



18 Months of Russia-Ukraine War

On February 24, 2022, Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Although Russian forces made significant gains in the first days of combat, Ukrainian defenders rebuffed attempts to seize Kyiv and other major cities and were soon launching counter attacks at Russian positions.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has left tens of thousands of dead, displaced millions and sown economic turmoil across the world in the 18 months since its launch. The war in Ukraine was a key topic for many of the world leaders speaking at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York in September, 2023. Among others, U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin urged his country's allies to "dig deep" and provide more air defence systems for Ukraine.

This edition of CUTS Occasional News Wrap (ONW) reflects on the developments since the war broke out between these two countries with compilation of articles/News highlighting the talks covered in print and electronic media.

News/Op-ed	Key Takeaway
<p>Ukraine acknowledges doubt after Russia shows video of Naval Commander 'Allegedly Alive' The New York Times September 26, 2023</p>	<p>Ukraine's military said on September 26, 2023 that it was "clarifying" whether the commander of Russia's Black Sea Fleet had died in a recent missile strike on Moscow's naval headquarters in Crimea, acknowledging uncertainty after Russia released a video appearing to show him at a meeting of top defense officials.</p>
<p>First U.S.-supplied M1 Abrams tanks arrive in Ukraine Washington Post September 25, 2023</p>	<p>The first batch of U.S.-provided M1 Abrams tanks has arrived in Ukraine, President Volodymyr Zelensky said on September 25, 2023 - nine months after President Biden reversed course by committing to send 31 of the advanced battle tanks. U.S. military officials have said the deliveries would be gradual but that they expected them all to arrive in the coming weeks.</p>
<p>Russia-Ukraine war at a glance: what we know on day 576 of the invasion The Guardian September 22, 2023</p>	<p>Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, visited the U.S. Capitol, Pentagon and the White House. Zelenskyy's visit to Washington was a much tougher one than the hero's welcome he was given nine months ago, as some hardline Republicans are threatening to block U.S. President Joe Biden's request for a fresh US\$24bn aid package for Ukraine.</p>
<p>World must ask why UNSC was ineffective in resolving Ukraine war: India Business Standard September 22, 2023</p>	<p>As the Ukraine war continues unabated, India has said the international community must question why the Security Council, the UN's principal organ tasked with the primary responsibility to maintain international peace and security, has been rendered completely ineffective to resolve the ongoing conflict.</p>

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<p>Volodymyr Zelenskyy visiting Canada for first time since war started seeking to shore up support for Ukraine Moneycontrol September 22, 2023</p>	<p>Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy will address the Canadian Parliament on September 22, 2023 as he continues his efforts to shore up support from Western allies for Ukraine's war against the Russian invasion.</p>
<p>G7 members condemn Russia's "war of aggression", reaffirm pledge to stand with Ukraine ANI News September 20, 2023</p>	<p>"The G7 members once again reaffirmed their commitment to stand with Ukraine for as long as it takes and unequivocally condemned in the strongest possible terms Russia's war of aggression and its violation of international law, including the UN Charter," the U.S. State Department said in a statement citing the Japanese Foreign Ministry.</p>
<p>Russia weaponising food, energy and children in war against Ukraine, says Volodymyr Zelenskyy The Hindu September 20, 2023</p>	<p>Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told world leaders on September 19, 2023 that Russia is "weaponising" everything from food and energy to abducted children in its war against Ukraine. He took to the world stage at a sensitive point in his country's campaign to maintain international support for its fight.</p>
<p>Ukraine urges world court to impose 'reparations' over Russia war The Economic Times September 19, 2023</p>	<p>Ukraine on September 19, 2023 said the International Court of Justice should impose reparations on Russia for its "war of annihilation", arguing that international law itself was at stake. "Russia is not above the law. It must be held accountable," Ukraine's Lead Speaker Anton Korynevych told the court, sitting just a few metres from his Russian opponents in the Peace Palace.</p>
<p>Human rights in Russia have 'significantly deteriorated' since Ukraine war, says UN expert ThePrint September 18, 2023</p>	<p>The human rights situation in Russia has significantly deteriorated since it invaded Ukraine in February last year, a UN expert said on September 18, 2023 describing a "systematic crackdown" on civil society and calling for redress. The report by Special Rapporteur Mariana Katzarova alleges that Russian authorities have carried out mass arbitrary arrests of critics of the war.</p>
<p>Army incorporates lessons from Russia-Ukraine war in its artillery doctrines, procurement plans <i>Amrita Nayak Dutta</i> The Indian Express September 17, 2023</p>	<p>The ongoing Russia-Ukraine war has emphasised the need to have a judicious mix of rockets and guns in the Army's artillery inventory, acquire more precision-targeting weapon systems and niche technologies, and has underlined the criticality of a robust battlefield transparency, according to top officials.</p>
<p>Russia, China, and the Ukraine War: Tensions in the 'No Limits' relationship The Diplomat September 15, 2023</p>	<p>In short, the course of the war has revealed the limits to the "no limits" relationship, exposing the tensions between Russia and China. China has reservations about Russia's conduct and performance in waging the war, as well as its larger international impact.</p>
<p>How Russia Globalised the War in Ukraine <i>Michael Kimmage and Hanna Notte</i> Foreign Affairs September 01, 2023</p>	<p>From the outset of his invasion of Ukraine (Paywall), Russian President Vladimir Putin's vast ambitions for the war were obvious. He intended to topple the government in Kyiv and either partition or take control of Ukraine. But Putin's aspirations extended beyond carving a sphere of influence in central and eastern Europe. By subjugating the Ukrainian polity, Putin hoped to initiate a new era.</p>

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<p>Explained The cost of Russia's war in Ukraine Deccan Herald August 23, 2023</p>	<p>Russia has taken 11 percent of Ukraine's territory since the start of the war, an area equivalent to Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Connecticut combined, according to the Belfer Center at the Harvard Kennedy School. Russia now controls about 17.5 percent of Ukraine, an area of about 41,000 square miles (106,000 square km).</p>

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