with the German PzH 2000? Have precautions been taken to ensure that this does not happen?**

The PzH is deployed in the Donetsk region. There are no signs of shelling of the capital or civilian casualties so far.

This is probably because the few howitzers that are still working are being used in places with heavier fighting. As more are delivered, the risk increases that Donetsk will also be shelled with PzH and that there will be civilian casualties, as is already the case with CAESAR. With a delivery of 100 units, several would fire on Donetsk and exceed the death toll of CAESAR.

The conditions under which these were handed over to the Ukrainian army (or the neo-Nazi unit Kraken?) are probably secret. It is noticeable, however, that there are no hints at all on the internet. Perhaps no conditions were imposed.

So far, there is no record of PzH 2000 casualties in the capital Donetsk. This will change as deliveries increase. Apparently, there are no guarantees to protect civilians.

## **13- What does international law say?**

Some ask whether the Federal Republic is a participant in the war:

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/prantls-blick-steinmeier-krieg-in-der-ukraine-putin-1.5683539>

"But while I was still thinking about it, Steinmeier was already saying: "Our country is not at war. And we don't want that to change either." State of the Nation Address, 30.10.2022

A Bundestag report sees things somewhat differently:

[https://www.bundestag.de/resource/blob/892384/d9b4c174ae0e0af275b8f42b143b2308/WD\\_-2-019-22-pdf-data.pdf](https://www.bundestag.de/resource/blob/892384/d9b4c174ae0e0af275b8f42b143b2308/WD_-2-019-22-pdf-data.pdf) , page 6

Regardless of this, the use of heavy weapons in populated areas is in any case illegal under international law if 'indiscriminate' or 'disproportionate' . This is independent of the question of who attacked and who was attacked:

[http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57\\_ES\\_BanningExplosiveWeapons\\_ENG.pdf](http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57_ES_BanningExplosiveWeapons_ENG.pdf),  
Page 1

[http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57\\_BanningExplosiveWeapons\\_ENG\\_def.pdf](http://centredelas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/informe57_BanningExplosiveWeapons_ENG_def.pdf) ,  
page 10, 17

The regular shelling of the major city of Donetsk with heavy weapons is a war crime.

## **14- Who is criminally responsible?**

It is obvious that a company finds it good to sell 100 howitzers with a unit price of 17 millions (apparently there are no quantity discounts in the arms business):

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/ukraine-panzerhaubitzen-krauss-maffei -1.5629107>

Other people also see the war mainly as a positive learning experience (and have already used it).

before the Russian invasion, when the conflict was confined to the Donbass):

<https://www.tagesspiegel.de/politik/das-konnen-nato-und-bundeswehr-von-ukrainischen-soldaten-learn-8025634.htm> 1

However, the joy is marred by the fact that aiding and abetting homicide is a punishable offence:

<https://dejure.org/gesetze/StGB/27.html>

If the killing of civilians in Donetsk is accidental, it is negligent homicide.

If the regular occurrence of such faults is known and foreseeable because it is frequent, or if the firing is intentional, it is intentional homicide or murder: <https://www.teichmann-law.ch/blog/2021/Unterscheidung-Toetung-Totschlag-Mord.html>

The supply companies, the federal government, some of the members of the Bundestag, and the federal army trainers are guilty of aiding and abetting involuntary manslaughter and/or intentional homicide. Since the supply companies are concerned with profit, which is rather a reprehensible motive, aiding and abetting murder also comes into question.

### **15- Are there any precedents?**

Some of the people who aid and abet the killing of civilians (government, members of parliament) or support it (parts of the opposition) are immune. However, this does not apply to the employees and management of the supplier companies:

[https://www.zeit.de/gesellschaft/zeitgeschehen/2021-03/bgh-urteil-heckler-koch-waffen-exporte-mexico?utm\\_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.startpage.com%2F](https://www.zeit.de/gesellschaft/zeitgeschehen/2021-03/bgh-urteil-heckler-koch-waffen-exporte-mexico?utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.startpage.com%2F)

nor for the soldiers in training, who may and must refuse orders against international law:

<https://www.buzer.de/gesetz/2246/a31647.htm>

A very detailed account, mixed with political assessments in need of discussion:

<https://www.heise.de/tp/features/Deutsche-Soldaten-im-illegalen-Krieg-gegen-Syrien-3377043.html?page=all>

In Germany, there is already case law on the subject.

### **16- What will be objected to this fact sheet?**

"This is Russian propaganda!" - The fact that Western newspapers are very selective in reporting civilian casualties in areas not controlled by Kiev is their business and not the fault of the fact-checker. The essential Russian sources have been compared with Western ones.

"The Russian army also kills civilians!" Yes. But here the question is the role of the Federal Republic, France, the USA. They are not currently supplying Russia with heavy weapons, so they are not responsible for the victims caused by Russian weapons.

"You can't make an omelette without breaking eggs!" If mistakes occur regularly and predictably and are not stopped, that is approval, and if the tools are supplied for it, aiding and abetting.

"The defence of Europe's freedom is the greater good, sacrifices must be made for it! On what legal basis was it decided that residents of Donetsk must die for this without asking them? Who decided this?"

Some truths are uncomfortable. But it is better to deal with them now than to set up a committee of enquiry twenty years from now:

<https://www.friedenskooperative.de/monitoring-projekt-afghanistan>

#### 17- **What do we need now?**

1) For the PzH already delivered, the German government must demand guarantees that they will not be used against targets where there is a risk to civilians and that they will not be handed over to units involved in war crimes (Azov, Kraken, etc.).

2) This must be checked on site unannounced.

3) If these guarantees are not given or not complied with, no more PzH may be repaired.

4) The German government must lobby its alliance partners to adopt similar regulations for comparable weapons (CAESAR, HIMARS, etc.). In France, one can already check the legal situation.

5) No further deliveries may take place. Any persons recruited for the 100-unit order shall be employed in civilian production.

6) The energy released will be used to achieve a ceasefire as proposed by the top US general, and then to negotiate a lasting peace settlement:

<https://www.christmasappeal.ipb.org/peace-plans/>

The time between the Christmas festivals of the Orthodox and other Christian churches and New Year is ideal for this:

[https://www.christmasappeal.ipb.org/german-de/.](https://www.christmasappeal.ipb.org/german-de/)



### 3.4. Did mine AT2 (DM1399) from Germany kill civilians in Donetsk (27/28.3.23)?

*11 april 2023; keywords: Baerbock, Dynamit Nobel, mine, war crime*

A civilian loses both legs due to the explosion of a vehicle mine fired by an artillery rocket (cluster munitions, 28 mines per rocket), which landed by parachute in a residential area . He dies in hospital, a second civilian is seriously injured.

*Since the Ukrainian government claims that the Russian army is shelling the towns in its area itself and then laying out remnants of NATO weapons brought in from other places, all information is checked for fake probability.*

Exact description in the 2nd part of the article, caution - contains among other things disturbing photo of the man without legs when he was still alive:

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/2023/03/29/ukrainian-army-kills-three-civilians-and-wounds-four-others-in-donetsk-with-western-weapons/>

The source is not politically neutral, but has always been accurate. The photo could not be confirmed or refuted. There is no indication whether the missile was aimed at the residential area or was fired prematurely on its way to another 'target'.

The region's 'war crimes recording centre' also reports on this without photos:

<https://dnr.sckk.info/oficialnaya-svodka-predstavitelstva-dnr-v-sckk-s-00-00-28-03-2023-po-00-00-29-03-2023-goda/> , as does the state news agency: <https://dan-news.ru/en/law-order/man-wounded-in-german-mine-blast-in-donetsk-this-in-hospital/>

Reuters reports another bombing with civilian casualties on the same day, but does not mention it:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukrainian-shelling-kills-two-civilians-say-russian-installed-officials-2023-03-28/>

The remaining Western agencies generally do not provide information on civilian casualties in Donetsk. Background information:

<https://t.me/donbassinsider/33951>

<https://t.me/donbassinsider/33953> :

<https://t.me/donbassinider/33963> with video of impact site, parachute remains etc :

**Donbass Insider**  
34.263 Abonnenten

**Angeheftete Nachricht**  
Pour soutenir mon travail de manière régulière, il y a un nouveau moyen :  
temporairement le russe, ce qui empêche la detonation des munitions et complique l'élimination.

🚚 C'est suite à l'impact d'une telle mine ce matin le long du 29 avenue du Kremlin qu'un homme né en 1946 est mort des suites de ses blessures à l'hôpital (il avait perdu les deux jambes lors de l'explosion), et une femme née en 1949, a une amputation traumatique des deux pieds.

👤 149 🗿 13 ❤️ 7 👍 5 👁️ 4724 12:46

**4 Kommentare**

**Donbass Insider**  
Weitergeleitet aus Patrick Lancaster News Today

01:02



**⚡ #BREAKING PROOF UKRAINE USES GERMAN WEAPONS ON CIVILIANS AGAIN ⚡ (VIDEO REPORT)**  
Ukraine fired GERMAN supplied AT-2 (DM1399) scatterable anti-tank mine on Kuybyshevsky district Donetsk at 29 Kremlevsky Ave. A man born in 1946 had both legs blown off and has died. An elderly woman was also seriously wounded.  
The AT2 mine is a scatterable anti-tank mine developed by Dynamit Nobel . It can be scattered from artillery rockets or from mine laying systems, and is in service with the British, German and Norwegian armed forces. AT2 mines were donated to Ukraine by Germany.  
A lot more updates from location coming soon

👤 110 👍 8 🗿 5 ❤️ 1 🔥 1 👁️ 4584 12:48

**1 Kommentar**

From a distance, it is not possible to verify whether the videos are staged. However, earlier fact-checking revealed evidence of numerous civilian casualties in Donetsk from regular shelling with French and US weapons, often in marketplaces.

Regardless of whether civilians were actually victims of the mine, the use of cluster munitions is prohibited and the supply is illegal:

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%9Cbereinkommen\\_%C3%BCber\\_Streumunition](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%9Cbereinkommen_%C3%BCber_Streumunition) .

Therefore, the research will continue:

### 1. How does this mine work?

<https://cat-uxo.com/explosive-hazards/landmines/at-2-landmine>

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/AT2\\_\(anti-tank\\_mine\)#Ukraine\\_Ukraine](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/AT2_(anti-tank_mine)#Ukraine_Ukraine)

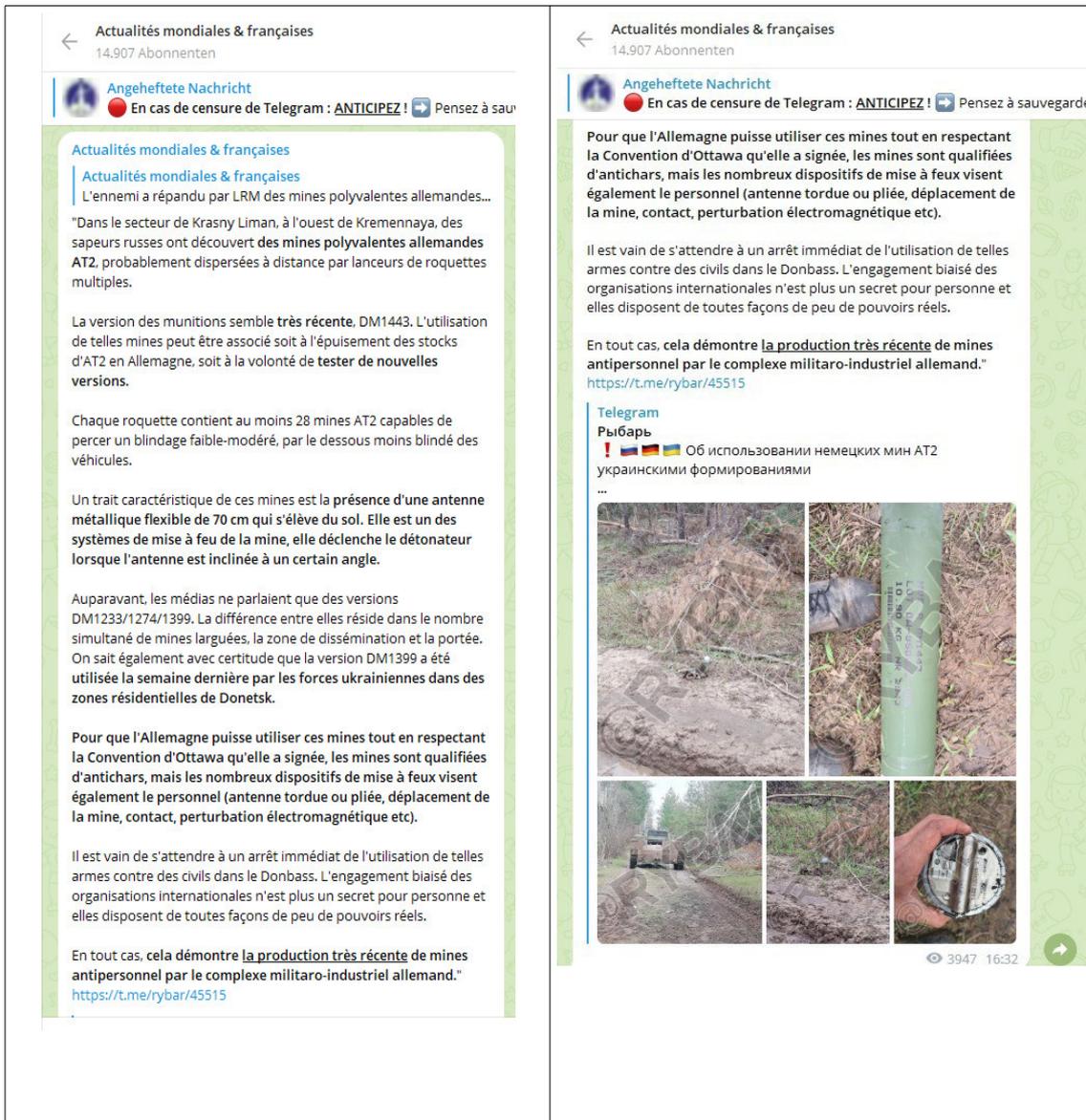
### 2. Who makes(s) them?

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dynamit\\_Nobel](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dynamit_Nobel)

It was produced 'until the end of the 90s' (before Dynamit Nobel split it up). uziert. In 1997 it was banned as cluster munitions.

The successor company <https://dn-defence.com/> does not offer them publicly on the web. So it is difficult to enforce producer liability.

Recently there is a hint from a normally well-informed Russian military blogger about a new variant (DM 1443) for which nothing can be found on the internet. This would mean that production (by a successor company to Dynamit Nobel?) has resumed. **This is not the focus of this fact sheet, but it would be very good if someone had the time and courage to clarify this:**



### 3. Who supplies(s) them?

<https://twitter.com/uaweapons/status/1573284659521548288>

[https://en.defence-ua.com/news/ukraines\\_armed\\_forces\\_destroy\\_120\\_russian\\_tanks\\_in\\_kherson\\_region\\_with\\_german\\_at2\\_mines-4325.html](https://en.defence-ua.com/news/ukraines_armed_forces_destroy_120_russian_tanks_in_kherson_region_with_german_at2_mines-4325.html)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eGa9RuTNrMo> (disputed source)

[https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/ukraine/id\\_100059400/ukraine-krieg-deutsche-mine-in-the-ukraine-emerged.html](https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/ukraine/id_100059400/ukraine-krieg-deutsche-mine-in-the-ukraine-emerged.html)

Accordingly, they could come from GB or DE. It is possible that the delivery was made secretly. However, there are at least four pieces of evidence that they were supplied by DE, one of them by

the federal government itself:

<https://www.globaldefensecorp.com/2022/09/26/germany-delivers-at-2-anti-tank-mines-to-ukraine/>

<https://mil.in.ua/en/news/ukraine-received-german-at-2-anti-tank-mine/>

<https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/minen-aufklaerung-ukraine-krieg-russland-100.html>  
of 4.4.23, confirmed by the German government <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/themes/war-in-the-ukraine/supplies-ukraine-2054514>

If they come from DE, there would have to be a permit from the Ministry of Economics. 14,900 mines is no small thing.

The transport could have gone via the Ministry of Defence in a 'package' with other weapons, e.g. as accessories to the multiple rocket launchers.

(Even if they came from the UK, permission would have to be sought in DE and the Ministry of Economics would also have to be informed).

#### 4. Possible criminal offences for German participants

International law applies not only to aggressors (Russia), but also to those attacked (Ukraine) and their supporters (Germany).

a) if civilians are victims: **Aiding and abetting war crimes**

<https://www.hrw.org/de/news/2022/05/12/angriffe-mit-streumuniton-der-ukraine-stoppen>  
(Someone could argue that the Ottawa ban only applies to anti-personnel mines and that these are vehicle/tank mines. But they 'acted' as anti-personnel mines in a residential area). Italy destroyed its stockpiles of mines because it turned out that they could be triggered by people:

[https://military-history.fandom.com/wiki/AT2\\_mine](https://military-history.fandom.com/wiki/AT2_mine)

Mines with self-destruction mechanisms also lie around for up to 4 days and endanger children:

<https://www.technology.org/2022/10/09/ukrainian-army-uses-m270-mlrs-for-remote-mining/>

b) in any case: **supply of prohibited types of weapons**

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/sicherheitspolitik/abruestung-arms-control/overview-convalles-node/strewn-munitions-node>

This is a violation of the Oslo Accords.

There would be one exception: <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Streumuniton> , last paragraph:

"Exceptions apply to so-called point target munitions: types of cluster munitions that are self-destructing or have a limited duration of effect (e.g. carrier systems with

of the [DM 1274 AT2 anti-tank mine](#)) are not covered by the ban."

However, this does not apply because the AT2 DM 1399 does not fulfil the conditions of the Agreement because more than 10 units are fired at the same time:

[https://www.clusterconvention.org/files/convention\\_text/Convention-ENG.pdf#page=2](https://www.clusterconvention.org/files/convention_text/Convention-ENG.pdf#page=2) , Art. 2, 2, c (i)

c) if the delivery has not been approved by the Federal Ministry of Economics, or more precisely by the Federal Office of Economics and Export Control, which is responsible for 'other military equipment': **illegal arms export**

<https://www.bdsv.eu/themen/exportkontrolle/articles/der-rechtliche-rahmen.html> (Exports are also inadmissible if the recipient does not have the required reliability or does not respect human rights. )

[https://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/afk\\_embargo\\_russland\\_in\\_foblatt\\_hilfslieferungen.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/afk_embargo_russland_in_foblatt_hilfslieferungen.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2)

## 5. What does the Federal Government think about this?

Baerbock made the remarks on the occasion of the International Day of Mine Awareness this Tuesday. "Anti-personnel mines are cruel weapons. They are the reason why mothers and fathers in countries like Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia and Iraq still have to fear for their children every time they go outside to play decades after a conflict," she said.

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/ukraine-krieg-newsblog-lawrow-eu-feindselig-1.5781174> , 4.4.23 0:22 h Theresa Parstorfer

Even though she was referring to Russian mines, we assume that the protection of all the world's children from German mines is equally close to her heart. Perhaps even more so, since her party colleague Habeck is responsible for approving the export of German weapons. Or is it not?

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information,

[helmut.becker.hamburg@gmail.com](mailto:helmut.becker.hamburg@gmail.com).

10.4.2023

### 3.5. F16 Multirole fighter aircraft to Ukraine? - Risk check

25 may 2023; keywords: aircraft, Azov, F16, neonazi

Some Western countries want to supply Ukraine with F-16s, pilot training is starting now, and Germany is discussing support. These planes can fly deep into Russian territory.

President Biden agrees, because President Zelenski "promised him not to use them in Russia":  
<https://www.reuters.com/world/biden-zelenskiy-has-promised-ukraine-wont-use-f-16-planes-go-into-russia-2023-05-21/>

Let's take a look at what this 'promise' is worth:

US armoured cars were used in the attacks in the Belgorod area around 22 May (first Ukrainian artillery, then commandos of the 'Russian Volunteer Corps' and the 'Legion Freedom Russia'):

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/23/world/europe/mrap-armored-vehicles-russia-ukraine.html> , [https://t.me/ukr\\_leaks\\_fr/2682](https://t.me/ukr_leaks_fr/2682)

Those left behind are currently being examined by Russian forces:

<https://t.me/donbassinsider/36466>

Ukrainian presidential adviser Podolyak claimed that Ukraine had nothing to do with it:

<https://www.dw.com/en/russia-fighting-sabotage-group-that-crossed-into-belgorod/a-65698484>

Let's take a closer look at this too:

According to the 'Discord leaks' in the Washington Post, Zelenski has previously suggested the occupation of Russian border regions:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2023/05/13/zelensky-ukraine-war-leaked-documents/>

Although the commandos are Russian nationals, the LFR is part of the Ukrainian International Legion and the RFK may also be: <https://www.tagesspiegel.de/internationales/kampfe-im-russischen-belgorod-es-ist-ganz-klar-dass-diese-gruppe-dem-ukrainischen-militar-untergeordnet-ist-9863735.html>

(Incidentally, one of the vehicles bears the symbol of Azov: <https://t.me/donbassinsider/36466>

, minute 2:22, a neo-Nazi unit whose equipment had been banned by the US Congress:

<https://thehill.com/policy/defense/380483-congress-bans-arms-to-controversial-ukrainian-militia-linked-to-neo-nazis/> )

Result:

The Ukrainian army does what it wants with Western weapons. When something happens on Russian territory, "the Ukrainian government never has anything to do with it" (assassination of Dugin's daughter and others, blowing up the Crimean Bridge, drones against the Kremlin:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/24/us/politics/ukraine-kremlin-drone-attack.html> ).

And if Zelenski's idea of blowing up a Russian-Hungarian pipeline:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2023/05/13/zelensky-ukraine-war-leaked-documents/> , had been implemented, he would have had as little to do with it as with 'Nord Stream'.

That is why the unit that carries out such actions is also secret and independently organised: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/feb/04/ukraine-special-forces-russia-border> .

### Conclusion:

The Ukrainian army has been operating on Russian territory for a long time, using Western weapons. Biden and the rest of the government leaders know this. If they deliver F16s, it will be the same. The consequences will not be borne by them in their safe bunkers, but by us 'ordinary mortals'.

At the 'Sorcerer's Apprentice ' only one house was flooded and it was a poem.



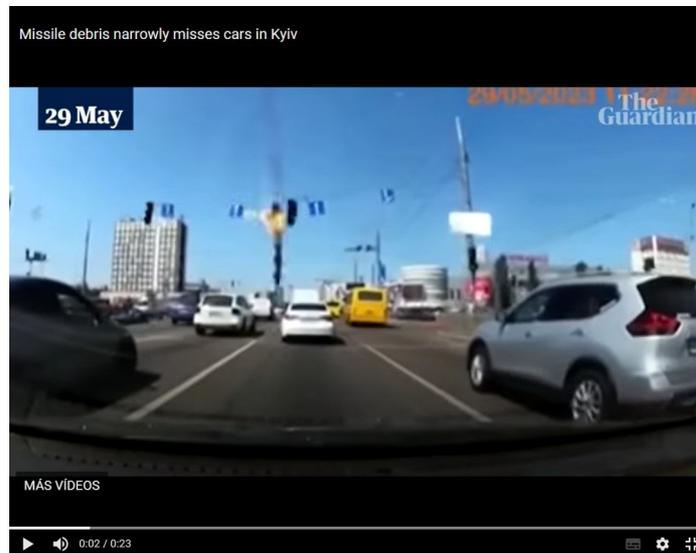
The use of F16s can be interpreted as "the Russian state faces an existential threat from conventional weapons" and trigger a nuclear strike:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/possible-nuclear-strike-russia-says-its-all-our-military-doctrine-2022-05-10/> . This time it is not a poem, but reality.

**No F16s to Ukraine!**

**Ceasefire and negotiations while there is still time!**

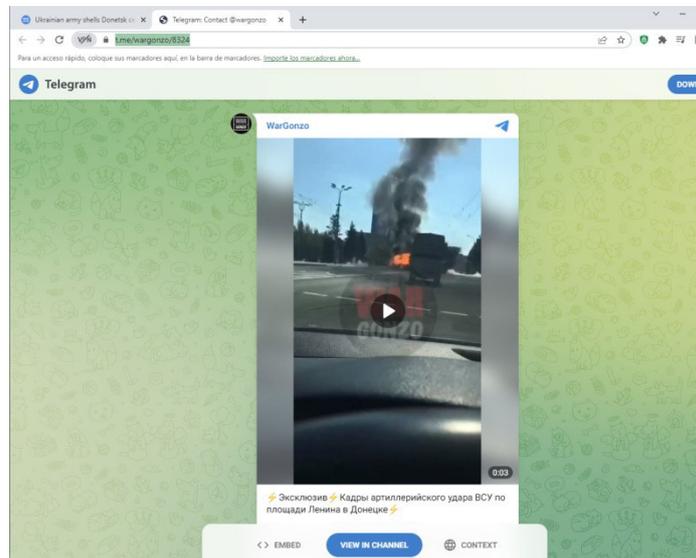
**„You can't make an omelette without breaking eggs“:**



A Russian missile impacts during rush hour in Kiev.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/video/2022/may/31/dashcam-video-shows-falling-missile-debris-hitting-busy-kyiv-road-narrowly-missing-cars-video>

**War is blind:**



Two (French) NATO projectiles impact during rush-hour in Donetsk (eastern Ukraine).

