

## V. Zelensky: The Ukrainian army has recaptured Klyisifka - The Russians are preparing a counterattack with 52,000 soldiers and enormous firepower

*The battle for Bahamut begins again*

[18/09/2023 - 11:59](#)

Ukrainian authorities announced today that Ukrainian military forces have since recaptured Andriivka and the village of Klyisifka, a strategically important community located south of the city of Bakhmut.

"Klyisifka has been liberated from the Russians," Oleksandr Syrsky, head of the Ukrainian ground army, said on social media.

"I want to specially commemorate the soldiers who are returning to Ukraine its territories, step by step, in the Bakhmut zone," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said in his daily video message.

"Klyisifka: well done!" he added, listing the military units that took part in the operation.

The village, with a population of a few hundred before the war, was captured by Russian forces in January.

The announcement of the recapture of Klyisifka comes a few days after Ukrainian forces announced the recapture of the town of Andriivka, south of Bakhmut. The Russian military denied the incident.

Ilya Yevlach, the representative of the Ukrainian forces of the eastern front, explained for his part that the recapture of Klyisifka can help the army to encircle Bakhmut.

Klyischiivka. I thank our warriors for liberating our land.

The 80th Air Assault, 5th Assault, and the renowned 95th Air Assault brigades, as well as the National Police's "Fury" Assault Brigade.

I thank everyone who is standing strong from Kupiansk to the left bank of Kherson!

[pic.twitter.com/ZkLakPhMOH](https://pic.twitter.com/ZkLakPhMOH)

— Volodymyr Zelenskyy / Володимир Зеленський (@ZelenskyyUa) [September 17, 2023](#)

### The importance of Ukrainian success

*"It is first and foremost the control of the supply routes that allows Bahamut to be supplied. It is also the exposure of the wings of the front, especially in the south, that will enable us to advance more effectively deep into the enemy's lines."*

"The railway line is very important for the Russians. There have been fierce battles" for control of this zone, he said.

Bahamut is now vulnerable on its southern flanks. Ukrainian artillery can engage targets inside the city.

Bakhmut, a town of 70,000 before the war, was captured by Russian forces after one of the longest and bloodiest battles of the war.

Watch: The general in command of [#Ukraine](#)'s ground forces says that Ukrainian forces had recaptured the eastern village of [#Klyischiivka](#) on the southern flank of [#Bakhmut](#), which the Russians claimed control of in January. <https://t.co/pNLZq784tv> [pic.twitter.com/N2zPKzzOu6](https://pic.twitter.com/N2zPKzzOu6)

— Al Arabiya English (@AlArabiya\_Eng) [September 18, 2023](#)

### Ukraine: "Russia has gathered 52 thousand soldiers around Bakhmut"

Russia has massed 52,000 troops in the area near Bakhmut, in the Donetsk region, the spokesman for the eastern forces of the Ukrainian military, Ilya Gevlas, said.

According to the Ukrainian official, Russia has also amassed around 274 tanks, over 1,000 armored vehicles, 150 artillery systems and more than 120 multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS) in the region.

Gevlas also said that Ukrainian forces are advancing on the southern side of Bakhmut, pushing back Russian troops from previously held positions.

On September 15, the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine confirmed the liberation of Andriivka in Donetsk, a small settlement located about 10 kilometers south of Bakhmut.

According to the 3rd Assault Brigade, Ukrainian forces inflicted a devastating blow on the Russian 72nd Motorized Rifle Brigade during the battle for Andriivka.

The 3rd Brigade also reported that the Russian formation lost its intelligence chief, three commanders, almost all of its infantry, including officers, and a significant amount of equipment.

Scorched earth tactics all over again. Russian forces attack Klishchiivka with Heavy Flamethrower System TOS-1A.

"If we can't have it, destroy it." [pic.twitter.com/Yd9AgpASSQ](https://www.pic.twitter.com/Yd9AgpASSQ)

— NOELREPORTS EU UA (@NOELreports) [September 18, 2023](#)

[https://warnews247-gr.translate.google/v-zelenski-o-oukranikos-stratos-anakatelave-tin-klisifka-xekina-xana-i-machi-gia-to-bachmout/? x tr sl=auto& x tr tl=en& x tr hl=en](https://warnews247-gr.translate.google/v-zelenski-o-oukranikos-stratos-anakatelave-tin-klisifka-xekina-xana-i-machi-gia-to-bachmout/?x_tr_sl=auto&x_tr_tl=en&x_tr_hl=en)

## **Rabotino, a place of skulls: The Russians turned the settlement into a second "Bahmut" - The magnitude of the destruction of the Ukrainian Brigades is shocking**

*The Rambotino-Verbovo axis turned into a vast cemetery*

[19/09/2023 - 00:06](#)

**Rabotino has turned into a second Bahmut, the head of the political movement "We are with Russia" Vladimir Rogov told RIA Novosti journalists.**

**New videos show the extent of the devastation suffered by the Ukrainian Army on the Rambotino-Verbovo line.** The Russians are simply shooting at the Ukrainian forces being defenseless with no anti-aircraft and no air cover.

**Watch the shooting of the Russian artillery in the two videos**

**"Rabotino became a second Bahmut"**

**Rabotino becomes the "second Bahmut" for the Ukrainian army. In this settlement, the Ukrainian Army. suffered heavy losses.**

The head of the political movement "We are together with Russia", Vladimir Rogov, noted that in the battles for the village the most combat units of the Ukrainian Armed Forces are being destroyed.

*"The Bakhmut meat grinder was replaced by Rabotino,"* Rogov said.

**Here, according to him, the best units of the Ukrainian army, including its reserves, are fighting.**

The Russian politician **emphasizes that "military personnel of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and foreign mercenaries are dying in large numbers in Rambotino.**

According to him, **the fiercest battles in Zaporizhia are taking place along the line connecting Rabotino to Verbovo.**

The Russian head of Zaporizhia, Yevgeny Balitsky, said that the command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine is increasingly sending foreign mercenaries as reinforcements.

**"Here the largest number of Ukrainian military personnel operating on the front line is destroyed and most of the reserves of the Ukrainian Armed Forces are destroyed,"** he said.

Video: The Russians claim that in this battle the Ukrainians lost 13 men and 63 were wounded

**The Ukrainians attempt to penetrate towards Kopani and Novoprokopovka**

**To the west and south-west of the village of Rabotino, the Ukrainian Armed Forces continue their attacks, trying to advance in the direction of the villages of Kopani and Novoprokopovka.**

More specifically, southwest of Rabotino, fighting continues around the Russian defense line in the direction of Novoprokopovka.

