

# UKRAINE AFLAME 3

War Chronicles: the third month.  
Speeches and addresses  
by the President of Ukraine  
Volodymyr Zelenskyy

Kharkiv  
«Folio»  
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## Foreword

This book became the third in our project to publish a chronicle of what is happening in Ukraine from 5:00 a.m. on February 24, 2022 — the moment when Russian troops crossed the borders of Ukraine with the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, Crimea, occupied in 2014, and part of the Donetsk and Luhansk Regions.

Unfortunately, we have to state that this war has become the main military event in Europe after 1945. In terms of the number of refugees in Europe, it exceeded the long-term conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya, and Lebanon combined. We are grateful to the civilized world, which fraternally accepted those who were better off leaving the war — women, children, and the elderly. This war turned Europe into a continent of almost complete support of Ukrainians — with money, weapons, and humanitarian aid.

The war that is going on now is just another heated stage of what Russia is trying to do in order to destroy the Ukrainian people, whose very existence is a great irritant for the Russian elites. They intended to destroy Ukraine into ruins in the 17th century; they attempted to assimilate it, starting from the 18th century; they aimed to leave this country without defenders by evicting the Cossacks from our territory in the 19th century; they tried to deprive it of statehood at the be-

ginning of the 20th century; they arranged the “Holodomor” famine in pursuit of the direct destruction of the Ukrainian peasantry — the basis of the nation; they were killing those, who tried to restore this statehood in the middle of the 20th century.

For those who understand history, this war — with all the absurdity of territorial seizures in the 21st century — is the logical result of the rise to power in Russia of oligarchic and Secret Service clans that dream of restoring the evil empire, the USSR. Yet, this time Ukraine will definitely stand up strong to evil threats. Here, three factors came together: there are hundreds of thousands of people who have gone to the front since 2014, and who are motivated to defend the country; there exists systemic support from the West; and, most importantly, there is the unity of the country, with almost complete absence of collaborators, traitors, and alarmists among Ukrainians.

It was in this third month of the war, that it became clear that hostilities are not for a week or a month. Also, and that this special operation will continue until the moment when the last Russian soldier leaves the territory of our country— in a plastic bag, in a zinc coffin, or on top of their military equipment running for their dear lives under the blows of the Ukrainian military. And, that as a result of this war, Crimea and Donbas should become Ukrainian again, newly captured territories should be liberated, and the aggressor’s army should be defeated.

It was in the third month that the heroic defence of Mariupol and its part, the Azovstal Plant, by units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the Separate “Azov” Regiment ended. The names of each of those who died defending the city will go down in history. Thousands of civilians killed by the invaders, unfortunately, will never see a peaceful, liberated Mariupol.

It was in this month that local residents, Western diplomats, and employees of state institutions actively returned to Kyiv. It was in this month that Western leaders’ trips to Kyiv to visit the liberated cities of Bucha, Irpin, and Borodyanka became a common phenomenon.

Among those who visited here, it is especially meaningful to note the arrival of the President of Poland Andrzej Duda and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland Yaroslaw Kaczyński. It was this country that became almost the biggest friend of Ukraine, not only accepting millions of refugees, but also providing hubs on its territory for the supply of weapons to Ukraine, training of our soldiers, logistics of the most important goods, fuel, and food aid for us.

During this period, the first samples of modern weapons, which are on combat duty in NATO troops, began to arrive in Ukraine, primarily 155 mm M777 howitzer artillery from the United States of America, as well as other samples from Slovakia, Norway, and Britain. The British leader has become the person who not only helps personally, but also helps to convince the leaders of other countries of the need for such help.

In May, the gradual return to work of Ukrainian industrial enterprises, the restoration of the main commodity markets and exports began. Ukrainian grain, the trade of which was stopped by the aggressor, began its movement to countries that would otherwise face famine and enormous problems without it, through Poland, Slovakia, and Romania. So far, it is a small part, but with the help of neighbours, the movement of grain to world markets will be improved before the start of the new harvest season.

Now that we have seen the victories of the Ukrainian military, the strength of our rear, we understand that the history of this war will become the history of our victory.

