

Russia kills 27 civilians in Ukraine, defies Trump threats

BY HANNA ARHIROVA
AND ILLIA NOVIKOV
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KYIV, Ukraine — Glide bombs and ballistic missiles struck a Ukrainian prison and a medical facility overnight as Russia's relentless strikes on civilian areas killed at least 27 people across the country, officials said Tuesday, despite U.S. President Donald Trump's threat to soon punish Russia with sanctions and tariffs unless it stops.

Four powerful Russian glide bombs hit a prison in Ukraine's southeastern Zaporizhzhia region, authorities said. They killed at least 16 inmates and wounded more than 90 others, Ukraine's Justice Ministry said.

In the Dnipro region of central Ukraine, authorities said Russian missiles partially destroyed a three-story building and damaged nearby medical facilities, including a maternity hospital and a city hospital ward. At least three people were killed, including a 23-year-old pregnant woman, and two other people were killed elsewhere in the region, regional authorities said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that overnight Russian strikes across the country hit 73 cities, towns and villages. "These were conscious, deliberate strikes — not accidental," Zelenskyy said on Telegram.

Trump said Tuesday he is giving Russian President Vladimir Putin 10 days to stop the killing in Ukraine after three years of war, moving up a 50-day deadline he had given the Russian leader two weeks ago. The move meant Trump wants peace efforts to make progress by Aug. 8.

Trump has repeatedly rebuked Putin for talking about ending the war but continuing to bombard Ukrainian civilians. But the Kremlin hasn't changed its tactics.

"I'm disappointed in President Putin," Trump said during a visit to Scotland.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Tuesday that Russia is determined to achieve its goals in Ukraine, though he said Moscow has "taken note" of Trump's



Ukraine's State Criminal Executive Service/AP Photo

This photo provided by Ukraine's State Criminal Executive Service shows a damaged prison in the village of Bilenke, in Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia region, following a Russian bomb attack that killed at least 17 inmates on Tuesday.

announcement and is committed to seeking a peaceful solution.

Zelenskyy welcomed Trump's shortening of the deadline. "Everyone needs peace — Ukraine, Europe, the United States and responsible leaders across the globe," Zelenskyy wrote in a post on Telegram. "Everyone except Russia."

THE KREMLIN PUSHES BACK AGAINST TRUMP

The Kremlin pushed back, with a top Putin lieutenant warning Trump against "playing the ultimatum game with Russia."

"Russia isn't Israel or even Iran," former president Dmitry Medvedev, who is deputy head of the country's Security Council, wrote on social platform X.

"Each new ultimatum is a threat and a step towards war. Not between Russia and Ukraine, but with his own country," Medvedev said.

Since Russia's full-scale invasion of its neighbor, the Kremlin has warned Kyiv's Western backers

that their involvement could end up broadening the war to NATO countries.

"Kremlin officials continue to frame Russia as in direct geopolitical confrontation with the West in order to generate domestic support for the war in Ukraine and future Russian aggression against NATO," the Institute for the Study of War, a Washington think tank, said late Monday.

RUSSIA ATTACKS WITH GLIDE BOMBS, DRONES AND MISSILES

The Ukrainian air force said Russia launched two Iskander-M ballistic missiles along with 37 Shahed-type strike drones and decoys at Ukraine overnight. It said 32 Shahed drones were intercepted or neutralized by Ukrainian air defenses.

The Russian attack close to midnight Monday hit the Bilenkivska Correctional Facility with glide bombs, according to the State Criminal Executive Service

of Ukraine.

Glide bombs, which are Soviet-era bombs retrofitted with retractable fins and guidance systems, have been laying waste to cities in eastern Ukraine, where the Russian army is trying to pierce Ukrainian defenses. The bombs carry up to 3,000 kilograms (6,600 pounds) of explosives.

At least 42 inmates were hospitalized with serious injuries, while another 40 people, including one staff member, sustained various injuries.

The strike destroyed the prison's dining hall, damaged administrative and quarantine buildings, but the perimeter fence held and no escapes were reported, authorities said.

Ukrainian officials condemned the attack, saying that targeting civilian infrastructure, such as prisons, is a war crime under international conventions.

The assault occurred exactly three years after an explosion killed more than 50 people at the Olivenivka detention facility in the Russia-occupied Donetsk region, where

dozens of Ukrainian prisoners were killed.

Russia and Ukraine accused each other of shelling the prison. The Associated Press interviewed over a dozen people with direct knowledge of details of that attack, including survivors, investigators and families of the dead and missing. All described evidence they believed points directly to Russia as the culprit. The AP also obtained an internal United Nations analysis that found the same.

Russian forces also struck a grocery store in a village in the northeastern Kharkiv region, police said, killing five and wounding three civilians.

Authorities in the southern Kherson region reported one civilian killed and three wounded over the past 24 hours.

Alongside the barrages, Russia has also kept up its grinding war of attrition, which has slowly churned across the eastern side of Ukraine at a heavy cost in troop losses and military hardware.

The Russian Defense Ministry claimed Tuesday that Russian troops have captured the villages of Novoukrainka in the Donetsk region and Temyrivka in the Zaporizhzhia region.

UKRAINE LAUNCHES LONG-RANGE DRONES

Ukraine has sought to fight back against Russian strikes by developing its own long-range drone technology, hitting oil depots, weapons plants and disrupting commercial flights.

Russia's Defense Ministry said Tuesday that air defenses downed 74 Ukrainian drones over several regions overnight, including 43 over the Bryansk region.

Yuri Slyusar, the head of the Rostov region said a man in the city of Salsk was killed in a drone attack, which started a fire at the Salsk railway station.

