

DEC
16-31
2022

LIFE UNDER OCCUPATION

The situation in the Ukrainian territories
temporarily controlled by the Russian army

INFORMATION BULLETIN



St. Nicholas train went to the de-occupied settlements of Kharkiv, Donetsk, Mykolaiv, and Kherson oblasts to bring presents for children | Photo: Spravzhnia Varta media project

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ELEMENTS OF TERROR

FROM THE SIDE OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY AND OCCUPATION ADMINISTRATIONS

- The temporarily occupied part of the Zaporizhia oblast is turning into a closed military base. According to Melitopol mayor Ivan Fedorov, the number of Russian soldiers, mobilized and mercenaries is increasing daily in the city, with the so-called Kadyrovtsy sent to control the discipline.

Out of fear of the resistance forces, the Russians are redeploying troops, organizing training evacuations and increasing pressure on civilians in an attempt to find members of the resistance movement.

Some 500 Rosgvardiya troops have arrived in Berdiansk to strengthen administrative and police operations.

https://t.me/ivan_fedorov_melitopol/1089

<https://bit.ly/3GqOFob>

- The occupiers demolish a historic building in Mariupol, which was one of its symbols — the studio of the outstanding artist Viktor Arnautov.

The building is known to locals as the “House with a Clock.” Before the full-scale invasion of the Russian Federation, the city authorities restored the building and installed a new clock. During the fighting, the historic building was destroyed.

https://t.me/Pravda_Gerashchenko/57592

<https://t.me/mariupolrada/12231>



- According to the AFU General Staff, the Russian occupiers have imposed a 24-hour curfew in Hornostaivka, Kherson oblast, from 25 December 2022 to 3 January 2023.

For almost 10 days, locals are forbidden to leave their flats and move around the settlement. In Vasylivka, Zaporizhzhia oblast, a curfew was introduced from 28 December 2022 to 4 January 2023. Emergency workers are issued with special passes.

<https://bit.ly/3G6sdiB> <https://bit.ly/3jyHQaZ>

- Russian invaders have tightened administrative and police measures in the settlement of Tokmak in Zaporizhzhia oblast.

The servicemen, together with local collaborators, are hunting down patriotically-minded Ukrainian citizens, checking personal laptops and phones, and searching homes.

<https://bit.ly/3GqPMEm>

- **The Russian occupiers continue to use educational institutions on temporarily occupied territory to shield their units.**

For example, according to the General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, the occupiers have stationed personnel in schools in some settlements of Zaporizhzhia oblast's Vasylivskyi district. At the same time, the educational process continues, children attend the schools.

<https://bit.ly/3YYGQgE>

- **As part of the so-called evacuation from settlements on the left bank of the Kherson oblast, the Russian occupiers have taken the abducted patients of the mental health facilities of the cities of Nova Kakhovka and Oleshky, to the village of Strilkove on the Arabat Spit; people are being held in captured Geologist recreation centre.**

Most of the staff have been brought from Russia, however, there are also locals who agreed to take care of the patients.

<https://bit.ly/3lcQdTW>

- **The occupiers deprive residents of the temporarily occupied territories of the Zaporizhzhia oblast of the opportunity to receive high-quality medical care.**

The civilian hospitals have restricted admission of patients due to the large number of wounded Russian servicemen. Unimpeded travel to Zaporizhzhia, where the residents were going, in particular, to get treatment, is no longer possible.

At present, the nearest hospitals with qualified care are in Crimea. However, there is little access for civilians from the other occupied territories. Hospitals in Crimea do not accept prescriptions issued by doctors in the occupied part of Zaporizhzhia oblast; assistance is provided only with Russian medical insurance, which can only be obtained using a Russian passport.

https://t.me/ivan_fedorov_melitopol/1104

- **According to an advisor to Mariupol mayor Petro Andriushchenko, in Manhush, Mariupol district, all police sergeants who betrayed their oath to Ukraine were sent to the front line near Bakhmut after completing a week-long military training course at a local training ground.**

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5300>

- **Animals were stolen from the Nova Kakhovka zoo in Kherson oblast and transported to the Taigan lion park in occupied Crimea, where previously stolen animals from Kherson had been brought.**

<https://bit.ly/3CfYSkL>



- **Demolition of the Drama Theatre in Mariupol, where Russian bombs were dropped on 16 March, continues.**

The attack killed hundreds of city residents who had been using the theatre building as a shelter. According to Petro Andriushchenko, advisor to Mariupol city mayor, the occupiers demolished the rear and central part of the theatre, while leaving the front as “the basis for reconstruction.” Thus, it was those parts of the building which were evidence of a war crime committed by the Russian army that were dismantled.

