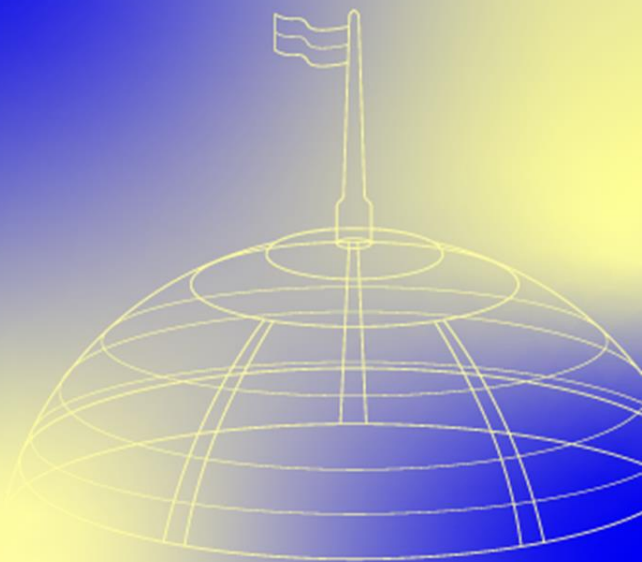
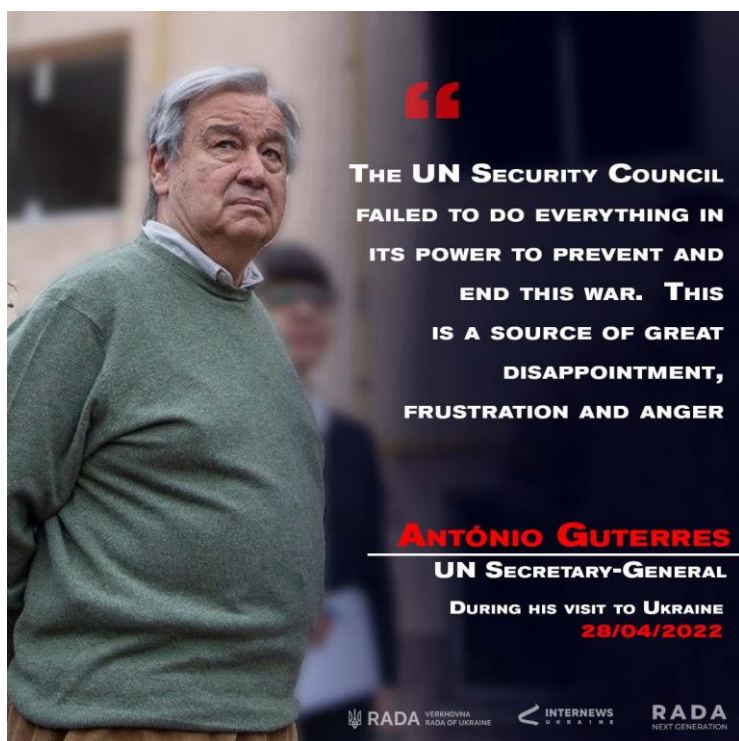




● Internews Ukraine ● RADA: Next Generation ●
Information Department of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Secretariat

INFO DIGEST Parliaments on the Frontline

Nº 43 April, 29



You received this digest because your support as a Parliamentarian, a Politician, and an Opinion-maker is crucial to Ukraine during Russia's outrageous attack on its sovereignty and the fundamental principles of a democratic society. This communication aims to deliver the latest developments in connection with the war to members of the world's Parliaments, amplify the voices of Ukrainian MPs, document crimes against humanity perpetrated by Russian invaders, and highlight international solidarity and support for Ukraine by other Parliamentarians.

We urge all representatives of democratic nations to support decisions in favor of the increased humanitarian, financial, and military assistance to Ukraine. We also call for immediate approval of the strictest possible sanctions on the Russian Federation. #StandWithUkraine and protect the global democratic order!