West of Rampotinos, the Ukrainian Army is trying to attack in the direction of the village of Kopani.

At the same time, the fighting does not stop between Novoprokopovka and Verbovo, the Russian artillery is constantly operating.

**"West of Verbovo, the situation remains dynamic. The Russians are counterattacking along the defense line,"** Ukrainian military analysts report.

In the video, the 247th Airborne Cossack Regiment continues to repel Ukrainian attacks and destroy Ukrainian Armed Forces assault groups attempting to advance through a forest zone.

Drones correct artillery fire.

Video Player

**The Russians destroy a T-64 next to Challenger 2**

Video Player

**The Russians hit the 71st Jaeger Brigade of the Ukrainian Armed Forces**

**In the Verbovo region, artillery and aviation of the Russian Armed Forces hit the positions of the 71st Jaeger Brigade of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.**

**We remind you that already two Brigades of the Ukrainians have suffered significant losses. The 82nd was withdrawn while the command of the 47th Brigade changed.**

**The Russian Ministry of Defense reported the destruction of up to 55 vehicles, two armored fighting vehicles, three trucks and pickups, two D-30s, one M119 and one AN/TPQ-50 anti-aircraft radar.**

A Ukrainian doctor reported on the fighting in the area:

**"Six nights ago we had a mission to get the dead and wounded out of a Bradley that had been hit at Rambotino by some kind of new Russian shell.**

*I got as close as I could on foot, and took out Bradley's commander: he had lost his leg, but the flame had seared it, so he was not bleeding much. We couldn't get the gunner out as his body was entangled in the damaged turret.*

*The driver had lost his head, we thought we could get his body back, but then the shelling started and we had to leave him there. **Through it all the Bradley's engine was still running. Scenes like this are so regular that we think we've lost the ability to feel fear.**"*

Watch video from the cemetery of military equipment in Rabotino

<https://warnews247-gr.translate.google.com/translate/kraniou-topos-to-rabotino-oi-rosoi-metetrepsan-ton-oikismo-se-deftero-bachmout-ktypontas-skira-tin-71i-taxiarchia-ton-oukranon/? x tr sl=auto& x tr tl=en& x tr hl=en>

**"Heads are falling": Zelensky "disarmed" the entire Ministry of Defense - Three months of hell was the counterattack - 80-90% losses in the Units**

**Milley Admits: Ukrainian Counterattack Fails - It's Hard and Bloody**

[18/09/2023 - 18:33](#)

**The government in Ukraine today decided to remove six deputy and undersecretaries of defense - including Hana Maliar - from their posts after a new defense minister was appointed earlier this month.**

With these changes, V. Zelenskiy, after the minister, the deputy ministers and deputy ministers of defense who participated in the organization and definition of the goals of the counterattack.

**According to the representative of the cabinet Taras Melnichuk, deputy ministers and deputy ministers Vladimir Gavrilov, Vitaly Deinega, Anna Malyar, Rostislav Teodozievich, Denis Sharapov and Andrey Shevchenko are past.**

**The government did not justify these dismissals. Hana Maliar, had recently been in charge of public information about the war that Russia is waging against Ukraine.**

**Maliar, a war crimes lawyer, has been undersecretary of defense since 2021 and her latest update on the war in Ukraine was released this morning.**

**Last week he faced criticism after he initially reported that Ukrainian forces had recaptured a village in eastern Ukraine from Russian forces, but later clarified that the information was inaccurate and that fighting was still raging around the village.**

**Rustem Umerov was appointed defense minister less than two weeks ago, replacing Oleksiy Reznikov. The media accused the ministry of corruption when Reznikov was minister, although he had not been charged.**

Earlier, Vladimir Zelensky noted that the **offensive actions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces will continue regardless of weather conditions.** The Ukrainian president believes that Ukrainian troops should use drones where armored vehicles cannot pass.

At the same time, **Kiev is desperately hoping for continued military aid from abroad.** At the same time, as the head of the main intelligence directorate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine Kirill Budanov believes, the Western partners are hiding available stockpiles of weapons. Also, the head of the Ukrainian intelligence service complained that Russia itself is able to supply its troops with weapons.

**It is noted that earlier today Hanna Malyar had reported that the Ukrainian armed forces had recaptured about two square kilometers around Bakhmut last week, stressing that the Ukrainian army**

**has liberated 51 square kilometers near Bakhmut since the start of the counteroffensive.**

According to Hanna Malyar, Ukraine has recaptured over 260 square kilometers since the counteroffensive began in early June.

**However, the Ukrainian newspaper Ukrainska Pravda claims, citing unnamed government sources, that all six deputy defense ministers voluntarily submitted their resignations at the request of Ukraine's new defense minister, Rustem Umerov.**

The same information states that consultations are continuing on who will be their replacements, while there is talk of a complete reorganization of the Ministry of Defense.

**Military Watch: Ukraine loses 80% to 90% of recruits, disaster**

**Ukrainian troops are suffering huge losses, reports US media outlet Military Watch.**

**A senior officer of the recruitment service of the Poltava region, lieutenant colonel Vitaly Bereznyh revealed that of the 100 people who joined the units in the fall of 2022, only 10-20 remained.**

***The level of losses in conscript units last year was 80-90%***, the Ukrainian lieutenant colonel reported!

Journalists recalled that the Ministry of Defense recently expanded the range of people subject to conscription.

***Thus, men with hepatitis, asymptomatic HIV infection and cured tuberculosis can enter the army***, the article notes.

**The authors write that the army was supplied with Soviet-era rifles and uniforms and sent to the front line without any training.**

**Milley admission: Ukrainian counter-offensive is not succeeding, it is difficult and bloody**

**The counteroffensive of the Ukrainian Armed Forces will not allow the complete expulsion of the Russian forces**, said the head of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark Milley, in an interview with CNN.

***"The offensive, while significant, has operational and tactical objectives that are limited.***

***Even if fully achieved, they will not completely knock out the Russians, which is Zelensky's larger strategic goal.***

**The head of the US military declined to answer the question of how long it might take Kiev to achieve its goals, noting, however, that the conflict will last "a long time".**

At the same time, Mark Milley described the counteroffensive by the Ukrainian armed forces as "**long, difficult and bloody**".

