# Timeline: the Russia–Ukraine war (2022–2024) and its origins

From state foundation up to 24 August 2024.

882 State of Kyivan Rus established by Viking Prince Oleg

988 Vladimir I, pagan prince of Novgorod and grand prince of Kyiv, accepts the Orthodox Christian faith and is baptised in the Crimean city of Chersonesus

1037 Construction of Golden Gate and Saint Sophia Cathedral begins in Kyiv under Grand Prince Yaroslav the Wise

1157 Yuri Dolgorukiy dies in Kyiv (followed by the expulsion of his son Andrei Bogoliubsky)

1253 Daniel of Galicia forms Kingdom of Ruthenia after destruction of Kyiv by Mongols

1385–1386 Union of Krewo creates Polish-Lithuanian state, including much of today's UA

1579 Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth incorporates most Ruthenian lands, codified in the Union of Lublin

1648–1657 Khmelnytsky Uprising (Cossack–Polish War) against PL domination

1654 Pereiaslav Agreement (ceremonial pledge of allegiance by Cossacks to RU Tsar)

1709 Battle of Poltava; RU defeats SE (end of Great Northern War)

1763 Catherine II's decree banning teaching in UA in Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

1775 Zaporizhian Sich destroyed by RU forces, Cossack self- government liquidated; closing of UA schools at the offices of the Cossack regiment

1787 RU Empress Catherine II visits newly acquired Crimea (ahead of further RU–TR wars)

1795 Scottish-born industrialist Charles Gascoigne launches metal industry in Luhansk

1804 According to a special decree in the RU empire, all UA language schools are banned, leading to the degradation of the UA population

1847 Taras Shevchenko arrested and exiled

1848 Spring of Nations; Supreme Ruthenian Council created and declares that Galician Ruthenians are part of the bigger UA nation. The Council adopts the yellow and blue flag (Flag of Ukraine), hoisted for the first time over Lviv Town Hall.

1853–1856 Crimean War: RU vs TR/EN/FR (results in weakening RU influence in Europe)

1859 Ministry of Religion and Science of Austria-Hungary attempts to replace UA Cyrillic alphabet with Latin in Eastern Galicia and Bukovina

1863 RU interior minister bans publications and instruction in UA language (decree remains in force until 1905)

1. Prosvita founded in Lviv from different regions and intellectuals to promote UA language

Welshman John Hughes wins concession from RU government to set up a metallurgy plant in a town named after himself (Yuzovka), today's Donetsk

1. Introduction of the PL language as the official language of education and of the administration of PL Eastern Galicia (today's western UA)

1905 First RU Revolution, crew of Black Sea battleship Potemkin rebel against officers

1917–1921 Ukrainian–Soviet war (part of broader civil war)

28 Dec 1922 USSR created, with UA becoming one of founding members (with Donbas incorporated into Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic)

1924 Adoption of law of the Republic of PL on limiting the use of UA language in administration, judiciary, education

1929 *Red Cavalry* (written by Isaac Babel) published in English

1930 Organisation of UA Nationalists (OUN) begins sabotage actions (in PL)

1932–1934 Great UA famine ("Holodomor")

1939–1941 Southeast PL integrated into UA, within USSR, after Molotov– Ribbentrop Pact

1941–1944 OUN, led by Stepan Bandera, collaborates with Nazis (killing Jews and Poles)

29-30 Sept 1941 “Babi Yar” massacre of close to 34 thousand Jewish citizens of Kyiv by SS, DE police and their auxiliaries

1945 WWII ends, southeast PL transferred to Ukraine (within USSR)

1954 USSR transfers Crimea from Russia to Ukraine, following death of Stalin, in honour of the 300th anniversary of the Pereiaslav Agreement

1965 Arrests and show trials of UA "sixtiers" (anti-Stalinist intellectuals)

1986 Nuclear explosion at Chernobyl power plant, major disaster resulting from design flaws and negligence (contributing to the demise of the Soviet Union)

July 1990 New UA parliament (Verkhovna Rada) declares independence from USSR

Jan 1991 The Crimean regional government decides to hold its own referendum on restoring the autonomy of Crimea

Sep 4 The Supreme Soviet of the now Autonomous Crimean Republic (ACR) proclaims the region's sovereignty, adding that it intends to create a sovereign democratic state *within* UA

8 Dec 1991 Leaders of RU, UA and Belarus sign the Belovezh Accords in Viskuli (Belarus) to end the USSR and lay the foundations for future relations

31 Dec 1991 Dissolution of the USSR; Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) formed with UA as a founding member, which, however, did not ratify the CIS Charter

1. UA becomes associate member of Economic Union of the CIS amid hyperinflation
2. Budapest Memorandum (UA given vague security guarantees by great powers)

16–17 Mar 1995 UA President Kuchma, after consulting with RU President Boris Yeltsin and receiving his support, sends UA special forces to arrest the Crimean government. Pro-RU Crimean leader Yuri Meshkov deported to RU.