*Oleksandr Krasovytsky*

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## **April 25, 2022**

### **News Round-Up**

- ▶ As it became known, on Sunday in Kyiv, the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy received US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defence Minister Lloyd Austin. The latter announced foreign military funding for Ukraine and 15 allied and partner countries in the amount of 713 million dollars, being about 322 million dollars provided for Kyiv. The rest will be distributed between NATO members and other countries that have provided Ukraine with important military supplies since the start of the war with Russia, officials said. The new aid, along with the sale of \$165 million worth in non-American-made ammunition compatible with Soviet-era weapons, sums up the total U.S. military aid to Ukraine to \$3.7 billion since the Russian invasion.
- ▶ The gradual return of American diplomats to Ukraine and the appointment of a new ambassador were also announced.
- ▶ In the Luhansk Region, on Easter, the Russians destroyed seven apartment buildings and hit an oil refinery for the third time.

- ▶ On Easter, the Russians deported the residents of the blockaded Mariupol to Russia — total 149 people, including 23 children.
- ▶ On Easter, the Russian army launched a rocket attack on the Kremenchuk Thermal Power Plant and the Kremenchuk Oil Refinery, killing one person and injuring seven others.
- ▶ On the night of April 25, in the Dnipropetrovsk Region, Russian troops shelled Shyrokyne community with “Urahan” multiple launch rocket system. In the evening, there was a rocket attack on the refinery and thermal power plant in Kremenchuk, and there was also an attack on the refinery in Lysychansk.
- ▶ On the morning of April 25, the Russian occupiers fired at five railway stations in the centre and west of Ukraine, causing casualties and injuries. Two missiles flew over the Khmelnytskyi NPP.
- ▶ In the Zaporizhzhia Region, the occupiers are trying to concentrate their efforts in the direction of Huliaipole. They continue to fire at the positions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine from mortars, artillery and multiple rocket systems along the entire confrontation line.
- ▶ On the southern lines of defence, the Armed Forces of Ukraine disrupted the advance of enemy sabotage and

reconnaissance groups towards the Mykolaiv Region and caused them losses of up to 50% of their personnel.

- ▶ In the Kharkiv Region, the occupiers took one of the factories to Russia, and they set up a concentration camp and a torture chamber in the premises.
- ▶ In Bryansk, Russia, there was a fire at an oil depot. Residents of the city reported that explosions preceded it.
- ▶ The Russian invaders tried to conduct an assault in the direction of Izyum — Barvinkovo and Izyum — Sloviansk, but they were unsuccessful.
- ▶ At least 215 Ukrainian children died and more than 391 were injured because of Russia's attack on Ukraine, the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine reported. In particular, on Easter, two girls aged 5 and 14, died because of shelling by Russian troops in the village of Krasnohorivka, the Donetsk Region.
- ▶ The head of the Luhansk Regional Military Administration, Serhiy Haidai, called on residents to evacuate in order not to become victims of forced deportation to Russia.
- ▶ According to the prosecutor's office, at least 3,818 civilians were killed in Ukraine as of April 25, and more than 4,000 people were injured.



- ▶ The total losses of Russian troops in Ukraine since the start of the full-scale war are approaching 22,000, the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine reported.
- ▶ Five people were killed and other 18 were injured as a result of Russian rocket attacks on railway infrastructure near the towns of Zhmerinka and Kozyatyn, the Vinnytsia Region.
- ▶ As a result of Russian missile attacks on the Lviv Region, an explosion occurred at the traction substation of Krasne railway station.
- ▶ On Monday, the Air Force's Anti-Aircraft Missile Troops of the Ukrainian Armed Forces destroyed two Russian cruise missiles that had been fired at critical infrastructure facilities in the western part of Ukraine.
- ▶ Air Defence Forces destroyed a Russian Su-34 all-weather two-seater fighter-bomber in the Kharkiv Region.
- ▶ Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine Iryna Vereshchuk denied Russia's statement about the existence of agreements regarding humanitarian corridors with the Azovstal Plant in blocked Mariupol.
- ▶ The invaders occupied the village of Novotoshkovske, the Luhansk Region, after having actually destroyed the settlement.