<https://t.me/wargonzo/8324> , more in:

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/09/17/ukrainian-army-shells-donetsk-centre-with-french-guns-killing-four-civilians-and-wounding-eight/>

**,Our' politicians too??**

**Ceasefire and negotiations, right now!**

### 3.7. Investigation report:

#### Is the German government exporting cluster munitions to Ukraine?

9 february 2024

Keywords: BAFA, cluster munition, mine, Oslo agreement, rocket

There are two important agreements designed to protect civilians in war:  
Ottawa - against anti-personnel mines  
Oslo - against cluster munitions.

Germany is a signatory to both. This investigation is examining whether or not it is complying with the Oslo Convention.

The German government has announced that it is supplying Ukraine with AT2 DM1399 anti-tank mines:

<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/krieg-in-der-ukraine/lieferungen-ukraine-2054514>

For the first delivery, nothing was said about the form and the BAFA, which is responsible for export control, refused to provide information on several occasions (last mail 14.jun.23).

For the second delivery, announced in November 2023, it became clear that missiles containing the anti-tank mines would be delivered:

<https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/neues-400-millionen-euro-paket-fuer-ukrainische-streitkraefte-5679858>

More precisely, each missile ejects up to 28 mines, which float to the ground with parachutes and are detonated there by touching an antenna or a magnetic detonator (which also reacts to civilian cars):

<https://www.globaldefensecorp.com/2022/09/26/germany-delivers-at-2-anti-tank-mines-to-ukraine/>

The Oslo Convention defines cluster munitions in Article 2, paragraph 2 as follows:

[https://www.clusterconvention.org/files/convention\\_text/Convention-ENG.pdf#page=2](https://www.clusterconvention.org/files/convention_text/Convention-ENG.pdf#page=2)

2. "Cluster munition" means a conventional munition that is designed to disperse or release explosive submunitions each weighing less than 20 kilograms, and includes those explosive submunitions. It does not mean the following:

- (a) A munition or submunition designed to dispense flares, smoke, pyrotechnics or chaff; or a munition designed exclusively for an air defence role;
- (b) A munition or submunition designed to produce electrical or electronic effects;
- (c) A munition that, in order to avoid indiscriminate area effects and the risks posed by unexploded submunitions, has **all** of the following characteristics:
  - (i) Each munition contains **fewer than ten** explosive submunitions;
  - (ii) Each explosive submunition weighs **more than four** kilograms;
  - (iii) Each explosive submunition is designed to detect and engage a single target object;
  - (iv) Each explosive submunition is equipped with an electronic selfdestruction mechanism;
  - (v) Each explosive submunition is equipped with an electronic selfdeactivating feature;

*(Emphasis and indentations by me)*

For an ammunition **not** to be considered cluster munition, **all** conditions of c) must be fulfilled. This is not the case for the rockets with AT2 at least for i) and ii), each rocket contains 28 anti-tank mines (=more than 10):

<https://www.globaldefensecorp.com/2022/09/26/germany-delivers-at-2-anti-tank-mines-to-ukraine/>

,  
the anti-tank mines weigh 2.22 kg each (less than 4) and are not point target ammunition because the wind propels them:

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/AT2\\_\(anti-tank\\_mine\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/AT2_(anti-tank_mine)) .

The Convention also states that "This Convention does not apply to mines." (Article 1, paragraph 3).

However, we are not dealing here with individual anti-tank mines, but with missiles filled with anti-tank mines.

The State Secretary in the BMWK responsible for the authorisation, Sven Giegold, argues (mail 27.nov.23):

"Rockets as means of delivery of AT-2 anti-tank mines are also not covered by the Oslo Convention, even if up to 28 AT-2 anti-tank mines are deployed with one rocket. This is because the exclusion of Art. 1 para. 3 of the Oslo Convention is to be understood comprehensively and, according to the history of the negotiations, refers not only to mines per se, but also to ammunition containing mines as submunition."

'Unfortunately', there is no reference to this 'far-reaching interpretation' in the minutes of the proceedings, insofar as they are public:

<https://www.streubomben.de/oslo-abkommen-verbot-streumunition/der-oslo-prozess/> ,

nor in the proposal of the German delegation in Wellington, 19 February 2008

[https://www.streubomben.de/fileadmin/redaktion/Archiv/Landmine.de/pdf/wellington\\_dtl\\_definitionspaper\\_190208\\_01.pdf](https://www.streubomben.de/fileadmin/redaktion/Archiv/Landmine.de/pdf/wellington_dtl_definitionspaper_190208_01.pdf)

The State Secretary's reasoning may still have applied until 2011, when the mines were fired individually from magazines using the Skorpion mine launcher:

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minenwurfssystem\\_Skorpion](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minenwurfssystem_Skorpion) , photo at the end

However, this no longer applies since they have been used with the MARS(II) launcher in M26 missiles:

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multiple\\_Launch\\_Rocket\\_System](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multiple_Launch_Rocket_System)

This means that the rockets as a whole fulfil the conditions for cluster munitions and the AT2s are their submunitions.

Anyone attempting to build a bomb from screws, Weedex, firecrackers and an empty fire extinguisher is liable to prosecution, even though all the individual parts are legally available. Anyone who fills rockets with anti-tank mines as submunitions is creating cluster munitions, even if the anti-tank mines are individually authorised.

(This completely ignores the fact that Italy has abolished the AT2 because tests there have shown that they can be triggered by people, thus also violating the Ottawa Convention:

[https://military-history.fandom.com/wiki/AT2\\_mine](https://military-history.fandom.com/wiki/AT2_mine) ,

see also Handicap International, Landmines fact sheet November 2023:

[https://www.handicap-international.ch/sn\\_uploads/document/2023.11.14---Landmine-Monitor-2023\\_CP\\_DE.pdf](https://www.handicap-international.ch/sn_uploads/document/2023.11.14---Landmine-Monitor-2023_CP_DE.pdf) , page 11

"Anti-vehicle mines may continue to be produced. However, these can also be triggered by civilian vehicles and in some cases directly by people. ")

The reports of landings in residential areas and civilian casualties are not verifiable for me. The Ukrainian army used to explain that these were montages with individual parts transported from the

battlefield. Nevertheless, the scenario is plausible due to the design and deployment method of the missiles. The Oslo Agreement was concluded precisely because cluster munitions predominantly hit civilians (caution, some of the photos are disturbing):

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/2023/03/29/ukrainian-army-kills-three-civilians-and-wounds-four-others-in-donetsk-with-western-weapons/>

**Result: The German government repeatedly undermines the Oslo Agreement, even though it is valid German law.**

[https://www.bgbl.de/xaver/bgbl/start.xav?](https://www.bgbl.de/xaver/bgbl/start.xav?startbk=Bundesanzeiger_BGBI&jumpTo=bgbl209s0502.pdf#_bgbl_%2F%2F*%5B%40attr_id%3D%27bgbl209s0502.pdf%27%5D_1692720475834)

[startbk=Bundesanzeiger\\_BGBI&jumpTo=bgbl209s0502.pdf#\\_bgbl\\_%2F%2F\\*%5B%40attr\\_id%3D%27bgbl209s0502.pdf%27%5D\\_1692720475834](https://www.bgbl.de/xaver/bgbl/start.xav?startbk=Bundesanzeiger_BGBI&jumpTo=bgbl209s0502.pdf#_bgbl_%2F%2F*%5B%40attr_id%3D%27bgbl209s0502.pdf%27%5D_1692720475834)

### Assessment:

The attitude of the State Secretary (who is quite effective on environmental issues) is hardly surprising if you follow the alignment of the Greens' military 'strategy' with that of the CDU in recent years. However, you have to be out of all good spirits and morals to authorise the delivery of missiles that drop anti-tank mines with parachutes near densely populated areas. To then speak of a "values-led arms export policy"

<https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2023/12/20231220-bundesregierung-legt-rustungsexportbericht-fur-das-jahr-2022-vor.html> is an impertinence.

The same applies to the BAFA officials, the 'defence' ministry and the members of the Bundestag, who silently approve of this (as they did before referring to the war in Afghanistan).

The fact that the responsible organisations UNODA <https://disarmament.unoda.org/conventional-arms/> and Cluster Convention Implementation Support Unit

<https://www.clusterconvention.org/implementation-support-unit/> have not even responded to three complaints each with an acknowledgement of receipt casts doubt on the effectiveness of some UN institutions.

For the NGOs that have campaigned against cluster munitions for years, the transition from mine launchers to cluster munition rockets means that their 'negotiating partners' will always be looking for technological changes and other ways to outsmart them.

**If they silently accept this, it will set a precedent in future wars.**

### 3.8. Are drones from Germany killing civilians in Ukraine?

Drones seem to be the 'ideal weapon' - no unwanted 'collateral casualties', cheaper than missiles, almost no danger to the person launching them. Is that true?

*(I would like to thank a member of the DFK/VK <https://dfg-vk.de/> for a thorough revision and numerous additions).*

#### 1- Technology in general

There are unarmed people who observe and pass on the results (e.g. to their own artillery or, like the Bundeswehr in Afghanistan, to US death squads).

<https://www.imi-online.de/2012/12/19/drohnen-kriege/> , p.6)

and armed ones. This is mainly about the second type.

They are controlled from a few kilometres away from the front line or from another country. A frequently used type are so-called 'first person view' drones, often handled with special goggles, where all processes and decisions are 'in one hand'. Recently, the trend has been towards small devices.

However, you shouldn't exaggerate your faith in the technology, even drones for 15,000 - 18,000 with a normal camera, thermal imaging camera and multispectral/infrared camera are not able to reliably distinguish people from animals at night. Both sides are now developing night vision

<https://www.kyivpost.com/post/26549> , <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2024/02/09/ukraine-night-vision-combat-drone/> ,

But even they cannot separate civilians from soldiers. It is important to bear in mind that in the combat zones in Ukraine, soldiers and civilians are not separated.

Even in totally destroyed places like Bakhmut/Artiomovsk and Avdiivka, hundreds of civilians lived in the cellars and the Ukrainian soldiers lived in the floors above ground until they retreated, while the Russian army used bombs of 500 kg or more.

For details, see <https://drohnen-kampagne.de/> and <https://www.imi-online.de/themen/drohnen/> , in particular

<https://www.imi-online.de/2016/01/26/eine-drohne-fuer-europa/>

<https://www.imi-online.de/download/Fact-Sheet-Drohnen-Feb19.pdf>

<https://www.imi-online.de/2012/12/19/drohnen-kriege/>

<https://drohnen-kampagne.de/standpunkte-argumente/fallstudie-deutschland/>

<http://www.ag-friedensforschung.de/themen/Geheimdienste/brd-usa2.html>

#### 2- Accuracy

This is the important question for the decision to shoot or not. There are two situations:

- 1) Decisions made by humans, often with input from 'artificial intelligence'
- 2) Decision by 'artificial intelligence' without human final approval

In the first case, the following interview is instructive, even if it does not fully reflect the situation in Ukraine

<https://www.zeit.de/politik/deutschland/2014-12/bundeswehr-drohne-heron-pilot-interview/> complete view ,

e.g. on the limits of the detectability of weapons, on the time delay if images are transmitted via satellite and on the differences between control at the front and from a distant country.

The image quality is now very high

<https://t.me/internationalreporters/50364> ,

but overall the assessment of the two interviewees seems to be a little too optimistic. Helicopter crews have long been known to misjudge (or want to misjudge) the conditions on the ground, even when flying low. <https://www.welt.de/politik/ausland/article7069862/US-Soldaten-toeten-Reuters-Journalisten-in-Irak.html> , for background see also

[https://www.ipnw.de/commonFiles/pdfs/Frieden/6\\_Fakten\\_zu\\_Julian\\_Assange.pdf](https://www.ipnw.de/commonFiles/pdfs/Frieden/6_Fakten_zu_Julian_Assange.pdf)

The Bundeswehr airstrike on two tanker trucks in Kunduz, Afghanistan, in which between 12 and 134 civilians, including children, were killed, depending on the source

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luftangriff\\_bei\\_Kunduz](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luftangriff_bei_Kunduz)

drones had 'seen' "67 Taliban fighters". What is particularly interesting in the report is the attitude of the air traffic control officer and the commanding officer. Such a 'hunting mentality' must lead to civilian casualties in cases of doubt, even with good technical prerequisites. The question arises to what extent it is inherent in the system and encouraged.

Similar attitudes that put civilians in danger are also reported by Ukrainian producers and trainers of the 'Punisher' drone

<https://www.imi-online.de/2022/04/26/drohnen-im-ukraine-krieg/> , paragraph

'Terminator' and must also be suspected with some Russian operators.

In the second case, an algorithm 'decides' on life or death based on movement patterns and other criteria

(<https://www.imi-online.de/download/Fact-Sheet-Drohnen-Feb19.pdf> , p.2) ,

there is no longer any human control.

Due to the flood of data, which also overloads the satellites, as well as to prevent the enemy's electronic countermeasures and due to a lack of personnel, more and more autonomous systems are being used in which the decision is made in the drone itself <https://www.imi-online.de/2012/12/19/drohnen-kriege/> , p.7, Rieger <https://www.eurasiantimes.com/russias-invisible-scissors-cutting-off-ukraines-army-of-drones/> <https://www.imi-online.de/2022/04/26/drohnen-im-ukraine-krieg/> paragraph 'Russian drones' , KUB-BLA

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidhambling/2023/10/17/ukraines-ai-drones-seek-and-attack-russian-forces-without-human-oversight/?sh=28d2e3aa66da>

<https://www.nd-aktuell.de/artikel/1180118.drohnen-ukraine-krieg- unbemannter-ruestungswettlauf.html>

Even supporters of this trend do not deny the consequences for the civilian population

<https://www.nzz.ch/meinung/deutschland-bewaffnete-drohnen-sind-erst-der-startschuss-ld.1678183> .

For example, the US army under Nobel Peace Prize winner Obama defined all men of a certain age as combatants and therefore as potential drone targets. When this flows into the programming of the algorithm, it is devastating

<https://www.imi-online.de/2012/12/19/drohnen-kriege/> , P.5

Another example of the consequences is the action of the Israeli army in the Gaza Strip <https://www.fr.de/politik/gospel-israel-news-kuenstliche-intelligenz-ki-armee-ziele-gaza-hamas-zivilisten-kritik-the-zr-92708520.html> , <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/dec/01/the-gospel-how-israel-uses-ai-to-select-bombing-targets>

If someone works under the pressure described there, errors are inevitable.

### 3- Civilian victims

More precise data on the ratio of military and civilian casualties is known from the war in Afghanistan

<https://www.fr.de/politik/9-11-september-2001-drohnen-krieg-terror-afghanistan-al-kaida-bin-laden-fbi-90974084.html>

The majority of the victims were civilians, 40% (around 1600) were children. In one case, a family of ten, one member worked as an interpreter for the US army.

The psychological long-term consequences are described from the recent war over [Nagorno-Karabakh](https://magazin.zenith.me/de/gesellschaft/deutsche-bauteile-tuerkischen-drohnen-und-der-krieg-um-bergkarabach) <https://magazin.zenith.me/de/gesellschaft/deutsche-bauteile-tuerkischen-drohnen-und-der-krieg-um-bergkarabach>

Now you could say that drones have improved and become more accurate. Let's take a look at the latest figures.

### 4- Civilian casualties in eastern Ukraine and the Russian border region

The period from 1 January 2024 to 20 February 2024 is examined and only cases are listed where drones are explicitly mentioned. Attacks without victims are omitted.

As Western media almost never report from this region, local sources have to be consulted. A fact check was therefore carried out:

[t.me/internationalreporters/](https://t.me/internationalreporters/) is the successor channel to [t.me/donbassinsider/](https://t.me/donbassinsider/). This channel has already been scrutinised on the issue of the bombardment of the Donetsk markets with French howitzers and US rocket launchers. Its information is trustworthy, apart from the channel's political orientation. However, he sometimes quotes news from third channels on the subject, which I was unable to verify. Therefore, they were crossed with the local news on <https://dan-news.ru/>, they coincide, but the source depends on the government. There are some photos that I cannot geolocate, but none of the victims.

Drone attacks are generally not documented as accurately as those with rockets or howitzers.

<i>Date of the report</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>details</i>	<i>Source</i>
20.2.24	Donetsk city	1 injured person	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/50413">https://t.me/internationalreporters/50413</a> with photo
15.2.24	Olginka/Olhinka, Donetsk	1 injured woman, 1 injured man	<a href="https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/pushilin-soobschil-o-ranenii-ognem-vsu-treh-mirnyh-zhitelej/">https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/pushilin-soobschil-o-ranenii-ognem-vsu-treh-mirnyh-zhitelej/</a>
14.2.24	Briansk, Russia	1 dead	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/50074">https://t.me/internationalreporters/50074</a>
13.2.24	Lysychansk, Lugansk	1 injured woman, child was present	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/50028">https://t.me/internationalreporters/50028</a>
8.2.24	Donetsk city	5 injured emergency personnel	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/49717">https://t.me/internationalreporters/49717</a>
8.2.24	Vladimirovka, Donetsk	2 injured men	<a href="https://dan-news.ru/">https://dan-news.ru/</a>

			<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/49363">obschestvo/dajzhest-novostej-chetverga-8-fevralja/</a>
2.2.24	Gorlovka/Horlivka, Donetsk	1 man injured in attack on bus line 2	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/49363">https://t.me/internationalreporters/49363</a>
1.2.24	Donetsk city	1 dead man	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/49363">https://t.me/internationalreporters/49363</a> + <a href="https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/mirnyj-zhitel-donecka-ubit-ukrainskimi-boevikami-s-pomoschju-bespilotnika/">https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/mirnyj-zhitel-donecka-ubit-ukrainskimi-boevikami-s-pomoschju-bespilotnika/</a>
1.2.24	Novaya Kakhova, Kherson	1 dead	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/49294">https://t.me/internationalreporters/49294</a>
31.1.24	Gorlovka, Donetsk	2 dead, 1 injured in attack on motorway	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/49242">https://t.me/internationalreporters/49242</a> + <a href="https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/s-nachala-sutok-iz-za-agressii-vsu-pogibli-dvoe-chelovek-dvoe-raneny/">https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/s-nachala-sutok-iz-za-agressii-vsu-pogibli-dvoe-chelovek-dvoe-raneny/</a> Photos of another attack on bus with no casualties <a href="https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/pushilin-soobschil-0-ranenii-ognem-vsu-treh-mirnyh-zhitelej/">https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/pushilin-soobschil-0-ranenii-ognem-vsu-treh-mirnyh-zhitelej/</a>
30.1.24	Donetsk city	3 dead, 16 injured	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/49192">https://t.me/internationalreporters/49192</a>
29.1.24	Kolotilovka, Belgorod, Russia	1 construction worker injured in attack on excavator	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/49141">https://t.me/internationalreporters/49141</a>
26.1.24	Lozovaya Roudka, Belgorod, Russia	1 dead	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48963">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48963</a>
26.1.24	Donetsk city	3 injured women	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48963">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48963</a>
25.1.24	Donetsk city	1 injured person	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48938">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48938</a>
23.1.24	Repyakhovka, Belgorod, Russia	1 injured person	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48773">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48773</a>

21.1.24	Koubichevsky, Donetsk	1 injured repair worker	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48707">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48707</a> + <a href="https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/vsu-s-pomoschju-drona-atakovali-kommunalschikov-v-donecke.-ekskavatorschik-ranen/">https://dan-news.ru/emergencies/vsu-s-pomoschju-drona-atakovali-kommunalschikov-v-donecke.-ekskavatorschik-ranen/</a>
16.1.24	Voronej, Russia	1 injured little girl	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48415">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48415</a>
16.1.24	Donetsk city	1 injured person	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48363">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48363</a>
12.1.24	Nikitovski, Gorlovka	1 dead, 3 injured paramedics	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48213">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48213</a> with video
11.1.24	Donetsk city	1 injured woman	<a href="https://t.me/internationalreporters/48154">https://t.me/internationalreporters/48154</a>
<b>Total</b>		<b>10 dead, 42 injured in 51 days</b> <b>= one civilian hit per day</b>	

Extrapolated over the two years of war, that would mean around 720 civilians hit by drones in eastern Ukraine and the border area. (The calculation is of course difficult due to frequent changes in the course of the front). With around 20 % casualties, that would be 141.

(According to official figures, 1077 drones were intercepted in Donetsk Oblast alone between 1 January and 7 February 24

<https://dan-news.ru/defence/v-dnr-s-nachala-goda-perehvacheno-okolo-1100-ukrainskih-bespilotnikov/> .

Ukraine is said to be losing a total of 10,000 drones a month

<https://www.stern.de/digital/technik/ukraine-soll-10-000-drohnen-im-monat-verlieren---was-das-mean-would-33511840.html> . )

If we take into account that the Russian army is also firing drones at western Ukraine and that the area and number of drones is much larger, hundreds of civilians have been killed by drones in this war.

<https://ukraine.un.org/en/257916-ukraine-civilian-casualties-soar-amid-russian-attacks-reversing-downward-trend-un-says>

The 'accuracy' of this weapon is therefore merely a marketing ploy to lower the inhibition threshold for its use and legitimise its deployment

<https://www.imi-online.de/2012/12/19/drohnen-kriege/> , P.4.

This can even lead to the obligation to inform the US Congress or the vote in the Bundestag in favour of a war being overridden (loc. cit.)

## 5- German participation

There are two types of participation:

- 1) the delivery of drones
- 2) the provision of infrastructure, e.g. relay stations for data transmission

According to the federal government

<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/schwerpunkte/krieg-in-der-ukraine/lieferungen-ukraine-2054514>

until 16.2.24 'only' unarmed reconnaissance drones and drone sensors were delivered, but this has changed (see below)

- **172 VECTOR reconnaissance drones with spare parts\* (previously: 162)**  
<https://quantum-systems.com/vector/>
- **155 RQ-35 HEIDRUN\* reconnaissance drones (previously: 125)**  
<https://sky-watch.com/>
- **18 Primoco ONE\* reconnaissance drones (previously: 7)**  
<https://uav-stol.com/primoco-uav-one-150/>
- **7 SONGBIRD\* reconnaissance drones**  
<https://www.germandrones.com/de/songbird>
- **212 Drone sensors\***  
For the function of the additional sensors, see  
<https://www.digikey.ch/de/articles/understand-drone-design-trade-offs-before-piling-on-the-sensors>

Also a LUNA NG reconnaissance system

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/EMT\\_Luna\\_NG](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/EMT_Luna_NG)

### planned

- **303 VECTOR\* reconnaissance drones (previously: 263)**
- **94 RQ-35 HEIDRUN\* reconnaissance drones**
- **50 drone sensors\***

However, an upgrade is easy to carry out

<https://soldat-und-technik.de/2023/04/bewaffnung/34468/der-kampf-mit-und-gegen-kleinstdrohnen/>

and the German government has now also announced the delivery of "bombs to arm small drones"

<https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/minister-zeichnen-gruendungsdokument-fuer-faehigkeitskoalition-5743496>

Hand grenades, 40mm ammunition, explosive charges and anti-tank mines can also be used for this purpose.

<https://deaidua.org/news/2024/02/15/germany-pledges-short-term-military-aid-worth-100-million-euros-to-ukraine/>

This upgrade is more likely to be made with smaller types that are used 'kamikaze' so that the cost of the explosion is not so high. Some of these scatter 3000 fragments over an area of 2 kmZ and are therefore just as insidious as cluster munitions, even if they are not banned

<https://www.nd-aktuell.de/artikel/1176274.neue-waffengattung-hersteller-machen-kleine->

[killerdrohnen-serienreif.html](#) , <https://www.insta.fi/en/news-and-events/insta-steel-eagle-is-a-new-unique-and-effective-unmanned-defence-solution>

We are not aware of any requirements imposed by German suppliers on the Ukrainian army to protect the civilian population or to prevent the arming of autonomous drones.

The support of German agencies for US drone missions comes from:

a) AFRICOM Stuttgart

[https://www.ohne-ruestung-leben.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/drucke/komp-drohnen-2014.pdf](https://www.ohne-ruestung-leben.de/fileadmin/user_upload/drucke/komp-drohnen-2014.pdf)

b) SATCOM Ramstein as relay station

<https://www.friedenskooperative.de/friedensforum/artikel/ramstein-und-die-relevanz-fuer-den-us> ,  
<https://www.ecchr.eu/fall/wichtiges-urteil-deutschland-muss-us-drohneinsaetze-via-ramstein-pruefen/>

c) possibly Wiesbaden

<https://www.hessenschau.de/politik/us-army-richtet-ukraine-hilfszentrum-in-wiesbaden-ein-v1,us-militaerstuetzpunkt-wiesbaden-ukraine-100.html>

These points are probably used to guide larger drones for espionage in order to transmit data to the Ukrainian army for important strikes <https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/drohne-absturz-luftraum-ukraine-krieg-russland-100.html> . Most civilian deaths, on the other hand, are probably caused by small FPVs on the front line.