**Spiegel: Three months of hell was the counterattack for the Ukrainians**

The **Ukrainian army is complaining that it cannot deal with Russian mines**, Germany's Spiegel reports, citing soldiers of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

***"We don't have modern F-16 fighters yet.***

***Western instructors tell us to avoid mined areas.***

***How to move?***

***Everything here is mined and if we clear something, new mines appear.***

***Can't you move around here?'***

**According to soldiers of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, because of the mines, the counter-offensive turned into "three months of hell" , reports Spiegel.**

The Ukrainian army is losing not only a large amount of equipment, but also soldiers, Spiegel noted.

***"This is scary.***

**We have mostly soldiers here who were blown up by mines," commented a Ukrainian surgeon, who works in a military hospital.**

**Many Ukrainian Armed Forces soldiers admitted that they misjudged the situation before launching the counterattack, thinking that the enemy would not be that strong.**

***The Russians lay mines masterfully. They should not be underestimated,***" concluded a Ukrainian military officer. Kyiv will not achieve the full return of lost territories during the offensive of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, said US General Mark Milley.

▪He noted in an interview with CNN that the actions of Ukrainian troops have operational and tactical goals that are limited.

▪The... [pic.twitter.com/JwUMtbDdu0](https://pic.twitter.com/JwUMtbDdu0)

— Sprinter (@Sprinter99800) [September 17, 2023](https://twitter.com/Sprinter99800/status/1701111111)

This piece about the Sisyphus task of Ukrainian Sappers is well worth your time. "A Sea of Explosives 1,000 Kilometers long" by the excellent Christoph Reuter <https://t.co/jUhzqSZucf> via [@derspiegel](https://t.co/jUhzqSZucf)

— Ann-Dorit Boy (@andoritboy) [September 17, 2023](https://t.co/jUhzqSZucf)

<https://warnews247-gr.translate.google.com/peftoun-kefalia-sto-kievo-o-zelenski-xilose-exi-anaplirotes-ypourgous-amynas-sto-80-90-oi-apoleies-stis-machimes-monades-treis-mines-kolasi-itan-i-antepithesi/? x tr sl=auto& x tr tl=en& x tr hl=en>

## Rupture and conflict: Poland, Hungary and Slovakia embargo Ukraine & withdraw from EU platform: "Zelensky forget the EU"

*Ukraine files a case at the WTO against the three countries*

[18/09/2023 - 21:57](https://t.co/jUhzqSZucf)

**Fierce conflict between Ukraine, on the one hand, and Hungary, Poland, Slovakia on the other, is ongoing, sounding the alarm in both the EU and NATO.**

**The crisis in relations between the four countries escalated sharply after Kiev decided to file a case against them at the WTO in response to the ban on imports of Ukrainian agricultural products.**

**The former Minister of Agriculture of Poland, Jan Krzysztof Ardanowski said that Kiev "is playing a strange game around the grain situation, hard to understand"!**

Polish Prime Minister Morawiecki, a friend of Zelenski's, added emphatically:

**"We will not listen to Berlin, we will not listen to Von der Leyen, Tusk or Weber! We will do this because it is in the interest of the Polish farmer!"**

**A while ago, Kiev added more fuel to the fire. Ukraine has threatened to ban imports of onions and apples from Poland, as well as cars from Hungary in response to the ban on Ukrainian grain shipments.**

**Before Kiev carried out its threat, the three countries extended the embargo of agricultural products to Kiev!**

It is **not the first time that Poland and Ukraine have clashed badly**, a fact that shows that the friendship between the two countries has reached its highest limits. Total rupture is a matter of time.

### **Ukraine files a lawsuit against Poland-Hungary-Slovakia in the WTO**

**Ukraine will file a case at the World Trade Organization (WTO) against Poland, Hungary and Slovakia for their refusal to lift import bans on Ukrainian agricultural products, according to an interview with Ukraine's Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Agriculture and its Trade Commissioner Ukrainian Taras Kaska published in Politico.**

Taras Kaska said that **Ukraine is likely to also impose countermeasures on Poland if Warsaw does not withdraw the additional measures it has** taken.

**"It is important to prove that these measures are legally wrong. And for this reason we will start legal proceedings tomorrow,"** the Ukrainian official said, warning that Kiev was preparing to respond by banning the import of fruits and vegetables from Poland.

**The bans imposed by central European countries are aimed at protecting farmers from increased grain exports from Ukraine following Russia's blockade of Ukrainian Black Sea ports.**

**Poland will introduce an indefinite ban on the import of grain from Ukraine** from midnight

**"We will not listen to Berlin, we will not listen to Von der Leyen, Tusk or Weber! We will do this because it is in the interests of the Polish farmer!"** Polish PM Morawiecki.

United front. [pic.twitter.com/ij4brhlc7l](https://pic.twitter.com/ij4brhlc7l)

— Dagny Taggart (@DagnyTaggart963) [September 15, 2023](https://t.co/jUhzqSZucf)

### **The role of the EU**

**Especially the ruling party of Poland has an increased interest in stopping the flow of Ukrainian grain, if only to impress public opinion,** in view of the October 15th elections that appear ambiguous and in which it absolutely needs the support of the rural electoral base.

**The three central European countries rebelled against the European Commission, which decided on Friday to allow the sale of Ukrainian grain to the European Union,** deciding in turn to impose their own bans.

**"In our eyes, these measures by Hungary and Poland are a statement of complete distrust of the European Commission," Taras Kaska told Politico**, adding that a "huge systemic problem" is being created that translates into the question of whether international trading partners can be trusted. In the fact that the Commission does indeed represent the European Union. **No trust in the European Commission is probably the most intelligent thing those countries could do – rdbj**

**"For many years, it has been the case that the European Commission is a trade negotiator and trade policy institution on behalf of the entire European Union..."**

*The systemic approach of Budapest and Warsaw, ignoring the position of the European Union institutions in the field of trade policy, I believe will be a problem for the European Union in general, because here there is no unity," he explained .*

Although Slovakia merely extended the previous ban on the import of Ukrainian products, Poland and Hungary decided to impose additional bans on new Ukrainian products.

**Especially the new Warsaw bans are expected to hit a significant part of Ukrainian exports.**

**Taras Kaska also explained that Kiev is ready "to take responsibility for ensuring that exports from Ukraine do not create a tsunami for neighboring countries" and that it intends to impose a "real-time" export licensing system for grain** to slow down exports to neighboring countries and allow Ukraine to "react quickly" if a spike in exports is detected.