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5220>

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5248>



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN OCCUPIED SETTLEMENTS

- **According to a Russian government decree, the regional subsistence level coefficient is set at 78% of the federal one in the temporarily occupied territory of Luhansk oblast next year.**

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7506>

- **The local department of the military enlistment office in Markivka, Luhansk oblast, published an announcement about the recruitment of volunteers for military service under a contract in the so-called “people’s militia of the LPR.”**

Among the promises were a social package and a bonus two extra years of experience counted for each year of actual service.

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7610>

- **According to the adviser of the Mariupol Petro Andriushchenko, the city is suffering from a rodent infestation.**

Due to the lack of deratization and preventive measures against rats and mice, and due to the migration season from the fields, almost every multi-storey building faces rodent problems.

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5136>

- The Mariupol city council has in its possession documents from the education department of the city's occupation administration, according to which, 11022 school-age children were living in Mariupol as of December 2022.

According to Petro Andriushchenko, adviser to Mariupol mayor, this figure corresponds to the estimated total number of population in the city up to 120 thousand people.

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5125>

№ п/п	Наименование	Количество обучающихся	Выплаты по I-II этапу		Выплаты по III этапу		НЕ оформлены выплаты	% проведения выплат в МБОУ
			Оформлено документов (в школе, сданы в УТСЗН)	Выплачено (численность детей на которых прошли выплаты)	кол-во документов, оформленных в школе, ед.	численность обучающихся на которых поданы заявления	число обучающихся НЕ получивших единовременную выплату, чел.	
	1		4	5	6	7	8	
1	МБОУ №4	804	751	750	8	8	37	94%
2	МБОУ № 5	1056	846	995	13	13	11	99%
3	МБОУ №7	458	429	423	6	6	3	98,6
4	МБОУ №14	348	264	319	5	8	0	100
5	МБОУ №21	284	273	273	8	8	11	96%
6	МБОУ № 26	899	839	838	10	10	50	95%
7	МБОУ № 27	551	503	501	6	6	3	92%
8	МБОУ №34	931	878	878	14	14	9	97%
9	МБОУ № 38	201	177	177	4	4	20	90%
10	МБОУ №41	787	688	685	35	35	98	89%
11	МБОУ №47	744	679	676	2	2	3	91%
12	МБОУ № 50	570	536	533	4	7	5	94%
13	МБОУ № 53	1310	1281	1281	11	11	6	97%
14	МБОУ № 60	544	512	505	7	7	25	95%
15	МБОУ № 64	580	568	568	6	6	12	98%
16	МБОУ №65	955	915	915	10	13	0	95,80%
	ИТОГО	11022	10139	10317	149	158	293	95%

- Residents of the occupied Sievierodonetsk report that under the guise of repair work, Russians break into their flats — both empty and inhabited.

One case describes how a person who remained under occupation went on business in the morning and after lunch found a cut-out door.

Radiators are cut along with pipes under the ceiling; they promise to install modern ones by the end of February. Along with the elements of the heating system, sometimes completely new, people's personal belongings disappear.

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7530>

- The Head of the Luhansk Regional Military Administration, Serhii Haidai, believes that the occupation authorities are increasingly leading people to believe that no one will rebuild their destroyed housing in the so-called Luhansk People's Republic.

The manoeuvrable fund is already being formed even in Sorokino (formerly Krasnodon), which was captured eight years ago, and the settlements of the district. The other day, the addresses of the flats that could be included in the manoeuvring housing fund were made public. The owners must report within 10 calendar days from the date of publication of this notification in order to agree or refuse to let unauthorized people move in for a period of three years.

Previously, the formation of such housing fund was reported in Sievierodonetsk, Lysychansk, Khrustalny, Stanytsia Luhanska community.

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7622> <https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7623>

- **Coal production in the occupied territories of Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts fell by 42% in 2022.**

According to Serhii Haidai, Head of the Luhansk Regional Military Administration, the occupiers have no plans to resume production because of such low figures and have set a task to work out the process of closing the mines.

The biggest problem for the coal industry, apart from the Russian occupation, is the forced mobilization of miners into the Russian army, as mines were already, on average, staffed by less than 50%. Women and pensioners predominate among the remaining workers.

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7666>

- **Average consumer grocery prices in Luhansk oblast communities under occupation are significantly higher than in Ukrainian government-controlled territory.**

Some food items cost more than twice as much. In particular, potatoes, beets, and poultry (chicken, whole). White cabbage is more expensive by 99.01%, rye-wheat bread — by 88.24%, pork — by 77.12%, sour cream — by 60.01%, white bread loaf — by 57.46%, sugar — by 49.72%, sunflower oil — by 47.41%, beef — by 44.86%.