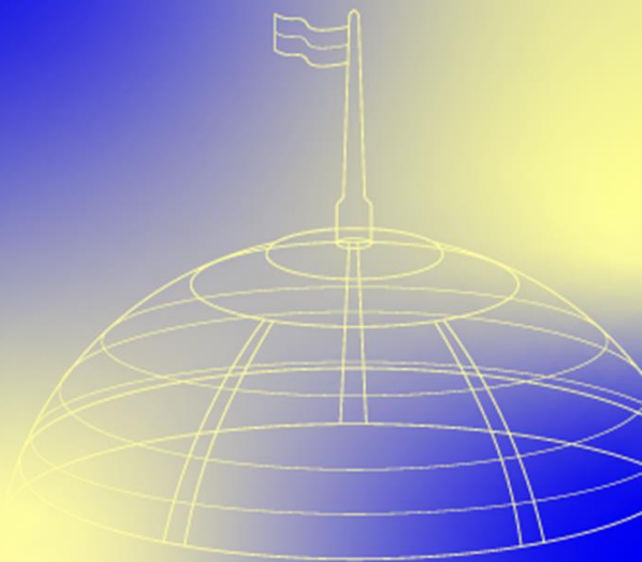
WAR CRIME WATCH:



- Russia launched missiles at numerous Ukrainian cities on the evening of April 28. [In Kyiv](#), missiles hit a downtown apartment building **just as UN Secretary-General António Guterres was visiting the capital**. To this moment, one person was [reported dead](#) and ten more were injured. [In Fastiv](#), Kyiv region, a strike damaged infrastructure objects and wounded at least two persons. [In Khmelnytskyi region](#), one more infrastructure object was targeted.

- The Russian forces also [continued to shell the Kharkiv region](#), killing five more civilians and injuring eleven.

- Settlements of Luhansk region [remain under the shelling](#) as well. In the last 24 hours, the region was attacked 10 times.



- As a result of the [shelling](#) of the Donetsk region, three persons died and six were wounded. The occupiers are reported to have once again used [phosphorous munitions](#).
- Dnipropetrovsk region [was also shelled](#), with private homes in Velyka Kostromka and Mariinske sustaining damages.
- The russian forces continued to fire [mortars](#) at the border areas of the [Chernihiv](#) and [Sumy regions](#), i.a. [with unguided missiles](#).
- In Zaporizhzhia region, russians [stole over 60 tons of wheat](#) from a local agricultural producer.
- [28 more bodies of civilians](#) were discovered in the Kyiv region. The total number of corpses found is 1187. More than 200 persons went missing.
- [OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine is closing](#) due to the lack of consensus at the OSCE Permanent Council to extend the Mission's mandate.
- [Dolphins are dying en masse](#) off the coast of Odesa region due to the russian invaders. Ecologists believe that this might be due not only to russian anti-ship mines and shells but also to the negative impact of military sonar that impairs dolphins' hearing.

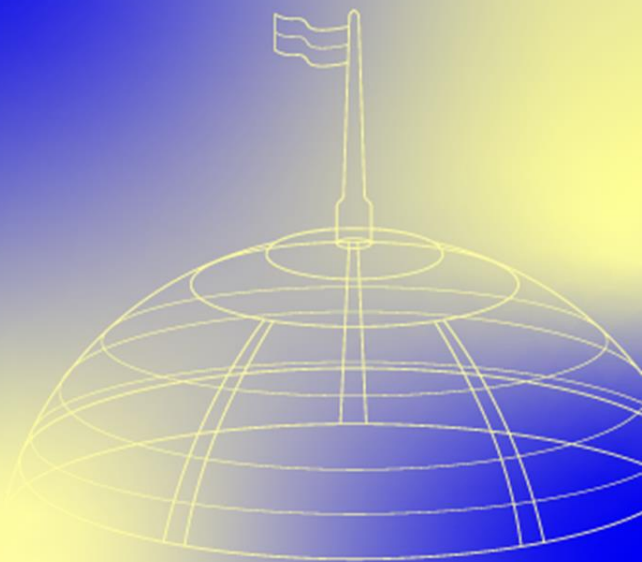
REACTIONS IN THE PARLIAMENTS GLOBALLY:

USA

On April 28, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly [backed the "Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022"](#), reviving the Lend-Lease policy that helped defeat Adolf Hitler during World War Two.

The House passed the legislation by 417 votes to 10 three weeks after the Senate had unanimously supported it. The act is now to be signed into law by President Joe Biden.