- ▶ Ukrainian Su-25 pilot Roman Vasylyuk, who was shot down in March by enemy air defence in the Donetsk Region, was freed from Russian captivity.
- ▶ The occupiers are forcing the residents of Velyka Oleksandrivka small town in the Kherson Region, to leave the settlement, otherwise they are threatening deportation.
- ▶ The invaders occupied the Kherson City Council building; the City Hall suspended its work.
- ▶ The National Research Fund of Ukraine has published another list of Western scientific and educational centres with which it has reached an agreement to provide grant support and other types of assistance to Ukrainian scientists affected by the war.
- ▶ The Russians fired artillery and mortars at the Bilopilnia community in the Sumy Region, from the territory of the Russian Federation.
- ▶ On April 25, as a result of enemy shelling, three residents of the village of Bezruky near Derhachy in the Kharkiv Region, were killed.

**The Orthodox world has seen that Easter  
means nothing to Russia —  
address by the President of Ukraine**

*25 April 2022. 10:58*

***Ukrainians!***

***All our defenders!***

Yesterday, Christians of the Eastern rite celebrated Easter. The traditional greeting “Christ is risen!” sounded also in Russia. But did these words mean the same thing as in the whole Orthodox world?

Russia “congratulated” Ukraine on Easter with an air threat almost all over our country, a missile strike at the Poltava region, and a missile strike at Kremenchuk. Why was this attack needed at Easter? There is no military threat from which this could protect Russia. This is just a deliberate destruction of life in Ukraine. Destruction that did not stop even on the greatest Orthodox holiday.

So are these people who continued to shell our cities and communities yesterday Christians? Who fired at Chuhuiv of the Kharkiv region. Who killed two more children in the Donetsk region on Easter — girls aged five and fourteen.

Killing children, destroying lives, covering up with cynical and total lies what has been done against peaceful cities — all Russia is doing on the territory of Ukraine — is definitely not Christianity. This is what Christ opposed.

People who once again refused to open humanitarian corridors from Mariupol are not Christians. People who filmed propaganda reports in the occupied regions of Ukraine about the distribution of alleged humanitarian Easter kits are not Christians. Moreover, everyone knows, including in Russia, that before February 24, all Ukrainians in all parts of Ukraine had the opportunity to celebrate Easter freely in any church and without any “humanitarian” kits.

People who are trying to build a brutal occupation regime in the seized districts of the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions, holding people hostage, torturing people are not Christians. Those who did not allow people to leave the occupied territory even on Easter, threatening them with death.

Russia was offered an Easter ceasefire. But the Orthodox world has seen that for the Russian invaders Easter means nothing. For them, it is just a red date in the calendar, which requires special words, special behavior, but not what is called faith, and not what is called Christian good.

The Russian army has made this Easter red not only formally in the calendar, but also red with blood. Christians would not do that if they had the opportunity to make peace.

So holding a candle in the temple does not mean being a Christian. Eating or even celebrating Easter every year is not enough to be human, to be a Christian.

And I am grateful to all our police officers, to all employees of the Security Service of Ukraine, to all those who were responsible for security on Easter, for not allowing any provocations yesterday. All that Russian propagandists announced recently.

The Armed Forces of Ukraine are deterring attacks by Russian troops in key areas. In the Kharkiv region — in the Izyum direction, in Donbas — especially near Popasna, in Mariupol where the resistance of the city's defenders continues, in the southern areas, where the occupiers are trying to go on the offensive.

Air alarms this morning were heard again almost all over our country. Vinnytsia, Rivne, Lviv, Odesa regions — missile threat. Russia does not stop trying to break our resistance to... Achieve what?

In the occupied areas, either a humanitarian catastrophe has already occurred or there is very little time left before it occurs. There is a lack of basic products, there is a lack of medicines. People do not have the means to live normally, there is no basic security. They don't have everything they had before February 24. What Donetsk and Luhansk had before 2014. Everything that we will definitely return after the liberation of our land.