1. The hryvnia replaces the coupon as national currency
2. RU and UA sign Partition Treaty, establishing two independent national fleets and dividing armaments and bases between them

21 Oct 1998 Constitution of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC) enters into force, defining the legal framework of the ARC within the UA state

1. NATO-Russia Council established for handling security issues and joint projects

28 January 2003 Putin visits Kyiv to sign Treaty on the RU-UA State Border (fixing its land part).

1. RU threatens to seize the UA island of Tuzla in the Azov Sea by force (violating UA territorial integrity)

24 Dec 2003 UA and RU sign treaty about Sea of Azov being the “historical internal waters” of both countries, with free navigation through the Kerch Strait.

1. Viktor Yushchenko poisoned with dioxin during presidential campaign; Viktor Yanukovych wins but election appears to have been rigged
2. Orange Revolution; Yushchenko installed as president (and Tymoshenko as PM)
3. Constitutional reform enhancing the powers of the UA prime minister

20 Jul 2006 A joint UA–US military exercise is cancelled, following anti-NATO protests on the Crimean Peninsula (Feodosia)

10 Feb 2007 Putin speech at MSC accusing the US with creating unipolar world, undermining international law, stimulating arms race, and calls Eastward expansion of NATO “a serious provocation that reduces the level of mutual trust“

**2008**

Apr 2008 Bucharest NATO summit considers UA and GE membership ("open door" policy)

16 May 2008 UA becomes 152nd member of the World Trade Organization (WTO)

18–19 May 2008 EBRD Annual General Meeting held in Kyiv

Autumn 2008 UA quickly and heavily affected by global financial crisis, turns to IMF for loan

**2009**

Jan 2009 Gazprom stops gas deliveries to UA, triggering crisis of supply for two weeks

24 Aug 2009 Anti-UA demonstrations held in Crimea by ethnic RU residents

29 Nov 2009 RU President Medvedev proposes "New European Security Order"

**2010**

17 Jan 2010 Presidential election in UA, Yanukovych wins

22 Jan 2010 outgoing President Yushchenko awards Bandera the status of "Hero of Ukraine", sparking protests from PL and Israel (status withdrawn in 2011).

25 Feb 2010 inauguration of Yanukovych (plans for NATO membership shelved subsequently).

1. Apr 2010 Kharkiv Pact: lease of Sevastopol to RU extended to 2042

**2011**

1. Feb 2011 New START treaty between US and RU enters into force

24 March 2011 UA prosecutors charge Kuchma with involvement in Gongadze murder case (criminal charges dropped in December)

Jun 2011 Missile cruiser USS *Monterey* (carrying AegisBallistic Missile Defence System) enters Black Sea to attend the Sea Breeze 2011 UA–US naval exercise; criticised by Moscow

7 Jul 2011 Meshkov in press conference calls for a referendum on restoring the Constitution of Crimea (1992 version), which actually declared Crimea a sovereign state;

1. Oct 2011 Former UA PM Tymoshenko sentenced to seven years imprisonment;
2. Nov 2011 Nord Stream 1 inaugurated by DE Chancellor Angela Merkel, RU President Dmitry Medvedev, FR PM François Fillon and NL PM Mark Rutte, together with EU Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger, at a ceremony held in Lubmin (DE)

**2012**

7 Feb 2012 Kivalov–Kolesnichenko Law adopted, giving the status of regional language to RU and other minority languages

11-12 June 2012 first visit by Pat Cox and Aleksander Kwasniewski to Kyiv to negotiate about the release of political prisoners, incl. Tymoshenko (followed by 26 further missions in 18 months)

Jun 2012 UA co-hosts (with PL) UEFA European Football Championship

28 Oct 2012 UA parliamentary elections, won by Party of Regions, followed by … and ….

**2013**

2013 EU Association Agreement completed but President Yanukovych does not sign it

Nov 2013 "Euromaidan" protest begins against Yanukovych and for EU association in Kyiv

13 Dec 2013 John McCain meets Yatsenyuk and far-right Tyahnybok in Kyiv, speaks to crowd

 Victoria Nuland speaks at the US—Ukraine Foundation Conference in Washington

**2014**

Feb 4 Conversation of Victoria Nuland with Ambassador Pyatt appears on Youtube (including proposition for Yatsenyuk to lead government and "f-ck the EU" rant)

18-20 Feb massacre of protesters and police during “Euromaidan” demonstrations; death of the HH

Feb European foreign ministers mediate a compromise between government and demonstrators, involving a unity government and early elections

1. Feb 2014 Yanukovych leaves Kyiv for Kharkiv while his Kyiv residence is vandalised (from there he goes to RU)
2. Feb 2014 Oleksandr Turchynov becomes interim president)
3. Feb 2014 Kivalov–Kolesnichenko language law abolished by Verkhovna Rada (decision not signed by the interim president)

Mar 2014 RU invades and annexes Crimea (after referendum); condemned by West

5 Mar 2014 EU launches sanctions in connection with misappropriation of state funds in UA

21 Mar 2014 PM Yatsenyuk, Herman van Rompuy and José Manuel Barroso sign the core chapters of the EU Association Agreement in Brussels

7 Apr 2014 Separatist forces declare independence in the South of Donbas region (DPR)

22 Apr 2014 US VP Biden in Kyiv, delivering a $50-million aid package, demanding RU to back off and warning UA it must tackle the “cancer of corruption”.