**Poland will not allow itself to be flooded with Ukrainian grain**, we will not open our borders – Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki

On Friday, the EU ban on the import of wheat, corn, sunflower seeds and rapeseed into five countries neighboring Ukraine ends.

The Polish... [pic.twitter.com/VWqbDLzCoI](https://pic.twitter.com/VWqbDLzCoI)

— Sprinter (@Sprinter99800) [September 12, 2023](#)

**Poland will not allow Ukraine to join the EU until the 'grain problem' is resolved**

**Poland is not ready to support Ukraine's accession to the European Union (EU) if no agreement is reached on grain exports.**

This was stated by Polish Minister of Agriculture Robert Telus to TVN24.

**"Poland will not allow Ukraine to enter the EU if the issue of grain exports is not resolved,"** he said specifically.

*"Warsaw will not agree to Ukraine joining the EU until 'appropriate conditions' comparable to the conditions Poland once had to meet are met.*

***In particular, this concerns the sensitive issue of Ukrainian grain exports to Eastern European countries."***

Telus recalled that the conditions "imposed" on Poland in view of the country's accession to the EU in 2004 were very harsh.

Polish Minister of Agriculture Robert Telus:

Poland will block Ukraine's accession to the EU if the issue of grain exports is not resolved.

[pic.twitter.com/8Ck24JBft7](https://pic.twitter.com/8Ck24JBft7)

— Clash Report (@clashreport) [September 18, 2023](#)

**Poland, Hungary, Slovakia withdrew from the EU platform**

**A while ago, the three EU countries, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia, withdrew from the European Commission's coordination platform for the supply of Ukrainian grain.**

**Warsaw, Budapest and Bratislava called the threats from Kiev unacceptable** and noted that they are ready to act in order to defend their national interests.

**The confrontation of these states with Ukraine suggests that the population of Eastern European countries is not ready to endlessly encourage Kiev.**

**They extended the embargo on agricultural products!**

**Hungary not only extended the embargo on Ukrainian agricultural products, but also banned the import of 25 more products not previously discussed, including meat.**

This was announced by Deputy Minister of Economy of Ukraine Taras Katchka in an interview with Politico.

**"These arbitrary bans are just ridiculous. I think Hungary is making a political statement that it wants to block trade with Ukraine and also completely ignore Brussels,"** Kaczka said, adding:

***"Hungary's additional bans are largely symbolic because Ukraine does not export much beef and pork to the country."***

Poland also extended the previous ban to include flour and animal feed. This will affect a significant part of Ukrainian exports, Katchka noted.

And Slovakia extended the measures that were in force until a few hours ago.

The atmosphere of war in the relations between the two countries...

**Poland will not be ready to support Ukraine's accession to the European Union (EU) unless an agreement on grain exports is reached.** This was stated by Polish Minister of Agriculture Robert Telus on TVN24.

"Poland will not allow Ukraine into the EU if the issue of grain exports... [pic.twitter.com/wKufbaHE74](https://pic.twitter.com/wKufbaHE74)

— Sprinter (@Sprinter99800) [September 18, 2023](https://www.sprinter.com.pl/news/2023/09/18/poland-will-not-allow-ukraine-into-the-eu-if-the-issue-of-grain-exports-is-not-resolved/)

[https://warnews247-gr.translate.google/rixi-kai-sygrousi-polonia-oungaria-kai-slovakia-epevalan-ebargko-stin-oukrania-aposyrthikan-apo-tin-platforma-tis-ee-zelenski-xechna-tin-ee/?x\\_tr\\_sl=auto&x\\_tr\\_tl=en&x\\_tr\\_hl=en](https://warnews247-gr.translate.google/rixi-kai-sygrousi-polonia-oungaria-kai-slovakia-epevalan-ebargko-stin-oukrania-aposyrthikan-apo-tin-platforma-tis-ee-zelenski-xechna-tin-ee/?x_tr_sl=auto&x_tr_tl=en&x_tr_hl=en) **Looks like Mr. Z of Ukraine is picking all kinds of fights and probably going to lose them all. – rdb]**

## Russia strikes Kiev's depleted uranium stocks – MOD

*The high-precision overnight attack also targeted depots with UK-made Storm Shadow missiles, the Defense Ministry has said*

18 Sep, 2023 13:31

**Russian forces conducted a long-range strike on Ukrainian warehouses storing Western-supplied weapons, including long-range missiles and depleted uranium shells, the Defense Ministry in Moscow has said.**

In a statement on Monday, the ministry said the military had conducted an overnight high-precision attack on Ukrainian facilities using air-launched assets and drones. The strikes targeted "the Kiev regime's sites storing Storm Shadow cruise missiles, depleted uranium ammunition," the statement said.

The ministry added that the barrage and the drone raid also hit Ukraine's signals intelligence centers and facilities that train sabotage groups. "The strike's objective has been achieved. All facilities have been hit," it added.

Earlier in the day, the Ukrainian authorities reported several explosions in the western Khmelnytsky Region, which they said damaged a production facility. Local media also reported blasts in the port city of Izmail in the southern Odessa Region.

Ukraine received Storm Shadow missiles, which have a range of more than 250km, from the UK earlier this year and used them to attack civilian targets and infrastructure in Russia's Crimean Peninsula and Donbass, according to local officials.

The decision to arm Kiev with depleted uranium shells was made by both the UK and US. The rounds, which have high armor-piercing capabilities, are meant to be used by British-made Challenger and US-designed M1 Abrams tanks.

Russia has condemned the deliveries of depleted uranium shells, arguing that their use poses grave health risks for the civilian population and could lead to an escalation in the conflict. A 2022 UN Environment Program report warned that "depleted uranium and toxic substances in common explosives can cause skin irritation, kidney failure and increase the risks of cancer."

Since the start of hostilities between Moscow and Kiev in February 2022, Russia has repeatedly criticized Western arms shipments to Ukraine, arguing that they will only prolong the conflict but will not change the outcome.

