

Fact sheet

Three years since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine:
Key facts and findings about the impact on human rights
24 February 2022 to February 2025

This fact sheet summarizes the cumulative impact of the Russian Federation's full-scale invasion of Ukraine on human rights and civilian protection. It is based on the monitoring, documentation, and public reporting by the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU).

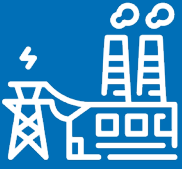


At least **12,654** civilians killed
(including **673** children) and
29,392 injured (including
1,865 children)

Harm to the civilian population

Civilian Casualties:

- At least 12,654 civilians have been killed and 29,392 injured since 24 February 2022, the majority (84 per cent) in territory controlled by Ukrainian authorities.¹
- Children accounted for 673 of those killed and 1,865 of those injured. Although people over 60 make up only 25 per cent of the general population, older persons accounted for nearly half of civilian deaths and more than a third of injuries² in frontline communities in 2024.
- Civilian have been killed and injured in 24 of Ukraine's 27 administrative regions.
- The number of civilian casualties increased by 30 per cent in 2024 compared to 2023.



The attacks have significantly reduced Ukraine's electricity generating capacity

Attacks on energy infrastructure:

- Russian armed forces have deliberately, repeatedly, and systematically attacked energy infrastructure in Ukraine through a series of large-scale, coordinated strikes.
- The attacks have significantly reduced Ukraine's electricity generating capacity, leading to temporary emergency and scheduled power outages across the country.
- The reverberating effects of the attacks have affected water distribution, sewage and sanitation systems, heating and hot water, public health, education and the overall economy.



At least **790** attacks have damaged or destroyed medical facilities

Damage to medical and educational facilities:

- At least 790 attacks have damaged or destroyed medical facilities and 1,670 have damaged or destroyed educational facilities since 24 February 2022.
- In 2024, at least 306 attacks affected medical facilities – a threefold increase compared to 2023; and at least 576 attacks affected educational facilities – a 96 per cent increase compared to 2023.



An estimated **139,000** square kilometers of Ukraine are contaminated

Environmental damage:

- Ukraine now has one of the highest global prevalences of explosive remnants of war and landmines, which will likely cause civilian casualties far into the future. An estimated 139,000 square kilometers of Ukraine are contaminated.
- The breach of the dam at the Kakhovska Hydroelectric Power Plant on 6 June 2023 resulted in massive flooding downstream, triggering an environmental disaster with catastrophic effects on communities across the region.



HRMMU verified executions of **71** Ukrainian POWs and **26** Russian POWs

At least **21** Ukrainian POWs and **1** Russian POW died in custody



PRISONERS OF WAR (POW)

Ukrainian POWs in Russian captivity:

- Russian authorities have subjected Ukrainian POWs to systematic and widespread torture, including sexual violence, and poor conditions. Almost all (95%) of the 454 released Ukrainian POWs interviewed provided accounts of torture or ill-treatment in Russian captivity. Torture has been pervasive during interrogation and throughout all stages of captivity. 237 of those interviewed were subjected to sexual violence.

- At least 21 Ukrainian POWs died in custody.

- HRMMU verified executions of 71 Ukrainian POWs since February 2022. It recorded an alarming spike in executions since August 2024 with at least 79 executions assessed as credible in 24 separate incidents.

Russian POWs in Ukrainian captivity:

- About half of the 469 interviewed Russian POWs described torture and ill-treatment, mostly during the initial stages of captivity, before they reach official places of internment. Twenty-six of those interviewed were subjected to sexual violence.

- At least 1 Russian POW died in custody.

- HRMMU has verified the execution of 26 Russian POWs (all men); with one exception, these occurred in 2022 and early 2023.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN TERRITORY OCCUPIED BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Violations of the laws of occupation:

- Imposed wholesale the systems of governance, law enforcement, judiciary, administration and education of the Russian Federation.

- Forced residents to obtain Russian citizenship.

- Residents are increasingly required to obtain Russian passports to access healthcare, buy or sell property, secure public-sector jobs, and receive social security benefits.

- Subjected residents to forced conscription and conducted propaganda.

- Compelled children to be loyal to the Russian State, including by teaching them military skills for future service.

In violation of the laws of occupation, the occupying authorities of the Russian Federation have, in the occupied territory of Ukraine:

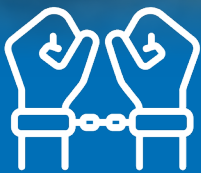




At least **170** civilians
(**142** men, **23** women, **3** boys,
2 girls) have been executed
in areas controlled by Russian
authorities

Treatment of civilian detainees in the hands of the Russian Federation:

- About three quarters of the 281 interviewed released civilian detainees have provided credible accounts that they were tortured or ill-treated.
- At least 29 civilians (all men) have died in custody in detention facilities in the occupied territory.
- At least 170 civilians (142 men, 23 women, 3 boys, 2 girls) have been executed in areas controlled by Russian authorities, including in places of detention.