27 Apr 2014 Separatist forces declare independence in the North of Donbas region (LPR)

2 May 2014 UA nationalist riot in Odesa leaves about 50 people dead and hundreds injured

25 May 2014 Billionaire Petro Poroshenko wins presidential election

17 Jul 2014 Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur shot down with RU-made Buk missile while flying over eastern UA. All 283 passengers and 15 crew killed.

Sep 2014 Minsk I agreement (Minsk Protocol); ceasefire breaks down shortly after

**2015**

January 2015 Battle of Debaltseve (DPR separatist forces recapture city from UA army)

11 Feb 2015 UA President Poroshenko establishes the official Day of the HH to be marked on February 20 every year.

12 Feb 2015 Minsk II agreement signed (but civil war continues for subsequent years)

17 Feb 2015 UN Security Council unanimously endorses Minsk ceasefire agreement and calles on all parties to fully implement it.

May 2015 UA decommunization law adopted (for clear break with USSR political legacy)

14 Oct 2015 Defenders Day celebrated for first time on new date

Dec 2015 Bank of Russia issues a new 100 rouble banknote featuring images of Crimea. RU cyberattack hits Kyiv's power grid and causes major blackout.

**2016**

1 Jan 2016 Entry into force of the EU–Ukraine free trade area

6 Apr 2016 Dutch referendum voters overwhelmingly reject (by 61% majority with 32% turnout) closer EU links to UA (EU–UA partnership deal)

July 2016 NATO summit in Warsaw, NATO-Ukraine Commission endorses Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP), boosting NATO's assistance for UA, and standing by 2008 pledge that UA and GE "will be members"

20 Sept 2016 Poroshenko meets presidential candidate Hillary Clinton in New York and thanks her for for continuous and firm supportive stance. They discuss Donbas and celebrate 25th anniversary of UA independence.

31 Dec 2016 US senators John McCain, Lindsey Graham and Amy Klobuchar visit front-line UA armed forces and call for tougher actions against RU (for allegedly interfering with US elections), promising generous material support

**2017**

20 June 2017 Poroshenko in Washington, meets Donald Trump in White House, they discuss peaceful resolution of conflict in Donbas, together with reform agenda and anticorruption efforts.

28 Sep 2017 New UA law on education enters into force, as a key instrument for modernising UA's education system and bringing it up to EU standards, but triggering protest due to the potentially negative effect on minority languages

Oct 2017 RU cyberattack hits key UA infrastructure, including National Bank and power grid

**2018**

February 2018 UA Constitutional Court rules (after delays) that Kivalov–Kolesnichenko law is unconstitutional

15 May 2018 Inauguration of the 19 km Kerch Bridge by Putin, leading the first ever convoy from mainland RU into Crimea (an industrial and cultural show of force)

28 Nov 2018 Poroshenko introduces first ever martial law of UA in 10 out of 27 regions (bans entry of fighting age RU men and reinforces security at critical sites such as nuclear power plants and sea ports.

29 Nov 2018 Poroshenko urges NATO to send ships to the Sea of Azov following a naval confrontation with RU off Crimea (in DE newspaper *Bild*).

26 Dec 2018 end of martial law announced but Poroshenko warns of continued RU threat (build-up of forces in border regions)

**2019**

January 2019 Independence of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine from the Russian Orthodox Church formally recognised

Feb 2019 Membership of EU and NATO enshrined as goals in preamble of UA Basic Law

21 Apr 2019 Comedian Volodymyr Zelenskyy wins presidential election on platform to reduce power of oligarchs and find negotiated solution in Donbas instead of war

25 Apr 2019 Verkhovna Rada passes language law promoted by outgoing president Poroshenko

May 2019 Donald Trump recalls US ambassador in Kyiv, Marie Yovanovitch

25 Jul 2019 Trump–Zelenskyy phone call (discussing military aid and Burisma gas company)

2 Aug 2019 US withdrawal from INF Treaty, after accusing RU of noncompliance

1 Oct 2019 UA government agrees to Steinmeier Formula to create peace in Donbas

9 Dec 2019 Council of Europe issue critical opinion on the law on supporting the functioning of the UA language as the state language

**2020**

February Hardliner Vladislav Surkov replaced by Putin with UA-born RU official Dmitry Kozak, to be in charge of managing Moscow's relations with UA

2020 March UA goes into first lockdown to curb Covid-19 pandemic; economy enters recession

**2021**

19 Feb Newly inaugurated US president Joe Biden declares “America is back”, signaling the intention to repair international alliances and engage with the world once again.

Spring RU army begins concentration of forces close to UA border

19 May UA government approves Action Plan for the promotion of UA language in all spheres of public life (“gentle Ukrainisation” according to Minister Tkachenko)

June IMF approves a $5 billion stand-by agreement to help UA stave off default during a pandemic-induced recession

16 Jun Putin–Biden summit in Geneva over UA question

1 Jul New UA law on agriculture; land would be available for sale to individuals and to legal entities beginning in 2024. The World Bank supports the creation of a "fair and transparent farmland market" with $200 million in loans.

