As Russia's war continues on the ground and in the air, Zelenskyy proposes a resumption of peace talks

UK Defence Intelligence April 22 update on the battlefield situation in Ukraine.

As Wednesday's British Defence Intelligence map of the battlefield situation in Ukraine indicated, last week the Russian forces continued to attack in the area south of Sudzha toward the Ukrainian city of Sumy and at a number of points along the long contact line between the Russian and Ukrainian forces in eastern and southeastern Ukraine, from the area south of Kupiansk to the area south and west of Siversk toward the cities of Sloviansk and Kramatorsk in the northern portion of Donetsk region, toward the area around Pokrovsk in the western portion of that region, in the area near the junction of Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, and Kherson regions in southeastern Ukraine, and at many other points along the 1,000 kilometer contact line between the forces in eastern and southeastern Ukraine. And as they did, the Ukrainian forces continued to attack the Russian forces at the southeastern corner of Dnipropetrovsk region and at many other locations along the contact line.

The Russian attacks continue today at those and many other points along the contact line. Russia's war against Ukraine continues in the air as well. On Friday night and early Saturday morning, for example, Russia fired 619 drones and 47 cruise or ballistic missiles at Kharkiv, Dnipro, Sloviansk, Kramatorsk, Zaporizhzhia and other cities in Ukraine, killing at least eight civilians, including several children, and injuring 50. Yesterday on X President Zelenskyy said, "Russia's tactics remain unchanged – attack drones, cruise missiles, a significant number of ballistic missiles. Most targets are civilian infrastructure in cities."

In Baku yesterday to sign agreements with Azerbaijan's President Aliyev on security and energy consumption, President Zelenskyy said Ukraine wants to draw on

Azerbaijan's experience in defending its airspace from Russian attacks. He also said he had discussed the possibility of holding new talks between Ukraine and Russia in Azerbaijan: "We are ready for the next talks to be in Azerbaijan, if Russia will be ready for diplomacy." But neither he nor anyone else aside from President Putin knows when Russia will be ready for diplomacy. And so the war goes on, with no end in sight.

David R. Cameron
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