### **Result:**

1) There is no specific agreement on drones, unlike anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and certain other weapons. In terms of general international law, both the use in a country with which one is not at war and the killing of people without judgement are problematic

<https://www.imi-online.de/2016/01/26/eine-drohne-fuer-europa/> , P.2

2) It is not possible to determine how many killings German reconnaissance drones have contributed to. Nor is it possible to determine how many of them were converted into armed weapons on the ground.

3) There is currently no evidence of direct killings by drones supplied from Germany. Unfortunately, this will change with the delivery of a million drones, some of which will make (partially) autonomous 'decisions'

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/ukraine-krieg-newsblog-sicherheitskonferenz-selenskij-1.6351375>

At the latest then the question in the title must be answered with 'YES'. I have the impression that many people have not yet realised what is in store for civilians in war zones.

### **Rating:**

"Soldiers are murderers", as Tucholsky correctly observed

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soldaten\\_sind\\_M%C3%B6rder](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soldaten_sind_M%C3%B6rder)

This applies no matter how modern the weapons are and even if the weapons kill 'autonomously'.

What would Tucholsky have called those who manufacture, authorise and supply them, such as the responsible State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection and the BAFA? Or 'opposition' politicians who call for the radius of action of the weapons and the circle of civilians affected to be extended even further? 'Desk perpetrators'?

<https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schreibtischt%C3%A4ter>

Finally, a very 'stupid' question:

**If the politicians see for two years that the generals they have commissioned are too stupid or too negligent to avoid civilian casualties, or that they are technically unavoidable, why do they not endeavour to achieve a ceasefire?**

### 3.9. Does Minister Pistorius support war crimes with HIMARS?

*This investigation is not a general statement on the behaviour of the warring parties in Ukraine. It is about the specific question of whether Minister Pistorius supports war crimes by supplying HIMARS.*

*Sources from both sides are used, but only insofar as they can be confirmed by sources from the other side. Status:*

18 May 2024

Keywords: civilian victims, Donetsk, HIMARS, Lugansk, Pistorius, war crime

The intention to supply three of these missile launchers from US stocks to the Ukrainian army at German expense has been officially confirmed:

<https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/pistorius-verkuendet-in-washington-himars-fuer-die-ukraine-5778634> ,

<https://www.fr.de/politik/preis-atacms-ukraine-krieg-himars-deutschland-usa-wladimir-putin-ukraine-aktuell-kosten-93063782.html>

#### Are HIMARS being used against civilians?

HIMARS are used by the Ukrainian army not only against military targets, but also against civilian targets. Here are some of the proven examples with the highest casualty figures. Over 40 other messages, where there is no confirmation from Western sources (e.g. Telegram channel 'International Reporters', search with 'HIMARS civilians'), have been omitted:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Dead</b>	<b>Remark</b>	<b>Document</b>
16 October 22	Donetsk Town Hall	?	Shelling probably at the weekend	<a href="https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/donetsks-city-administration-building-hit-by-shelling-russian-backed-officials-2022-10-16/">https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/donetsks-city-administration-building-hit-by-shelling-russian-backed-officials-2022-10-16/</a>
28 January 23	Lugansk hospital	14		<a href="https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2023/01/28/ukraine-accused-killing-14-targeted-himars-attack-luhansk-hospital/">https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2023/01/28/ukraine-accused-killing-14-targeted-himars-attack-luhansk-hospital/</a>
5 February 24	Lysychansk bakery	28	Reporter Lancaster is a controversial source, destruction documented by Tagesschau	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZKeqH3fkfw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZKeqH3fkfw</a> , <a href="https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/europa/ukraine-angriff-lyssytschansk-100.html">https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/europa/ukraine-angriff-lyssytschansk-100.html</a>
11 May 24	Hotel Donetsk	At least 5	Kanal13 is a source critical of Russia, the American reporter is a pro-Russian source, the Twitter post confirms the incident and is happy about the dead, 4 of whom	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pc6XmAPvLZo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pc6XmAPvLZo</a> , <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49bWxEk2jxg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49bWxEk2jxg</a> , <a href="https://twitter.com/raging545/status">https://twitter.com/raging545/status</a>

it categorises as soldiers, [us/1789697453433778651](https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/products/high-mobility-artillery-rocket-system.html)  
but the photos show a  
civilian motorcade to  
celebrate the founding of  
the republic

(A detailed list 'PzH Donetsk' with the extensive killings of civilians with NATO weapons in 2022 can be requested. )

### **What exactly is HIMARS?**

They could be ricochets, i.e. mishaps. The technical characteristics speak against this (*quote from 'Faktenblatt Waffen,' a manuscript circulating in emails, can be requested*).

This multiple rocket launcher is described as very accurate because the rockets are satellite-guided, depending on the type with a range of up to 300 km

<https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/products/high-mobility-artillery-rocket-system.html> ,  
<https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/HIMARS> .

The deviation is given as between one and ten metres, depending on the type of missile, and it is mostly used at night: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/07/01/ukraine-himars-rocket-launch-system/> , <https://de.topwar.ru/83249-obzor-artillerii-chast-4-rakety-ot-strelby-po-ploschadyam-do-vysokotochnogo-udara.html> ,  
<https://en.topwar.ru/83249-obzor-artillerii-chast-4-rakety-ot-strelby-po-ploschadyam-do-vysokotochnogo-udara.html> ).

However, one case of a deviation of 300 metres has been reported and then denied: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M142\\_HIMARS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M142_HIMARS) .

The M30A1, M39 and M39A1 missiles are comparable to cluster munitions, the use of which neither Ukraine nor Russia rule out: <https://handicap-international.de/de/streubomben/> .

Some sources ( topwar.ru ) speak of damage within a radius of 70 metres, others of 'large areas' for certain munitions (M30A1): [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M142\\_HIMARS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M142_HIMARS) .

It is a weapon that usually hits its target and also destroys a large part of the surrounding area. It can also be used as a fire trigger: <https://asc.army.mil/web/portfolio-item/ms-himars-m142/>

### **Is it intentional?**

#### *Town Hall*

It is not possible to determine from here whether there were military posts in the town hall. Even then, it is irresponsible to shoot at such a building with heavy weapons.

#### *Hospital*

It is not possible to determine what the reason was.

#### *Bakery*

Here, too, it is unclear. It may have been to make the distribution of relief supplies more difficult in order to demoralise the population.

#### *Hotel*

It is reasonable to assume that the aim was to intimidate the part of the population that identified with the founding of the republic.

## **The result:**

Just like the Russian army, the Ukrainian army regularly uses heavy weapons such as HIMARS against civilian targets. These are war crimes:

[https://www.bmj.de/DE/themen/voelkerstrafrecht/kriegsverbrechen/kriegsverbrechen\\_artikel.html](https://www.bmj.de/DE/themen/voelkerstrafrecht/kriegsverbrechen/kriegsverbrechen_artikel.html) .

The difference is that the Ukrainian army is supported by the German government.

## **What does Minister Pistorius have to do with this?**

The use of multiple rocket launchers (HIMARS and others) not only for warfare but also for war crimes has long been known, e.g. bombing of a covered market in Donetsk on 6 December 2022, Western sources with photos from Reuters:

<https://www.hoy.es/internacional/europa/muerte-tienda-ropa-20221206201717-ntrc.html> ,

<https://www.europapress.es/internacional/noticia-rusia-denuncia-nuevo-bombardeo-fuerzas-ucranianas-centro-donetsk-20221206105926.html>

See also 2024: <https://es.euronews.com/2024/01/21/ucrania-ataca-el-mercado-dominical-de-donetsk> , [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2024\\_Donetsk\\_attack](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2024_Donetsk_attack) and links to other attacks below.

If Minister Pistorius pays HIMARS under such circumstances, it is therefore, according to the definition of the German Federal Ministry of Justice

- deliberate aiding and abetting or
- negligent aiding and abetting or
- consciously accepting war crimes.

He will not be held personally accountable for this because it is difficult to trace the exact use of the HIMARS paid for by Germany. However, given the number of HIMARS available, it is foreseeable that missiles will also be fired at civilian targets from the 'German units'.

*(Political assessment from the original German text omitted)*

It would also be useful if organisations such as Amnesty International or Human Rights Watch were to investigate the consequences of the increasing escalation in recent months for the civilian population on both sides. Of course, when the results are published, they will be accused by both warring parties of siding with the enemy...

## 3.10. Everyone is talking about Ukraine's counter-offensive. Not us!

24 May 2023

Keywords: Patriot, solidarity, strategy

This is about the civilian population on both sides of the front.

The result of such offensives:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkNzORrFb34> (Marjinka)

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2023/may/18/stark-before-and-after-images-reveal-the-obliteration-of-bakhmut> (Bakhmut/Artemivsk)

Rubble, Russian mines, British uranium and German cluster munitions, frightened pensioners in the cellar and rats gnawing on corpses.

Such things do not come cheap. For example, a Russian attack on Patriot positions in Kiev:

[https://t.me/chroniques\\_conflict\\_ukraine/4000](https://t.me/chroniques_conflict_ukraine/4000)

One shot of the Patriot costs 5 million, in 20 seconds about 30 missiles were fired, that's 150 million.

Who pays for that? Us, either through inflation or cuts in health care and schools.

How many Russian and Ukrainian conscientious objectors could be taken in for months with that money to 'dry up' the war ?

<http://soziale-verteidigung.de/artikel/ware-rustungsausgaben-zivile-zwecke-vergleich>

The US strategy is to weaken Russia as long as possible:

[https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_briefs/RB10014.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB10014.html) ,

even though we are getting closer to World War III with every escalating step:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/nato-reaches-back-cold-war-past-with-first-major-defence-plans-decades-2023-05-18/> , because Biden etc. are sitting at a safe distance.

Almost nobody believed Putin would order the invasion of Ukraine, but he did. Meanwhile, Russian units of the Ukrainian Foreign Legion are crossing the border near Belgorod with NATO vehicles. Almost nobody believes that Putin will use tactical nuclear weapons because of something like this. If we're wrong again, we won't be able to talk about it....

The EU has no strategy of its own, it simply supplies more and more far-reaching weapons. The arms companies like it:

<https://www.produktion.de/schwerpunkte/ruestungsindustrie/deutsche-ruestungsfirmen-machen-mehr-gewinn-14-935.html>

In practice, this means that until now civilians were 'only' regularly killed by US HIMARS or French CAESAR in the markets of the big city of Donetsk. Now those in Lugansk are also within the range of the British Storm Shadow.

But the people in south-eastern Ukraine have quite different interests:

A 'liberation' by Ukrainian troops (if it were technically possible) would do them little good,

because the parties with a majority in the Donbass are banned in the rest of Kiev-ruled Ukraine, and their mother tongue Russian cannot be spoken in public. They do not need the Ukrainian army in their territory, but rather a demilitarised zone (like Berlin for many years) and autonomy (like South Tyrol). For this, a ceasefire and negotiations are necessary.

The Western governments will not lift a finger for it.

The majority of parliamentarians have been asleep for twenty years of the Afghanistan war and are doing the same now.

95% of the media no longer provide objective reporting:

<https://www.fischerverlage.de/magazin/neue-rundschau/die-veroeffentliche-meinung>

Even if they don't like to say

so - at least in Germany the **majority of the population is in favour of negotiations:**

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/dpa/umfrage-mehrheit-fuer-verhandlungen-zwischen-ukraine-und-russland/29148370.html>

**What can a 'normal person' do in solidarity with the 'normal people' in the war zone to put an end to this madness as soon as possible?**

The 'Manifesto for Peace' <https://www.change.org/p/manifest-f%C3%BCr-frieden> has been signed by 800,000 in Germany. But millions who are also against the prolongation of the war have not signed.

But there are other ways to become active, without political ties:

on 10 and 11 June there is the peace summit in Vienna of groups from all over the world

<https://www.peacevienna.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/DE-ISPUkraine-23-Invitation.pdf>

(participation also possible online).

See also another signature collection : <https://worldbeyondwar.org/individual/>

There are also ongoing public activities in various cities:

<https://www.peaceinukraine.org/> , <https://www.friedenskooperative.de/>

To put it in terms of the Bundeswehr (German army):

**"You don't extinguish trouble spots by waiting and drinking tea. Do what really counts."**

**Take a personal stand for ceasefire and negotiations - NOW!**

## Civilian drone victims - from the frying pan into the fire?

In the war in Afghanistan, the majority of drone victims were civilians, 40% (around 1600) were children. In one case, a family of ten, one member worked as an interpreter for the US army: <https://www.fr.de/politik/9-11-september-2001-drohnen-krieg-terror-afghanistan-al-kaida-bin-laden-fbi-90974084.html>

This is apparently not enough for the military and politicians.

That's why they want to send a million drones to Ukraine (with Germany's participation). <https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/ukraine-krieg-newsblog-sicherheitskonferenz-selenskij-1.6351375>



Ambulance hit by a drone , Gorlovka 12.1.24 , <https://t.me/internationalreporters/48214>

A drone from Finland scatters 3000 splinters over an area of 2 km<sup>2</sup>  
<https://www.insta.fi/en/news-and-events/insta-steel-eagle-is-a-new-unique-and-effective-unmanned-defence-solution>

Other Russian and Ukrainian products 'decide' who to kill based on a pre-programmed algorithm without human control

<https://www.imi-online.de/2022/04/26/drohnen-im-ukraine-krieg/> Paragraph 'Russian drones' , KUB-BLA +

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidhambling/2023/10/17/ukraines-ai-drones-seek-and-attack-russian-forces-without-human-oversight/?sh=28d2e3aa66da>

**Stop the desk perpetrators! Ban autonomous drones!**

## 3.12. Enough is enough - every dead civilian is one too many

1 november 2024

Keywords: civilian victims, russian army, shelling, ukrainian army

Here 'only' deaths are listed, not abuse, torture, rape and looting.

### By the Russian army

The data comes from the Western press, some of which reproduces unchecked propaganda.

1) Shelling of civilian buildings occupied by Ukrainian troops

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/projekte/artikel/politik/krieg-in-der-ukraine-was-ueber-kriegsverbrechen-bekannt-ist-e276789/?reduced=true> and reports by Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch

2) Shelling of neighbourhoods with heavy FAB bombs, in whose houses there are soldiers and in whose basements there are civilians (e.g. Bachmut)

3) Deaths from falling parts of Russian missiles hit by Ukrainian anti-aircraft fire over residential buildings

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-64304310> (later denied, but there are more reports of this kind )

4) Ricochets and errors

5) Direct shelling of civilians (e.g. the first massacre in Bucha, shortly after the Russian troops were ambushed

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/22/video/russia-ukraine-bucha-massacre-takeaways.html> ; second shelling of rescue forces arriving at an impact site)

### By the Ukrainian army

The data comes from eastern media, synchronised with western media where possible.

1) Shelling of civilian buildings where Russian troops are present

2) Shelling of events where military and civilians mix

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/08/05/dpr-ukrainian-army-bombs-funeral-ceremony-of-colonel-korsa-in-donetsk-killing-eight-including-a-child/> ,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pc6XmAPvLZo> ,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49bWxEk2jxg> ,

<https://twitter.com/raging545/status/1789697453433778651>

3) Shelling of markets

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-HOLiF-110w> minute 20.52 ,

<https://dnr.sckk.info/ezhednevnyaya-oficialnaya-svodka-sckk-dnr-s-06-00-22-sentyabrya-po-06-00-23-sentyabrya/> ,

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russian-installed-separatists-say-least-six-killed-shelling-donetsk-market-2022-09-22/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2024\\_Donetsk\\_attack](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2024_Donetsk_attack)

4) Ricochets and mistakes that are often blamed on the Russian army

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/September\\_2023\\_Kostiantynivka\\_missile\\_strike](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/September_2023_Kostiantynivka_missile_strike)

5) Direct shelling of civilians (e.g. the killing of people wearing white bandages during the ‘cleansing’ after the arrival of Ukrainian troops in Butsha <https://overtone-magazin.de/krass-konkret/graueeltaten-an-zivilisten-was-ist-in-bucha-geschehen/> ; second shelling of rescue workers arriving at an impact site; shelling of people trying to flee to the Russian zone)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/27/world/europe/russia-kursk-ukraine-invasion-civilians.html> ,  
<https://t.me/internationalreporters/64273> )

## Evaluation

Tucholsky already stated that ‘soldiers are murderers’. But the death of soldiers is also regrettable. The Russians come disproportionately from less developed areas, the Ukrainians are sometimes abducted directly from their workplace to the front and prevented from deserting by barrier units.

The politicians who, despite having precise information about the civilian victims of mines with parachutes, drones with explosives and HIMARS, continue to unwaveringly decide on arms deliveries, are at least as much to blame for the deaths of civilians as the soldiers.

**There is only one sensible solution: an immediate ceasefire and then negotiate the rest.**

„This is what it looks like when the Russian army “liberates” a city. That is why we in the West must become **fit for war**, and as quickly as possible! Otherwise, we will not be able to defend ourselves!“



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Battle\\_of\\_Bakhmut\\_\(2022%E2%80%932023\)#/media/File:Bakhmut\\_during\\_the\\_battle\\_\(2023-04-05\),\\_frame\\_15989.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Battle_of_Bakhmut_(2022%E2%80%932023)#/media/File:Bakhmut_during_the_battle_(2023-04-05),_frame_15989.jpg)

This is what a defended city looks like afterwards. **Spot the 10 differences!**



<https://www.facebook.com/Reuters/videos/ukrainian-city-of-pokrovsk-before-and-during-the-war/1973385126559185/>

Defence through rearmament only works for the owners of a few arms companies. Even “nuclear deterrence” no longer helps, because warning times have decreased so much that a single mistake could render the entire world uninhabitable.

The only sensible thing to do is universal disarmament, as we had until a few years ago. Trump has terminated most of the treaties ( <https://www.ohne-ruestung-leben.de/nachrichten/article/was-ist-der-inf-vertrag-und-was-bedeutet-seine-kuendigung-263.html> ) . We cannot expect anything sensible from current European politicians either. Wonder why? (<https://www.lobbycontrol.de/schlagwort/rustungslobby/> )

**What we really need is defence against the apostles of rearmament!**

## **4- Ceasefire and negotiations**



#### 4.1. Fact Sheet: Is it possible to negotiate with Russia's rulers ?

10 august 2022; keywords: Minsk, negotiation, RAND

The German Minister of Economics approves the export of 100 howitzers, most of which will not be built and delivered until 2023 and 2024, thus anticipating a long war: <https://www.berliner-zeitung.de/news/ukraine-waffen-spiegel-bericht-regierung-genehmigt-verkauf-von-100-panzerhaubitzen-an-die-ukraine-li.250987>

The German Foreign Minister claims that it is impossible to negotiate with Putin: <https://www.fr.de/politik/baerbock-gruene-lawrow-putin-sieht-aktuell-keine-chance-auf-verhandlungen-mit-russland-zr-91664052.html> . With this she tries to justify the strategy of "supplying more and more weapons, heavier and heavier weapons".

This paper examines the question of whether the war must continue because it is impossible to negotiate with Putin.

Historical questions are left out of the equation, e.g.

- why Putin's attitude has changed greatly for the worse since his first speech in the Bundestag <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVTsD0pl2zY> ,
- what promises were made to the Soviet Union in 1990 and how NATO's eastward enlargement went: <https://www.versoehnungsbund.de/2022-01-19-2-article-von-andreas-zumach> ,
- Why the US cancelled arms ban treaties: <https://taz.de/USA-cancel-INF-treaty-at/!5567197/> .

We are limited to negotiations in 2022, the year of the Russian attack on Ukraine.

The following negotiations were successfully conducted this year:

- 1) Regularly between Ukraine and Russia with the participation of the International Red Cross on the exchange of prisoners of war
- 2) in July between Ukraine and Russia, with the UN and Turkey intervening, over grain exports from Ukraine.

Is it possible to negotiate with Russia ? Yes.

Can the Russian rulers be trusted ? As the invasion shows, no.

It always takes at least two to negotiate. So let's look at the Ukrainian position:

Chief negotiator Mijailo Podolyak announced on 29 March that Ukraine and Russia had worked out a ceasefire plan:

<https://www.mdr.de/nachrichten/welt/ukraine-russland-krieg-verhandlungen-istanbul-100.html> ,

<https://www.businessinsider.de/politik/deutschland/gespraeche-in-istanbul-ukraine-and-russia-announce-possible-breakthrough-in-peace-negotiations/> .

On 24 April, the US 'Defence' Secretary visited Austin, the US

Foreign Minister Blinken and immediately afterwards UK Prime Minister Johnson visited Ukraine and assured virtually unlimited arms deliveries:

<https://www.stern.de/politik/ausland/us-minister-in-kiew--usa-sichern-ukraine-massive-waffenlieferungen-zu-31805578.html> . After that, negotiations ceased and the plan was not mentioned again. Podolyak made comments in his Telegram account, such as

on 19.5. at 8.57 h : *"Do not offer us a ceasefire - this is impossible without total Russian troops withdrawal. Ukraine is not interested in new "Minsk" and the war renewal in a few years. Until Russia (flag symbol) is ready to fully liberate occupied territories, our negotiation team is weapons, sanctions and money."*

Is it possible to negotiate with Ukraine ? Yes.

Can the Ukrainian negotiators be trusted ? No.

It seems that Ukraine's position is strongly determined from the US. So let's broaden the question to the US.

The US military and intelligence think tank RAND submitted an analysis to Congress in 2019 entitled "Overextending and Unbalancing Russia", which envisages the Ukraine war:

[https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_briefs/RB10014.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB10014.html) (p. 4).

Shortly before the invasion of Russian troops, Blinken rejected a (final) request for negotiations by Russia on Ukraine's NATO membership:

<https://www.welt.de/politik/ausland/article236506015/Ukraine-Russland-continues-intelligence-marching-at-high-tempo.html> .

Is it possible to negotiate with the USA ? Yes.

Can the USA ministers be trusted ? No.

(For the sake of simplicity, an analysis of the attitude of Great Britain and the various currents in the EU will be omitted here).

If all these incumbents do not dare to cross each other's path, but even now they are negotiating with each other, why not negotiate a ceasefire ?

Peace research provides the answer. Such negotiations have more chance of success if the following are present:

Stalemates, or an imminent intensification of the conflict with high costs for both sides (1) and opponents are easier to convince if the 'negotiating mass' is increased and there is a gain for both (2). See also:

<https://www.fr.de/politik/friedensfrage-russland-ukraine-krieg-negotiations-juli-zeh-elisa-hoven-91700256.html>

Are these conditions met ?

The Russian leadership thinks things are moving forward.

The Ukrainian claims that with more weapons it can regain all the lost territories.

In any case, the US government is achieving its goal of weakening Russia, the longer the better.

This means that the conditions are more in place than before, but not yet complete. Unfortunately, many military leaders and politicians have the unpleasant trait of repeating hold-out slogans far from the battlefield and closing their eyes to reality:

The Russian army has shown, among other things, in Chechnya and ten years of war in Afghanistan that it does not care about civilian victims.

So has the US army in twenty years of the Afghan war and a long list of wars since Vietnam.

Since 2014, the Ukrainian army has been demonstrating how it 'solves' a decentralisation problem in the Donbass militarily.

This means that if it were up to the armies, Ukraine would be put through the meat grinder for several more years. In the end, we would have a 'liberated territory' (in one sense or another) of cemeteries and piles of rubble (see fact sheet on heavy weapons).

A ceasefire will only be possible if the societies of the countries involved and other equally aggrieved countries put pressure for it.

Will the contracting parties comply with the agreements ?

As Minsk I and II and the constant violations of the Geneva Conventions show, certainly not. In order to enforce a ceasefire, besides taking into account the interests of all parties to the conflict, guarantee powers, close-meshed and rapid controls by a revitalised OSCE and perhaps even UN buffer forces are needed.

At least until the politicians of all countries discover that at a time when the whole world is sliding into climate catastrophe, there is no time for wars.

What is the point of all this effort then ?

Better an incomplete ceasefire than what is happening now. For the inhabitants of a city of millions like Donetsk, it is less unpleasant to be shot at with small arms than with howitzers.

(1) cf. Zunzer, Wolfram: Zivile Konflikttransformation: Akteure, Aktivitäten und Chancen der Kooperation; in: Blanke, Ursula (ed.): Crises and Conflicts, From Prevention to Peacebuilding; Berlin 2004, p.170.

(2) cf. Meyer, Berthold: Konfliktregelung und Friedensstrategien, Eine Einführung; Wiesbaden 2011, p.59

## 4.2. What you always wanted to know about ways to stop the Ukraine war:

26 september 2022; keywords: democracy, Minsk, negotiation, Putin, unprovoked, Zelenski

### "Stand with Ukraine"

For the people who first want to find out what the bias of this text is: neither Russophile nor Ukrainophile. I am interested in the situation of civilians, whether they speak Ukrainian or Russian and live in the west or east of Ukraine. So "Stand with the people".

If you share this attitude, you will find some interesting things about 'ceasefire and negotiations' here (some links are in German, you can use [www.deepl.com](http://www.deepl.com) or the browser [Vivaldi](#)):

#### 1- "To be honest, I like Zelenski more than Putin"

Understandable, after all Putin is not very photogenic and we get negative news about him all the time.