12 Jul Putin publishes 7,000-word essay, "On the historical unity of Russians and Ukrainians", denying existence of UA and Belarus as independent nations

23 Aug Zelenskyy launches multilateral "Crimea Platform" initiative with delegations of 46 countries attending.

27 Aug US President Joe Biden authorises $60 million in largely defensive weapons to be sent to UA

1 Sep UA President Zelenskyy visits US President Biden in Washington

15 Sept AUKUS formed by US, UK and Australia, resulting in an immediate cancellation of a FR-Australian submarine deal from 2016.

12 Oct (23rd) EU–UA summit in Kyiv (with Charles Michel and Ursula von der Leyen)

Nov US Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines briefs NATO allies in Brussels about RU preparations for full-scale invasion of UA

7 Dec Putin–Biden two-hour virtual summit discussing war and potential sanctions

9–10 Dec Two-day online "Summit for Democracy" organised by US President Joe Biden

16 Dec 2021 NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg welcomes UA President Zelenskyy to NATO HQ in Brussels

Late Dec 2021 President Biden authorises further $200 million in weapons to be drawn from US inventories for UA

23 Dec 2021 Gerasimov discusses regional security issues with his UK counterpart Radakin

**2022**

January Jake Sullivan sets up regular process at White House to steer information war, helping to thwart RU plans and propaganda

12 Jan CIA Director Burns flies to Kyiv and explains RU plans to Zelenskyy, who refuses idea of moving to Lviv and creating panic

16 Jan New legal provision on the use of the UA language enters into force, criticised by Venice Commission (for lacking right balance between state and minority languages)

19 Jan Blinken goes to Kyiv, meets Zelenskyy and Kuleba, trying to convince them about moving to Lviv and ensuring continuous functioning of government

President Biden in Washington publicly speaks about RU plans, hinting at "minor incursion" not prompting same severe response as full-scale invasion

22 Jan DE Vice Admiral Kay-Achim Schönbach (chief of navy) resigns after saying that Putin "deserves respect" and UA will never win back annexed Crimea (in livestreamed event in IN); also expressing doubts about NATO membership for UA and GE.

26 Jan US presents a written response to RU security demands, repeating a commitment to NATO's "open-door" policy while offering a "principled and pragmatic evaluation" of RU concerns (Putin considers it insufficient two days later)

4 Feb Putin meets China's President Xi Jinping in Beijing, forming united front

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| 19 Feb Zelenskyy attending MSC, claims UA is consistently implementing Minsk agreements; Crimea and Donbas would return to UA peacefully  |
| 21 Feb  | RU parliament recognises DPR and LPR (Moscow abandons Minsk process) |
| 24 Feb  | Russian forces invade UA (from east, south and north, including from Belarus) |
| 28 Feb  | UA government applies for EU membership (followed by MD and GE) |
| 28 Feb  | First round of RU–UA peace talks in Gomel region (Belarus), followed up in March |
| 2 Mar  | RU forces enter Kherson and surround Mariupol |
|   | UN General Assembly resolution demands end to RU offensive against UA, reaffirms UA sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity (141 out of 193 countries vote in favour) |
| 9 Mar  | IMF executive board approves $1.4 billion in Emergency Financing Support to UA |
| 11 Mar  | EU heads of state and government issue Versailles Declaration, calling on member states to strengthen defence spending, investment, research and coordination |
| 15 Mar  | President Zelenskyy states UA would not join NATO any time soon. Right-wing PMs of PL, Czech Republic and Slovenia visit Kyiv to show support. |

24–26 Mar US President Joe Biden visits Europe, offers liquefied gas (LNG) deliveries and, in speech in PL, alludes to removal of RU President Putin (point withdrawn day after)

25 Mar Pope Francis consecrates both UA and RU as "a spiritual act of trust"

1. Mar RU forces start withdrawing from Kyiv area after failed siege of UA capital city
2. Mar RU–UA peace talks in TR conclude, without getting closer to ceasefire

3 Apr Pictures of civilian victims apparently massacred by RU soldiers start to emerge from Bucha

8 Apr President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen and HR/VP Josep Borrell travel to Kyiv to show unwavering support

12 Apr 2022 DE President Steinmeier's proposed trip to Kyiv rejected by UA leadership

14 Apr 2022 Sinking of warship *Moskva*, flagship of Russia's Black Sea Fleet

19 Apr Moscow announces new phase of war, having shifted troops from North UA to Donbas

24 Apr 2022 US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin meet Zelenskyy in Kyiv (visit only announced after the fact)

26 Apr 2022 UA military donor conference convened by US at Ramstein Air Base in DE

28 Apr 2022 UN Secretary-General António Guterres visits UA (including Irpin and Bucha, venues of alleged RU atrocities) after holding talks with Putin in Moscow

4 May 2022 RU airstrike against Mariupol theatre inflicts death toll of around 600

15 May 2022 UA's Kalush Orchestra wins 2022 Eurovision Song Contest

1. May 2022 SE and FI apply for NATO membership
2. May 2022 US Senate overwhelmingly approves $40 billion in new aid for UA

In a Freudian slip, former US President George W. Bush mixes up invasion of UA with "unjustified and brutal" invasion of Iraq

1. May 2022 RU declares victory at Azovstal plant, ending two-month battle for Mariupol

1 Jun 2022 US decides to send HIMARS to UA under condition they are not to be used against targets in RU. DE Chancellor Olaf Scholz announces delivery of modern surface-to-air missiles to protect cities from Russian air attacks.