<https://www.rt.com/russia/583152-russia-ukraine-strike-uranium-shells/>

## Zelensky's terror team: Why the West looks the other way when Ukraine's secret murder squad kills journalists and activists

*Threats and tactics that would be instantly labeled unacceptable against any other country get a pass when applied to Russians*

By **Chay Bowes**, journalist and geopolitical analyst, MA in Strategic Studies, RT correspondent 18 Sep, 2023 21:06



Ukrainian paramilitary unit the Russian Volunteer Corps, poses for the media in northern Ukraine, not far from the Russian border, on May 24, 2023 © SERGEY BOBOK / AFP

As winter approaches and the scale of Kiev's losses in its failing counteroffensive emerges, Ukraine's transgender military spokesperson Sarah Ashton-Cirillo has deftly avoided the topic and instead delivered a cringeworthy threat-laden rant on social media.

The one-time American political campaigner and newfound "Face of free Ukraine" struggled to contain her hatred for Russia and all things Russian. In a particularly energetic monologue, she said "propagandists" (meaning journalists who don't toe Kiev's narrative line on the conflict) would be "hunted down," and made to "pay" for their refusal to agree with the Kiev regime's worldview, apparently a war crime in the court of Ashton-Cirillo's imagination.

Amidst her over-the-top promises of "gnashing of teeth and foaming at the mouth" to come, it's worth pointing out that in many ways this person defines the many moral contradictions of the West's proxy war. This theatrically presented individual is routinely rolled out by the Kiev regime, presumably in an attempt to underline Ukraine's apparent acceptance of transgender people. In this, Vladimir Zelensky's PR priority to virtue signal to the West trumps reality: his country has a track record of oppression against LGBTQ rights, detailed in multiple human rights reports published prior to the start of Russia's military operation in February 2022. In an apparent effort to memory-hole that history, Kiev is now parading one of the world's best-known transgender personalities, a personality who seems all too happy to deliver the threats of a regime capable of deploying a well-resourced and deadly security service to kill, maim, and terrorize its political opponents at home and abroad.

Interestingly, and likewise prior to the latest phase of the conflict, the English-language megaphone of the Zelensky regime, the Kyiv Post, published a story outlining deep seated corruption and dysfunction in Kiev's main security and intelligence agency, the KGB successor known as the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU). In that article, which would be almost impossible to publish in today's utterly repressed Ukrainian media landscape, the paper suggested that since the beginning of the Donbass conflict after the Maidan coup in 2014, the SBU had been abusing its powers, enriching itself while acting with absolute impunity as what amounted to a private security and enforcement army for the oligarch turned president, Pyotr Poroshenko.

Fast forward to 2023 and this controversial and secretive agency has cemented its position as the most feared element in an increasingly authoritarian and aggressive Ukrainian security infrastructure. The SBU is now central to the internal repression of all political opposition, the Orthodox Church, and control of all domestic challenges to the pro-Western government of Vladimir Zelensky. Six years ago, the Kyiv Post suggested that the SBU had "become effectively uncontrollable and unaccountable," and given the scale of the conflict and dysfunction enveloping Ukraine today, we can presume that the SBU's impunity and power has expanded to impact every element of Ukrainian society. With apparent assistance from the CIA, MI5 and other NATO intelligence services, it has now further expanded its access to data on "enemies of Ukraine," whether real or imagined.

Most crucially, the SBU now projects its sinister capabilities well beyond the borders of its own state, targeting what it deems "propagandists" and "collaborators" in eastern Ukraine and Russia with terrorist attacks and intimidation via its network of agents and operatives. While never openly admitted, the SBU's involvement in attacks on Russian soil is all but certain, with evidence ranging from [a perpetrator's confession](#) and [revelations](#) by a former head of the service, to the sheer reach of the operations and the choice of targets themselves – taken straight from the notorious 'Mirotvorets' kill list, which had openly advertised its links to the SBU and Ukrainian police in the past.

What's perhaps more fascinating about the bloody operations the SBU has embarked upon since the beginning of Russia's military intervention in Ukraine in 2022, isn't the extrajudicial killings and assassinations themselves. What's really fascinating is how Kiev's Western funders and "partners" choose to actively ignore its routine use of what any objective observer would have to describe as terrorism, with "respectable" Western publications like The Economist publishing disturbingly complimentary articles about the SBU, describing its gruesome work against unarmed "targets" in articles stylized as adventurous escapades by a steely underdog. The Economist's article "[Inside Ukraine's Assassination Programme](#)," blatantly attempts to legitimize the brutality of the covert assassination operations, only voicing concern that "a clear strategy is absent."

Despite this, the glorification of this shady and corrupt organisation is evident across the Western media, with attempts to present the murder of a defenseless, unarmed young woman like



**Daria Dugina as legitimate, snidely implying that her brutal killing was in some way justified by her opposing political views.** Another allegedly respectable news outlet, [The New York Times](#), suggested that “*since the beginning of the war, Ukraine’s security services have demonstrated their ability to reach into Russia to conduct sabotage operations.*” **Tellingly, rather than describe the killing of Dugina as what it was, murder, the NYT said it was “one of the boldest operations to date — showing Ukraine can get very close to prominent Russians.”**

An **American newspaper describing the killing of an innocent young woman, by a car bomb, near a European capital as “bold,” underlines the selective morality that Western media willfully deploys** when it comes to the coverage of the conflict in Ukraine, an attitude that was similarly exposed when blogger and war reporter **Vladlen Tatarsky was murdered in a targeted assassination in St. Petersburg in April.** In the aftermath, [Reuters suggested](#) that “*the killing is an attack on the hardline pro-war camp in Russia, and sends a warning to other members of this group that they could be targeted anywhere.*” Again, there is no concern that it took place in a restaurant full of civilians, on a public street, with absolutely no warning being given. **What would routinely be described by Reuters as terrorism anywhere else, is subliminally conjured into some form of heroic resistance operation** targeting a “*propagandist,*” rather than the daylight murder of a private individual for disagreeing with the Kiev narrative on the conflict in Ukraine, a country of which he was once a citizen.

**So, as the Western media increasingly fails to suppress the gruesome reality of Ukraine’s military failures, it’s unfortunately likely that Kiev will increase attempts to deliver some sort of impact elsewhere, and despite reports that Ukraine’s targeted assassinations have likely left a bad taste in their NATO handlers’ mouths,** it’s equally unlikely that they are in any position to restrain the brutal apparatus they have been so instrumental in creating. While Kiev’s Western partners publicly evangelize values like freedom of speech, democracy, and the rights of the individual, privately they arm, train, and intimately collaborate with an organisation that now openly boasts of carrying out terror attacks against civilian infrastructure and political adversaries, cynically targeted for simply disagreeing. All things considered, it’s now absolutely obvious that Western moral outrage mysteriously evaporates at the Russian border, with no crime against Russians, or those calling for balanced debate, being unforgivable in the West. Sadly, it seems NATO’s proxies in Kiev are determined to license, facilitate, and then ignore increasingly sinister and brutal “*operations*” by the SBU and its paid accomplices, with Washington’s and Brussels’ willful “*a-la-carte*” attitude to morality remaining as stunning as it is indefensible.