But who knows Zelenski's financial machinations

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2021/10/09/russia-ukraine-jordan-lebanon-pandora-papers/> , <https://www.berliner-zeitung.de/wochenende/pandora-papers-volodymyr-selenskij-der-ukrainische-praesident-und-sein-peinliches-netzwerk-li.188923> ?

Or knows how he deprives hundreds of thousands of pensioners of their pensions, for which they have paid contributions for years, because they 'live in the wrong place'

<https://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2017/6/59396b6d5/thousands-eastern-ukraine-lose-access-pensions.html> ?

#### 2- "Ukraine means democracy, Russia means totalitarianism"

That Russia is not a democracy can be seen from the arrests of thousands of anti-war demonstrators.

Does this inversely mean that Ukraine is one?

If TV stations there are 'unified' or censored

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/may/25/death-to-the-enemy-ukraine-news-channels-unite-to-cover-war> , is that freedom of the press?

If left-wing and regionalist parties are banned as being 'close to Russia'

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/20/ukraine-suspends-11-political-parties-with-links-to-russia> , is that freedom of expression?

If the secret service can shoot a senior politician on suspicion without trial

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/ukraine-reports-claim-negotiator-shot-for-treason-officials-say-he-died-in-intel-op/> , [https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/ausland/id\\_91778820/bericht-ukrainischer-geheimdienst-erschiesst-unterhaendler-wegen-hochverrats.html](https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/ausland/id_91778820/bericht-ukrainischer-geheimdienst-erschiesst-unterhaendler-wegen-hochverrats.html) , is that the rule of law?

Does the treatment of native Russian speakers

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian\\_language\\_in\\_Ukraine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_language_in_Ukraine) , <https://uepo.de/2022/01/28/sprachpolitik-ukraine-bekaempft-russische-sprache-per-gesetz/> comply with the Declaration of Human Rights (Articles 2, 26, 27)?

### 3- "Ukraine defends Europe"

There were photos of Russian trucks at the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant, and it is likely that they fired from there. What about the continuous external fire on the power plant, which puts many countries in Europe in danger?

What about Selenski's attempt to prevent the repair of the Nord Stream 1 turbine in Canada

<https://www.fr.de/politik/wolodymyr-selenskyj-kanada-turbinen-ukraine-krieg-deutschland-nord-stream-news-zr-91673122.html> ?

### 4- "The Russian attack was unprovoked"

Instinctively, one always sides with the attacked against the attacker. There is no doubt that the Russian attack was illegal under international law.

There are some important documents on the previous history:

(a) the study by the US Armed Forces and Intelligence think tank RAND entitled "Overextending and Unbalancing Russia" of 2019,

[https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_briefs/RB10014.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB10014.html) , especially page 4,

2) the report of the OSCE frontline monitoring mission of 16 February 2022 on a sharp increase in incidents <https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/osce-special-monitoring-mission-ukraine-smm-daily-report-372022-issued-17-february> ,

3) it coincides with eyewitness reports (no name quotation possible) that in the week before the Russian invasion, Ukrainian forces were testing the defensive lines of the 'republics' as if they were planning a major attack ,

4) it is well known that the US and GB have been arming Ukraine for a long time, while DE and FR relied on the Minsk agreements <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF12040> , <https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/waffenlieferungen-an-die-ukraine-oel-in-das-feuer-dieses-100.html> (from 2015 !), <https://wissenschaft-und-frieden.de/artikel/die-eskalationsspirale->

[durchbrechen/](#) .

Doesn't this rather point to a Russian pre-emptive strike (also against international law) and to the fact that the Pentagon is not at all unhappy about this war?

#### **5- "Before negotiations, we must strengthen Ukraine's position".**

Is that intelligent when Ukraine has sabotaged the Minsk agreements so far (similar to the other side)

[https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/UA\\_150212\\_MinskAgreement\\_en.pdf](https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/UA_150212_MinskAgreement_en.pdf) , <https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/ukraine-minsker-abkommen-in-weiten-teilen-nicht-erfuellt-100.html> ?

Even if the government in Kiev would control the whole Ukraine again, does that solve the problem in the background, namely the lack of a European peace order and the conflict between the USA and Russia?

What would that even mean in practical terms? More weapons? If we look at how Mariupol currently looks

[https://media.npr.org/assets/img/2022/05/18/gettyimages-1240748940\\_slide-c07e7fc5e755c66e7ae5d0486faa5bed464559d8-s800-c85.webp](https://media.npr.org/assets/img/2022/05/18/gettyimages-1240748940_slide-c07e7fc5e755c66e7ae5d0486faa5bed464559d8-s800-c85.webp) , shall Donetsk, Luhansk and Crimea look like that after a 'liberation' with heavy weapons by the Ukrainian army?

#### **6- "The discussion is superfluous, Putin does not want to negotiate at all"**

Firstly, there is information to the contrary on this

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/german-ex-chancellor-schroeder-says-russia-wants-negotiated-solution-ukraine-war-2022-08-03/> , <https://www.n-tv.de/mediathek/videos/politik/Baerbock-Hinter-den-Kulissen-wird-verhandelt-article23573484.html> , [https://www.kleinezeitung.at/home/klistenspecial/klistegross/6188447/Russen-fluechten\\_Jetzt-will-Lawrow-doch-verhandeln](https://www.kleinezeitung.at/home/klistenspecial/klistegross/6188447/Russen-fluechten_Jetzt-will-Lawrow-doch-verhandeln)

Secondly, peace research shows that under certain conditions negotiations are easier, namely in stalemate situations, or an imminent intensification of the conflict with high costs for both sides (1). Opponents are easier to convince when the 'negotiating mass' is increased and there is a gain for both (2).

(1) cf. Zunzer, Wolfram: Zivile Konflikttransformation: Akteure, Aktivitäten und Chancen der Kooperation; in: Blanke, Ursula (ed.): Crises and Conflicts, From Prevention to Peacebuilding; Berlin 2004, p.170.

(2) cf. Meyer, Berthold: Konfliktregelung und Friedensstrategien, Eine Einführung; Wiesbaden 2011, p.59.

This stalemate will soon arise. Neither individual surprise successes by the Ukrainian army, as in Kharkiv, nor the partial mobilisation for the Russian army will change this. They will only prolong the senseless dying.

#### **7- "Russia is not a serious negotiating partner because it breaks all promises"**

The UN-Turkey brokered agreement on grain exports from Ukraine has been working for months, as has the POW exchange with the help of the International Red Cross.

And on the question of who breaks promises, a look at history is instructive

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/feb/28/nato-expansion-war-russia-ukraine> .

#### **8- "You cannot negotiate with people who wage war in such an inhuman way"**

Unfortunately, the warfare of the two armies does not differ much from each other

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/07/21/russian-ukrainian-bases-endangering-civilians> ,  
<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/08/ukraine-ukrainian-fighting-tactics-endanger-civilians/> .

The weapons supplied by NATO also kill civilians who are 350 m from the target

<https://www.welt.de/geschichte/article134740116/Die-Artillerie-zeigt-das-Dilemma-der-Bundeswehr.html> , <https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/praezise-feuerkraft-schiessen-treffen-artillerie-4484462> .

This is also true for the 'super accurate' drones: <https://www.fr.de/politik/9-11-september-2001-drohnen-krieg-terror-afghanistan-al-kaida-bin-laden-fbi-90974084.html> .

Therefore, to the civilian victims of the Russian army, about which we are punctually informed, we must add the civilian victims of the Ukrainian army, about which one can get information on Webs of Donbass <https://lug-info.com/en> + <https://dan-news.info/en/> . In other words, the number of civilian victims is at least twice as high as we are told.

**Is perhaps the warfare of all armies and thus the war itself inhumane?**

#### **9- "One must not reward Putin's attack in violation of international law by giving in, otherwise it will go on and on"**

This sounds very good and should be a principle of every policy. Just one question: why does this apply to Russia

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liste\\_der\\_Milit%C3%A4roperationen\\_Russlands\\_und\\_der\\_Sowjetunion](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liste_der_Milit%C3%A4roperationen_Russlands_und_der_Sowjetunion) ,

but not to the USA, which is even allowed to use military bases like Ramstein in Germany for its wars, some of which are illegal under international law

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline\\_of\\_United\\_States\\_military\\_operations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_United_States_military_operations) ?

And where are sanctions for Israel

(Palestine <https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/resolution-gegen-siedlungsbau-israel-ueberprueft-100.html> )

or Saudi Arabia

(Yemen [https://www.zeit.de/gesellschaft/2017-01/jemen-krieg-un-tote-opfer-zivilisten-ocha?utm\\_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.startpage.com%2F](https://www.zeit.de/gesellschaft/2017-01/jemen-krieg-un-tote-opfer-zivilisten-ocha?utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.startpage.com%2F) , <https://unric.org/de/260122-jemen/> ) ?

### **10- "Ukraine must decide for itself when and what it wants to negotiate about"**

This also sounds very good. However, this is very difficult for a bankrupt country

<https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2022/8/11/ukraine-needs-a-jubilee> ,

<https://finanzmarktwelt.de/ukraine-drohender-staatsbankrott-241019/> , it has to listen to its backers.

Does this explain the U-turn of the Ukrainian leadership, which announced an almost ready ceasefire agreement on 29 March

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022\\_Russia%E2%80%93Ukraine\\_peace\\_negotiations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022_Russia%E2%80%93Ukraine_peace_negotiations) ,

<https://www.mdr.de/nachrichten/welt/ukraine-russland-krieg-verhandlungen-istanbul-100.html> , <https://www.businessinsider.de/politik/deutschland/gespraeche-in-istanbul-ukraine-und-russland-melden-moeglichen-durchbruch-bei-friedensverhandlungen/>

and since the visits of US ministers Austin and Blinken on 24 April and immediately afterwards of UK prime minister Johnson and the assurance of practically unlimited arms supplies

<https://www.state.gov/secretary-blinken-and-secretary-austins-travel-to-ukraine/> has been propagating the 'complete liberation of all occupied territories'?

### **11-"No Ukrainian territory should be sacrificed"**

The Minsk agreements stipulated that the Donbass would remain in Ukraine. The inclination to break away only arose because Kiev refused any decentralisation, as is common in all federal states in Europe.

It is quite another question to give back to the population in the Donbass the right to use their mother tongue in public without separating from Ukraine.

### **12- "The positions are too different"**

History has dozens of examples of solutions to tricky situations, e.g. the demilitarised status of Berlin during the 'Cold War', or the autonomy of South Tyrol within Italy with Austria as the guarantor power, or the autonomies with two official languages in Spain.

You just have to be interested in finding a solution. And it is urgent to regulate coexistence in Eurasia peacefully. Once the whole world is flooded, as a third of Pakistan is now, our children will only be able to fight for the last rubber dinghies, and they won't be helped by howitzers.

### **13- " Turning point of the times "**

The real turning point is the extinction of humanity, accelerated by war emissions and the use of fracking for liquid gas. Six years and ten months remain before the climate is irrevocably out of control

[https://www.mcc-berlin.net/fileadmin/data/clock/carbon\\_clock.htm](https://www.mcc-berlin.net/fileadmin/data/clock/carbon_clock.htm) .

Can we afford one more day of war under these circumstances?

*Keywords: ceasefire, costs, strategy*

#### 4.3. Ukraine - 25 May 2023

Ukraine "defends itself against Russian aggression and at the same time the values of the West", Russia "protects the Russian-speaking population from genocide". The result can be seen, for example, in Marjinka:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkNzORrFb34> or in Bakhmut/Artemivsk:

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2023/may/18/stark-before-and-after-images-reveal-the-obliteration-of-bakhmut>

Wherever 'military professionals' 'liberate' or 'defend' something, they leave rubble, Russian mines, British uranium and German cluster munitions, frightened pensioners in the basement and rats gnawing on corpses.

Such things are not cheap. Here is an example (Russian attack on Patriot station near Kiev):

[https://t.me/chroniques\\_conflict\\_ukraine/4000](https://t.me/chroniques_conflict_ukraine/4000)

confirmed by <https://www.merkur.de/politik/videos-usa-russland-ukraine-patriot-beschaedigt-geheimdienst-zwingt-blogger-reue-zr-92285718.html> .

One Patriot shot costs 5 million, in 20 seconds about 30 missiles were fired, that's 150 million. How many Russian and Ukrainian conscientious objectors could be accommodated for months with this money to 'dry up' the war ?

<http://soziale-verteidigung.de/artikel/ware-rustungsausgaben-zivile-zwecke-vergleich>

The US strategy is to weaken Russia as long as possible

[https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_briefs/RB10014.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB10014.html) ,

even though we are getting closer to World War III with every escalating step

<https://www.reuters.com/world/nato-reaches-back-cold-war-past-with-first-major-defence-plans-decades-2023-05-18/>

The EU has no strategy of its own, it simply supplies more and more far-reaching weapons. The arms companies like it:

<https://www.produktion.de/schwerpunkte/ruestungsindustrie/deutsche-ruestungsfirmen-machen-mehr-gewinn-14-935.html>

In practice, this means: until now, civilians in the markets of the big city of Donetsk were regularly killed by US HIMARS or French CAESAR. Now those in Lugansk are also within the range of the British Storm Shadow.

The civilians in the Donbass in south-eastern Ukraine, however, have other interests.

A 'liberation' by Ukrainian troops (if it were technically possible) would do them little good: the parties with a majority in the Donbass are banned in the rest of Kiev-ruled Ukraine, and the majority language, Russian, cannot be spoken in public.

The population in the southeast does not need the Ukrainian army in its territory, but rather

a demilitarised zone (like Berlin for many years) and autonomy (like South Tyrol).  
For this, a ceasefire and negotiations are necessary.

No commitment can be expected from the Western governments.

The majority of parliamentarians do not fulfil their control function any more than they did during the twenty years of the war in Afghanistan.

The situation is similar with 95% of the media:

<https://www.fischerverlage.de/magazin/neue-rundschau/die-veroeffentlichte-meinung>

Even if they don't like to mention it, the opinion of the population, at least in Germany, is in favour of negotiations:

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/dpa/umfrage-mehrheit-fuer-verhandlungen-zwischen-ukraine-und-rusland/29148370.html>

Hopes for the transition from escalation to ceasefire exist:

1) if the forces in the US that do not want to prolong the Ukraine war to 'focus on China' prevail.

<https://www.rand.org/pubs/perspectives/PEA2510-1.html>

2) if the neutral states combine their influence, as they did with the grain agreement

3) if the protests of the people become more visible, as they did with the Vietnam War.

At present, however, we have the problem that, for example, while 800,000 Germans sign the Schwarzer/Wagenknecht peace manifesto, tens of millions who are also in favour of negotiations and ceasefire do not, for various reasons. So it seems that the militarists are in the majority and the politicians are acting according to the will of the people. The International Peace Summit on 10 and 11 June in Vienna <https://www.peacevienna.org/> is very important, but more for activists. It would be good if (before or after) flanking activities were organised that would allow the millions of dissatisfied people to show their opinion, such as

- putting candles in the window on the same day all over the world as a demand for 'ceasefire and negotiations in Ukraine'

- the same stickers worldwide -

models for mails to the respective governments and parliaments (they all go into the waste paper basket, but the number is registered).

This also applies to the Anti-War Day on 1 September.

## **5- Trump and technofascism**

## 5.1. What will the wannabe king try next?

27 August 2025

Keywords: Agenda 47, Army, China, EU, ,Intelligence' agency, military industrial complex, Project 25, Special Operations, Ukraine

This text attempts to predict what Trump may try to do in the future. The aim is to reduce the element of surprise. It is written for the peace movement and therefore focuses on the military and intelligence services. (*Colored markings by the author, emphasis as in the original*).

Outline:

0- Preliminary remarks

1- Agenda 47

2- Project 2025

3- Conclusions

### 0- Vorbemerkung

The references are

1) 'Agenda 47'

Summary:<https://www.congress.gov/118/meeting/house/117688/documents/HHRG-118-FD00-20240925-SD006.pdf>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agenda\\_47](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agenda_47)

as well as video transcripts starting at 1.1-

2) "Mandate for Leadership 2025" (= "Project 2025")

nearly 900 pages

<https://whatisproject2025.net/project-2025-mandate-for-leadership-pdf/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project\\_2025](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_2025)

'Agenda 47' refers to Trump's upcoming term in office and is his official "program." 'Project 2025', on the other hand, continues a tradition that began with Reagan and is suitable for various right-wing presidents <https://racinecountyeye.com/2024/09/16/project-2025-agenda-47-trump/> .

Both texts are quite similar, except for the war in Ukraine

<https://www.ocregister.com/2024/10/14/trump-project-2025/>

Additional links not included here:

<https://www.betterworld.info/politics/north-america/usa/presidents-administrations/donald-trump-us-president/trumps-policies>

It should always be borne in mind that Trump changes his decisions from one day to the next. The question also arises as to what extent his own economic interests will influence his actions after his presidency.

Even though Trump claims that he deliberately did not read 'Project 2025', he is largely implementing the Heritage Foundation's proposals: "Soon after President Donald Trump was sworn in, his administration began to implement major parts of the 2016 *Mandate*. After his first year in office, the

administration had implemented 64 percent of its policy recommendations.” (Project, p.885)  
Many of the authors are also former employees or were hired by him after the election.

## 1- **Agenda 47**

As the official “program,” we will first watch these videos:

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47> .

### 1.1- *Armament*

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/agenda47-rebuilding-americas-depleted-military>

He begins (2023) with the now outdated claim that Europe is paying less for the war in Ukraine than the US <https://www.ifw-kiel.de/topics/war-against-ukraine/ukraine-support-tracker/> and continues with “All you have to do is take a look at how much China, how much Ukraine have paid the Biden family.”

In his view, the US military lacks ammunition, money, prestige, and personnel. That is why it needs to be rebuilt. His interest in this is that the EU should cover the costs of the war in Ukraine by purchasing military equipment from the US.

Last sentence: “... and we'll get rid of the fascists.” A hint of self-criticism?

### 1.2- *Missile defense shield*

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/president-trump-will-build-a-new-missile-defense-shield>

He states: “... there is no greater danger than the deadly menace of nuclear weapons and hypersonic missiles.” However, he fails to mention that he himself was responsible for terminating the majority of nuclear arms limitation treaties.

His ‘solution’ is to build a missile defense shield in order to achieve “peace through strength”. The model for this is Israel's ‘Dome,’ whose shortcomings became apparent after its attack on Iran.

### 1.3- *Preventing World War III – the enemy within*

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/agenda47-preventing-world-war-iii>

Here, he sees the danger of a nuclear war between the US and Russia because of the war in Ukraine. However, he locates the main danger within: “The State Department, the defense bureaucracy, the intelligence services, and all the rest need to be completely overhauled and reconstituted to fire the Deep Staters and put America First.”

### 1.4- *The military-industrial complex*

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/agenda47-president-trump-announces-plan-to-stop-the-america-last-warmongers-and-globalists>

This video is full of seemingly pacifist quotes: “We need to clean house of all of the warmongers and America-Last globalists in the Deep State, the Pentagon, the State Department, and the national security industrial complex.”

The term is reminiscent of Eisenhower's “*Military Industrial Complex*,” but Trump's armament plans are precisely in the interests of the MIC.

This is followed by an admission: “For decades, we've had the very same people, such as Victoria Nuland and many others just like her, obsessed with pushing Ukraine toward NATO, not to mention the State Department's support for uprisings in Ukraine. These people have been seeking confrontation for a long time, much like the case in Iraq and other parts of the world, and now, we're teetering on the brink of World War III.” In contrast, he presents himself as a “peace president”: “We'll also stop the lobbyists and the big defense contractors from going in and pushing our senior military and national security officials toward conflict, only to reward them when they retire with lucrative jobs—getting paid millions and millions of dollars.”

Since taking office, he has tried his hand at being a “peacemaker” between: the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda (not for the long term), between Armenia and Azerbaijan, between India and Pakistan... His approach has always been unprofessional and linked to attempts to obtain raw materials or other assets for the US. The intervention of the USA in the conflict Israel/Palestine can by no means be described as “peacemaking.”

Finally, there is the infamous promise to end the war in Ukraine: “We could end the Ukraine conflict in 24 hours with the right leadership.” Time is up.

#### 1.5- *De-escalation in Ukraine*

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/president-trump-calls-for-immediate-de-escalation-and-peace>

The transcript here is rather confusing. He advocates ending the war without mentioning that he is doing so in order to prepare for war against China. He ends by proving that he has no idea about the dynamics of peace processes: “And believe it or not, it will be easy to do, it will be very easy to do.” Unfortunately, numerous Ukrainian civilians on both sides of the front line and Russian civilians continue to die as a result of weapons supplied by the US. He finds this situation ‘interesting’: “Regardless, this is a war that would have NEVER happened if I were President - ZERO CHANCE. Interesting times ahead!!!” <https://edition.cnn.com/2025/08/21/politics/trump-ukraine-russia-peace-stall>

#### 1.6- *‘Intelligence’ agencies*

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/president-donald-j-trump-calls-for-probe-into-intelligence-communitys-role-in-online-censorship>

He sees the FBI as a tool of high- "tech tyrants" and the suppression of freedom of expression, and demands a seven-year ban before anyone from the FBI or similar agencies is allowed to work for platforms.

#### 1.7- *Chinese investments*

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/president-trump-will-stop-china-from-owning-america>

According to the text, China is buying strategically important sectors in the US, which is compromising national security. Therefore, he argues, “aggressive new restrictions on Chinese ownership of any vital infrastructure in the United States, including energy, technology, telecommunications, farmland, natural resources, medical supplies, and other strategic national assets” must be enacted.

#### 1.8- *Chinese espionage*

<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/stopping-chinese-espionage>

The preamble accuses Biden: “Biden is weak on China because he is controlled and owned by China.” He, on the other hand, wants to take action against the “many thousands of spies working in the US” through agreements with companies, universities, visa and travel restrictions.

1.9- In addition to the video series, there is also a written *10-point plan* “to dismantle the deep state and reclaim our democracy from Washington corruption,” which refers to domestic policy:

<https://www.congress.gov/118/meeting/house/117688/documents/HHRG-118-FD00-20240925-SD006.pdf>

Almost all of the points are important for the military and intelligence services: “1. On Day One, re-issue 2020 executive order restoring the president's authority to fire rogue bureaucrats.” - “And I will wield that power very aggressively.”

“2. Overhaul federal departments and agencies, firing all of the corrupt actors in our National Security and Intelligence apparatus.

3. Fundamentally reform the FISA courts, ensuring that corruption is rooted out.

<https://bja.ojp.gov/program/it/privacy-civil-liberties/authorities/statutes/1286>

4. Establish a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to declassify and publish all documents on Deep State spying, censorship, and abuses of power." - We are very excited about this!
- „5. Launch a major crackdown on government leakers who collude with the media to create false narratives, pressing criminal charges when appropriate.
6. Make every Inspector General’s Office independent from the departments they oversee, so that they do not become protectors of the deep state.
7. Establish an independent auditing system to continually monitor our intelligence agencies to ensure that they are not spying on our citizens or running disinformation campaigns against the American people.“ - This would also be highly desirable in some European countries.
- „8. Continue Trump administration effort to move parts of the federal bureaucracy outside of the Washington Swamp, just like President Trump moved the Bureau of Land Management to Colorado.
9. Ban federal bureaucrats from taking jobs at the companies they deal with and regulate, such as Big Pharma.
10. Push for a constitutional amendment to impose term limits on members of Congress.“

## 2- Project 2025

### 2.1- Military

A political purge of the military is recommended:

„The NSC (= National Security Council) should rigorously review all general and flag officer promotions to prioritize the core roles and responsibilities of the military over social engineering and non-defense matters, including climate change, critical race theory, manufactured extremism, and other polarizing policies that weaken our armed forces and discourage our nation’s finest men and women from enlisting to serve in defense of our liberty. ...