7 Jun 2022 World Bank announces $1.49 billion additional financial support, bringing the value of support package to $4 billion (and reaching $16 billion since independence)

16 Jun 2022 FR President Macron, DE Chancellor Scholz, IT PM Draghi (with RO President Iohannis) visit Kyiv and declare further support for UA

1. Jun 2022 European Council turns UA and MD (but not GE) into EU membership candidates

24 Jun 2022 UA forces start evacuation of Severodonetsk, ending fierce defence effort

1 Jul 2022 NATO concludes three-day summit in Madrid; leaders reiterate unwavering support for UA's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity

3 July RU captures Lysychansk, taking effective control of entire Luhansk province

4–5 Jul 2022 UA Recovery Conference in Lugano, Switzerland, discussing reconstruction, with UA PM Denys Shmyhal

9 Jul 2022 President Zelenskyy recalls several ambassadors, including Andriy Melnyk from DE

16 Jul 2022 RU–UA–TR–UN agreement on grain exports (followed by RU strikes on Odesa)

19 Jul 2022 New UA labour law curtailing workers' and trade unions' rights enters into force

26 Jul 2022 Wife of UA president, Olena Zelenska, appears on front page of *Vogue* fashion magazine, inviting international controversy

28 Jul 2022 Explosion kills over 50 UA POWs held in RU-controlled Olenivka prison barracks

4 Aug 2022 Amnesty International claims UA army tactics endanger civilians (criticised by many)

9 Aug 2022 Series of explosions at Saki Air Base (Crimea) destroy RU war planes, cause panic

18 Aug 2022 UN chief Guterres and TR President Erdoğan meet President Zelenskyy in Lviv to discuss grain and the situation around Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant

20 Aug 2022 Car bomb kills Darya Dugina, daughter of RU philosopher A. Dugin, near Moscow

24 Aug 2022 On UA Independence Day: Zelenskyy awards Order of Liberty to former UK PM Boris Johnson in Kyiv; UN chief Guterres laments "sad and tragic milestone"

8 Sep 2022 Long-awaited UA counteroffensive for regaining Kherson, with moderate success

9–10 Sep 2022 As part of a major counteroffensive, UA forces recapture parts of Kharkiv Oblast, including cities Kupyansk and Izyum

14 Sep 2022 Von der Leyen focuses her State of the Union speech on supporting UA war effort, with wife of UA president present in Strasbourg; receives Order of Yaroslav the Wise, 1st class, the day after from Zelenskyy in Kyiv

21 Sep 2022 Putin orders a partial military mobilisation (the first largescale military mobilisation since WWII) and expresses support for the staged referenda (as precursors to annexation of UA territories)

23 Sep 2022 Four RU-occupied regions (Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson) hold referenda to join RU. Western leaders including US President Joe Biden and DE Chancellor Olaf Scholz refer to them as shams.

1. Sep 2022 More than 1,600 RU propaganda accounts taken down by Facebook

 Undersea blasts rupture the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines, leading to huge methane leaks. Former PL foreign minister Radosław Sikorski thanks US on Twitter. Case subsequently considered to be sabotage of disputed origin.

28 Sept 2022 US announces $1.1 billion military aid package to UA (including 18 HIMARS with ammunition and 150 Humvees)

28 Sept 2022 FI announces closure of its borders to RU citizens in response to security threats linked to RU mobilization

29 Sept 2022 Putin announces four new regions of RU Federation. In response, Zelenskyy requests NATO membership for his country.

1 Oct 2022 UA forces arrive in Lyman, completing three-week surprise campaign; Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov calls for drastic measures

8 Oct 2022 Explosion causes damage to Kerch Bridge, supposedly marking Putin's birthday (on 7 October); described by Zelenskyy adviser Podolyak as "the beginning"

10 Oct 2022 RU retaliates for Kerch Bridge attack: 84 cruise missiles and 24 drones hit civilian targets; US replies by offering more powerful weapons

17 Oct 2022 RU forces kill musician Yuri Kerpatenko in his Kherson home for refusing to play music in RU-organised event

19 Oct 2022 Putin signs a decree on the introduction of martial law in the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia regions, recently annexed from UA

26 Oct 2022 RU starts recruiting members of the Afghan National Army Commando Corps, i.e. soldiers previously trained by US Navy SEALs and British armed forces

1. Oct 2022 EU appoints PL General Piotr Trytek to lead its training mission for UA troops
2. Oct 2022 RU suspends grain deal following UA drone attack on Sevastopol (but restores it a few days later)

31 Oct 2022 RU forces launch more than 30 missiles at energy infrastructure in Kyiv and other regions

Nov 11 UA forces enter Kherson after rapid evacuation by RU forces – a major UA victory

Nov 15 Large-scale rocket campaign against UA cities, destroying power infrastructure and causing severe shortages of electricity and water

 UA-fired missile strikes PL village of Przewodów, killing two civilians. PL army put on alert. Zelenskyy calls for strong response against RU until origin of missile revealed. Stoltenberg declares that ultimately RU is to be blamed.