The statements, views and opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of RT. <https://www.rt.com/russia/583149-transgender-threats-ukraine-kiev/> **[So this is an example of just what a wonderful “democratic country” the US keeps talking about as Ukraine. Balderdash. Ukraine has been a dictatorship and a criminal enterprise for years and the most unfortunate thing is that the supporters of this criminal group (mostly those benefiting from its criminal action) are those in the US government. – rdb]**

## **Ukraine has ‘zombie’ economy – ex-PM**

**Kiev lacks funds to pay its military due to the “catastrophic” state of its finances, Nikolay Azarov has claimed**  
18 Sep, 2023 12:31

**The Ukrainian economy has turned into a “zombie” that only shows signs of life with Western financing, former Prime Minister Nikolay Azarov claimed on Monday.**

**Writing on Telegram, the former politician argued that the national economy is “falling apart,” and that Ukraine is faced with minimal GDP growth and a looming devaluation of the hryvna “under pressure from the International Monetary Fund.”**

**Meanwhile, public debt is surging and the budget deficit is widening despite Western aid,** according to Azarov.

**“The best illustration of the catastrophic state of affairs is that the budget of the country at war lacks more than \$6 billion to pay the Ukrainian military alone,”** he said.

**Azarov claimed that the families of Polish mercenaries killed during the conflict had not received any compensation despite promises from Kiev.**

**“As a result, the Ukrainian economy increasingly resembles a ‘zombie’ – it shows signs of life only with foreign financial assistance, which it requires more and more,”** the former prime minister argued.

According to Azarov, Ukraine's "closest analogues" in terms of economic woes are Afghanistan and Haiti, which are faced with similar problems. He added that the "most daring" forecasts show that Ukraine will need more than 30 years to catch up with the current economic level of Romania or Poland. <https://www.rt.com/business/583146-ukraine-zombie-economy/>

## Police: Palestinian attempts to stab officers at East Jerusalem checkpoint, is shot

*Suspect allegedly draws knife as he approaches Mazmuria checkpoint; Palestinians carry out three shootings against IDF troops in West Bank*

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) Today, 8:47 am Updated at 1:03 pm [5](#)



Police are seen at the Mazmuria checkpoint, near the Har Homa neighborhood of East Jerusalem, after a Palestinian man attempted to stab officers. September 18, 2023. (Yonatan Sindel/FLASH90)

**A Palestinian man was shot by police officers after attempting to carry out a stabbing attack at a checkpoint near Jerusalem on Monday morning, law enforcement officials said.**

**According to police, the suspect, a 47-year-old from the Bethlehem area, approached the Mazmuria checkpoint near the Har Homa neighborhood of southern East Jerusalem, and aroused the suspicion of Border Police officers**

stationed there.

**A police spokesman said the man was walking between cars as he approached the checkpoint from the direction of the West Bank, while one hand was behind his back.**

**Officers stationed at the checkpoint sought to question the Palestinian man, who then drew a knife from behind his back and ran toward the forces, the spokesman said. A Border Police officer shot at him in response.**

Police said the suspect was taken by medics to a nearby hospital for treatment. His condition was not immediately clear.

There were no other injuries in the incident.



*This handout photo from police shows a knife allegedly used by a Palestinian man in an attempted stabbing attack at the Mazmuria checkpoint near Jerusalem, September 18, 2023. (Israel Police)*

**Also on Monday morning, Palestinian gunmen carried out three separate shooting attacks against Israeli forces in the West Bank, the military said.**

**In one of the attacks, an army patrol driving along the West Bank security barrier near the northern Israeli town of Meirav came under fire. The Israel Defense Forces said a military vehicle was damaged in the attack, but no soldiers were wounded.**

**In another attack, a Palestinian gunman opened fire from the West Bank town of Dayr Sharaf toward a nearby army post, the IDF said.**

The IDF said the post was hit by the gunfire, and no injuries were caused. Troops scanning the area for the suspect found several shell casings.

**In a separate attack overnight, Palestinian gunmen opened fire at the Salem checkpoint in the northern West Bank. MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/police-palestinian-attempts-to-stab-officers-at-east-jerusalem-checkpoint-is-shot/>**

## Palestinians riot on Gaza border for third time in days, despite Israeli sanctions

*Pedestrian crossing to remain closed for at least another day following renewed violence on frontier; 2 said to be wounded by IDF fire*

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) Today, 8:49 pm Updated at 12:25 am [1](#)



*Palestinian rioters clash with Israeli soldiers at the Israel-Gaza border barrier, east of Khan Yunis, in the southern Gaza Strip, on September 17, 2023. (Yousef Mohammed/ Flash90)*

**Hundreds of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip rioted on the border with Israel on Monday afternoon, for the third time in days, despite Israeli sanctions and an airstrike on a post belonging to the Hamas terror group that rules the territory.**

**In response to the riot, the sole pedestrian crossing with the Gaza Strip — shuttered since Friday — would remain closed for at least another day, Israeli**

authorities announced Monday night.

**The Israel Defense Forces said the rioters set fire to tires and detonated explosive devices on the security barrier.**

**Troops responded with crowd dispersal means and live fire in some cases.**

**The Hamas-run health ministry in the Gaza Strip said two Palestinians were wounded by Israeli fire.**

**Hamas appears to have resumed regular violent protests** along the frontier, with an increasing number of riots in recent weeks.

On Friday, the IDF carried out a [drone strike](#) against a Hamas observation post in the Gaza Strip in response to renewed rioting along the border.