Officials said a cargo train was set ablaze at the Salsk station and the railway traffic via Salsk was suspended. Explosions shattered windows in two cars of a passenger train and passengers were evacuated.

Gallup poll shows Americans divided on Israel's Gaza offensive

BY LINLEY SANDERS AND
AMELIA THOMSON-DEVEAUX
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Support for Israel's military action in Gaza has declined substantially among U.S. adults, with only about one-third approving, according to a new Gallup poll — a drop from the beginning of the war with Hamas, when about half of Americans approved of Israel's operation.

The new polling also found that about half of U.S. adults now have an unfavorable view of Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, the most negative rating he has received since he was first included in Gallup polling in 1997. The poll was conducted from July 7-21, while reports of starvation in Gaza led to international criticism of Israel's decision to restrict food aid but before President Donald Trump expressed concern over the worsening humanitarian situation.

The findings underscore the Israeli government's dramatic loss of support within the U.S. But not everyone is shifting — instead, the war has become more politically polarizing. The rising disapproval is driven by Democrats and independents, who are much less likely to approve of Israel's actions than they were in November 2023, weeks after Hamas' Oct. 7 surprise attack and after Israel expanded its ground offensive



Abdel Kareem Hana/AP Photo

Palestinians carry sacks of flour unloaded from a humanitarian aid convoy that reached Gaza City from the northern Gaza Strip on Sunday.

in Gaza.

Republicans, on the other hand, remain largely supportive of both Israel's military actions and Netanyahu.

MOST AMERICANS NOW DISAPPROVE OF ISRAELI MILITARY ACTION IN GAZA

The new poll finds that about 6 in 10 U.S. adults disapprove of the military action Israel has taken in Gaza, up from 45% in November 2023.

Support for the war has been dwindling in Gallup's polling for some time. In March 2024, about half of U.S. adults disapproved of Israel's military action in Gaza, which fell slightly as the year wore on.

In a new low, only 8% of

Democrats and one-quarter of independents say they now approve of Israel's military campaign. Some of that decline may be attributed to the change in administration. While former President Joe Biden faced significant pushback from fellow Democrats on his handling of the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians, they may be even more frustrated by the approach of Trump, a Republican.

Young adults are also much more likely to disapprove of Israel's actions. Only about 1 in 10 adults under age 35 say they approve of Israel's military choices in Gaza, compared with about half of those who are 55 or older.

Gallup senior editor Megan

Brenan says the latest figures reflect the enduring partisan divide. Even as Democrats grow increasingly unhappy with Israel's military campaign, Republicans remain supportive.

"We've seen this drop in approval since last fall, and it's really driven by Democrats and independents," Brenan says. "Republicans are still willing to be in this for the time being."

NETANYAHU'S FAVORABILITY AMONG US ADULTS IS HISTORICALLY LOW

Views of Netanyahu have also grown less favorable over the past few years, with more viewing him negatively than positively in measurements taken since the

war in Gaza began.

About half of U.S. adults, 52%, now have an unfavorable view of Netanyahu in the new poll, which overlapped with Netanyahu's recent visit to the U.S. Just 29% view him positively, and about 2 in 10 either haven't heard of him or don't have an opinion.

That's a change — although not a huge one — since December 2023, when 47% of U.S. adults had an unfavorable view of Netanyahu and 33% had a favorable opinion. But it's a reversal from as recently as April 2019, when more U.S. adults viewed him positively than negatively.

Republicans have a much more positive view of Netanyahu than Democrats and independents do. About two-thirds of Republicans view him favorably, which is in line with last year. About 1 in 10 Democrats and 2 in 10 independents feel the same way.

"This is the first time we've seen a majority of Americans, with an unfavorable view of him," Brenan says. "All of these questions in this poll show us basically the same story, and it's not a good one for the Israeli government right now."

TRUMP IS UNLIKELY TO FACE THE SAME PRESSURE ON HIS APPROACH TO ISRAEL

More than half of U.S. adults,

55%, disapprove of Trump's handling of the situation in the Middle East, according to a July AP-NORC poll.

But the conflict has not weighed as heavily on Trump as it did on Biden, who watched Democrats splinter on the issue. That's because of Trump's solid support from his base on this issue, further reflected in Republicans' continued approval of Israel's military action. About 8 in 10 Republicans approve of Trump's handling of the situation in the Middle East. By contrast, only about 4 in 10 Democrats approved of Biden's handling of the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians last summer, shortly before he dropped out of the presidential race.

In an AP-NORC poll from March, Republicans were significantly more likely than Democrats and independents to say they sympathized more with the Israelis than with the Palestinians in the conflict.

And while Americans overall were more likely to say it was "extremely" or "very" important for the United States to provide humanitarian relief to Palestinians in Gaza than to say the same about providing aid to Israel's military, Republicans said the opposite — more saw military aid to Israel as a higher priority than providing humanitarian relief to the Palestinians in Gaza.

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Notice is hereby given that Owens Family LLC (Managing Member – Walter Owens) of 35014 Shady Oak Lane; Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 has filed an application with the Department for Environmental Protection – Kentucky Division of Water to construct a street that connects Horizon Drive to College Street Road. The proposed street construction will place approximately 43,000 CF of fill within the floodplain of Freeman Creek. More than double the street fill volume will be excavated and removed from below the BFE to compensate for the loss of floodplain volume. Street address of proposed construction is 712 College Street Road within the city limits of Elizabethtown. Site is approximately 450 feet west of the Elizabethtown Bypass centerline and immediately northwest of the intersection of Freeman Creek and Valley Creek. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Surface Water Permit Branch, Flood Plain Management Section, 300 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410