15–16 Nov G20 meeting of world leaders in Bali. Putin does not attend; Zelenskyy through online intervention sets out conditions for negotiations (including RU forces leaving entire territory of UA, including Crimea).

17 Nov Three defendants (two RU and one UA citizen) sentenced to life by Netherlands court for downing flight MH17 in 2014

23 Nov Symbolic decision by the EP declaring RU a "state sponsor of terrorism" for the way RU has systematically attacked civilians and committed war crimes; also calls for more sanctions

30 Nov DE parliament (Bundestag) approves resolution labelling the 1930s UA famine ("Holodomor") as genocide

2 Dec Zelenskyy signs decree approving a proposal by the National Security and Defence Council to ban RU-affiliated religious groups and impose sanctions on a number of pro-Moscow bishops

1. Dec International conference "Standing with the Ukrainian People" in Paris

 UA Verkhovna Rada adopts the law "On National Minorities (Communities) of UA" in its second reading, inviting further criticism

1. Dec European Parliament's 2022 Sakharov Prize handed to representatives of the "brave people of Ukraine"
2. Dec Putin visits Belarus; announcing new joint manoeuvres with Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko, raising fears of new attack against Kyiv from north
3. Dec Zelenskyy visits the front-line city Bakhmut in the Donbas
4. Dec Zelenskyy lands in Washington: meeting with President Biden and speech to Congress; thanks US for support and demands more weapons (as investment in democracy)

25 Dec Archbishop of Canterbury and Pope Francis call for end to war in UA

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| **2023**1 Jan UA armed forces commander Zaluzhnyi tweets picture with Bandera image, causing international scandal (especially in PL)11 Jan RU Defence Ministry announces replacement of Surovikin with Gerasimov as head of UA campaign14 Jan RU rocket shot down by UA air defence falls on housing block in Dnipro, leading to resignation of Oleksiy Arestovych, presidential adviser, who told the truth about it to the media18 Jan Helicopter crash outside Kyiv kills UA interior minister and other officials20 Jan Contact group in Ramstein announce further support for UA defence needs22–24 Jan Several high-level UA public officials sacked for corruption |
| 23 Jan | US–DE announcements about delivering battle tanks to UA (including Leopards), following appointment of new defence minister in DE |
| 2 Feb | Zelenskyy welcomes von der Leyen and a number of EU commissioners in Kyiv |
| 8–9 Feb | Zelenskyy visits London, Paris and Brussels, speaks at UK and EU parliaments, demands fighter jets from Western countries |
| 10 Feb | Large-scale RU missile attacks on UA territory (allegedly also violating RO and MD air space) |
| 20 Feb | Joe Biden pays unexpected visit to Kyiv, bringing further $0.5 billion in financial aid |
| 21 Feb | Putin speech to Duma repeats usual tropes about origins of war (blames war on West), threatens boosting nuclear armaments (announces that Russia is suspending its participation in the New START nuclear arms reduction treaty with the US.) |
| 23 Feb  | On the eve of invasion anniversary, 141 members of UN endorse resolution to end the war (calling for a "just and lasting" peace). Seven oppose (including RU and Belarus); CN, IN and South Africa among major abstentions. |
| 24 Feb  | Anniversary of RU invasion. Demonstrations in solidarity with UA all over Europe. Leopard tanks from PL arrive in UA; RU halts pipeline oil supply to PL. CN presents "peace plan". European Commission bans TikTok from official devices. |

17 March ICC judges issue arrest warrant for Putin and his children’s rights commissioner for ‘unlawful deportation’ of UA children (first such case against a leader of a permanent member of the UN Security Council)

19 March Putin pays surprise visits to occupied Mariupol

21 March Chinese leader Xi visits Putin in Moscow, cementing their „no limits“ friendship

25 March RU starts moving tactical nuclear weapons to Belarus

27 March UK Challenger battle tanks arrive in UA

29-30 March 2nd Summit for Democracy is co-hosted by President Biden and the governments of Costa Rica, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, and the Republic of Zambia.

1 April Russia assumes rotating presidency of the United Nations Security Council

4 April Finland joins NATO becoming 31st Member.

…. A trove of classified US intelligence about the RU-UA war and other things is leaked. They detail RU infighting over UA dead and role of Western special forces

24-25 Lavrov in New York for UN meetings, but he also meets former US foreign affairs officials (Richard Haass, Charles Kupchan and Thomas Graham) to discuss how the war could end

26 April „Long and meaningful“ phone call between President Zelenskyy and China’s Xi

27 April EU steps in to solve grain dispute between UA and four EU member states

13-15 May Zelensky visits Western Europe (Italy, Vatican City, Germany, France, and UK)

19-21 May The 49th G7 summit takes place in Hiroshima, Japan. Volodymyr Zelenskyy attends the summit as a guest.