For instance, the NSA should return *all* nonessential detailees to their home agencies on their first day in office so that the new Administration can proceed efficiently without the personnel land mines left by the previous stewards and as soon as possible should replace all essential detailees with staff aligned to the new President’s priorities.“ (p.25)

Humorously, this is referred to as ‘nonpoliticization’:

„Military service is the most difficult task we ask of our citizens, and our nation is enormously blessed that so many young, patriotic Americans eagerly volunteer to carry such a heavy burden. We owe them everything, and we must do better. To do better, however, means recognizing and implementing four overriding priorities:  
**Priority No. 1:** Reestablish a culture of command accountability, nonpoliticization, and warfighting focus.“ (p.92)

The deployment of the National Guard domestically is not proposed in the main text:

„6. Transform how the National Guard is employed during extended operations short of declared war to preclude back-to-back federal and state deployments of National Guard soldiers in order to stabilize and preserve military volunteerism in our communities.“ (p. 110)

However, a footnote suggests something different:

„23. The U.S. military has a long history of providing support to civil authorities, particularly in response to disasters but for other purposes as well. The Defense Department currently defines defense support of civil authorities (DSCA) as “Support provided by U.S. Federal military forces, DoD civilians, DoD contract personnel, DoD Component assets, and National Guard forces (when the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Governors of the affected States, elects and requests to use those forces in Title 32, U.S.C., status) in response to requests for assistance from civil authorities for domestic emergencies, law enforcement support, and other domestic activities, or from qualifying entities for special events. Also known as civil support.” U.S. Department of Defense, Directive No. 3025.18, “Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA),” December 29, 2010, p. 16, <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/CG-5R/nsarc/DoDD%203025.18%20Defense%20Support%20of%20Civil%20Authorities.pdf> (accessed February 15, 2023).“ (p.123, footnote 23)

## 2.2- Intelligence agencies

These too are to be brought under control with the argument “to prevent ... partisan abuses.”: „An incoming conservative President should consider reforms designed to prevent future partisan abuses of national security authority. A package of strong provisions to protect against such partisanship might include:

- Stiffer penalties and mandatory investigations when intelligence leaks are aimed at domestic political targets,
- Tighter controls on otherwise lawful intercepts that also collect the communications of domestic political figures,
- An express prohibition on politically motivated use of intelligence authorities, ...“ (p.215/6)

„The President should immediately revoke the security clearances of any former Directors, Deputy Directors, or other senior intelligence officials who discuss their work in the press or on social media without prior clearance from the current Director. IC (=Intelligence Community) agencies, including the CIA, should minimize their public presence and vigorously investigate any and all leaks of information, classified or otherwise. The ODNI and CIA should fire or refer for prosecution any employee who is suspected of leaking information, and penalties should include the removal of pension benefits for those who are found guilty. Additional tools are needed to prevent leaked intelligence from being used as a weapon in policy debates by IC leaders or decisionmakers in the executive branch or Congress.“ (S.213/4)

Given the large number of intelligence agencies (18 in total, p. 227), this is a mammoth task; even the Department of Energy has its own „Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence“ (IAC) (p. 391).

T- and U- visas, which are actually intended to give victims of human traffickers a respite, are to be used to search for informants: „**T-Visa and U-Visa reform.** Unless and until T and U visas are repealed, each program needs to be reformed to ensure that only legitimate victims of trafficking and crimes who are actively providing significant material assistance to law enforcement are eligible for spots in the queue.“ (p.150)

Universities are also to be placed under the control of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center: „Corporate America, technology companies, research institutions, and academia must be willing, educated partners in this generational fight to protect our national security interests, economic interests, national sovereignty, and intellectual property as well as the broader rules-based order—all while avoiding the tendency to cave to the left-wing activists and investors who ignore the China threat and increasingly dominate the corporate world. Reinstitution of the National Security Higher Education Advisory Board and the National Security Business Alliance Council should be prioritized with leadership from the NCSC, the FBI, or a combination of both entities.“ (p.218)

When it comes to space, intelligence agencies and the military should work more closely together: „The IC must therefore refocus and invest in methods that will enable it to characterize accurately the threats that already exist in space, not just on the ground; break down barriers to information sharing and collaboration with the DOD.“ (p.230)

This is not only about defense, but also about attacks:

„3. Fully utilize unique Title 10 and Title 50 authorities to execute space defense (and offense) strategies jointly.“ (p.230)

## 2.3- ‘Special’ operations

This term refers to operations that are often denied because they violate applicable law or serve to produce fake information.

„Irregular warfare should be used proactively to prevent state and nonstate actors from negatively affecting U.S. policies and objectives while simultaneously strengthening our regional partnerships.“ (p.121)

„**Make irregular warfare a cornerstone of security strategy.** The U.S. can project strength through unified action with our Interagency,<sup>38</sup> allies, and partners by utilizing irregular warfare capabilities synchronized with elements of national power. Broadly redefining irregular warfare to address current state and nonstate actors is critical to countering irregular threats that range from the Chinese use of economic warfare to Russian disinformation and Islamist terrorism.“ (p.121)

In the future, we will therefore have to be more vigilant so as not to fall for fabrications such as the “Gulf of Tonkin incident” (Vietnam War) or “weapons of mass destruction” (Iraq War). Such methods will be used in particular against China (see also section 2.6-). „**Counter China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) globally.** DOD, in conjunction with the Interagency, allies, and partner nations, must work proactively to counter China’s BRI around the globe. 1. Task USSOCOM and corresponding organizations in the Pentagon with conceptualizing, resourcing, and executing regionally based operations to counter the BRI with a focus on nations that are key to our energy policy, international supply chains, and our defense industrial base.“ (p.122)

„An incoming Administration will need to double down on resourcing and training so that members of the IC will have the expertise they need to operate clandestinely (and successfully) against hard targets.“ (p.225)

„An incoming conservative President needs to use these intelligence authorities aggressively to anticipate and thwart our adversaries, including Russia, Iran, North Korea, and especially China, while maintaining counterterrorism tools that have demonstrated their effectiveness.“ (p.201)

#### 2.4- „Covert action“

Related to special operations are covert missions, which are also set to increase, with the military being deployed even in peacetime and the State Department playing a role:

„Covert action can be a valuable tool in helping further the President’s foreign policy agenda if implemented in concert with other forms of government power.

As codified in the U.S. Code, “the term ‘covert action’ means an activity or activities of the United States Government to influence political, economic, or military conditions abroad, where it is intended that the role of the United States Government will not be apparent or acknowledged publicly....”<sup>16</sup>

„The President initiates a covert action with a written finding that explains why“such an action is necessary to support identifiable foreign policy objectives of the United States and is important to the national security of the United States.”<sup>17</sup> The statute assumes the President will use the CIA as the principal action element to achieve the objectives of covert action findings; however, the President need not feel constrained to utilize only the CIA: “[E]ach finding shall specify each department, agency, or entity of the United States Government authorized to fund or otherwise participate in any significant way in such action.”<sup>18</sup>

„For example, the Department of Defense maintains certain clandestine capabilities under Title 10 authorities that may resemble but far exceed in scale similar capabilities outside of DOD. Generally, such DOD capabilities can be employed outside a combat theater only if they are determined to be traditional military activities. In practical terms, this means that many DOD capabilities, including those in the space and cyber domains, can be employed only after the initiation of armed conflict.<sup>19</sup> Given the range of global threats the United States faces today, the President should consider whether DOD’s complete set of capabilities should be used to support potential covert actions.“ (p.210)

„The State Department should also assist the Department of Defense to go “on offence” against adversaries. “Deterrence as a strategic approach has not stemmed the onslaught of cyber aggression below the level of armed conflict.”<sup>27</sup> The traditional U.S. defensive approach based on deterrence followed by reaction to crossed “red lines” is no longer effective. Adversaries can evade this strategy through multiple tactical lines of action below the level of armed conflict, and such actions have a cumulative strategic effect. The State Department’s role should be to work with allies and engage with adversaries when necessary to draw clear lines of unacceptable conduct. Global financial infrastructure, nuclear controls, and public health are particularly important areas in which consensus may even be found across ideological lines.“ (p.196)

#### 2.5- Ukraine

The authors and Trump disagree on how to proceed in Ukraine:

„One school of conservative thought holds that as Moscow’s illegal war of aggression against Ukraine drags on, Russia presents major challenges to U.S. interests, as well as to peace, stability, and the post-Cold War security order in Europe. This viewpoint argues for continued U.S. involvement including military aid, economic aid, and the presence of NATO and U.S. troops if necessary. The end goal of the conflict must be the defeat of Russian President Vladimir Putin and a return to pre-invasion border lines.

„Another school of conservative thought denies that U.S. Ukrainian support is in the national security interest of America at all. Ukraine is not a member of the NATO alliance and is one of the most corrupt nations in the region. European nations directly affected by the conflict should aid in the defense of Ukraine, but the U.S. should not continue its involvement. This viewpoint desires a swift end to the conflict through a negotiated settlement

between Ukraine and Russia.

The tension between these competing positions has given rise to a third approach. This conservative viewpoint eschews both isolationism and interventionism. Rather, each foreign policy decision must first ask the question: What is in the interest of the American people? U.S. military engagement must clearly fall within U.S. interests; be fiscally responsible; and protect American freedom, liberty, and sovereignty, all while recognizing Communist China as the greatest threat to U.S. interests. Thus, with respect to Ukraine, continued U.S. involvement must be fully paid for; limited to military aid (while European allies address Ukraine's economic needs); and have a clearly defined national security strategy that does not risk American lives. Regardless of viewpoints, all sides agree that Putin's invasion of Ukraine is unjust and that the Ukrainian people have a right to defend their homeland. Furthermore, the conflict has severely weakened Putin's military strength and provided a boost to NATO unity and its importance to European nations." (p.182)

## 2.6- *China*

### **„CHINA-FOCUSED CHANGES, REFORMS, AND RESOURCES**

The term "whole of government" is all too frequently overused, but in responding to the generational threat posed by the Chinese Communist Party, that is exactly the approach that our national security apparatus should adopt." (p.216)

The following table 6 contains a long list of accusations against China. I suspect that the authors drew on the United States' wealth of experience in dealing with other countries, even "allies," when compiling the list:

## **Vectors of Communist China's Economic Aggression in the Technology and IP Space**

### **Physical Theft and Cyber-Enabled Theft of Technologies and IP**

- Physical Theft of Technologies and IP Through Economic Espionage
- Cyber-Enabled Espionage and Theft
- Evasion of US Export Control Laws
- Counterfeiting and Piracy
- Reverse Engineering

### **Coercive and Intrusive Regulatory Gambits**

- Foreign Ownership Restrictions
- Adverse Administrative Approvals and Licensing Requirements
- Discriminatory Patent and Other IP Rights Restrictions
- Security Reviews Force Technology and IP Transfers
- Secure and Controllable Technology Standards
- Data Localization Mandates
- Burdensome and Intrusive Testing
- Discriminatory Catalogues and Lists
- Government Procurement Restrictions
- Indigenous Technology Standards that Deviate from International Norms
- Forced Research and Development
- Antimonopoly Law Extortion
- Expert Review Panels Force Disclosure of Proprietary Information
- Chinese Communist Party Co-opts Corporate Governance
- Placement of Chinese Employees with Foreign Joint Ventures

### **Economic Coercion**

- Export Restraints Restrict Access to Raw Materials
- Monopsony Purchasing Power

### **Information Harvesting**

- Open-Source Collection of Science and Technology Information
- Chinese Nationals in US as Non-Traditional Information Collectors
- Recruitment of Science Technology Business and Finance Talent

### **State-Sponsored Technology-Seeking Investment**

- Chinese State Actors Involved in Technology-Seeking FDI
- Chinese Investment Vehicles Used to Acquire and Transfer US Technologies and IP
  - Mergers and Acquisitions
  - Greenfield Investments
  - Seed and Venture Funding

SOURCE: White House Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy, *How China's Economic Aggression Threatens the Technologies and Intellectual Property of the United States and the World*, June 2018, <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/FINAL-China-Technology-Report-6.18.18-PDF.pdf> (accessed March 21, 2023).“ (p.788)

Pages 789 and 790 contain a list of “countermeasures,” which are not reproduced here because they are primarily economic in nature.

Similar proposals for the telecommunications sector (and thus espionage) can be found on pages 851, 852, and 853:

**Address TikTok’s threat to U.S. national security.** As law enforcement officials have made clear, TikTok poses a serious and unacceptable risk to America’s national security.<sup>22</sup> It also provides Beijing with an opportunity to run a foreign influence campaign by determining the news and information that the app feeds to millions of Americans. As of this writing, the Biden Administration’s Treasury Department has not announced a final decision concerning its long-pending review of TikTok. If that inaction persists, or if the Administration allows TikTok to continue to operate in the U.S., a new Administration should ban the application on national security grounds.

**Expand the FCC’s Covered List.** The FCC (= Federal Communications Commission) maintains a list of communications equipment and services that pose an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States. It is known as the Covered List.<sup>23</sup> Huawei is one of the companies on the Covered List, and its inclusion means that the FCC will no longer review or approve new applications from Huawei. Without FCC approval, new Huawei gear cannot be lawfully sold or used in the U.S. However, the FCC must do a better job of ensuring that its Covered List stays up to date and accounts for changes in corporate names and forms. Therefore, a new Administration should create a more regular and timely process for reviewing entities with ties to the CCP’s surveillance state.

**End the unregulated end run.** As noted above, China Telecom and similar entities have been banned from operating in the U.S. in a manner that would require an FCC license or authorization because of the national security risks that those entities pose. However, many of these same entities are still operating in the U.S. and offering services very similar to the ones that they are prohibited from providing. China Telecom, for instance, continues to provide services to data centers by offering the services on a private or “unregulated” basis. A new Administration should work with the FCC to close this loophole. One way to do so would be for the FCC to prohibit any regulated carrier from interconnecting with an insecure provider.

**Publish a foreign adversary transparency list.** As part of the FCC’s ongoing work to secure our networks from entities that would do the bidding of our foreign adversaries, the FCC should do more to shine the light of transparency on the scope of the problem. To this end, the FCC should compile and publish a list of all entities that hold FCC authorizations, licenses, or other grants of authority with more than 10 percent ownership by foreign adversarial governments, including the governments of China, Russia, Iran, Syria, or North Korea. A bipartisan bill that would require the FCC to publish this type of list has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Representatives Elise Stefanik (R–NY), Ro Khanna (D–CA), and Mike Gallagher (R–WI).<sup>24</sup>

**Fully fund the federal “rip and replace” program.** In 2019, Congress established a \$1.9 billion Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program (known colloquially as the “rip and replace” program) to reimburse communications providers for the reasonable expenses they would incur to remove, replace, and dispose of insecure Huawei and ZTE gear. However, \$1.9 billion is about \$3 billion short of the total amount of funding needed to complete the rip and replace process. A new Administration should ensure that the program is fully funded and should look first at repurposing and applying unused COVID-era emergency funds for this purpose.

**Launch a Clean Standards Initiative.** During the Trump Administration, the U.S. government launched a worldwide Clean Networks program.<sup>25</sup> As a result of this initiative, many of the U.S. government’s allies started the process of ending their relationships with Huawei. It is time for an Administration to build and expand on this groundbreaking work by taking a similar approach to the standard-setting process. Right now, the CCP is seeking to extend its influence by exerting control over the development of standards in a variety of areas, including technology and telecommunications. It is vital that the United States meet this threat with a comprehensive clean standards initiative.

**Stop aiding the CCP’s authoritarian approach to artificial intelligence.** The CCP has set itself a goal of becoming the global leader in artificial intelligence (AI) by 2030. Beijing is bent on using this technology to exert authoritarian control domestically and export its authoritarian governance model overseas. U.S. businesses are

aiding Beijing in this effort— often unwittingly—by feeding, training, and improving the AI datasets of companies that are beholden to the CCP. One way that U.S. companies are doing this is by giving Beijing access to their high-powered cloud computing services. Therefore, it is time for an Administration to put in place a comprehensive plan that aims to stop U.S. entities from directly or indirectly contributing to China’s malign AI goals.“

## 2.7- EU

The attitude towards it is not quite as aggressive; here, it is more a question of weakening data protection and dividing Western and Eastern members:

„Third, in the wake of Brexit, EU foreign policy now takes place without U.K. input, which disadvantages the United States, given that the U.K. has historically been aligned with many U.S. positions. Therefore, U.S. diplomacy must be more attentive to inner-EU developments, while also developing new allies inside the EU— especially the Central European countries on the eastern flank of the EU, which are most vulnerable to Russian aggression.“ (p.188)

„**Privacy Shield.** For many years, the European Union (EU) has tried to force U.S. companies operating in Europe to follow its data privacy regulations. Misleading claims in the 2013 Snowden leaks destroyed the initial Safe Harbor Framework<sup>44</sup> that allowed American companies to transfer data across the Atlantic; its successor, the Privacy Shield Framework,<sup>45</sup> was struck down by European courts on the grounds that it provides insufficient protections for EU citizens against hypothetical (author: 😊😏👉) U.S. government surveillance. Those same European courts exempted the intelligence services of EU member states from the standards applied to the U.S., suggesting that trade protectionism may be the real motive behind data privacy regulations. In 2022, the Biden Administration negotiated a new agreement, the Trans-Atlantic Data Privacy Framework,<sup>46</sup> intended to withstand European legal challenges. Given the fate of its predecessors, it is not certain that it will survive. Executive Order 14086, “Enhancing Safeguards for United States Signals Intelligence Activities,”<sup>47</sup> implements this new framework by attempting to align signals intelligence collection practices with European privacy regulations. At most, the executive order’s changes will be helpful support for the framework in future European litigation; at worst, they could throw sand in the gears of important intelligence programs. An incoming conservative President should reset Europe’s expectations. Brussels has always arbitrated the difference between being a military ally against, for example, Russia and conducting a full-blown trade conflict with the United States. Restrictions on data exports have been part of the trade conflict, but now they could seriously harm our military and intelligence capabilities. Moreover, restrictions on U.S. intelligence collection hurt the Europeans themselves, especially as the United States shares unprecedented amounts of intelligence on Russia’s invasion of Ukraine with Europeans.<sup>48</sup>

Europe is telling the United States to meet intelligence oversight standards that no European country meets. At the same time, exports of data to China are unexamined and (so far) free from legal challenges. That violates World Trade Organization agreements as an arbitrary and discriminatory data protection standard. It is a betrayal by a nominally allied jurisdiction. European court rulings that struck down prior data privacy frameworks were grounded not in constitutional law but in a treaty among European nations. If the EU accepted an international agreement that data may flow to the United States under a more reasonable standard than the one adopted by the court, that interpretation would be binding, at least as a gloss on the earlier treaty. The United States has never seriously pushed back against the EU; now is the time. An incoming President should ask for an immediate study of the implementation of Executive Order 14086 and suspend any provisions that unduly burden intelligence collection. At the same time, in negotiations with the Europeans, the United States should make clear that the continued sharing of intelligence with EU member states depends on successful resolution of this issue within the first two years of a President’s term. It is time for a real solution, not the 30 years of stopgaps imposed by Brussels.“ (p.225, 226)

## 2.8- Treatment of other ‘partners’

If anyone is surprised by this treatment of ‘allies’, the example of the Kurds, who served as ground troops against ISIS, is even more shocking:

„A further key priority is keeping Türkiye in the Western fold and a NATO ally. This includes a vigorous outreach to Türkiye to dissuade it from “hedging” toward Russia or China, which is likely to require a rethinking of U.S.

support for YPG/PKK [People's Protection Units/Kurdistan Worker's Party] Kurdish forces, which Ankara believes are an existential threat to its security.“ (p.185)

### 2.9- *Treatment of their own veterans*

This self-serving view does not stop at their own veterans: „The Agent Orange Act of 1991<sup>4</sup> significantly expanded the scope of disability benefits for those who had deployed to Vietnam, and the cost of those benefits began to increase dramatically as the Vietnam generation of veterans aged and began to experience adverse health conditions, some of which were presumed to have been caused by defoliant chemicals used in Southeast Asia. In 2016 and 2017, a burdensome backlog of appeals of denied disability claims from multiple wartime generations—a backlog numbering in the hundreds of thousands—led to a joint effort by the VA, Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs), and Congress to pass legislation that streamlined appeal processes. Implemented in 2017, this historic “good governance” success has helped the VA to reduce the number of these appeals dramatically.“ (p.643)

„In sum, the VA for the foreseeable future will experience significant fiscal, human capital, and infrastructure crosswinds and risks. Budgets are at historic highs, and with a workforce now above 400,000, the VA is contending with a lack of new veteran enrollees to offset the declining population of older veterans. Recruitment of medical and benefits personnel has become more challenging. Veterans are migrating from the northern states to the southern and western states for retirement and employment. Meanwhile, VA information technology (IT) is struggling to keep pace with the evolution of patient care and record keeping. Consequently, VA leaders in the next Administration must be wise and courageous political strategists, experienced managers to run day-to-day operations more effectively, innovators to address the changing veteran landscape, and agile “fixers” to mitigate and repair systemic problems created or ignored by the present leadership team.“ (p.644)

### 3- *Other topics*

There are a number of other interesting topics that are only touched upon here, e.g., on p. 611, the commendable phrase “**PUTTING AMERICAN WORKERS FIRST.**” However, it does not refer to ending discrimination compared to American billionaires, but rather serves to divide those parts of the American working class who were born elsewhere.

Dismantling the entire propaganda apparatus would also be a good idea: “The mission of the United States Agency for Global Media (USAGM) is to inform, engage, and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy.<sup>1</sup> However, this mission statement does not reflect the current work of the agency. The mission is noble, but the execution is lacking. To fulfill its mission, USAGM should also aim to present the truth about America and American policy—not parrot America's adversaries' propaganda and talking points.<sup>2</sup>” In contrast, criticism of USAID ( from p. 253) has already led to the discontinuation of almost all programs and a high number of deaths.

## 3- **Conclusions**

3.1- One characteristic of fascist movements is that they express criticism of capitalism in order to broaden their social base. This is why there are numerous attacks on ‘Big Tech’: „**Reining in Big Tech.** The FCC has an important role to play in addressing the threats to individual liberty posed by corporations that are abusing dominant positions in the market. Nowhere is that clearer than when it comes to Big Tech and its attempts to drive diverse political viewpoints from the digital town square. Today, a handful of corporations can shape everything from the information we consume to the places we shop. These corporate behemoths are not merely exercising market power; they are abusing dominant positions. They are not simply prevailing in the free market; they are taking advantage of a landscape that has been skewed—in many cases by the government—to favor their business models over those of their competitors. It is hard to imagine another industry in which a greater gap exists between power and accountability. That is why a new Administration should support FCC action on several fronts.“ (p.847)

„**Impose transparency rules on Big Tech.** Today, Big Tech offers a black box. After Google manipulates search

results, a small business can see its web traffic drop precipitously overnight for no apparent reason, potentially flipping its outlook from black to red. On Facebook, social media posts are left up or taken down, accounts suspended or permanently banned, without any apparent consistency. Out of the blue, YouTube can demonetize individuals who have risked their capital and invested their labor to build online businesses.“ (p.848)

**„Require that Big Tech begin to contribute a fair share.** Big Tech has avoided accountability in several additional ways as well. One of them concerns the FCC’s roughly \$9 billion Universal Service Fund. This initiative provides the support necessary to subsidize the agency’s affordable Internet and rural connectivity programs. The FCC obtains this funding through a line-item charge that carriers add to consumers’ monthly bills for traditional telecommunications service. While Big Tech derives tremendous value from the federal government’s universal service investments—using those federally supported networks to deliver their products and realize significant profits—these large corporations have avoided paying a fair share into the program. On top of that, the FCC’s current funding mechanism has been on an unsustainable path.<sup>21</sup> By requiring traditional telephone customers to contribute to a fund that is being used increasingly to support broadband networks, the FCC’s current approach is the regulatory equivalent of taxing horseshoes to pay for highways. To put the FCC’s universal service program on a stable footing, Congress should require Big Tech companies to start contributing an appropriate amount.“ (p.850)

One might therefore believe that there is a deep conflict between MAGA and Big Tech. However, if one considers the relationship between Vice President Vance and Peter Thiel (Palantier, Clearview, PayPal)

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/antoniopequenoiv/2024/07/16/jd-vance-and-peter-thiel-what-to-know-about-the-relationship-between-trumps-vp-pick-and-the-billionaire/> , this is an illusion.

3.2- The 'Democratic Party' and democratic forces around the world seemed surprised by Trump's actions immediately after taking office. The existence of 'Project 2025' and 'Agenda 47' allowed him to act quickly. In addition, such a surprise attack makes sense, as Machiavelli already described: “One must therefore know that there are two ways to fight: by law and by force. The first is the way of men; the second is the way of animals. Often, however, the first is not enough, and so the second must be resorted to. It is therefore necessary for a prince to be able to play the role of both man and beast.”... “A wise prince cannot and must not keep his word if its fulfillment would turn against him, and if the causes that prompted him to give it cease to exist.” From: *Psychologie der Massen – Der Fürst – Wege zu sich selbst*, Nikol Verlag, Hamburg 2016, p.499+500, *authors translation*

I therefore propose that movements active in other areas (health, education, civil rights, etc.) draw up and publish similar forecasts for their respective fields and develop preventive defense strategies.

This military-centered analysis shows that after the “ conclusion” of the war in Ukraine, the danger of an attack on China “in defense of Taiwan” will increase, with all methods of “covert” and “special” operations being used, true to Machiavelli. The peace movement should prepare for this now.

3.3- Finally, it is time to come out of the (psychological) defensive. Fascism can be stopped, as seen in Brazil. A good approach to civil resistance, from which peace groups outside of the USA can also learn a lot, is 'No Kings':

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No\\_Kings\\_protests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No_Kings_protests) + <https://www.nokings.org>

## 5.2. The Peace Movement in the face of Techno-Fascism Theoretical foundations

22.2.2026

Keywords: *fascistisation, fascism, militarisation, Nazi, psychology, state, technofascism, Thiel, Trump, entrepreneur, ceasefire*

In discussions about developments in the USA, the term 'fascism' is often used, and 'fascistisation' in relation to Germany.

This article examines what consequences this has for the peace movement. However, the text is also of interest to the Antifa. The examples are drawn mainly from the Federal Republic of Germany; things may be different in Switzerland and Austria or other countries. The analysis is based on an expanded concept of fascism that encompasses National Socialism, roughly equivalent to 'far-right dictatorship'.

It is not understood as a psychological phenomenon, but as a political one that employs psychological mechanisms.