We continue to do everything to drive the occupiers out and restore peace to all our people. A key element of this process is the strength of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Availability of sufficient quantity and quality of weapons, sufficient quantity and quality of ammunition.

Assistance to Ukraine was the number one issue in talks with representatives of the United States of America who arrived in Kyiv yesterday — Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin. Our talks with them were long enough — more than three hours — and meaningful. Encouraging and, which is important, effective.

I am grateful to the people of the United States and personally to President Biden for the strong and sincere support we receive. These are real things that strengthen not only our state, but democracy as a whole.

We share the same understanding with the United States: when democracy wins in one country, it wins all over the world. When freedom is defended in one country, it is defended all over the world.

We agreed with the American side on further steps to strengthen the Armed Forces of Ukraine and meet all the priority needs of our army. This includes preparations for a major ministerial meeting in Germany on Tuesday, which will bring together forty defense ministers from partner countries. The key issue is the protection of Ukraine, the protection of freedom in Eastern Europe.

Ways to strengthen sanctions were discussed. The fact that Russia is not looking for peace and is demonstratively killing even on Easter shows that greater sanctions pressure is needed. It is necessary to block all opportunities for Russia to circumvent sanctions. So we handed over to our partners a special Plan to strengthen sanctions on the Russian Federation developed by an international expert group led by Andriy Yermak and Michael McFaul.

A separate point of the negotiations was financial support for Ukraine. When tyranny has enormous financial resources from oil and gas exports, the issue of financial support for freedom becomes vital. I heard a full understanding of this position from American friends. Not only in the context of

helping Ukraine now, during the war, but also for the post-war reconstruction.

Discussions on security guarantees for Ukraine continued. I am convinced that the United States can be a leader among the future countries — guarantors of Ukraine's security. The main goal for all of us is to make Europe and the world safer after the war, to ensure that the security architecture works in the event of any new threats.

I was pleased to hear from our friends that the United States Embassy will be back in Kyiv in the near future. The appointment of a new US Ambassador to Ukraine will also take place. This is a very useful gesture of support for our state.

I had an important conversation with Turkish President Erdoğan. On the situation in Mariupol and the need to evacuate civilians and the wounded, the need for immediate exchange of the blocked Ukrainian military.

We discussed the negotiation process with Russia and the issues of defense. The threats to the world food market provoked by Russia, which has blocked our Black Sea ports, were also discussed in detail.

Rising food prices have already reached critical levels in many countries. But this is just the beginning. If Russia does not seek peace, the issue of food security in many countries will become a matter of physical survival for millions of people and, consequently, stability of state systems.

More and more political leaders around the world are aware of this threat. So we expect more pressure on Russia.

I congratulated President of France Macron on winning the elections. We spoke with Mr. President at night. Ukraine

will always appreciate his support, and will always be grateful for the help of France. I am convinced that together with France, together with President Macron, we will be able to do much more to protect our common freedom, our united Europe.

Late last night, after all foreign policy issues, I signed important decrees to award our heroes. 188 servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and five employees of the Security Service of Ukraine were awarded state awards of Ukraine.

The title of Hero of Ukraine was awarded to Colonel Chayuk Denys Valentynovych, deputy commander of the 128th separate mountain assault brigade, for personal courage and effectiveness in battles with the occupiers, for destroying enemy equipment and manpower.

***Glory to all our heroes!***

***Eternal memory to everyone who gave life for Ukraine!***

***Glory to Ukraine!***



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## CONTENTS

<b>Foreword</b> ( <i>Oleksandr Krasovytsky</i> ) .....	3
<b>April 25, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	7
The Orthodox world has seen that Easter means nothing to Russia — address by the President of Ukraine (25 April 2022. 10:58) .....	12
Ukraine is a real symbol of struggle for freedom — address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy (25 April 2022. 23:07) .....	18
<b>April 26, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	23
The free world has the right to self-defence and that is why it will help Ukraine even more — address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy (26 April 2022. 22:48) .....	27
<b>April 27, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	34
Russia is trying to provoke a global price crisis but Ukrainian exports will help stabilize markets — address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy (27 April 2022. 20:50) .....	37