21 May Bakhmut falls; Wagner Group emerges winning battle after losing thousands of fighters

 Armed groups from UA carry out cross-border raid in Belgorod area (RU)

25 May Russia and Belarus sign an agreement allowing the stationing of RU tactical nuclear weapons on Belarusian territory.

1 June Summit of EPC in MD, fighter jet coalition meets on the margin of the summit

6 June Explosion of Dnipro dam at Nova Kakhovka results in floods (human and environmental disaster)

8 June Start of UA counteroffensive (mainly in Zaporizhzhia oblast)

12 June Moldova and Ukraine sign an agreement to build a bridge across their border over the Dniester river between Cosăuți, Moldova, and Yampil, Ukraine, bypassing the unrecognised state of Transnistria.

? June CIA director Burns visits Kyiv

16-17 June seven African leaders (the presidents of Comoros, Senegal, South Africa and Zambia, as well as Egypt’s prime minister and top envoys from the Republic of Congo and Uganda) visit Zelenskyy in Kyiv and Putin in St Petersburg in „peace mission“

21-22 June UA recovery conference in London

22 June Chongar Bridge (connecting Kherson with Crimea) hit by UA rocket attack

23-24 June rebellion of Prigozhin and his Wagner Group (aiming at dismissal of Shoigu and Gerasimov)

6 July Zelenskyy visits Sofia and Prague in preparation for NATO Summit, clashes with BG President

7 July Biden offers cluster bombs to UA, triggering criticism

11-12 July NATO Summit in Vilnius. G7 officials unveile an international framework for UA’s long-term security in a effort to boost their defense against RU and deter them from any future aggression. The measures will include bilateral talks, military hardware, training, intelligence-sharing, and other plans to rebuild the country’s economy. (Not offering membership or even a roadmap to UA)

13 July The International Olympic Committee says that athletes from RU and Belarus will not receive invitations to the Summer Olympic Games in Paris (FR), and will only be able to compete as neutral athletes

17 July RU halts grain deal and launches rocket strikes on critical port facilities in Odesa following another attack on the Kerch Bridge

25 JUly RU military delegation led by Shoigu arrives in North Korea

5-6 Aug 2 day conference of 30 countries in Saudi-Arabia about peace (with CN but without RU)

11 Aug Zelenskyy sacks all the heads of UA's regional military recruitment centres to stamp out corrupt draft evasion schemes

14 Aug RU rouble falls below psychologically important 100:1 rate vis a vis the US dollar, first time since March 2022, leading to interest rate hike by RU central bank

20 Aug Zelenskyy visits Eindhoven (NL), while NL and DK governments commit to delivery of F-16 fighter jets to UA.

23 Aug Aircraft explosion in RU kills Wagner Group leader Prigozhin and his deputy Dmitry Utkin.

24 Aug UA independence day – second summit of Crimea Platform in Kyiv.

 Zaluzhny tells US officials that UA forces are on the cusp of a breakthrough in the counteroffensive

28 Aug UA deputy defense minister Hanna Maliar announces liberation of Robotyne

3 Sept Zelenskyy replaces Reznikov with Umerov as defence minister, and expands the list of those eligible for wartime service

7 Sept. Stoltenberg visits the European Parliament, tells about disputes with RU about NATO membership of UA ahead of 2022 invasion.

13 Sept RU Black Sea Fleet’s submarine Rostov-on-Don hit in a nighttime raid on the fleet’s anchorage in Sevastopol by Storm Shadow cruise missile

 North Korean leader Kim Jong Un enters RU starting 6 day long tour

16 Sept PL, HU and SK announce their own bans on UA grain (as EU measures expire)

22 Sept Zelensky visits Canadian parliament, which also welcomes 98-year-old Yaroslav Hunka, who fought for a Nazi military unit during World War II. Speaker Anthony Rota who introduced Hunka as a war hero steps down four days later and Trudeau offers unreserved apology.

5 Oct former EU Commission President Juncker opines “anyone who has had anything to do with UA knows that this is a country that is **corrupt** at all levels of society“

5-6 Oct European Political Community and EU summits takes place in Granada, Spain. Topics discussed include enlargement, migration, and the war in Ukraine.

7 Oct Hamas terror attack in Israel to take hostages triggers new war in Gaza and diverts world attention from RU-UA war.

20 Oct. US administration submits to Congress a request for $106 bn in 2024 emergency supplemental funding for UA, Israel, border security, and other purposes.

1 Nov prank call released with IT PM Meloni saying that European leaders were fatigued by RU-UA war.

 General Zaluzhny admits that the war is at stalemate in interview with *The Economist*.

3 Nov Kuleba says on ZDF morning programme that UA still expects to receive long-range Taurus missiles from DE.

20 Nov Zelenskyy sacks UA’s military medical chief (Major General Tetiana Ostashchenko), and urges reform of the system.

24 Nov Arakhamiia claims in interview that the RU delegation promised Kyiv peace in exchange for refusing to join NATO in March 2022, but the Ukrainians did not believe them.