On Sunday night, Israel announced the temporary [closure](#) of the Erez border crossing with the Palestinian enclave, in response to another [riot](#). **MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinians-riot-on-gaza-border-for-third-time-in-days-despite-israeli-sanctions/>**

## **‘100% carrots’: Arab states, EU unveil plan to entice Israel, PA to sign peace deal**

*Initiative’s European architect highlights effort to show parties what will be available to them if they reach a deal;*

*Arab participants use event to blast Israeli policies*

By [Jacob Magid](#) Today, 10:23 pm [1](#)



*Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry, Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan, Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi, and EU foreign policy chief Joseph Borrell at an event on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly aimed at reviving the Israeli-Palestinian peace process on September 18, 2023. (Egypt Foreign Ministry/ Twitter)*

**Nearly 30 foreign ministers from countries in Europe and the Middle East met on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly on Monday to unveil a new initiative aimed at reviving the long-dormant Israeli-Palestinian peace process.**

**The “Peace Day Effort” was driven by the European Union, Saudi Arabia, the Arab League, Egypt, and Jordan, who agreed at the event to produce a “Peace Supporting Package” in the coming months that will maximize dividends for Israelis and Palestinians, once they reach a peace agreement.**

**Participants agreed to form three working groups that will be tasked with producing the components of the package. One working group will outline potential post-peace regional, political, and security cooperation mechanisms. A second working group will develop proposals for economic cooperation in areas such as trade, investment, innovation, transportation, natural resources, and the environment. A third working group will develop proposals for cooperation in humanitarian, inter-cultural, and human security issues.**

**Participating countries also agreed to assess the initiative's progress every three months** before presenting the finalized Peace Supporting Package by September 2024.

The **main architect of the initiative, EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process Sven Koopmans, told The Times of Israel in a Sunday interview** that the plan's contributors are "envisaging... what regionally and globally everybody would contribute the moment that there is an Israeli-Palestinian agreement."

He **clarified that those behind the Peace Day Effort are not trying to negotiate an Israeli-Palestinian peace deal, since only the parties themselves can do this. "What we are now starting to do is to say, 'If you reach that agreement... this is what we would contribute as your neighbors, as your friends and potential future friends to your peace."**



*Sven Koopmans (Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal / Wikipedia)*

**The EU envoy said the package would also include incentives for the Syrian and Lebanese governments to make peace with Israel,** without elaborating further.

With a **hardline, anti-two-state solution government currently in power in Jerusalem and an ever-weakening Palestinian leadership clinging to power in Ramallah, Koopmans admitted that peace talks are not likely any time soon.**

"There is still a lot that their friends and potential friends can do themselves to prepare the ground," he maintained.

**The senior EU official said Brussels continues to advance a policy opposing Israel's presence in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.** However, the **initiative unveiled Monday is focused on offering incentives to the parties, rather than continuing a more punitive approach.**

**"This particular effort is 100 percent carrots.** But that doesn't mean that everything in EU policy is just that," Koopmans said.

**The Peace Day Effort is also building on a 2013 offer by the EU to present an "unprecedented package of political, security and economic support"** to both of the conflict's parties once they reach a peace deal. The terms of such an offer were never fleshed out and the formation of the working groups will provide the sides an opportunity to do so, Koopmans said.

He went on to express his hope that the Peace Day Effort would spark a debate in Israel over how it wants to end the conflict. "With this effort, we hope to make a contribution to that debate." **MORE -**

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/100-carrots-arab-states-eu-unveil-plan-to-entice-israel-pa-to-sign-peace-deal/>

## **URGENT: New Pfizer-funded study shows properly dosed mRNA Covid jabs are useless in children under 5**

*The standard three-shot dosing regimen did not help young kids avoid medical care for Covid. Why does the Centers for Disease Control continue to push jabs on them?*

[Alex Berenson](#) Sep 17, 2023

**The approved three-dose schedule of Pfizer Covid jabs for children under 5 did not reduce Covid-related medical visits in those kids, scientists reported** [Friday](#).

**Covid jab advocates claim the shots help people avoid serious illness from Covid, though they offer brief protection - at best - against infection. But the new study suggested that the shots fail on that front too, and offer only risk and no benefit at all, at least in young kids.**

Pfizer itself paid for the study, published as a "research letter" in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

**The researchers, including one from Pfizer, tried to obscure the finding of failure for the standard regimen.**

**In the paper, they combined it with the results of an unapproved two-dose regimen that showed a modest benefit. They then reported the overall results for "at least two" doses.**

That presentation is scientifically bizarre.

Pfizer, the Food and Drug Administration, and CDC all say a three-dose regimen is standard for young kids. That's the dosing schedule Pfizer tested in its clinical trial.

If researchers chose to report results from kids who have received a partial vaccination in the vaccinated category, why did they not also include those who have received a single dose?

Instead, they failed to report the one-dose results at all.

Further, reporting two shots are protective while three are not lacks any biological plausibility. If the vaccine works, three doses should produce a stronger immune response than two.

In fact, Pfizer added a third dose to the standard regimen for young kids because it feared two shots were not working well enough. (The shots for young children contain less mRNA, the active ingredient that produces an immune response, than those for adults.)

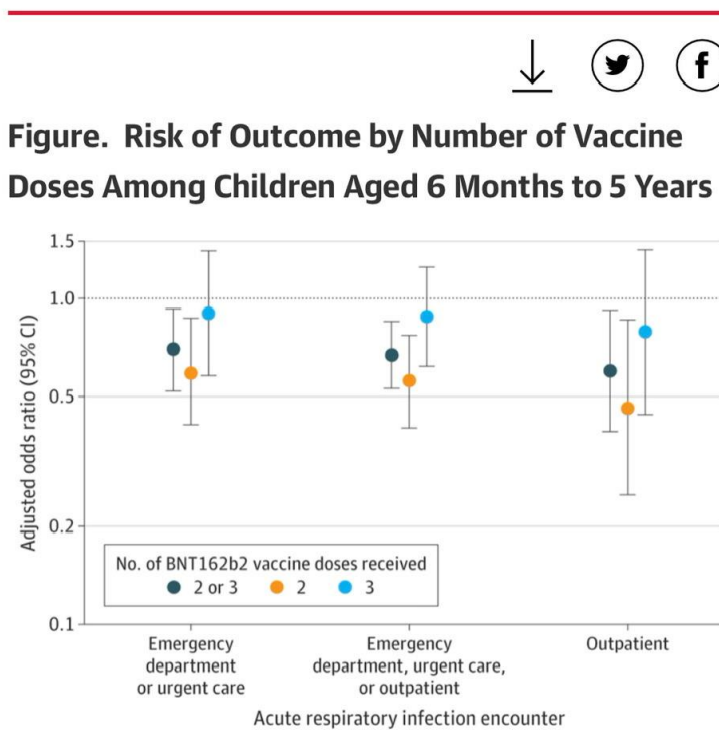
But combining two shots with three did help the researchers in one way - it allowed them to relegate the failure of the approved dosing schedule to a single line in the paper.