---

**April 28, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 42**

Together with allies we can definitely stop  
the Russian aggression and reliably defend freedom  
in Europe — address by the President of Ukraine  
(28 April 2022. 22:57) . . . . . 47

**April 29, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 52**

Lend-Lease and other programs in support  
of Ukraine prove that freedom is still able  
to defend itself against tyranny —  
address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
(29 April 2022. 22:03) . . . . . 57

**April 30, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 61**

We still need to fight and direct all efforts  
to drive the occupiers out, and we will do it —  
address by the President of Ukraine  
(30 April 2022. 23:35) . . . . . 66

**May 1, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 71**

Today we finally managed to start the evacuation  
of people from Azovstal, we will continue to do  
everything to evacuate our people from Mariupol —  
address by the President of Ukraine  
(1 May 2022. 21:22) . . . . . 74

---

<b>May 2, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	<b>78</b>
The whole free world has united so that no one justifies Nazism, kills children or destroys peaceful cities as Russia does — address by the President of Ukraine (2 May 2022. 22:51) .....	81
<b>May 3, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	<b>86</b>
Speech by President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy in the Verkhovna Rada (3 May 2022. 15:11) .....	90
Speech by the President of Ukraine in the Parliament of Albania (3 May 2022. 16:03) .....	95
Striking at Ukrainian cities, Russia is trying to vent its powerlessness, because it cannot beat Ukraine — address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy (3 May 2022. 23:56) .....	101
<b>May 4, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	<b>105</b>
Address by the President of Ukraine to the Danish people on the anniversary of the liberation of Denmark from the Nazis (4 May 2022. 23:51) .....	108

---

**May 5, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 111**

Remembering the victory over Nazism  
means never really allowing  
what the Nazis inflicted on Europe again —  
President Volodymyr Zelenskyy’s address  
(5 May 2022. 00:45) . . . . . 116

Speech by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
at the High-Level International Donors’ Conference  
in Support of Ukraine in Warsaw  
(5 May 2022. 15:15) . . . . . 120

Address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
to the participants of the Brave Ukraine  
Charity Event, the people of Great Britain  
and the people of Ukraine  
(5 May 2022. 23:58) . . . . . 124

**May 6, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 130**

Speech by President of Ukraine  
Volodymyr Zelenskyy at Chatham House  
(6 May 2022. 20:08) . . . . . 135

Speech by the President of Ukraine  
in the Althing, the Parliament of Iceland  
(6 May 2022. 20:48) . . . . . 141

Ukraine is defending itself against the onslaught  
of tyranny, and this struggle for freedom  
is comprehensible in every corner of the globe —  
address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
(6 May 2022. 23:35) . . . . . 145

---

<b>May 7, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	<b>149</b>
Evil returns when human rights and the law are violated and culture is destroyed; this is exactly what happened to Russia — address by the President of Ukraine (7 May 2022. 22:41) .....	153
<b>May 8, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	<b>157</b>
Address by the President of Ukraine on the Day of Remembrance and Reconciliation (8 May 2022. 09:05) .....	162
Speech by the President of Ukraine at the video conference of the G7 leaders (8 May 2022. 22:16) .....	169
Ukraine is already a full-fledged part of the free world and a united Europe — address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy (8 May 2022. 23:54) .....	175
<b>May 9, 2022. News Round-Up</b> .....	<b>179</b>
Address by the President of Ukraine on the Day of Victory over Nazism in World War II (9 May 2022. 09:05) .....	184
Russia is the only culprit that peace has been destroyed, and this is its historical responsibility — address by the President of Ukraine (9 May 2022. 23:56) .....	187

---

**May 10, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 191**

Speech by the President of Ukraine  
at the National Council of the Slovak Republic  
(10 May 2022. 15:19) . . . . . 196

The Armed Forces of Ukraine are doing everything  
to liberate all our cities and our people —  
address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
(10 May 2022. 22:46) . . . . . 203

**May 11, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 207**

Speech by President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
to students of leading French universities  
(11 May 2022. 19:15) . . . . . 211