1. Dec Zelenskyy attends Presidential inauguration of newly elected far-right neoliberal Javier Milei in Buenos Aires (Argentina), meets HU PM Orbán there.

11 Dec Zelenskyy makes a last-ditch trip to Washington to try to convince Congress to give more weapons and aid for his fight

14 Dec the European Council decides that negotiations on EU membership can start with UA and MD (overcoming opposition from HU Prime Minister Viktor Orbán)

19 Dec joint statement by US Senate leaders confirming that approval of UA aid in 2023 cannot be expected any more.

 Zelenskyy announced need for new mobilisation law to add 500 thousand more troops

21 Dec Umerov says UA men between the ages of 25 and 60 living abroad will be asked to report for military service

26 Dec large landing ship Novocherkassk struck by UA guided missile in the port of Feodosia (East Crimea)

29 Dec massive RU rocket attack against cities leaves dozens dead in UA

**2024**

1 Jan In New Year address Zelenskyy declares that UA has become stronger and vows to unleash “wrath” against RU forces in 2024

18 Jan Australia formally rejects donating its retired Taipan helicopter fleet to UA

29 Jan rumours in Kyiv about General Zaluzhny being fired by President Zelenskyy

31 Jan Victoria Nuland arrives in Kyiv to express confidence that US Congress would back new aid for UA reflecting broad US support for its war effort

1 Feb European Council agrees to provide EUR 50 bn aid to UA in 4 year time frame

8 Feb General Zaluzhny replaced by Oleksandr Syrskyi as commander-in-chief of UAF

15 Feb Zelenskyy signs medical cannabis legalisation into law

17 Feb Zelenskyy speaks at MSC, rallies support for UA, talks with Democratic and Republican congressmen and US ambassador to DE

 UA troops withdraw from Adviivka

24 Feb second anniversary of RU invasion. Von der Leyen with Trudeau, Meloni and De Croo visits Kyiv.

26 Feb Macron does not rule out sending troops to UA, inviting criticism from governments categorically opposed to sending soldiers (including DE).

2 March Leaked conversation of DE military leaders about hitting Kerch Bridge with Taurus missiles causes outrage and triggers investigation

5 March Retirement of Victoria Nuland announced

7 March Zaluzhny appointed UA ambassador in London

 Sweden joins NATO (as 32nd member)

9 March UA downgraded by S&P (from CCC to CC), forecasts 4% GDP growth in 2024

11 March UA summons the Vatican's envoy after Pope Francis said the country should "have the courage to raise the white flag" and negotiate a halt to the war.

* 1. March RU presidential election (resulting in officially 86% vote share for Putin)

22 March largest aerial attack by RU on UA energy infrastructure, including largest UA hydroelectric power station

terror attack against civilian concertgoers at Crocus City Mall (Krasnogorsk, North-West of Moscow), killing 143 persons and wounding another 80.

15 April Macron calls for Olympic truce in UA but also other ongoing wars

24 April Joe Biden signs USD 61 bn aid package for UA (following vote in House of Representatives on April 20)

30 April Municipal workers in Kyiv dismantle a granite monument commemorating the 1654 Pereiaslav Agreement

10 May RU forces launch cross-border offensive North of Kharkiv

12 May Putin removes Shoigu and appoints Belousov as defense minister

16 May Putin and Xi Jinping pledge a “new era” of partnership

18 May new mobilisation law enters force in UA to make it easier to call up people to fight

22-27 May UA drones attack long-range military radars (parts of RU’s ballistic missile early warning system) deep inside RU territory

11-12 June UA Recovery Conference takes place in Berlin (DE); Zelenskyy addresses DE Bundestag

15-16 June “Peace Summit” in Switzerland with many representatives of European and Global South governments, but without RU and CN, and US represented by VP Harris.

25 June EU formally launches accession talks with UA and MD

2 July HU PM Orbán unexpectedly arrives in Kyiv (subsequently also visiting Moscow and Beijing, causing outrage in EU circles)

8 July RU missile hits children’s hospital in central Kyiv

18 July EPC summit in UK (Blenheim Palace) hosted by new UK PM Starmer, Zelenskyy subsequently attending cabinet meeting in London

19 July UA ethno-nationalist linguist Iryna Farion assassinated in Lviv.

23 July Kuleba flies to Beijing to discuss with CN foreign minister how to end the war in UA.

31 July  Zelenskyy signs a law allowing the government to suspend foreign debt payments until Oct. 1, thus preparing for a moratorium to be called that would formally mark a sovereign default.

1 Aug first F-16 fighter jets arrive in UA

6 Aug state of emergency in RU Kursk oblast due to incursion of UA regular forces

9 Aug UA forces capture Sudzha gas meter station, key part of RU pipeline infrastructure

12 Aug Putin says UA will “receive a worthy response” over Kursk incursion, after AFU takes control of about 1,000 sq km of RU territory

24 Aug marking 2,5 years of war in UA