—  
This chart looks more complicated than it is.

See the blue dots? Those are the ones that matter.

Those are the ones that represents the risk to kids who took the shots the way Pfizer and the Centers for Disease Control recommended. See how all three blue dots are basically stuck at the 1.0 horizontal line?

Now see how the top end of the brackets around the blue dots are above the line? Those brackets are the "confidence intervals." If they're above 1, no one can say whether the shots help, do nothing, or hurt - at least based on this study. And they are WELL above 1.



Models adjusted for date of encounter, age, sex, self-reported race and ethnicity, pediatric risk score, and prior SARS-CoV-2 infection. The reference group (dotted line) is unvaccinated participants.

## SOURCE

The study's finding comes only days after the Centers for Disease Control again began pushing Covid mRNA jabs on kids, a recommendation few other countries make.

Since regulators authorized the shots for young kids last year, most parents have rejected them. Only about 2 million kids, or 10 percent of American children under five, have received even one mRNA jab, according to the CDC. Of those, barely half have completed their [three-shot primary series](#).

From the beginning, the effort to approve and promote the mRNAs in young children has been troubled.

In December 2021, after Pfizer had started the big clinical trial needed to approve the shots for young kids, the company added a third dose to the dosing schedule. That change violated basic rules of clinical trial design, which say the drug regimen has to be "pre-specified" before the trial starts or results are collected.

But the Food and Drug Administration allowed the trial change. Then, in June 2022, it authorized the Pfizer vaccine for those kids "as a [primary series of three doses](#)." The CDC agrees the three-dose regimen is the [standard](#). The FDA authorization set off a massive government campaign, eagerly abetted by the elite media and the primary lobbying group for pediatricians, to push the shots. <https://alexberenson.substack.com/p/urgent-new-pfizer-funded-study-shows>

**Once again you see Pfizer and the FDA and CDC playing loosie goosie with well established research procedures. Run don't walk if they come after you or your family with a Jab. JUST IN CASE YOU MISSED IT HERE ARE THE LINKS ON COV FROM LAST PM> \_ RDB**

**Dr. McCullough Speaks 15 minutes of absolute truth.**

**PLEASE watch and spread around 15 min**

[https://twitter.com/DrSHankMD/status/1702322350711345248?t=I-Ly\\_RIDxOK3rDTf7ItcsA&s=01](https://twitter.com/DrSHankMD/status/1702322350711345248?t=I-Ly_RIDxOK3rDTf7ItcsA&s=01)

**Dr. Peter McCullough: "The government shouldn't OWN these vaccines"**

**| Redacted with Clayton Morris 15 min**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ueMBr4BuTY>

**The COVID Clots: A Full Measure Town Hall 50 min**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVGf-XZ3Y\\_s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVGf-XZ3Y_s)

**Excellent but long. Should be used for legal prosecution**

**'Quickly turned horrific': Family hears woman screaming as she's euthanized!**

**Prosecutor now opens murder investigation**

By [WND News Services](#) Published September 17, 2023 at 11:32am By **Cassy Fiano-Chesser** Live Action News

The euthanasia program in Belgium has come under fire again, following news that a woman was suffocated with a pillow after the cocktail of drugs administered to her failed to end her life.

Le Soir, a European media outlet, reported that Alexina Wattiez, who was just 36 years old, sought euthanasia after being diagnosed with terminal cancer. In 2021, her doctor informed her that she would not survive for another year, and by March of 2022, her health was deteriorating.

Christophe Stulens, Wattiez's partner, was there when she died, along with his 15-year-old daughter, Tracy. A doctor and two nurses came to the home that the three shared to carry out the euthanasia. "After a short night's sleep, I was woken up by a nurse who told me that Alexina was doing very badly," Stulens said. "Then the doctor took some syringes and we were asked if we wanted to say goodbye."

**Stulens and his daughter were told to wait outside, so they went onto the terrace, but what they thought would be a peaceful death quickly turned horrific: they heard screaming.**

“I recognized her voice,” he said. “Afterwards we saw her lying on the bed with her eyes and mouth open.”

**An autopsy was performed, and found that Wattiez died of asphyxiation. Allegedly, the nurses took turns using a pillow to suffocate her. “Alexina wanted to sleep peacefully, but apparently there were too few resources,” Stulens said. The Public Prosecution Service of Liège has now opened a murder investigation, while Stulens is suing.**

A lawyer for the family, Maître Renaud Molders-Pierre, said they are not looking to get money.

**“Their goal is not to demand sanctions but to provoke a debate and that this type of affair never happens again,”** he said. “Could you imagine that your mother or your wife could end up suffocated by a cushion as part of her end of life? I think no one can conceive and imagine that.”

**Sudinfo, a Belgian media outlet, was able to speak to someone on behalf of the doctor. “The nurses were distraught and they called the doctor, my client,” Serge Douin said on behalf of the doctor, adding, “he only injected products to relieve the patient’s suffering.”**

**The incident was quickly condemned. “What happened is not euthanasia,”** Belgian politician and doctor Jacques Brotchi told RTL Info. “Such a definition of this terrible situation devalues the gesture of euthanasia, which accompanies a person to the end without pain.”

**The drugs used in assisted suicide are often the same used for executions, and they are frequently known to fail.** Additionally, while the process of dying may *look* peaceful, in reality, there is a serious possibility of severe pain.

**As Dr. Joel Zivot, an associate professor of anesthesiology and surgery at the Emory School of Medicine, has previously explained, “The death penalty is not the same as assisted dying,** of course. Executions are meant to be punishment; euthanasia is about relief from suffering. Yet for both euthanasia and executions, paralytic drugs are used. These drugs, given in high enough doses, mean that a patient cannot move a muscle, cannot express any outward or visible sign of pain. But that doesn’t mean that he or she is free from suffering.”

In fact, the lungs may fill with fluid, causing the patient to [essentially drown](#) while he or she is paralyzed.

“Advocates of assisted dying owe a duty to the public to be truthful about the details of killing and dying,” Zivot continued. “People who want to die deserve to know that they may end up drowning, not just falling asleep.”

<https://www.wnd.com/2023/09/quickly-turned-horrific-family-hears-woman-screaming-euthanized/> **This is totally beyond the pale. Euthanasia is the antithesis of God’s command to “chose Life.” To simply smother someone is murder. – rdb]**