Urging support for the bill, Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon said that while the Ukrainian people are "standing on the front lines in the fight for democracy and against tyranny", it is the responsibility of the US to provide them with humanitarian and military aid. Her words are echoing those of Senator John Cornyn, a lead sponsor of the bill in the



Senate, who mentioned that “Ukrainian forces have demonstrated unbelievable strength and bravery” and the US must “ensure they have the full range of [necessary] resources”.

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On the same day, US President Joe Biden submitted [a request to Congress](#) for another \$33 billion to step up military, economic, and humanitarian support to Ukraine. The military assistance package would include artillery, armored vehicles, anti-armor and anti-air capabilities, as well as other hardware.

Some lawmakers have already expressed their support for additional funding, with Senator Tim Kaine explicitly [stating](#) that the US and its allies “need to make sure that Ukraine is successful”.

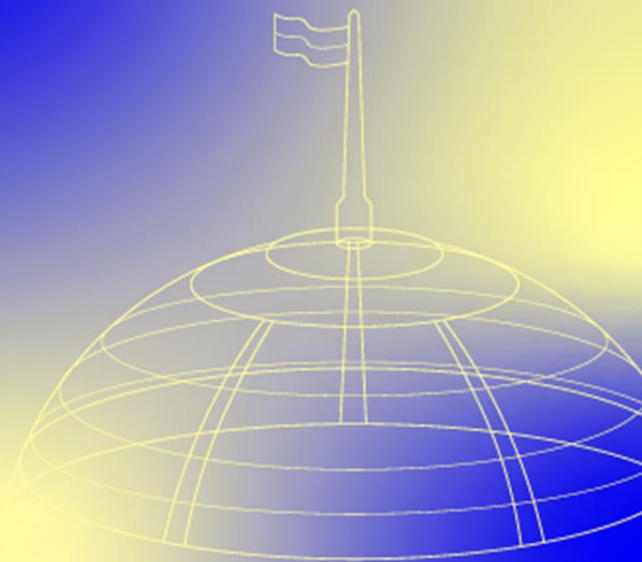
The President also sent Congress a plan to increase the government’s power to seize luxury yachts, aircraft, bank accounts, and other assets of russian oligarchs tied to putin and use the proceeds to help the Ukrainian people.

PACE

Azerbaijani parliamentarian Erkin Gadirli has become yet another member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe who delivered [sharp criticism of russia’s aggression against Ukraine](#) during his debate speech.

Gadirli called the atrocities that are being committed on the territory of Ukraine crimes against humanity and war crimes, arguing that “there are grounds for recognizing some of these crimes as genocidal”.

Military aggression itself, he continued, is a crime of its own kind that is based on russia’s “fundamental denial of international law as a legal phenomenon”. The parliamentarian believes that russia takes the liberty of threatening and attacking its neighbors due to a state of complete impunity where it foresees punishment neither in law nor in morality or public opinion.



Finally, he mentioned that a member of Russia's State Duma threatened to "use tactical nuclear weapons against Azerbaijan" merely because Azerbaijan dared to provide humanitarian assistance to Ukraine.

EU

President of the European Parliament Roberta Metsola has [touched on the issue of the war in Ukraine](#) in a joint press point with NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, reaffirming Ukraine's right to self-defense. She also mentioned that the parliamentarians will continue to call for further sanctions and more effective assistance to Ukraine in the upcoming session in Strasbourg.

UK

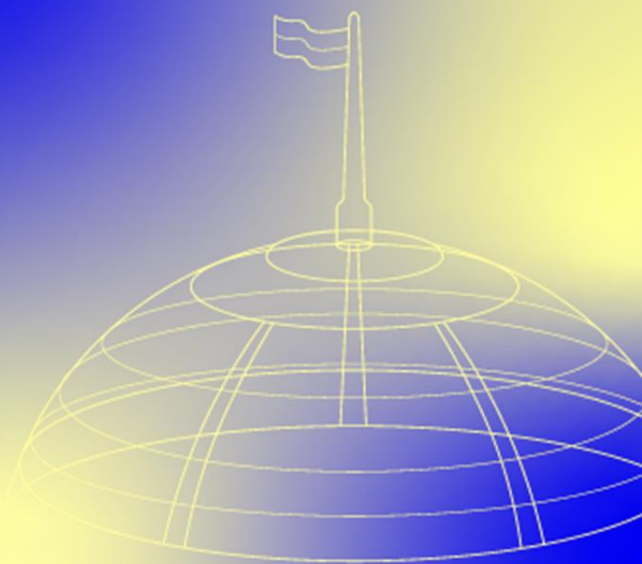
John Glen, a member of the UK Parliament and Secretary to the Treasury, delivered a speech at a German Economic Council event, in which he [stressed the importance of coordinating the economic response to the invasion of Ukraine](#).