In occupied Crimea, at least **1,057** residents (**493** women and **564** men) have been convicted for the administrative offence of “discrediting the Russian armed forces” and “displaying Nazi symbols or showing disrespect for the Russian state”

Fundamental freedoms and civic space:

- Russian authorities have restricted the exercise of freedom of religion or belief, freedom of expression and opinion, and freedom of assembly.
- In occupied Crimea, at least 1,057 residents (493 women and 564 men) have been convicted for the administrative offence of “discrediting the Russian armed forces” and “displaying Nazi symbols or showing disrespect for the Russian state,” in many cases for legitimate expressions of their opinions, or for displaying symbols of Ukrainian identity.
- Journalists and media outlets have been convicted for legitimate acts that fall under the right to freedom of expression such as calling the Russian armed attack against Ukraine a “war”, calling for people to resist mobilization into the Russian Armed Forces, and publishing the UN Secretary General’s reports.
- Members of religious groups that are perceived to be opposing the Russian Federation and its armed attack against Ukraine have been detained and sentenced to prison terms or deported. Members of the Jehovah’s Witnesses and Hizb ut-Tahrir, which are prohibited in the Russian Federation but legal in Ukraine, have been particularly targeted.



Among more than **2000** verdicts analyzed, approximately **13%** of person convicted by Ukrainian authorities for “collaboration activities” were convicted for conduct that, in principle, could be lawfully compelled by the occupying Power.



HUMAN RIGHTS IN TERRITORY CONTROLLED BY UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES

Treatment of conflict-related civilian detainees:

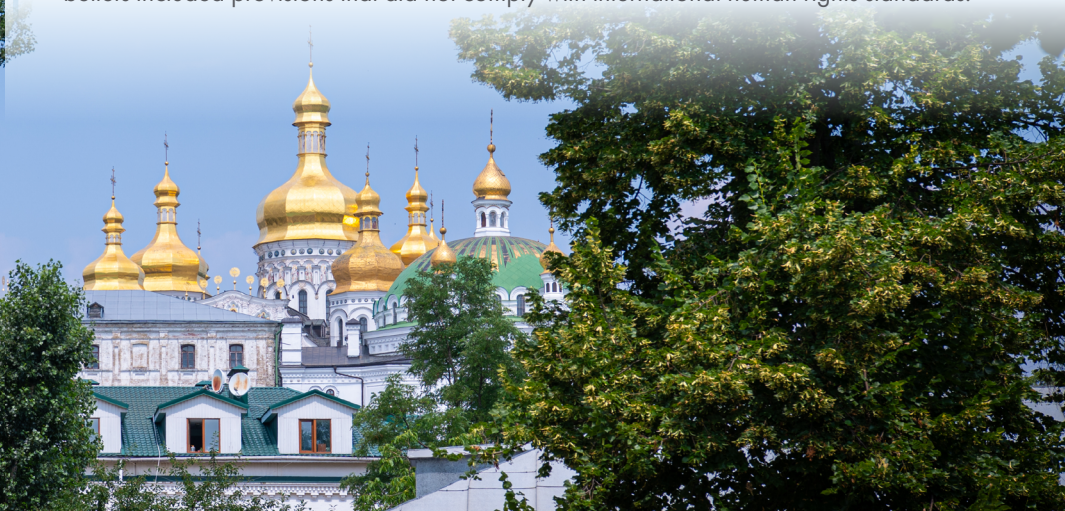
- Of the 450 conflict-related detainees interviewed since 2022, more than a third reported torture or ill-treatment, including threats.


Prosecutions for collaboration activities:

- Among the more than 2000 verdicts analyzed, approximately 13% of individuals convicted by Ukrainian authorities for “collaboration activities” were convicted for actions that, in principle, could be lawfully compelled by the occupying Power. Such prosecutions are not in line with international law.
- Ukrainian authorities gave insufficient consideration to individual circumstances, including duress, in these convictions.

Religion and national minorities:

- Groups of people have forcefully entered church buildings of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, citing decisions from local authorities to register new religious communities of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine at the same addresses.
- Legislation impacting the protection of minorities and the freedom to manifest religious beliefs included provisions that did not comply with international human rights standards.



HRMMU’s findings since 24 February 2022³ are based on 

METHODOLOGY

- 7783 interviews (3847 women and 3936 men)
- 715 field visits, mainly to high-risk areas, including front-line communities.
- 196 visits to places of detention
- 200 trial hearings monitored
- 140 visits to care institutions and shelters
- 9 assemblies monitored
- Analysis of source material including official records, court documents, open-source materials, videos, photographs and medical records, to corroborate information gathered during interviews

FOOTNOTES

1. The actual extent of civilian casualties is likely considerably higher as many reports of civilian harm, particularly from the period immediately after the full-scale armed attack of 24 February 2022, have not been possible to verify due to the large number of reports and the lack of access to relevant areas.
2. Based on records for which the age is known.
3. These figures cover the period from 24 February 2022 to 30 November 2024.



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