

News from Ukraine Bulletin 197 (25 May 2026)

A Digest of News from Ukrainian sources – also attached as a PDF

In this week's bulletin: [Kremlin perfect storm](#)/ [The coming bad peace](#)/ [More evidence of Russian torture](#)/ [Russia's use of chemical weapons](#)/ [Repression numbers game](#)/ [The tale of Yermak](#)/ [Kremlin trolls on the march](#)

News from the territories occupied by Russia:

Death [sentence without witnesses](#) in Russia's latest conveyor-belt trial of Crimean Tatar political prisoners (Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, May 22nd)

Ukrainian [sentenced to five years](#) for writing that Russian-occupied territory is part of Ukraine (Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, May 21st)

Russia passes [life sentence on 'treason' charges](#) against Ukrainian accused of acts of resistance (Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, May 20th)

Weekly update on the [situation in occupied Crimea](#) (Crimea Platform, May 19th)

71-year-old [Ukrainian patriot Halyna Dovhopola unbroken](#) after 7 years in Russian captivity, but "won't survive another such winter" (Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, May 19th)

55-year-old Crimean [seized at Russian airport and tortured](#) to fabricate treason charges over donations to Ukraine (Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, May 18th)

Russia's fake 'secret witness' [exposes fabricated charges](#) against five Crimean Tatar political prisoners (Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, May 18th)

Suspect in the [deportation of children from occupied Kherson](#) region becomes an ombudsperson in Russia (Zmina, May 14th)

News from Ukraine:

Mass [protests, hundreds of pages of amendments](#) – what comes next? Human rights defenders and media professionals call for revisions to the draft Civil Code (Zmina, May 20th)

The tale of Yermak: How Zelensky's [former right-hand man ended up under arrest](#) on corruption charges (The Insider, May 16th)

"Good customs" vs human rights: [ZMINA brought together more than 60 participants](#) to discuss the risks of the new Civil Code (Zmina, May 15th)

War-related news from Russia:

"I Don't Want to [Get Used to the War](#)" (Russian Reader, May 23rd)

Russia stages [third 'trial' of Ukrainian POW, adds 2 years to illegal 18-year sentence](#) for comments about Russian war crimes (Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, May 22nd)

Institute of Philosophy raids [target Aristotle translation project](#) (Meduza, 22 May)

Azov Brigade chief medic [tortured to death](#) in Russian captivity (Ukrainska Pravda, May 22nd)

Trolls [on the March](#) on Kremlin's Orders (Posle.Media, May 20th)

Inner [Emigrants](#) (Russian Reader, May 20th)

Ukrainian ex-prisoners in Russia [remain in detention](#) (iStories, 20 May)

The cold shoulder, instead of a “time for heroes”: [Russian policy on war veterans](#) (iStories, 19 May)
Political [Repression Is a Numbers Game](#) in Russia (Moscow Times, May 18th)

Analysis and comment:

The political economy of Ukraine’s war and the [politics of a coming bad peace](#) (Europe Solidaire Sans Frontieres, May 21st)

Kyiv says [war has reached a pivotal moment](#) (Meduza, 22 May)

The Kremlin’s [Perfect Storm](#) (Posle.Media, May 19th)

«Civil [Society is the Backbone of Democratic Resilience](#)». Center for Civil Liberties at the OSCE Civil Society Parallel Conference (Centre for Civil Liberties, May 15th)

War in Ukraine: [How Has Our Analysis Changed?](#) (September Collective, May 5th)

Research of human rights abuses:

Memory that shapes the future: ZMINA joined the “Generation Nika” Award Ceremony in [honour of Veronika Kozhushko](#) (Zmina, May 20th)

How Russia Uses [Chemical Agents](#) Against Ukrainian Military Personnel (Tribunal for Putin, May 19th)

International [Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#) in Situations of Armed Conflict: human rights defenders made a submission (Zmina, May 18th)

International solidarity:

Ukrainian on flotilla [now out of Israeli captivity](#) (Facebook, May 20th)

Upcoming events:

Tuesday, 26th May, 19.00, Edinburgh. Voices Against Putin's War: An Evening in Solidarity with Ukraine. Lighthouse Bookshop, 43-45 West Nicolson Street, EH8 9DB. More [information here](#).

Wednesday 27 May, 19.00, Glasgow. Voices Against Putin's War at Mount Florida Books, Glasgow. With Simon Pirani & Fellow Readers [More details here](#).

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This bulletin is put together by labour movement activists in solidarity with Ukrainian resistance. To receive it by email each Monday, email us at 2022ukrainsolidarity@gmail.com. To stop the bulletin, reply with the word “STOP” in the subject field. More information at <https://ukraine-solidarity.org/>. We are also [on twitter](#), [Bluesky](#), [Facebook](#) and [Substack](#), and the bulletin is [stored on line here](#).

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