Nor is its trigger sought in the petty bourgeoisie or in classes threatened by social decline, for their movements are brutally suppressed when they run counter to the interests of those who hold real power, as we have seen with the 'Yellow Vests' in France. We, on the other hand, side with Max Horkheimer: 'But whoever does not wish to speak of capitalism should also remain silent on fascism.' Or: 'Anyone who does not wish to speak of Peter Thiel should also remain silent on Trump.'

(The question of the extent to which total surveillance in the People's Republic of China and violent groups operating under the guise of Islam are fascist is excluded here.)



Carlos Latuff, from: *Faschismus – Terror, Funktion & Ideologie*, Verlag Leo Jogiches, <https://komaufbau.org/faschismus-buch-terror-funktion-ideologie-und-antifaschistsiche-strategie/> (sic!), Frankfurt 2023, accessed 3.3.2026, p. 217

### Outline:

- 1- Fascism
- 2- Psychological aspects
- 3- Militarisation
- 4- Business 'leaders' and techno-fascism
- 5- Fascists' 'efforts' to secure a ceasefire

## 1- Fascism

The transition from parliamentary democracy to fascism begins when the economic system enters a deep crisis that can no longer be resolved through peaceful negotiation. This crisis is currently being driven by at least two factors:

- 1) the end of US hegemony, which the US government is unwilling to relinquish voluntarily
- 2) the destruction of the world's chances of survival by a small minority in a few countries, which both controls the economic system and is responsible for the largest CO2 emissions (1)

This small 'elite' is fully aware of the crisis and is taking precautions see Naomi Klein, <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ng-interactive/2025/apr/13/end-times-fascism-far-right-trump-musk> , accessed 3 March 2026

Fascism does not emerge overnight, but is always present in parliamentary democracy and plays an important role for 'democratic' governments:

'Today, the fascist movement is thus capturing the losers of globalisation and frustrated masses of people in East Germany and in rural regions, and directing their anger against migrants and the "filthy left-wing-green" politics. Their votes serve as a barometer for the state of public discontent and the potential for social unrest. It provides an alibi for reactionary government policy when the state enforces their demands. It drives the reactionary development of the state. It acts as the state's terrorist vanguard and auxiliary police force in the fight against progressive forces and oppressed sections of the population, such as migrants. It is the army of capital in the coming street battles and in the revolutionary civil war (sic). And it assumes the role of influencing the population ideologically in the long term, for instance in preparation for the coming Third World War as a 'clash of civilisations', namely Western civilisation against Russian or Chinese 'barbarians'.' "

*Fascism – Terror, Function & Ideology*, Leo Jogiches Publishers, Frankfurt 2023, p. 217, downloadable: <https://komaufbau.org/faschismus-buch-terror-funktion-ideologie-und-antifaschistsiche-strategie/>

This means that fascist movements are both a component of parliamentary democracy and its potential replacement.

Accordingly, it is not merely the case that they 'infiltrate' the state apparatus (KSK special forces, German army, police and periodically 'uncovered conspiracies'). It is parts of the state apparatus itself that build them up and deploy them.

This is particularly true in the Federal Republic of Germany, where both the Federal Intelligence Service and the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, like many other institutions, were organised by Nazis

<https://komaufbau.org/broschuere-wieviel-staat-steckt-in-rechten-terror-strukturen-und-wie-koennen-wir-uns-schuetzen/> , accessed 3 March 2026, and (2)

They use the fascists, who are led by their informants, to carry out tasks that the state finds difficult to undertake directly (e.g. attacks on refugee shelters to make fleeing to Germany 'uncomfortable', but also some of the 'Islamist' attacks designed to worsen public sentiment towards refugees). And if, in an absolute emergency, the state apparatus proves insufficient to suppress the protests, the fascists stand ready as a reserve army, having no moral qualms about blowing up bystanders (the Oktoberfest bombing, the 'strategy of tension' in Italy, cf. *Fascism – Terror, ... p. 87*)

At present, at least in the Federal Republic of Germany, there appears to be no consensus among the capital factions regarding the direction to take. Whilst the role of big capital in bringing the Nazis to power is sufficiently documented (3), currently only the links between 'Oetker - NPD', 'Finck - AfD' and 'Theo Müller - AfD' are known. Incidentally, the topic is also omitted from the latest

report by the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution... Information regarding the stance of the financial oligarchy is particularly important here, bearing in mind the significance of Abs/Deutsche Bank for Hitler and March for Franco.

## 2- Psychological Aspects

So we now find ourselves in the paradoxical situation where millions 'protest' against the deterioration of their circumstances (caused by big business) by directing their aggression towards those who challenge the dominance of big business, as well as towards other scapegoats. How such a perfidious stratagem can succeed has been analysed in relation to National Socialism; key concepts include

- the (patriarchal) authoritarian personality according to Theodor Adorno and others, Erich Fromm, Wilhelm Reich (particularly interesting are the observations on the psychological ambivalence of the working class, cf. *Fascism – Terror, ... p. 91.*) Added to this is the fact that fascists believe in the 'right of the (ruthless) stronger' and thus have a better chance of ending up in the decision-making 'elites'. (*Note from a reader.*)

More recently, the following have been added

- anti-social networks, which manipulate according to the principle of reward
- selective information feeding ('Cambridge Analytica')
- cognitive warfare

(see Jonas Tögel, *Cognitive Warfare – The Latest Manipulation Techniques as a NATO Weapon System*, ISBN 978-3864894220, Frankfurt 2023)

All these instruments require a significant investment. This brings us back to the original question – who actually has the means to set a process of fascistisation in motion?

## 3- Militarisation

Back/forward to the peace movement. Fascism and militarism are twin brothers. Baran & Sweezy explained this as early as the last century (4): Profit rates in the arms sector are higher than in other industries (p. 208) and contracts are awarded recklessly (p. 212). However, the impact on employment diminishes as technology advances (p. 214). Trade unionists who agree to the conversion of civilian factories into arms factories should take note of this. The security of countries arming themselves against one another also diminishes the more complex, failure-prone weapon systems designed for mutual annihilation there are (p. 215). However, spending on weapons inspires more confidence in the oligarchy than, for example, spending on education and training. Weapons cannot think beyond the economic system; a skilled workforce could (p. 209).

Curiously, they pointed out even back then how the arms build-up was justified by fear of the Soviet Union. Two generations later, the same trick is being used with Russia, even though the data proves the opposite

<https://www.greenpeace.de/frieden/kraeftevergleich-nato-russland> , accessed 3 March 2026, also [https://www.i-v-a.net/doku.php?id=texts25#ein\\_diskussionsvorschlag\\_in\\_sachen\\_ruestungs-wahnsinn](https://www.i-v-a.net/doku.php?id=texts25#ein_diskussionsvorschlag_in_sachen_ruestungs-wahnsinn) , accessed 3 March 2026

#### 4- Entrepreneurs and Techno-Fascism

If one is to believe the German 'Federal Agency for Civic Education' BPB and similar institutions, the state represents the common good. Somewhat more critical voices point out that every entrepreneur must reduce the wages of "his" employees as much as possible, whilst at the same time hoping that the wages of other entrepreneurs' employees are as high as possible so that they can afford to buy his products. The state, as the "ideal overall capitalist" is supposed to balance out this contradiction in order to guarantee certain minimum living conditions.

Contrary to this, we are increasingly seeing 'successful entrepreneurs' taking direct control of the government. It began with Berlusconi. Then came Trump (where, alongside the question of conflicts of interest, the question arises as to whether his mental health – which cannot be diagnosed from a distance – allows him to make lasting decisions: <https://www.fr.de/politik/zeichen-verdichten-sich-psychologe-sieht-deutliche-demenz-symptome-bei-trump-zr-93724403.html> , accessed 3 March 2026 )

In his wake are the tech billionaires of Silicon Valley. They are targeting:

- shifts in social power through 'social media' and AI-driven search, which, as data leeches, facilitate surveillance and manipulation
- monopolisation of the media market through news curation and advertising
- the division of society and the promotion of information bubbles and isolation

(Note from a reader).

Last but not least, the German Chancellor Merz. Whilst his wealth is well known, it is not clear how many of his shares are held by Blackrock (5). It is customary for a manager to receive a severance package upon leaving. In other words, 25% of Germans are prepared to vote for a domestic lobbyist working for a US firm...

One Achilles' heel of managers taking direct control of politics is that their products can be boycotted directly, which is easier than submitting petitions or filing lawsuits. Take Musk's Tesla, for example.

#### 5- 'Ceasefire efforts' by fascists

One might think Trump isn't so bad if he would at least end the war in Ukraine. Let's look at some conflicts in which he has 'brokered peace':

##### 1) Ukraine

Of course, more than the announced 24 hours have passed. So far, the outcome has been a larger-than-usual prisoner exchange and the plundering of Ukraine's natural resources by the US.

##### 2) DR Congo

Here, a 'ceasefire' has been reached which is not being observed, and (what a surprise) a raw materials agreement in favour of the US, the details of which are unknown.

##### 3) India/Pakistan

Here too, a ceasefire was reached with US involvement, though only with China's help <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/how-india-pakistan-pulled-back-brink-with-us-brokered-ceasefire-2025-05-13/> , accessed 3 March 2026

##### 4) Israel/Palestine

All activities are geared towards escalating the conflict, with no regard for the Palestinian civilian population or even with the aim of their deliberate annihilation.

Not to mention Venezuela and Iran.

Sad as it is – there is no point in hoping for genuine peace efforts from a fascist. Especially when he only wants to end one war (Ukraine) in order to start another (China). A ceasefire worthy of the name can only be achieved through pressure from ‘below’. Any states that have a temporary interest in it, such as Germany and France did back then with the Minsk Agreements, may want the opposite a few years later.

### Footnotes

(1) see *Klaus Moegling: Neuordnung. Eine friedliche und nachhaltig entwickelte Welt ist (noch) möglich. Kassel 2025, 6. aktualisierte und erweiterte deutschsprachige Auflage*, <https://www.klaus-moegling.de/aktuelle-auflage-neuordnung/>, accessed 3.3.2026, Kapitel 1

(2) see also Hg. Norbert Frei, *Hitlers Eliten nach 1945*, Campus-Verlag, Frankfurt 2022, 13. edition

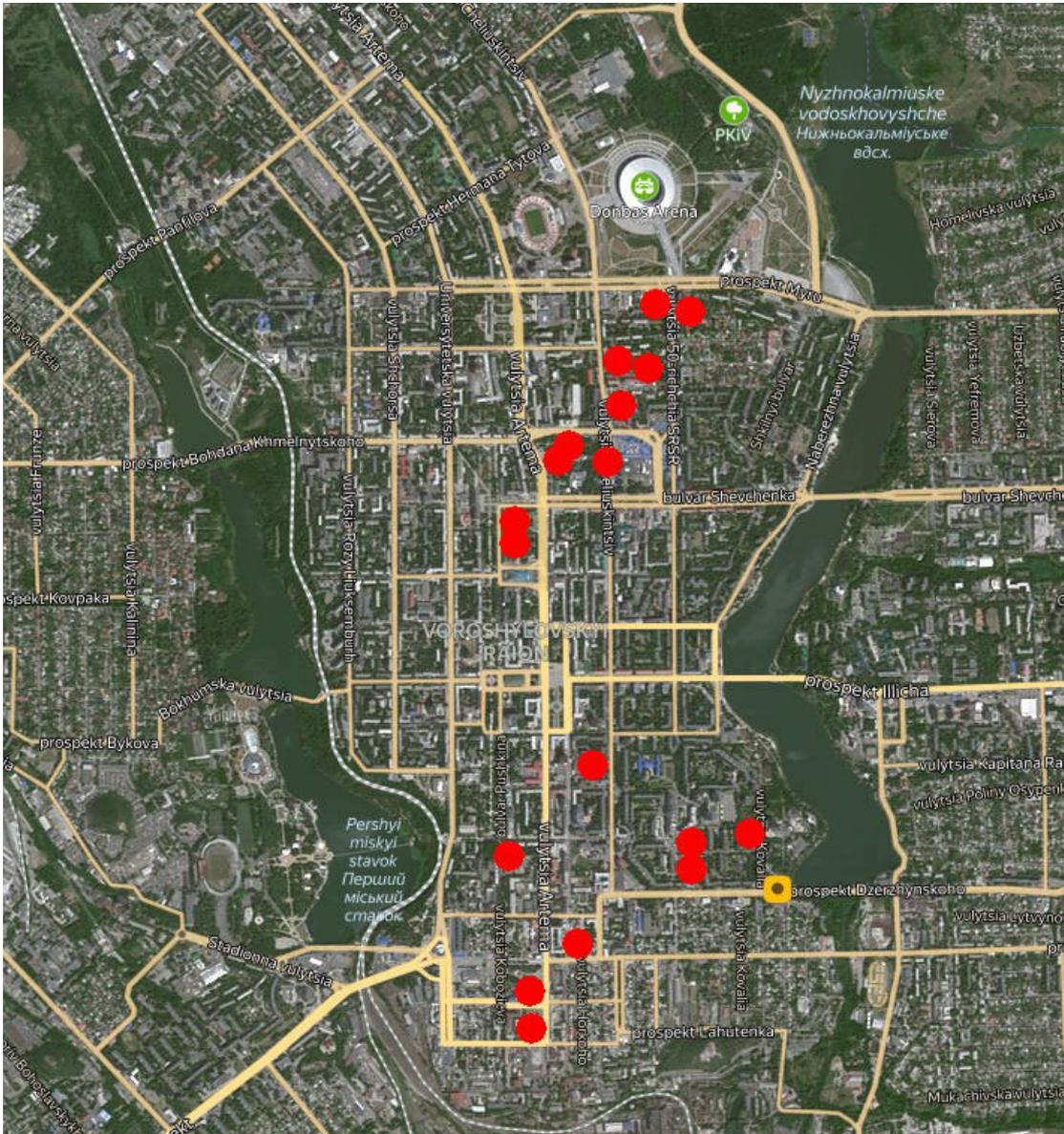
(3) see *David de Jong, Braunes Erbe, Die dunkle Geschichte der reichsten deutschen Unternehmerdynastien*, ISBN 978-3-462-00670-4, Köln 2024, Prolog and p. 212

(4) *Paul Baran + Paul Sweezy, Monopoly Capital – An essay on the american economic and social order*, New York 1966, <http://digamo.free.fr/barans66.pdf> , accessed 3.3.2026

(5) see *Werner Rügemer, Black-Rock Germany*, Berlin 2025, <https://www.hintergrund.de/kurzmeldung/merz-gegner-warnen-vor-blackrock-im-kanzleramt/?highlight=R%C3%BCgemer> , accessed 3.3.2026

## **6- Propaganda**

**This is how inhumane the Russian army is –  
it systematically bombs civilians in city centres!**



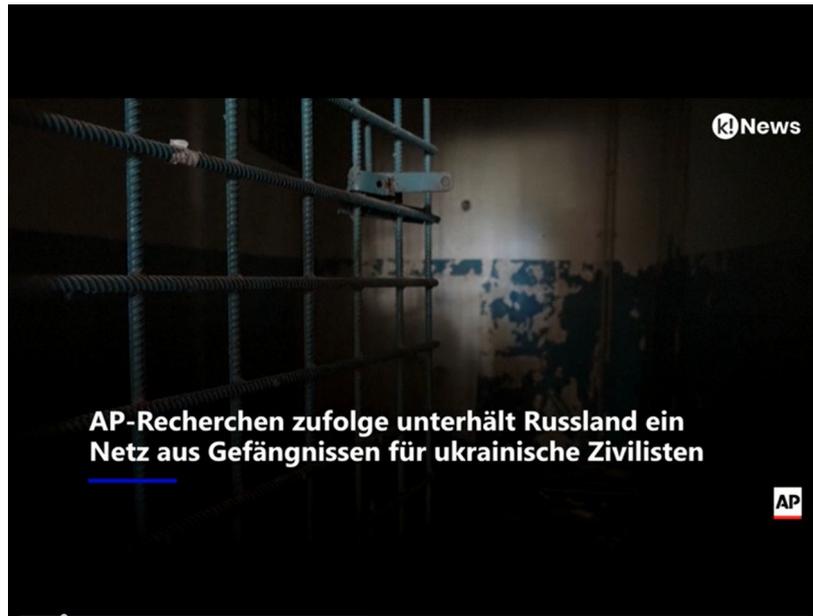
"Sorry, I got the map mixed up. It is the shelling of the centre of Donetsk by the Ukrainian army on 6 December with 8 civilians dead..."

<https://www.donbass-insider.com/2022/12/08/ukrainian-army-shells-donetsk-centre-killing-eight-civilians-including-a-dpr-mp/> , <https://www.hoy.es/internacional/europa/muerte-tienda-ropa-20221206201717-ntrc.html>

"Yes, but the Russians bomb civilians all the time!"

"And do you pay for their weapons out of your tax money?"

**The Russian army is committing war crimes:**



According to AP research, Russia maintains a network of prisons for Ukrainian civilians.

<https://www.msn.com/de-at/nachrichten/other/folter-und-zwangsarbeit-russland-misshandelt-zivilisten-in-der-ukraine/vi-AA1d0zi5>

**But the Ukrainian 'special forces' are defending democracy:**



<https://www.thedailybeast.com/photo-shows-alleged-russian-collaborators-tied-to-lampposts-in-kherson-ukraine>

???

## 6.3. Cognitive warfare

2 september 2024

Keywords: EU, NATO, neuroscience, psychology, Ukraine

There are people who believe that the aim of Russian warfare is to protect the Russian-speaking population in eastern Ukraine. Yet the bombs used there contain so much explosive that even the old people holding out in the cellars in Donbass are being turned to dust.

On the other hand, there are people who believe that Russia wants to occupy other European countries after eastern Ukraine. They overlook the fact that it could not even take Kiev and that NATO's military expenditure is 14 times that of Russia.

So it seems that the formation of political opinion is not very rational. This is another reason why we have been involved in a war for more than two years that can only be described as madness. And the majority of the population is watching in silence.

This is why we are investigating how our consciousness is being manipulated and who is trying to do it. In other words, it is about 'cognitive warfare'.

### 1- Definition and objectives

As early as 2002, the US Department of Defence launched a project called NBIC (Nanotechnology/Biotechnology/Information technology and Cognitive Science) to create 'augmented soldiers' <sup>1</sup>. Similar efforts by NATO have increased since 2020 <sup>2</sup>

Their aim is:

„Historically, the term 'cognitive warfare' has been referred to as the use of the means of action that a state or an influential group makes in order to manipulate the spontaneous mechanisms of the cognition of an enemy or its people, in order to weaken, penetrate, influence, or even subdue or destroy them.“ (CW, P.2)

„It could tentatively be defined as 'the art of using technologies to alter the cognition of human targets, most often without their knowledge and consent'.“ (CW, P.2)

'The goal is to alter the representation of the world, but this has the consequence of undermining the whole-of-society in a very likely durable way.' (CW, P.3)

The concept of cognitive warfare is broader than the previously used 'psychological operations' (CW, p.3).

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<sup>1</sup> Francois du Cluzel, Cognitive Warfare, a Battle for the Brain, ACT, Norfolk, Virginia, 2022, p. 2, retrieved 8.2024 from: [https://www.sto.nato.int/publications/STO%20Meeting%20Proceedings/STO-MP-HFM-334/\\$MP-HFM-334-KN3.pdf](https://www.sto.nato.int/publications/STO%20Meeting%20Proceedings/STO-MP-HFM-334/$MP-HFM-334-KN3.pdf) , hereafter cited as CW

<sup>2</sup> Jonas Tögel, Kognitive Kriegsführung, Neuste Manipulationstechniken als Waffengattung der NATO, Westend, 2023, 9 %, available to order at: <https://westendverlag.de/Kognitive-Kriegsfuehrung/1634> , hereinafter cited as KK. As this is an ebook, no page numbers are given, but % rates. These refer to the setting with two pages per screen and may be one % too low or too high.

See also: video by Flavio von Witzleben 'How does cognitive warfare work? // Propaganda researcher Dr Jonas Tögel', <https://youtu.be/eotTxodm7fg?t=63> , automatic translation from German into English and other languages is possible; and: power point presentation (in German) of Jonas Tögel's (<https://www.jonastoegel.de/publikationen>) book "Kognitive Kriegsführung" (Cognitive Warfare) <https://www.no-to-nato.org/2024/03/buchpräsentation-kognitive-kriegsführung/>

A distinction to neighbouring sciences, historical and current examples and FAQs can be found at <https://julienflorkin.com/de/psychology/social-influence/psychological-warfare/>, retrieved 28.8.24. However, he uses 'psychological warfare' as an umbrella term.

CC is therefore directed against the 'enemy' including 'its' population. The question of the extent to which it also targets the civilian population in one's own country is addressed in Chapter 3.

## 2- What techniques are used to exploit human psychology?

The majority of information processing takes place below the threshold of consciousness <sup>3</sup>, which makes it easier to 'exploit the weaknesses of human nature in order to better reach the minds of individuals ...' <sup>4</sup> and is in the tradition of the war propaganda of the First World War and the 'brainwashing' as an extreme form <sup>5</sup>.

In particular, it draws on findings from mass psychology, psychoanalysis and behavioural research (KK, 14%).

Let us now turn to individual techniques (in the order in which they are mentioned in KK):

<b>Technology</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Example from the West in the Ukraine war</b>
Half-truths	KK 16 % and 36 %	Reporting began with the Russian invasion on 24 February 2022, no reporting on the Ukrainian army's 'anti-terrorist operation' in the eastern territories since 2014; Ban on Russian media in the EU (and vice versa)
Fact check with half-truths	KK 18 %	Reference to the suspension of the 'New Start' nuclear weapons treaty by Putin without mentioning the previous cancellation of two similar ones by Trump
Addressing unconscious desires through symbols	KK 21 %	A psychoanalytical study of the numerous photos of men posing with rifles would certainly be revealing
Labelling	KK 22 %	'Putin apologist', 'Russian troll'
Pressure from a (supposed) majority	KK 23 %	Synchronisation of TV channels in Ukraine; almost no publication of opinion polls that contradict the government line in Germany
Follower effect	KK 24 %	
Status quo tendency	KK 25 %	After many years of the Cold War, there are still enough anti-Russian reflexes to fall back on
Authorities (Milgram effect)	KK 25%	Church dignitaries; ,experts' who have never done military service
Establishment of institutions that influence the formation of opinion	KK 27 %	See chapter 3
'Embedded journeys' for journalists	KK 28 %	

<sup>3</sup> Jens Asendorpf, *Psychologie der Persönlichkeit*, Springer Verlag, 2005, p. 24. quoted in: KK, 6%

<sup>4</sup> André Lanata (2022). Preface – By the Supreme Allied Commander Transformation. In: Claverie, Bernard; Prébot, Baptiste; Buchler, Norbou & Du Cluzel, François (Hrsg.), *Cognitive Warfare: The Future of Cognitive Dominance*. NATO-STO Collaboration Support Office, 2022 (pp.14–15), p.14, quoted in: KK, 13 %

<sup>5</sup> Cf Peter Watson, *Psycho-Krieg, Möglichkeiten, Macht und Missbrauch der Militärpsychologie*. Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag, Frankfurt, 1985, p. 260 - 270

Depiction of mercenary troops as a 'popular movement'	KK 28 %	Reports about 'volunteers'
Demonisation	KK 30 %	
Fear	KK 31 %	Continuous reporting on the danger posed by Russian nuclear weapons, although the American nuclear weapons at Büchel were placed on increased readiness long beforehand
Cognitive distortions/bias	KK 33 %	The table on <a href="https://huffpost.com/entry/map-of-cognitive-biases_n_57e40b0fe4b0e28b2b52b3ec">https://huffpost.com/entry/map-of-cognitive-biases_n_57e40b0fe4b0e28b2b52b3ec</a> retrieved on 28.8.24, shows dozens of starting points
note 201		
New information as confirmation of what is known	KK 34 %	
Preventive 'vaccination'	KK 35 %	It is easier to create scepticism about misinformation beforehand than to correct it afterwards ('prebunking' better than 'debunking'), a technique that can also be used for good purposes
Stimulus overload, information overload → Fatigue	KK 36 %	Daily reports about 'losses of the russian. Army over 1000' in the Frankfurter Rundschau
Repetition	KK 38 %	'anyone who calls for a ceasefire and negotiations is an accomplice of Putin'
Target group-specific and personalised approach / 'microtargeting'	KK 45 %	See Cambridge Analytica, different argumentation patterns for Green and CDU voters
Nudges	KK 54, quot. 140	'So we've basically developed a tool that brands, agencies and researchers can use to discreetly and privately measure what people believe, how those beliefs change, and we can automatically filter out nudges that change people's opinions and then test that. This is a new level of understanding how to influence groups.' this technique was probably used to whitewash increasingly dangerous arms shipments.
Exemplary punishment of dissidents as a deterrent	KK 77 %	Character assassination campaigns and dismissals of people who criticised arms deliveries and escalation, also on pretexts
<b>List of all techniques</b>	KK 77 % ff	

For comparison and to round things off, here are the principles of war propaganda according to Anne Morelli:

1. we do not want war
2. the enemy camp is solely to blame for the war
3. the enemy has demonic traits (or 'the devil on duty')
4. we are fighting for a good cause and not for selfish goals
5. the enemy commits atrocities on purpose. If we make mistakes, it is only accidental
6. the enemy uses unauthorised weapons
7. our losses are low, but the enemy's are enormous
8. our cause is supported by artists and intellectuals

9. our mission is sacred

10. anyone who doubts our reporting is a traitor

(Anne Morelli, Die Prinzipien der Kriegspropaganda, zu Klampen Verlag, Springe 2022, 978-3866744158, table of contents, cf <https://www.sott.net/article/467508-Propaganda-during-times-of-war-Ponsonbys-ten-commandments> , as of 29.8.24 )

### 3- Who is waging the cognitive war and against whom?

So far, so good. So a battle for the brains of the enemy soldiers and their civilian population.