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7536>

- **Due to their dire financial situation, Mariupol residents are forced to turn to free meals to get a bowl of soup and porridge.**

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5243>

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5271>

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5381>



- **The occupation administration in Luhansk oblast subordinated the settlements destroyed by the Russians in Popasna district to the city of Pervomaisk, effectively liquidating the district. It was decided to “temporarily” resettle the population in communal institutions of the so-called LPR. Another 22 residents were sent to a new place of settlement the other day.**

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7650>

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7651>

■ Mariupol has problems with public transport.

Residents are forced to wait for more than an hour for buses/minibuses at bus stops with no guarantee of getting on due to the large number of passengers.

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5136>



PROPAGANDA AND FORCED RUSSIFICATION

■ In Mariupol, an image of the Russian flag has appeared in place of the Milana mural¹, which has become a symbol of the tragedy of war and the hope for peace and recovery.

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5211>



¹ Mural Milana has already been mentioned in the Life under Occupation information bulletin, reviewing events from 1 to 15 November

- According to the Center for National Resistance, the occupiers in the temporarily occupied territories are trying to identify children studying in Ukrainian online schools.

In particular, in Berdiansk, teachers checked phones for special applications. Respective conversations are being held with the children to find out the information. When the fact of Ukrainian online education is detected, parents are summoned for preventive conversations.

<https://bit.ly/3QaOP6s>

- The propaganda media in Russia and the so-called DPR present Mariupol solely in terms of successful reconstruction of the city.

Mariupol was visited the other day by Irek Faizullin, the Minister of Construction, Housing, and Utilities of the Russian Federation. Together with the so-called head of the DPR, Denys Pushylin, he visited the construction of multi-storey buildings and a renovated school, handed over five keys for new flats. At the same time, most residents continue to live in dilapidated buildings, freezing in unheated flats, dependent on free lunches.

https://t.me/rian_ru/189782



- In occupied Mariupol, where tens of thousands of people have been sent for forced filtration, hundreds of whom have been imprisoned and tortured, a public reception centre of the so-called DPR Commissioner for Human Rights has been opened.

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5292>

- The Russian president has approved the procedure for applying for a Russian passport for residents of the so-called Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia oblasts who were registered in these territories before 30 September 2022.

The document also contains a provision on recognizing a child under 14 years of age as a Russian citizen. Additionally, the decree approves the procedure for submitting and recording applications for renunciation of Ukrainian citizenship. The document entered into force on the day of its official publication — 26 December 2022.

<https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/5747947>

- *The Associated Press* has published an investigation into RF's erasure of Ukrainian identity in the city.

Streets are given back their Soviet names, schools teach the Russian curriculum, and the Russian rouble is replacing the Ukrainian hryvnia. The publication also touches on the topic of civilian deaths since the start of the full-scale Russian invasion, with excerpts from interviews with Mariupol residents who left the city.

<https://bit.ly/3GtpbX6>

- In Melitopol, Zaporizhzhia oblast, the occupiers have posted propaganda leaflets with mistakes: a poster saying "Miletopol — Russian City of Military Glory" appeared.

<https://t.me/uniannet/84557>

- In school 53 in Mariupol, Ukrainian textbooks, and books in the Ukrainian language, which could not be removed because of repairs, pile up in the corridor, covered by a curtain.

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5410>



- Residents of the occupied territories of Luhansk oblast must present a Russian passport or Russian residence permit in order to have their vehicle registration documents and licence plates changed.

During the year, registration is free of charge and without compulsory insurance. A driving licence can be exchanged for a Russian driving licence without a driving test and without a medical examination.

<https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7506> <https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/7507>



SITUATION

IN CERTAIN AREAS OF DONETSK, LUHANSK OBLASTS AND CRIMEA

- The “people’s councils” of the so-called LPR and DPR synchronously voted for new regional “constitutions” that define the pseudo-republics as subjects of the Russian Federation. Their adoption “will allow the formation of authorities and governing bodies in the Russian legal framework.”

<https://www.rbc.ru/politics/30/12/2022/63ae970d9a79476d42e863e1>

- In Horlivka, Donetsk oblast, due to a shortage of donor blood for wounded Russian army soldiers, all employees of medical institutions have been obliged to donate blood according to a set schedule.

<https://bit.ly/3Q3yEYs>

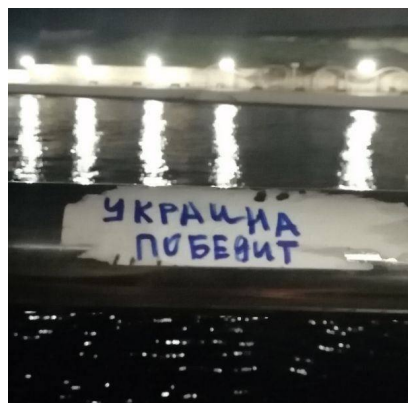
- Zhovta Strichka resistance movement activists in Kerch, Simferopol, Sevastopol, Yevpatoria, Donetsk and Luhansk continue to resist the occupation by distributing pro-Ukrainian leaflets and reminding that their cities are Ukraine.