We will liberate our land and people,  
and with the help of the free world it will be easier to do —  
address by the President of Ukraine  
(11 May 2022. 22:18) . . . . . 217

**May 12, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 221**

Speech by the President of Ukraine  
at The Atlantic Council’s Distinguished  
Leadership Awards  
(12 May 2022. 08:46) . . . . . 225

Russia’s strategic defeat is obvious to everyone  
in the world, Russia simply lacks courage  
to admit it so far — address by the President of Ukraine  
(12 May 2022. 23:16) . . . . . 229

---

**May 13, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 233**

To work every day to make the war shorter —  
this is our priority —  
address by the President of Ukraine  
(13 May 2022. 23:08) . . . . . 238

Either Russia will really seek peace,  
or it will leave the international arena  
forever as a result of this war —  
address by the President of Ukraine  
(13 April 2022. 23:06) . . . . . 241

**May 14, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 245**

Support for Ukraine means working to prevent  
a global famine — address by President  
Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
(14 May 2022. 22:51) . . . . . 249

**May 15, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 252**

We are doing everything to maintain  
the world's maximum attention to Ukraine  
and our needs — address  
by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
(15 May 2022. 23:01) . . . . . 255

**May 16, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 259**

Address by President of Ukraine  
Volodymyr Zelenskyy to American students

---

during online communication with the US university community (16 May 2022. 20:52) . . . . .	264
<b>May 17, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . .</b>	<b>269</b>
Ukraine needs Ukrainian heroes alive — this is our principle — address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy (17 May 2022. 00:17) . . . . .	273
Today there is a war for freedom again, and again it is necessary for cinematography not to be dumb — address by the President of Ukraine to the filmmaking community at the opening of the 75th Cannes International Film Festival (17 May 2022. 23:48) . . . . .	276
<b>May 18, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . .</b>	<b>282</b>
Missile shelling of a number of regions and subversive activity at the border are an attempt of the Russian army to compensate for a series of failures in the east and south of Ukraine — address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy (18 May 2022. 00:24) . . . . .	285
Address by the President of Ukraine on the occasion of the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Crimean Tatar Genocide (18 May 2022. 13:52) . . . . .	288



---

Russia is trying to find its "wonder weapon", which indicates the complete failure of the invasion and the fear of admitting catastrophic mistakes — address by the President of Ukraine (18 May 2022. 23:42) .....	292
<b>May 19, 2022. News Round-Up .....</b>	<b>296</b>
Address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to students and rectors of higher educational institutions of Ukraine (19 May 2022. 20:03) .....	300
Together we must ensure that Russia does not have any success in the aggression against Ukraine — address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy (19 May 2022. 23:51) .....	308
<b>May 20, 2022. News Round-Up .....</b>	<b>312</b>
We urge the partner states to recognize that Russia must be held financially responsible for the crimes it committed — address by the President of Ukraine (20 May 2022. 22:25) .....	316
<b>May 21, 2022. News Round-Up .....</b>	<b>320</b>
The war continues, and each of us must take care of the defense every day — address by the President of Ukraine (21 May 2022. 23:45) .....	324

---

**May 22, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 328**

Speech by President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
during the joint participation with President  
of the Republic of Poland Andrzej Duda  
in the plenary session of the Verkhovna Rada  
(22 May 2022. 16:03) . . . . . 332

Ukraine expands its international ties  
every week to get everything it needs  
to end the war as soon as possible —  
address by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
(22 May 2022. 23:31) . . . . . 339

**May 23, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 343**

We should not be afraid to set new precedents —  
speech by the President of Ukraine  
at the World Economic Forum in Davos  
(23 May 2022. 14:55) . . . . . 347

The coming weeks of the war will be difficult,  
yet we have no alternative but to fight and win —  
address by the President of Ukraine  
(23 May 2022. 22:21) . . . . . 356

**May 24, 2022. News Round-Up . . . . . 360**

The supply of weapons to Ukraine  
is the best investment in maintaining stability  
in the world — President Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
(24 May 2022. 22:55) . . . . . 365