#UkraïneWeekly

June 05, 2026

Figures of the week

- At Least 707 children have been killed by Russia since the start of its full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

Ukraine-Türkiye

- First Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine and Minister of Energy Denys Shmyhal held a meeting with Minister of Energy and Natural Resources of the Republic of Türkiye Alparslan Bayraktar on the sidelines of the Baku Energy Forum.
- Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Trade Representative of Ukraine Taras Kachka met with Turkish Trade Minister Omer Bolat on the sideline of OECD Ministerial Council.
- On 25 May, Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine Rustem Umerov met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye Hakan Fidan.

Foreign Policy

- Open Letter to the President of the Russian Federation from the President of Ukraine.
- President Zelenskyy held a phone call with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Keir Starmer.
- President Zelenskyy and NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte took part in the Ukraine–NATO Council meeting.
- Statement by the President Zelenskyy during a Joint Press Conference with the NATO Secretary General.
- President Zelenskyy held a phone call with Prime Minister of Norway Jonas G. Støre.
- The main outcomes of the Ukrainian President's foreign policy work in April.
- The President of Ukraine and the Prime Minister of Sweden signed a Declaration opening the path to a Drone Deal.
- Ukrainian Foreign Minister Sybiha met with the foreign ministers of India, Poland, and the Netherland.

Home and Frontline

- Total Russian combat losses since February 24, 2022, to 05 June 2026: in personnel – 1 370 890, tanks – 11 980, ACV – 24 684, artillery system – 43 315.
- 185 Ukrainian prisoners of war returned from Russian captivity in the latest exchange.
- On May 24, Russia launched a combined strike against Ukraine, using 90 missiles of various types, including 36 ballistic missiles, and 600 drones.
- At least 22 people killed, dozens wounded in Russian attacks on Ukraine. Russia launched 656 drones and 73 missiles at Ukraine on June 2.
- Russia launched a targeted drone strike on a Turkish cargo vessel, causing a fire and injuring two crew members..
- Ukraine hits oil, naval, and missile-linked targets across Russia in sweeping deep strike campaign.
- Ukraine's Unmanned Systems Forces (SBS) struck five vessels in temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.
- Ukraine neutralizes 40% of Russia primary oil refining capacity through long range campaign.

Learn more

For centuries, the Kremlin has relied on the idea of "brotherly nations" to justify its influence over Ukraine and other neighboring peoples. This article explores how the myth was constructed, transformed into an imperial tool, and ultimately exposed by Russia's war against Ukraine. Drawing on history, ideology, and political narratives, it reveals why the language of "brotherhood" has often served as a mask for domination rather than unity.