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/2934

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/2960

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/3003

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/3011



- Due to significant losses, the occupiers continue to convert civilian hospitals into military hospitals.

The Luhansk Regional Clinical Hospital, the Luhansk City Multidisciplinary Hospital No. 15 and the Railway Hospital have been given for the use of the Russian occupying forces. The local population is refused service and suggested that they seek treatment in other medical institutions.

Reportedly, more than 1,000 wounded invaders are currently in one of the hospitals alone. There are not enough medical staff and surgeons' assistants for all of them. Medical institutions do not have enough medication or even beds and bed linen for so many patients.

<https://bit.ly/3vtrtPW>

- In Makiivka, Donetsk oblast, the widows of miners who had been mobilized and lost their lives during the so-called "special military operation" were given 30 kits with food and personal hygiene products in black bags from the "Union of Women of Russia" and the so-called Public Chamber of the DPR.

<https://t.me/uniannet/84478>



RESISTANCE OF UKRAINIANS TO THE RUSSIAN OCCUPATION

- Despite repression, physical and psychological pressure from the occupiers and general war weariness, the Ukrainian resistance movement is fighting the Russian occupation.

Activists in Melitopol, Henichesk, Chernihivka, Berdiansk and Enerhodar continue to join the Zhovta Strichka movement and distribute leaflets against Russian passportization, draw patriotic graffiti and hang yellow ribbons.

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/2925

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/2986

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/2981

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/2930

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/2954

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/2997

https://t.me/yellowribbon_ua/3017

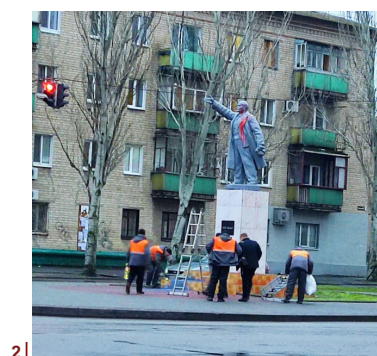


- In Melitopol, a monument to Lenin, close to the occupation police building, was sprayed with red paint.²

https://t.me/ivan_fedorov_melitopol/1050

- Mariupol residents continue to express their opposition to the Russian occupation and believe the city will be liberated by the AFU.³

<https://t.me/andriyshTime/5347>



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- In Pryluky, Chernihiv oblast, 9-year-old Oksana sacrificed her long hair, which she had never cut before in her life.

A braid weighing 112 grams and almost 70 centimetres long was sold for 5,300 hryvnias. The girl's family donated the money to a local charity fund to buy a tactical helmet with a thermal imaging camera mount for fellow countrymen fighting near Bakhmut.

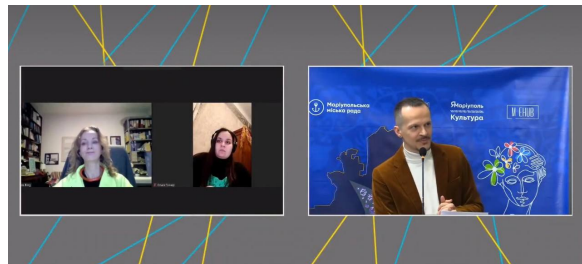
<https://bit.ly/3VAEUb6>



- The Ukrainian House National Centre in the capital hosted an event entitled “Mariupol. Cultural de-occupation” initiated by the Mariupol City State Administration, where experts and cultural figures discussed the need to form a vision for the future of Mariupol, creating a platform that would unite both Mariupol residents living under occupation and those evacuated.

<https://t.me/mariupolrada/12188>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UWVVwxN0_po



- Volunteers of the Dobrobat project continue to assist in the reconstruction of buildings damaged by Russian army shelling.

https://t.me/dobrobat_in_ua/4362



Volunteers work to repair windows in a kindergarten in Saltivskiy district of Kharkiv

- *Ukrzaliznytsia* has become the official carrier of St Nicholas. The train went to the de-occupied cities and villages of Kharkiv, Donetsk, Mykolaiv, and Kherson oblast to present gifts to children.

<https://bit.ly/3Q3clwt>

https://t.me/tymoshenko_kyrylo/3119



- Renowned Ukrainian musician and Okean Elzy bandleader Sviatoslav Vakarchuk visited Kherson, which was liberated from the Russian occupation on 11 November. To the sound of explosions, the singer performed his hit song “Choven” on Antonivskyi Bridge, which was destroyed during military operations.

<https://t.me/khersonskaODA/2758>