And what about the enemy's '5th column' in our own country?

And what about the population in our own country, 'which must be protected from manipulation by the enemy and its 5th column'?

A document published by the Dutch army says: „However, the military cannot wage overt influence operations against its own populations in liberal democracies.“<sup>6</sup>

Markus Reisner, Ukraine commentator for Austria's 'neutral' army, takes a different view: „History shows that the war of attrition is not decided on the battlefield, but on the home front.“ (KK 12 %, quote 1 in Chapter II)

The Dutch army is also concerned elsewhere about influencing public opinion in general: „The military application of information has a long history in influencing the outcome of war and conflict on the battlefield. Be it by deceiving the opponent, maintaining troop confidence, or shaping public opinion. These tactics are placed under the banner of influencing human behaviour.“ (op. cit., p. III)

She is not alone in this; in this interview, too, the own population is the target in some quotes: <https://deutsche-wirtschafts-nachrichten.de/704201/Interview-Wie-die-NATO-mittels-Kognitiver-Kriegsfuehrung-manipuliert> , retrieved on 28.8.24

It is therefore a question of the state retaining or regaining sovereignty over information. Fundamental rights must also sacrifice ground in the process: 2However, albeit criticised by international organisations and journalists, the more active approach of Ukraine, with bans of pro-Russian parties and media, seems to have worked better than Czech passive defence. While this suggestion might be very controversial, a transparent framework for censorship of content in media and on the internet should be created by the EU to help balance the active defence and freedom of speech essential to liberal democracies.“ (Dutch army, op. cit., p. 11).

A party that likes to present itself as a defender of individual freedom calls for something similar: <https://www.hintergrund.de/kurzmeldung/fdp-will-psychologische-verteidigung-forcieren/> , retrieved on 28.8.24

Of course, all this is done in defence against the enemies of democracy, be it Russia (<https://www.eset.com/at/blog/blog/psyop-psychologische-kriegsfuehrung-im-hybriden-krieg/> , accessed 28.8.24) or China (CW p.7). (On the question of 'who started it', see the historical outline in CC 14%. It was neither Russia nor China... ).

So who is doing this 'important work'?

First of all, 60,000 people in the Pentagon (KK 52%).

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<sup>6</sup> <https://hcss.nl/report/cognitive-warfare-as-part-of-society-never-ending-battle-for-minds/#:~:text=The%20military%20application%20of%20information,confidence%2C%20or%20shaping%20public%20opinion> , as of 28.8.24

At the EU, the East StratCom Task Force

([https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/East\\_StratCom\\_Task\\_Force](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_StratCom_Task_Force) , as of 28.8.24), whose employees are bound to secrecy. No wonder, because their censorship measures and propaganda techniques are similar to those from which they are supposed to ‘protect Europe’.

It works through an agency against disinformation: <https://euvsdisinfo.eu/de/> , as of 28.8.24 .

There is a similar coordination body for Germany at the Federal Ministry of the Interior, i.e. clearly directed inwards: <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/schwerpunkte/DE/desinformation/massnahmen-der-bundesregierung.html> , as of 28.8.24

Interestingly, the Bundeswehr is not mentioned in this committee. However, it is active in the area of CC:

<https://www.bundeswehr.de/de/organisation/cyber-und-informationsraum/kommando-und-organisation-cir/kommando-cyber-und-informationsraum/zentrum-operative-kommunikation-der-bundeswehr> , as of 28.8.24

„Mission: In addition, the Bundeswehr claims not to disseminate false information. However, it tries to influence opinions through selective information.“<sup>7</sup>

Officially, it is forbidden to target its own population (see ‘1.1. Zielgruppen’ in the wiki article).

Whoever wants to believe that. ‘With the Operational Communications Command in Mayen, the German Bundeswehr has around 1,000 specialists. This makes it the largest (official) PsyOps force in NATO after the USA.’

(<https://www.truppendienst.com/themen/beitraege/artikel/psychological-operations> , dated 28.8.24, although another source attributes 1,500 ‘Facebook warriors’ to the British army, KK 52, quote 126)

#### **4- How can we protect ourselves against cognitive warfare?**

The whole issue is very uncomfortable because ‘Neuroscience is not subject to any rules of international law.’ (CW p.9) The self-proclaimed defenders of freedom can do whatever they want, from colour revolutions to fake news that trigger pogroms. That is why it is so important to keep universities free of them by means of a civil clause (cf. CW p.10, 3.3.)

Waiting for international treaties, which experience has shown are negotiated with loopholes from the outset and then not honoured, is of little use. We must defend ourselves now:

a) be aware of your own manipulability and think in a networked way (CC 73)

b) look for allies, because the ability to be influenced by majority opinions and authorities decreases when there are several opponents and they know about each other (CC 74)

c) do not underestimate your own strength: ‘They [recent developments in research] have created a situation unprecedented in the history of mankind, where individuals or small groups can jeopardise the success of military operations.’ (François du Cluzel, KK 74, quote 12) and ‘Never before have individuals and committed minorities had such incredible power at their disposal.’

(August Cole and Hervé le Guyader, CC 77, quote 26)

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<sup>7</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Truppe\\_f%C3%BCr\\_Operative\\_Kommunikation](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Truppe_f%C3%BCr_Operative_Kommunikation) , as of 28.8.24, see chapter 2, technique ‘Half-truths’

d) break through the filtering of information and make clear what is really happening in the bombed areas. The closer the suffering is brought, the more likely it is that more people will take action.

***General, a human being is very useful.***

***He can fly and he can kill.***

***But he has a flaw:***

***He can think.***

Bertold Brecht, Poems, Ballads and Songs, German War Primer

## 6.4. The Munich Security Conference - Fairytale aunt or horror novel?

15 January 2025

Keywords: corruption, diplomacy, Donbass, escalation, Krim, NATO extension, negotiation

From February 14 to 16, the 'Munich Security Conference' will once again take place in Munich. Its staff member Nico Lange (Senior Fellow), with the participation of Ulrike Strauss (Chief Operating Officer & Head of Strategic Projects), has published a brochure entitled 'But NATO! - 10 popular myths about Putin's war against Ukraine'.



Downloadable from: <https://securityconference.org/zeitenwende/10-populaere-mythen/>

They present them as “historical facts, counter-arguments and specialist information”. The arguments are worth examining more closely. (All quotes from the pdf are set in Arial, the first

quote is always 'Richtig ist:' from the chapter introduction. The glossary is not analyzed in order not to make this text too long. The original language of the pdf is German.)

## Chapter 1: **TOO LITTLE DIPLOMACY**

Page 3 “Even before the start of the Russian attack on Ukraine and also during the war, there were and are many diplomatic efforts.”

P.4 “Unfortunately, the Russian side has so far shown itself unwilling to engage in serious talks about a peaceful solution. Russia insists on demands that fundamentally call into question the existence of Ukraine as a state and clearly violate the United Nations Charter and international law.”

→ Strikingly, there is very little information about the contacts in the weeks before the Russian invasion [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peace\\_negotiations\\_in\\_the\\_Russian\\_invasion\\_of\\_Ukraine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peace_negotiations_in_the_Russian_invasion_of_Ukraine) and the Russian proposals <https://gesetze-ganz-einfach.de/russlands-vertragsvorschlag-fuer-sicherheitsgarantien/>.

Putin may tell his nationalist version of the Ukrainian-Russian history, but the core issue for Russia is Ukraine's entry into NATO, not its existence as such.

Let us briefly recall the 'Cuban missile crisis': John F. Kennedy had medium-range nuclear missiles stationed in Turkey, which threatened Moscow. Khrushchev responded by shipping similar medium-range missiles to Cuba. Kennedy was prepared for a nuclear war, which was avoided at the last minute by the withdrawal of the Russian missile transport and, somewhat later, by the dismantling of the American missiles in Turkey.

With this in mind, it is not surprising that Putin does not like it when NATO missiles can be deployed in Ukraine within 7-10 minutes flying distance of Moscow.

## Chapter 2: **NEGOTIATIONS IN ISTANBUL**

P.6 “There was no finalized peace agreement accepted by both sides in March 2022. The West has never prevented Ukraine from negotiating or reaching an agreement with Russia.”

→ In the same chapter, the author himself relativizes this statement:

P.9 “The then British Prime Minister Boris Johnson did not visit Kiev until April 9, 2022. During this visit, Johnson said that the security guarantees provided for in the draft agreement in Istanbul by the UK and other Western states would not be affordable in his view.”

→ In addition, there are numerous confirmations from third parties that the agreement was not signed but almost finalized and that Russia accepted the territorial integrity of Ukraine, e.g. from the Ukrainian chief negotiator Arachamija <https://www.berliner-zeitung.de/news/ukraine-krieg-erdogan-macht-lobbys-fuer-das-scheitern-der-istanbul-verhandlungen-verantwortlich-li.2256403>.

P.8 “In Butsha alone, the Russian occupiers tortured and killed more than 450 civilians within a month.”

→ It makes sense to look at the chronology here:

1) The first massacre by Russian troops following a Ukrainian partisan attack has been documented in detail by the New York Times <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/22/video/russia-ukraine-bucha-massacre-takeaways.html>,

2) It is likely that Russian intelligence used lethal torture in the search for members of the Ukrainian territorial defense and their weapons.

3) The allegations of rape by Russian soldiers are also credible after the experiences with Soviet soldiers in World War II and Russian soldiers in Chechnya.

4) Some eyewitness accounts of war crimes (with or without alcohol intoxication) are consistent with Collins 2008 in 'Microsociology of violence'

<https://www.amazon.com/Violence-Micro-sociological-Theory-Randall-Collins/dp/0691143226asin=0691143226&revisionId=&format=4&depth=1> , chapter 3, page 94. He has

shown that war crimes (with or without orders) are typical side effects of wars, even in armies of states that call themselves democratic.

5) The first autopsied body from the mass grave next to the church died from metal arrows

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/apr/24/dozens-bucha-civilians-killed-flechettes-metal-darts-russian-artillery> . This ammunition was used by the USA in Vietnam. It is known that the USA

also passed on old weapons to Ukraine. Butsha was constantly shelled by the Ukrainian army during the Russian occupation, which lasted more than a month.

6) Jablonska Street, where dead civilians with white armbands were found, was also within the range of Ukrainian snipers. White armbands were an identifying mark of the Russian army and of civilians in their occupied territory (to investigate who tied whose hands behind their backs and when would go too far here, answer on request).

7) Presumably, the Russian army fired to the rear as security during their withdrawal from Butscha and hit civilians in the process.

8) Before journalists were allowed into the village after the return of the Ukrainian army, Ukrainian 'special forces' and secret service agents carried out a 'purge', during which shots were fired and the population was told to stay at home

<https://overton-magazin.de/krass-konkret/graueeltaten-an-zivilisten-was-ist-in-bucha-geschehen/> ,

Disturbing photo, unverifiable: <https://t.me/lepostillon/2127> ,

<https://overton-magazin.de/top-story/tscheche-wegen-pluenderungen-in-butscha-und-irpin-zu-sieben-jahre-gefaengnis-verurteilt/> ,

<https://fr.roua.gr/2024/12/31/un-mercenaire-tcheque-a-propos-du-massacre-de-bucha-nous-avons-tue-des-civils-puis-ils-ont-dit-que-cetait-les-russes-qui-lavaient-fait/> .

Conclusion: The Russian army killed civilians in Butsha (groups 1,2,3,4,7). So did the Ukrainian army (groups 5,6,8). However, the Ukrainian army or its advisors were skillful enough to turn it into a single massacre that served to block negotiated solutions and justify the use of heavier weapons.

### Chapter 3: **BOMBARDING THE DONBASS**

P.10 "This claim is deliberately spread by the Russian side as a pretext for the war of aggression. There was no bombing of the Donbass by Ukraine before the Russian invasion."

→ A look at the hundreds of OSCE reports since 2014 [https://www.osce.org/press-releases/?filters=+im\\_taxonomy\\_vid\\_1:\(896\)&solrsort=score%20desc&rows=10](https://www.osce.org/press-releases/?filters=+im_taxonomy_vid_1:(896)&solrsort=score%20desc&rows=10) shows that even during the ceasefire after Minsk, there was constant firing from east to west and west to east, including artillery and rockets.

P.12 "In the case of the approximately 3,500 civilian victims in the Donbass in 2014 and 2015, it is not possible to say exactly whether they were on one side of the conflict and whether these people were 'pro-Ukrainian' or 'pro-Russian'.

→ Since both sides fired, it can be assumed that these civilians who were killed died on both sides

of the front line. (Incidentally, they all spoke Russian and many also spoke Ukrainian, as was customary in the Donbass).

P.12 “There were also no plans by Ukraine to attack the Donbass militarily.”

→ The OSCE observers' statistics show a fourfold increase in incidents in the Donetsk region in the week before the Russian invasion

<https://www.osce.org/special-monitoring-mission-to-ukraine/512683> . Eyewitnesses living near the frontline reported increased use of Turkish drones by the Ukrainian army to find weaknesses in the defense line.

#### **Chapter 4: THE UKRAINE WAR IS UNIMPORTANT FOR GERMANY**

P.16 “The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine is taking place in the immediate vicinity and is also endangering security in Germany and throughout Europe.”

→ The military budgets of NATO and Russia are 10 to 1

<https://www.welt.de/wirtschaft/article254461586/Greenpeace-Studie-Nato-ist-Russland-militaerisch-ueberlegen-mit-einer-Ausnahme.html> . In this respect, I find it somewhat dishonest to stir up fears of the Russian army marching through to the English Channel.

It would be more honest to point to the West's interest in the lithium deposits in the Donbass, which are currently inaccessible. Or the disconnection of the Ukrainian power grid from the Russian grid to the EU grid shortly before the Russian invasion.

#### **Chapter 5: DANGER OF ESCALATION**

P.18 “This claim is part of Russia's psychological warfare. The risk of a Russian attack on us does not increase if we help Ukraine. The risk for us, on the other hand, will increase if we let Russia have its way in Ukraine.”

P.20 “After more than two years of war, however, it can be said that the feared escalations through the delivery of certain weapons or by attacking certain targets have not materialized.”

→ The Ukrainian civilian population probably sees things differently. The FAB bombs with which the Russian army is attacking Ukrainian civilians (and civilians in the basement) in Bachmut etc. have become increasingly heavy and destructive. The bombardments are targeting more and more sectors, including 'dual use' areas such as energy supply.

→ This narrow view is probably related to the fixation on a nuclear strike. This has not happened so far because it would have greatly worsened Russia's position vis-à-vis the BRICS states. It is now superfluous due to the existence of the Oreshnik missiles, which the author could not have foreseen. However, the Doomsday Clock, which indicates how many seconds are left until the self-inflicted end of the world, continues to advance [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doomsday\\_Clock](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doomsday_Clock) .

#### **Chapter 6: TOO MUCH MONEY FOR HELP**

P.22 “The aid for Ukraine has not led to any reduction in social spending in Germany. Not supporting Ukraine now would cost Germany much more later.”

→ The chapter only describes direct payments. (Hopefully the shipment in the photo on p. 25 with Arabic lettering arrived safely and was distributed).

→ The economic consequences of the switch from Russian gas to US fracked gas and the damage caused by the attack on the Nord Stream pipelines carried out by 'allies' are excluded.

→ With regard to cut spending in the social sector (and in education, health, 'development cooperation', infrastructure maintenance), a glance at the newspaper is probably enough.

## Chapter 7: CORRUPTION

P.26 "Ukraine is making significant progress in the fight against corruption. The EU and Germany are making their aid conditional on Ukraine continuing to curb corruption."

→ The latest report from Transparency International indicates an improvement of 3 out of 100 points since 2022. Better than nothing, but significant?

The 'aid' from the EU and Germany probably depends more on political and military circumstances than on progress in the fight against corruption.

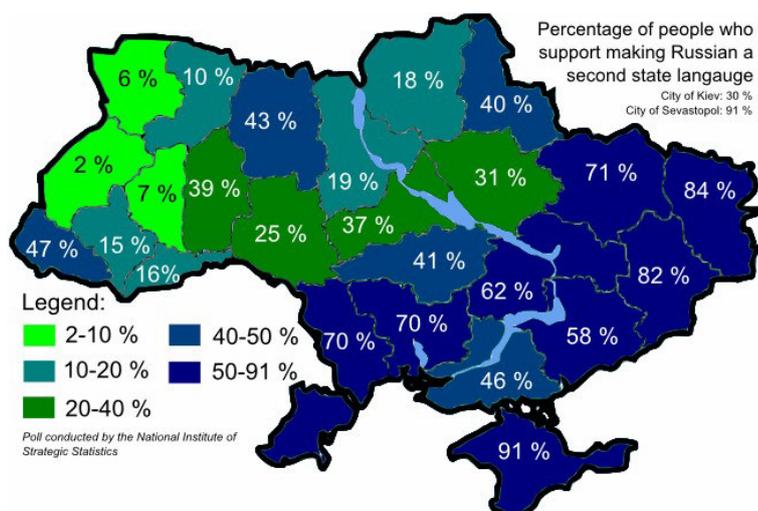
## Chapter 8: UKRAINE A PART OF RUSSIA

P.30 "Ukraine is not Russia and the Ukrainians voted for independence by a large majority back in 1991."

→ I think that's perfectly fine. However, there is a reason why the Minsk agreements provided for a strengthening of federal elements:

P.32 "During the 2004 election campaign, narratives of a supposed division of Ukraine into East and West and of an alleged oppression of Russian speakers in Ukraine emerged for the first time."

→ Two maps shed light on this. First, the language preferences:

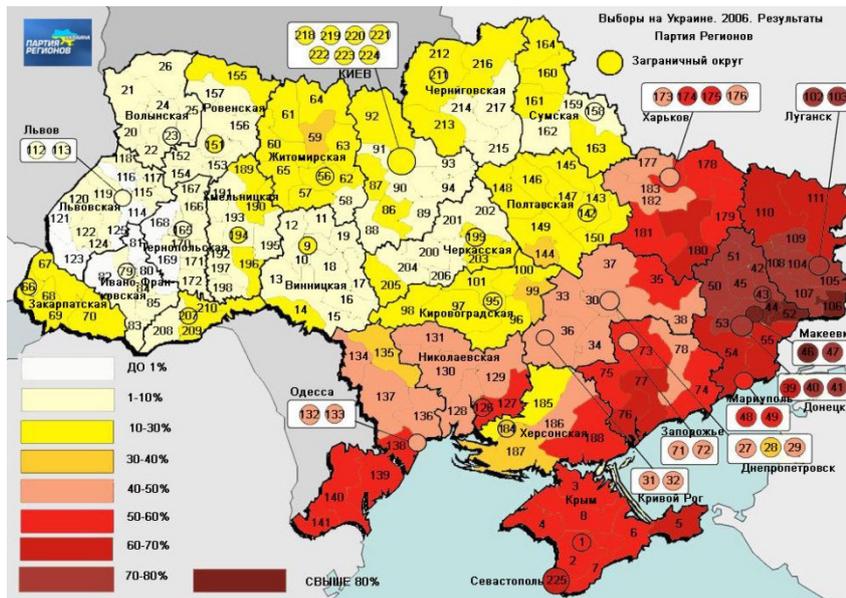


[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russische\\_Sprache\\_in\\_der\\_Ukraine#/media/Datei:Official\\_Russian\\_language\\_support\\_in\\_Ukraine.PNG](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russische_Sprache_in_der_Ukraine#/media/Datei:Official_Russian_language_support_in_Ukraine.PNG)

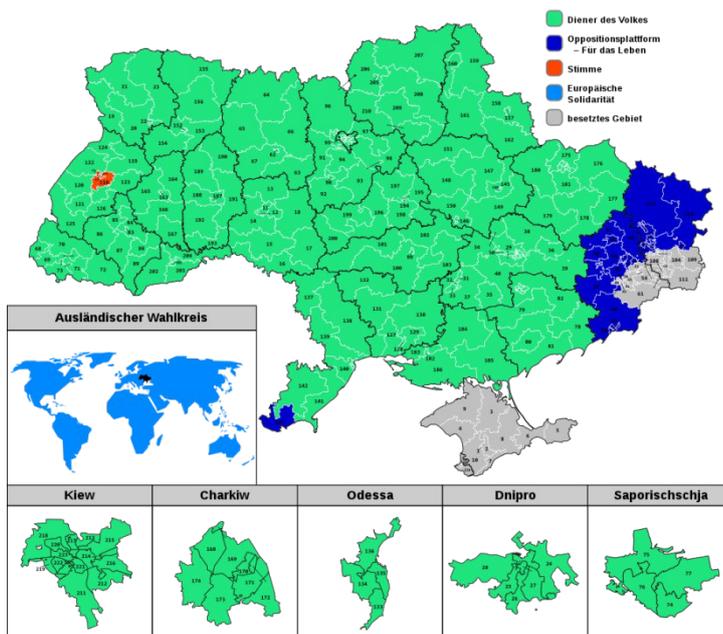
In contrast, the use of Russian, the main language in Donbass, is de facto forbidden in public, as is the publication of newspapers only in Russian <https://dpa-factchecking.com/germany/220701-99->

876250/ .

Then there are the political ones:



2006: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partei\\_der\\_Regionen#/media/Datei:Ukr\\_elect06\\_pr.jpg](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partei_der_Regionen#/media/Datei:Ukr_elect06_pr.jpg)



2019: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parlamentswahl\\_in\\_der\\_Ukraine\\_2019#/media/Datei:Результати\\_Парламентських\\_виборів\\_в\\_Україні\\_2019\\_року\\_за\\_округами.svg](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parlamentswahl_in_der_Ukraine_2019#/media/Datei:Результати_Парламентських_виборів_в_Україні_2019_року_за_округами.svg)

All socialist or regionalist parties that were elected in the east have since been suspended.

P.32 “In the fall of 2013, however, after a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Yanukovich suddenly refused to sign a fully negotiated association agreement between Ukraine and the EU. As a result, the major Euromaidan protests began, which escalated into the Revolution of Dignity.”

→ Former US Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland, a frequent visitor to the MSC, has also stated what “promoting democracy in Ukraine” has cost: <https://www.unian.info/politics/910206-since-1991-us-has-invested-5-billion-to-promote-democracy-in-ukraine-but-they-did-not-finance->

[maidan-nuland.html](#) (not including the cookies she handed out on the Maidan).

And she also said what she thinks of the EU when determining the posts in the post-Yanukovich government: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26079957> .

P.33 “Viktor Yanukovich's regime had 100 demonstrators shot.”

→ There were as many as 108 dead demonstrators. In addition, 13 police officers were shot dead. Some of the Maidan demonstrators were armed. The authorship of all the shootings is very controversial, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maidan\\_casualties](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maidan_casualties) .

## Chapter 9: NATO EXTENSION

P.34 “Vladimir Putin is to blame for this war. There was never a commitment by the West not to expand NATO eastwards. NATO is a purely defensive alliance and Russia has recognized that it has no veto power over the NATO membership of other countries.”

→ There are enough 'unsuspicious' Western politicians and media reports that testify to verbal promises. In writing, there is only the NATO-Russia Founding Act and an OSCE document, which are ambiguous: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia%E2%80%93NATO\\_relations#Founding\\_Act](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia%E2%80%93NATO_relations#Founding_Act) , <https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/russland-ukraine-osze-lawrow-diplomatie-1.5519884> .

The entire enlargement process and Moscow's protests are described quite well in Renate Dillmann, *Medien.Macht.Meinung - Auf dem Weg in die Kriegstüchtigkeit*, Papyrossa, Cologne 2024, original in German, translated. I quote:

\* The promise NATO made to Soviet President Gorbachev not to expand eastwards (James Baker, US Secretary of State, 1990: “not one inch”).

\* The NATO eastward enlargement rounds, in which 14 countries joined NATO between 1999 and 2020 and the border of the “defense alliance” was moved 1,000 kilometers to the east.

\* Russian President Putin's speech to the Munich Security Conference in 2007, in which he announced a change in his country's policy if NATO's forward movement were to continue.

\* Russia's intervention in the war that Georgia waged against two separatist provinces in 2008. It was preceded by the fact that the USA had previously put Georgia's NATO membership on the agenda of the NATO summit.

\* The EU's planned association agreement with Ukraine in 2013, which was intended to bring Ukraine closer to the EU economically, and the refusal of Ukrainian President Yanukovich to sign this agreement without amendments.

\* The subsequent militant Euromaidan protest supported by the West and the subsequent coup against Ukrainian President Yanukovich.

\* The protest in the south-eastern parts of the country against the coup government and the establishment of the “People's Republics”.