Glen mentioned that further stripping Russia of political and financial support will require continued collective targeting of elites and oligarchs, cutting off transport and finance links, and starving Russia of technology. The parliamentarian also underscored that "push-backs" against the process of global integration, which Russia is now attempting to undertake, should serve as an incentive for forging an alliance of countries that share common values.

FINLAND

Finance Minister Annika Saarikko has announced that Finland is going to [sell confiscated Bitcoin worth €75 million and donate the money to help Ukraine](#).

The plans to reallocate tokens confiscated by Finnish Customs are expected shortly to be submitted to the Parliament of Finland as a part of an upcoming supplementary budget. After the establishment of a legal mechanism, the Bitcoin will be auctioned. The process is expected to take place this spring or in early summer.



UKRAINE'S PARLIAMENT:

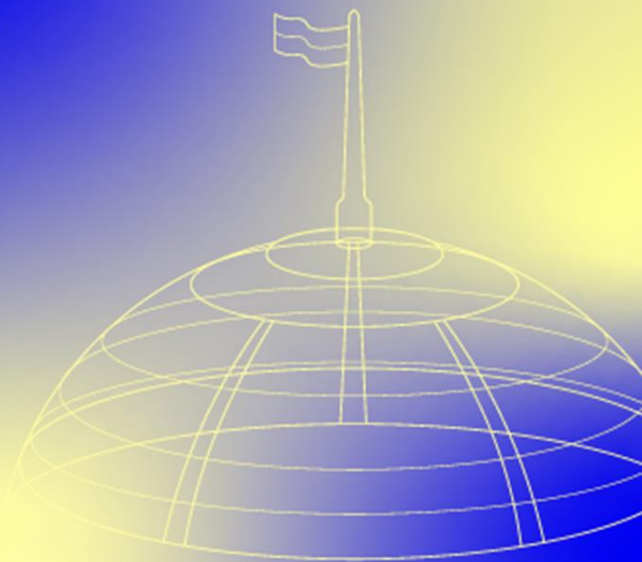
VRU's Committee on Digital Transformation informs about the cyber attack of the UAC-0098 group on the state authorities of Ukraine with an e-mail, containing a malicious attachment

Mass cyberattacks against the state structures of Ukraine and business began even before the full-scale invasion of Russia. In recent months, hacker groups linked to Russia have carried out more than 230 cyber attacks (according to [Microsoft](#)) against Ukrainian government agencies and enterprises. Attacks were often aimed at destroying computer systems, but some also gathered intelligence or spread misinformation.

Hackers primarily attack government agencies, the financial sector, the defense sector, telecom operators, local governments, logistics companies, and the media. There are also numerous attempts by hackers to crack resources that gather information about Russia's war crimes in Ukraine, but the State Special Communications Agency is working to ensure their cyber protection and assure that they are safe to use.

Cybercriminals often use e-mails with malicious attachments. On April 28, the government team in charge of computer emergencies in Ukraine CERT-UA reported that it had received an email from a participant in the information exchange on "Presidential Decree No. 576/22 on unprecedented measures security" and attachment in the form of an ISO file "Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 151 on unprecedented security measures.iso".

The team found out that the mentioned ISO file contains a bait document "a.docx", LNK file "DECREE OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE №151_2022.mp4.lnk", PowerShell script "z.ps1", and EXE file "b.exe". If a person clicks on an LNK file, the latter will execute a PowerShell script, which in turn will open the DOCX file and execute the "b.exe" file. As a result, your computer will be affected by the malware Meterpreter. Experts suspect the activity is done by hackers who have recently carried out cyber attacks on state organizations in Ukraine.



The Program together with the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is conducting an information campaign urging on the world community to close the skies over Ukraine.

[At these links](#) you will find visual materials that can be shared on social networks with the hashtag:

#StopRussianAggression
#CloseTheSkyoverUkraine
#StopPutin

Do not be indifferent, help us defend our country, Europe and the democratic values of the entire civilized world!

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