\* The Russian-backed referendum in Crimea on its secession from Ukraine and return to the Russian Federation in 2014, which was not recognized by Ukraine or the Western states. (In view of the unstable political situation in Ukraine, Russia was particularly concerned about the security of

the Russian navy in the Black Sea).

\* The war waged by the coup government in Kiev against the People's Republics from 2014 onwards, resulting in 14,000 deaths. Linked to this: the systematic disregard of the Minsk Agreement by the government in Kiev - without the two Western "guarantor powers" Germany and France intervening.

\* The parallel massive armament of Ukraine by the NATO states since 2014 (which Angela Merkel has now even publicly declared to be the actual purpose of the Minsk Agreement).

\* Ukraine's application to join NATO (2018) and Russian concerns about the possible deployment of medium-range missiles that could reach Moscow in ten to fifteen minutes.

\* The many and all fruitless negotiations on Russian security concerns in the fall of 2021, in which the Western states individually and collectively rejected all Russian concerns and proposals and assessed the deployment of Russian troops on the Ukrainian border as an unacceptable attempt at intimidation.

\* Finally, the announcement by Ukrainian President Zelensky at the Munich Security Conference in 2022 that Ukraine was considering revoking the Budapest Agreement - i.e. the agreement that no nuclear weapons would be stationed in Ukraine.

→ Gorbachov, who is quoted on p.36, also makes statements to the contrary:

<https://www.stern.de/politik/ausland/nato-osterweiterung-wie-der-westen-einst-gorbatschow-uebertoelpelte-3839144.html> . Overall, however, his naivety in dealing with Western politicians is surprising.

→ People from Afghanistan, Iraq, Yugoslavia and Libya should be asked about their experiences with the members of the 'pure defense alliance'.

## Chapter 10: **KRIM**

P.38 "Kievan Rus was a multi-ethnic empire and the core of the common identity of several East Slavic peoples. There is no historical evidence that Crimea belonged to Russia."

→ Crimea was taken from the Ottoman Empire by Russia in 1783 and remained there until 1917. 134 years after all... The following years are characterized by frequent changes of affiliation, see a not entirely objective outline <https://www.lpb-bw.de/ukraine-krim#c102119> , cf. also <https://webarchive.archive.unhcr.org/20230521204858/https://www.refworld.org/docid/469f38ec2.html> .

Incidentally, the debate about the significance of the 2014 referendum in terms of international law ignores the fact that Crimea had left the Soviet Union in 1991, before Ukraine, and decided without Russian interference by 91% to re-establish the 'Crimean Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic' [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1991\\_Crimean\\_autonomy\\_referendum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1991_Crimean_autonomy_referendum) .

An ASSR could declare its independence under Soviet law [https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Refer%C3%A9ndum\\_sobre\\_el\\_estatus\\_pol%C3%ADtico\\_de\\_Crimea\\_de\\_1991](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Refer%C3%A9ndum_sobre_el_estatus_pol%C3%ADtico_de_Crimea_de_1991) .

By the way, the debate about this seems just as pointless to me as about the affiliation of Alsace, Kashmir, Kosovo, South Tyrol/Alto Adige, etc.

The ethnic classification of the inhabitants of Crimea (after a long-lasting Russification policy and forced resettlement of Tatars) is predominantly Russian

<https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/292095/umfrage/ethnien-auf-der-krim/>

I suspect that the majority of the current inhabitants would also now express in a referendum under UN supervision that they want to remain in Russia.  
In reality, it is not so much about international law or the wishes of the population, but about Russia wanting to keep Sebastopol as indirect access to the Mediterranean and NATO wanting to cut it off.

*The review of the brochure ends here.*

## **Conclusions**

The review of this publication by staff of the Munich In-Security Conference leads to the somewhat disappointing conclusion that alleged myths are being replaced by 'half-truth media' myths. I assumed that the author himself believes what he writes and therefore send him twice a copy to correct the pdf. Unfortunately, there has been no response so far.

When such poorly researched 'analyses' are circulated, it is reasonable to assume that the MSC does not serve the pursuit of security for the population, but rather the sales interests of arms lobbies and the self-promotion and coordination of politicians who are looking for ways to slow down the loss of their supremacy.

## **Recommendations**

*If you want to find out more about how such opinion manipulation organizations work:*

1) Jonas Tögel, Kognitive Kriegsführung, Neuste Manipulationstechniken als Waffengattung der NATO, Westend-Verlag, Frankfurt 2023,  
can be ordered at: <https://westendverlag.de/Kognitive-Kriegsfuehrung/1634>  
Also: Power Point from Jonas Tögel's (<https://www.jonastoegel.de/publikationen> ) book  
“Kognitive Kriegsführung” <https://www.no-to-nato.org/2024/03/buchpräsentation-kognitive-kriegsfuehrung/> , as of Sep 1, 2024,  
and: Video by Flavio von Witzleben “How does cognitive warfare work? // Propaganda researcher Dr. Jonas Tögel”,  
<https://youtu.be/eotTxodm7fg?t=63> , accessed Dec 28, 2024, automatic translation into English and other languages is possible.

2) Renate Dillmann, Medien.Macht.Meinung - Auf dem Weg in die Kriegstüchtigkeit, Papyrossa, Köln/Cologne 2024, [www.papyrossa.de](http://www.papyrossa.de)

3) Anne Morelli, Die Prinzipien der Kriegspropaganda, zu Klampen Verlag, Springe 2022,  
<https://zuklampen.de/>

*If you want to know more about security:*

Rethinking Security <https://www.sicherheitneudenken.de/>  
especially on Ukraine: <https://www.sicherheitneudenken.de/europa-szenario/>

*And for those who already have a ticket to Munich and want to use it more wisely:*

Munich Peace Conference: <https://friedenskonferenz.info/>

## The war in our minds



<https://t.me/internationalreporters/48214> ,  
12.1.2024

Who attacked this ambulance?

- the Russian army
- the Ukrainian army

If you have ticked 'Russian army':

- the Russian army will stop at nothing
- I see news about Russian war crimes every day
- that was a mistake, something like that cannot be avoided in war

If you ticked the 'Ukrainian army' box:

- the Ukrainian army will stop at nothing
- I see news about Ukrainian war crimes every day
- that was a mistake, something like that cannot be avoided in war

*The solution to the riddle: Ukrainian shelling of an ambulance in Gorlovka, eastern Ukraine. However, the photo did not appear in Western newspapers. Conversely, Russian attacks on ambulances do not appear in Russian media.*

## You may be a victim of cognitive/psychological warfare.

There are 60,000 people working on this in the Pentagon, a double-digit number in the EU (East StratCom Task Force), 1,500 in the British Army and 1,000 in the Bundeswehr. Their goal:

“... to exploit the weaknesses of human nature in order to better reach the minds of individuals ...” (André Lanata (2022). Preface - By the Supreme Allied Commander Transformation. In: Claverie, Bernard; Prébot, Baptiste; Buchler, Norbou & Du Cluzel, François (eds.), Cognitive Warfare: The Future of Cognitive Dominance. NATO-STO Collaboration Support Office, 2022 (pp.14-15), p.14)

“Historically, the term “cognitive warfare” has been referred to as the use of the means of action that a state or an influential group makes in order to manipulate the spontaneous mechanisms of the cognition of an enemy or its people, in order to weaken, penetrate, influence, or even subdue or destroy them.” (Francois du Cluzel, Cognitive Warfare, a Battle for the Brain, ACT, Norfolk, Virginia, 2022, p. 5, at: [https://www.sto.nato.int/publications/STO%20Meeting%20Proceedings/STO-MP-HFM-334/\\$MP-HFM-334-KN3.pdf](https://www.sto.nato.int/publications/STO%20Meeting%20Proceedings/STO-MP-HFM-334/$MP-HFM-334-KN3.pdf) , p.2)

**The end justifies the means** (half-truths, labeling and demonizing critics, pressure from an alleged majority, triggering fear, hammering in misinformation and many more).

### If you want to 'immunize' yourself:

- Jonas Tögel, Kognitive Kriegsführung, Neuste Manipulationstechniken als Waffengattung der NATO, Westend, 2023, order information: <https://westendverlag.de/Kognitive-Kriegsfuehrung/1634> (German)
- ‘How does cognitive warfare work? // Propaganda researcher Dr Jonas Tögel’, <https://youtu.be/eotTxodm7fg?t=63> , automatic translation from German into English and other languages is possible

Anne Morelli, <https://www.sott.net/article/467508-Propaganda-during-times-of-war-Ponsonbys-ten-commandments>

## 6.6. Has (German Minister) Pistorius lost his mind?

13 december 2025; keywords: conspiracy, EU, lobbyism, NATO, psychology, russian army

This is not just about the German ,Minister for War Preparedness‘, but about all European politicians who have been telling us for months about the ‘Russian attack in two years’. **The question is: why are politicians and military leaders so confidently spreading theories that do not stand up to scrutiny? And how should we deal with such people?** (The text refers to the EU, but it may also be of interest to readers in the US and other countries, even if the problems there are different.)

(This is also not about ‘whitewashing’ Russian armys conduct of the war in Ukraine. We will never know whether Russian missiles caused 28 deaths in a residential building during the attack on the ,Orion‘ field telephone factory in Ternopil on 19 November 2025, or whether it was the debris from these missiles shot down by Ukrainian air defences ([https://t.me/prozorov\\_fr/12139](https://t.me/prozorov_fr/12139) ). In any case, it is certain that this type of warfare in densely populated areas harms precisely the Russian-speaking population that is supposedly being defended.)

But criticising the Russian army is one thing, and deliberately spreading panic is quite another. Let us now see what Western sources say about the likelihood of Russia attacking European NATO members.

1) Even if the United States is excluded and purchasing power is adjusted, NATO's military spending is several times that of Russia:

<https://militaryppp.com/2025/06/09/nato-in-2024-can-europe-defend-itself/>

In this context, it is often pointed out that Russia is significantly increasing its spending. NATO has been doing the same for years (,5 per cent‘ target), which raises the question of who is reacting to whom.

2) Western armies are also vastly superior:

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/1293174/nato-russia-military-comparison/> +  
[https://www.greenpeace.de/publikationen/Kraeftevergleich\\_NATO-Russland.pdf](https://www.greenpeace.de/publikationen/Kraeftevergleich_NATO-Russland.pdf)

3) This is confirmed by NATO Secretary General Rutte, who should have a certain overview:

<https://kyivindependent.com/nato-shouldnt-overstate-russian-capabilities-alliance-chief-says/> +  
<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/regierungspressekonferenz-vom-17-oktober-2025-2389904>

4) If you don't trust all these sources, just watch the news to see how slowly the Russian army is advancing towards western Ukraine.

Why is this fantasy still being propagated? Three hypotheses are examined here:

- 1) psychological
- 2) political
- 3) material.

## 1) Psychological explanations

Assuming that these European politicians and military leaders are of sound mind (unlike other presidents), there must be other reasons. It may be quite revealing to examine whether they subscribe to a conspiracy theory (CT). First, some information on the effect of CTs (according to *Katharina Nocun + Pia Lamberty, Fake Facts, Wie Verschwörungstheorien unser Denken bestimmen; Quadriga Verlag, Cologne 2021*) :

\* Susceptibility to CTs increases with a feeling of loss of control (page 55). In fact, the EU “elite” has had to cope with three serious events of this kind in recent years:

1) China is no longer content with the role of outsourced workbench, but is overtaking the US and the EU.

2) More and more countries are adopting the methods of waging wars that violate international law, as demonstrated by the West in Yugoslavia, Iraq, etc.

3) The US regime is responding to 1) and 2) by throwing its loyal vassal, the EU, to the dogs.

\* VT are resistant to factual information (p. 62).

\* Confirmation bias ensures that information that confirms one's own opinion is preferred (p. 61); the cognitive dissonance caused by deviating data is reduced by classifying it as unreliable.

\* Those who find themselves in a filter bubble / echo chamber

( [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filter\\_bubble](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filter_bubble) + [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Echo\\_chamber\\_\(media\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Echo_chamber_(media)) ) , where they only hear a repetition of their own words, tend to become radicalised.

\* Being part of a group reinforces the effect (p. 49).

\* The more one has invested in an idea, the more difficult it is to question it or acknowledge it as wrong (p. 50).

\* Critics are seen as tools of the opponent (p. 176).

\* According to the “optimism bias”, the risk of one's own “countermeasures” is underestimated (p. 63).

\* Unfortunately, people with a higher propensity for CT have a stronger preference for order and structure and a lower tolerance for ambiguity. If that doesn't remind you of the military and the police... (p. 57).

There is therefore evidence that the behaviour of EU politicians and military personnel can be partly explained by their belief in conspiracy theories.

In addition, there are numerous “normal” cognitive biases to which the author (and readers) are also subject. This raises the question of whether life as a professional politician or in the military general staff makes them particularly susceptible to these biases because they spend a long time in the same closed group. Here is a list (abridged and with examples from the german version [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liste\\_kognitiver\\_Verzerrungen](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liste_kognitiver_Verzerrungen) , see also [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_cognitive\\_biases](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cognitive_biases) )

<b>Name</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Example</b>
Action bias	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/">https://en.wikipedia.org/</a>	Better to do something pointless than nothing at all

	<a href="https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Action_bias">wiki/Action_bias</a>	
Backfire	<a href="https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/backfire_effect">https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/backfire_effect</a>	Anything that does not fit into the world view is used as evidence of malicious intent, e.g. Russian ceasefire proposals at Christmas
Bandwagon effect	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandwagon_effect">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandwagon_effect</a>	
Belief perseverance	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belief_perseverance">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belief_perseverance</a>	Merz: „Diplomatic means have been exhausted“ <a href="https://www.pubaffairsbruxelles.eu/eu-in-the-media/german-chancellor-merz-on-ukraine-no-hope-left-for-a-diplomatic-solution-to-the-conflict/">https://www.pubaffairsbruxelles.eu/eu-in-the-media/german-chancellor-merz-on-ukraine-no-hope-left-for-a-diplomatic-solution-to-the-conflict/</a>
Choice-supportive bias	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Choice-supportive_bias">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Choice-supportive_bias</a>	Arms shipments
Cognitive Dissonance (to avoid)	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cognitive_dissonance">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cognitive_dissonance</a>	Inability to even acknowledge the opponent's proposals and analyse them objectively
Confirmation bias	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confirmation_bias">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confirmation_bias</a>	Reinforced by information selection in newspapers
Correspondence bias	<a href="https://www.scribbr.com/research-bias/correspondence-bias/">https://www.scribbr.com/research-bias/correspondence-bias/</a>	The change in perception of Putin from a positive image following his 2001 speech in the ‚Bundestag‘ <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jyLQmyg9hs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jyLQmyg9hs</a> to today's 'demon'
Dichotomy	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dichotomy">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dichotomy</a>	‘All or nothing’, months of discussions about territorial concessions, instead of placing the disputed territories under international administration as a neutral zone, or similar: <a href="https://usrussiaaccord.org/making-the-case-for-east-ukraine-by-benjamin-s-dunham/">https://usrussiaaccord.org/making-the-case-for-east-ukraine-by-benjamin-s-dunham/</a>
Dunning-Kruger	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dunning%E2%80%93Kruger_effect">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dunning%E2%80%93Kruger_effect</a>	Overconfidence, e.g. the series of “game-changing wonder weapons” in the early years of the war
Escalation of Commitment	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Escalation_of_commitment">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Escalation_of_commitment</a>	After every failure, go one better, e.g. increasingly long-range weapons
Framing	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Framing_effect_(psychology)">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Framing_effect_(psychology)</a>	‘Prepare for war so you don't have to fight it’ – how buying weapons becomes a peaceful activity
Frequency illusion	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frequency_illusion">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frequency_illusion</a>	E.g. drone flights, which have been taking place for years, are being noticed more frequently following corresponding “reporting”
Herd mentality bias	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herd_behavior">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herd_behavior</a>	
Hindsight bias	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindsight_bias">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindsight_bias</a>	The explanation of Russia's invasion of Ukraine

while ignoring the history since Gorbachev

Horn effect	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horn_effect">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horn_effect</a>	To create an enemy image
Illusory truth effect	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illusory_truth_effect">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illusory_truth_effect</a>	Making misinformation credible through constant repetition
Labeling	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labeling_theory">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labeling_theory</a>	For years, those in favour of a ceasefire were labelled “Putin's helpers”, but now the West is calling for a ceasefire
Lake Wobegon effect	<a href="https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Lake_Wobegon_effect">https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Lake_Wobegon_effect</a>	Constant progress reports, even when the withdrawal is already being prepared
Law of the instrument	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_of_the_instrument">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_of_the_instrument</a>	Soldiers are trained for warfare, so they “solve” everything with war and find it difficult to think of other solutions
Mere exposure effect	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mere-exposure_effect">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mere-exposure_effect</a>	Manipulation method, e.g. the increasing number of photos of friendly female soldiers on the front pages of formerly “liberal” newspapers
Negativity bias	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Negativity_bias">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Negativity_bias</a>	Ignore negotiation offers
Neglect of probability	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neglect_of_probability">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neglect_of_probability</a>	Ignoring the rising risk of nuclear war due to misinterpretation
Peer pressure	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peer_pressure">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peer_pressure</a>	
Projection	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychological_projection">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychological_projection</a>	Do the “warnings” of a Russian attack perhaps reflect a secret desire to attack Russia?
Self-licensing	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-licensing">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-licensing</a>	Every visit with new weapons deliveries includes a visit with gifts to a nursery school, hospital, etc
Sunk cost fallacy	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunk_cost">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunk_cost</a>	No one would inflate a bicycle tyre with a large hole in it, but billions are being poured into well-known Ukrainian corruption networks

There seems to be some evidence that the sofa war heroes who decide on war and peace in our countries are increasingly prone to these perceptual distortions.

## 2) Political explanations

It is well known that a compelling enemy image can help to gloss over internal conflicts (Klaus Moegling, <https://www.klaus-moegling.de/aktuelle-auflage-neuordnung/> , p.167). This can involve distinct groups within one's own country (Jews, migrants, Palestinians) or an entirely different country.

Some people are then prepared to follow Goebbels (and today Pistorius, <https://gewerkschaftliche-linke-berlin.de/kriegstuechtig-wie-nur-je-von-zeitenwende-kriegstuechtigkeit-und-heimatschutz/> ) for the sake of “war readiness” (and war invalidity), even if their fridge is empty and they have no

heating.

I will refrain from describing the domestic political situation in all countries where this applies. The following examples should suffice:

- Macron (without a political base)
- Netanyahu (pending criminal proceedings)
- Zelensky (in office “extended”)
- Trump (pending criminal proceedings and sex scandals)

Of course, there are tax-funded institutions that help out at the right time with the right events and narratives, as we saw in the drone hysteria campaign (the fact check on this, “The EU on the way to Sender Gleiwitz”, can be sent to you in German).

Let us just note that the “elites” of an EU that is losing its lustre and a Federal Republic of Germany in which all the social achievements of the last 150 years are gradually being dismantled may well have a political interest in a permanent war and a new enemy in the East. Or are simply incapable, for the reasons described in 1), of finding a way out of the impasse into which they have led us all.

### 3) Material explanations

Let us be guided by optimism bias and assume that corruption in the defence sector in the EU is not (yet) as advanced as it is in Ukraine.

Nevertheless, it is obvious that there are situations here too where what someone represents politically and what they earn overlap. Take the example of former CIA director and US Secretary of State Pompeo: <https://brooklynpeace.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/ mailing/ url? u=28353&qid=3132958> .

The systemic conditions for this also exist in the Federal Republic of Germany:

1) The “revolving doors” between the Bundeswehr and the “Ministry of Defence” and industry are constantly in motion: <https://www.bundeswehr-journal.de/2025/wenn-ehemalige-soldaten-bei-der-ruestungsindustrie-anheuern/>

2) The parliament, which should control such things, is practically paralysed. An investigation about the “Defence” committee of the previous Bundestag revealed: "Of 11 executive members, 5 have lobby contacts, so it is fair to say that this committee is firmly in the hands of people who are more committed to the arms industry than to their constituents. Of the remaining 27 members, 5, two of whom also are members of peace-oriented institutions. In addition, experience shows that there are those who have not disclosed their contacts/secondary activities. This means that of 38 people, at least 10 have militaristic lobby contacts and at least 2 have peace-oriented contacts at the same time."

(The list ‘Defence Committee of the Bundestag 2022’ can be sent on request in German.)

The situation is similar at EU level: <https://www.attac.at/news/details/wie-ruestungskonzerne-europas-sicherheitspolitik-beeinflussen> +see also for another area <https://www.somo.nl/the-secretive-cabal-of-us-polluters-that-is-rewriting-the-eus-human-rights-and-climate-law/>

If someone has the time and resources to investigate this more closely, some scandals are bound to come to light. Until then, this is a conjecture that is not admissible in court, but has a “probability bordering on certainty”.

### What now?

How should one behave towards people who are influenced by conspiracy theories, suffer from heightened perceptual distortions, and have a political and material interest in maintaining and spreading certain misjudgements?

- 1) Sending extensively researched documentation is of little use. Even if it gets past the research assistants, it falls victim to the filters described above.
- 2) Seeking discussion, as the EVAL project <https://www.evalww.com/> in Germany and Austria does, for example, is of limited use. (However, it became apparent here too that even after the discussion, Nico Lange from the Munich Security Conference continued to disseminate a paper on the war in Ukraine that contained a plethora of factual errors. The fact check ‘The MSC – fairy tale aunt or horror novel?’ is available on request in English).
- 3) The authors of “Fake Facts” have written a second book, “*True Facts, Was gegen Verschwörungstheorien wirklich hilft; Quadriga Verlag, Cologne 2021*”, which I have not taken into account here. It describes how to deal with conspiracy theory supporters in concrete terms. It may also be helpful to take into account the recommendations of sect counselling centres.
- 4) It is probably better to seek dialogue with people you know through personal recommendation or mutual acquaintances in order to open their blinders a little.
- 5) Debunking, i.e. confronting people with facts, is not enough on its own (p. 281). Critical questions are more effective than extensive information (p. 285). In this respect, formats such as “Frag den Staat” (Ask the State) <https://fragdenstaat.de/> and “Abgeordnetenwatch” (MP Watch) <https://www.abgeordnetenwatch.de/> may be more effective, also because of the “silent readers” (p. 289).
- 6) The ability of “decision-makers” to self-correct is minimal, regardless of how they are treated. Anyone who has not yet noticed this from the decades-long war in Afghanistan and its “reappraisal” can now see it in the German government’s miserable decision to let its own former employees fall into the hands of the Taliban rather than rescue them to Germany.
- 7) It follows from all this that, given the current state of “democratic culture” in the Federal Republic of Germany and the EU, pure dialogue formats are largely meaningless and inconsequential when it comes to important/conflictual/emotionally charged issues.

It may be reasonable to conduct such talks discreetly for a while, but if that does not work, only public pressure will help. (By “pressure” I do not only mean press statements, but also, for example, railway workers who refuse to handle arms deliveries abroad. What Italian dockworkers can achieve should also be possible elsewhere.)

In order for this pressure to build, the enemy stereotypes created by NATO must be “deconstructed”: <https://nie-wieder-krieg.org/2025/12/04/resolution-ippnw-aksn/> .

## **7- Other topics**

## What a coincidence ...

For more than a year, Western politicians have been promising that the next step of escalation will bring the 'liberation of all of Ukraine':

- 'Defensive' weapons
  - Heavy weapons
  - Howitzers
    - Leopard and Abrams tanks
    - Long-range missiles
    - Depleted uranium munitions
    - Cluster munitions

None of this was true. Let's see what we are told after the deployment of the F16...

In the same time they have ignored or sabotaged a dozen peace plans, the latest being the Pope's signature collection: <https://paxchristi.net/2023/07/13/pax-christi-international-supports-pope-francis-call-for-a-ceasefire-in-the-russia-ukraine-war/> .

No one can understand so much stubbornness. Or can we?

	
<p><i>Joseph R. Biden</i> President of the United States Place of birth (not constituency): <b>Scranton</b></p>	<p><i>Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann</i> Chairwoman of the 'Defence' Committee of the German Bundestag Constituency: <b>Düsseldorf</b></p>
<p>SCAAP in <b>Scranton</b>, operated by General Dynamics Corporation, is the largest manufacturer of 155 mm howitzer ammunition, including 11,000 rounds a month for the war in Ukraine <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scranton_Armory_Ammunition_Plant">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scranton_Armory_Ammunition_Plant</a></p>	<p>Rheinmetall in <b>Düsseldorf</b> is one of the biggest Ukraine war profiteers in Germany <a href="https://www.n-tv.de/wirtschaft/Rheinmetall-Waffenfabrik-laeuft-auf-Hochtouren-article24177475.html">https://www.n-tv.de/wirtschaft/Rheinmetall-Waffenfabrik-laeuft-auf-Hochtouren-article24177475.html</a></p>

If you look at some members of the 'Defence' Committee of the Bundestag (e.g. Reinhard Brandl, Florian Hahn, Wolfgang Hellmich, Alexander Müller, Henning Otte, Gerold Otten, Dirk Vöpel) or the lobbies in the USA <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/03/07/how-biggest-arms-manufacturers-steer-millions-influence-us-policy.html> , the picture becomes even clearer.

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