

# *Russian Invasion*

## *February 2022 – June 2023*

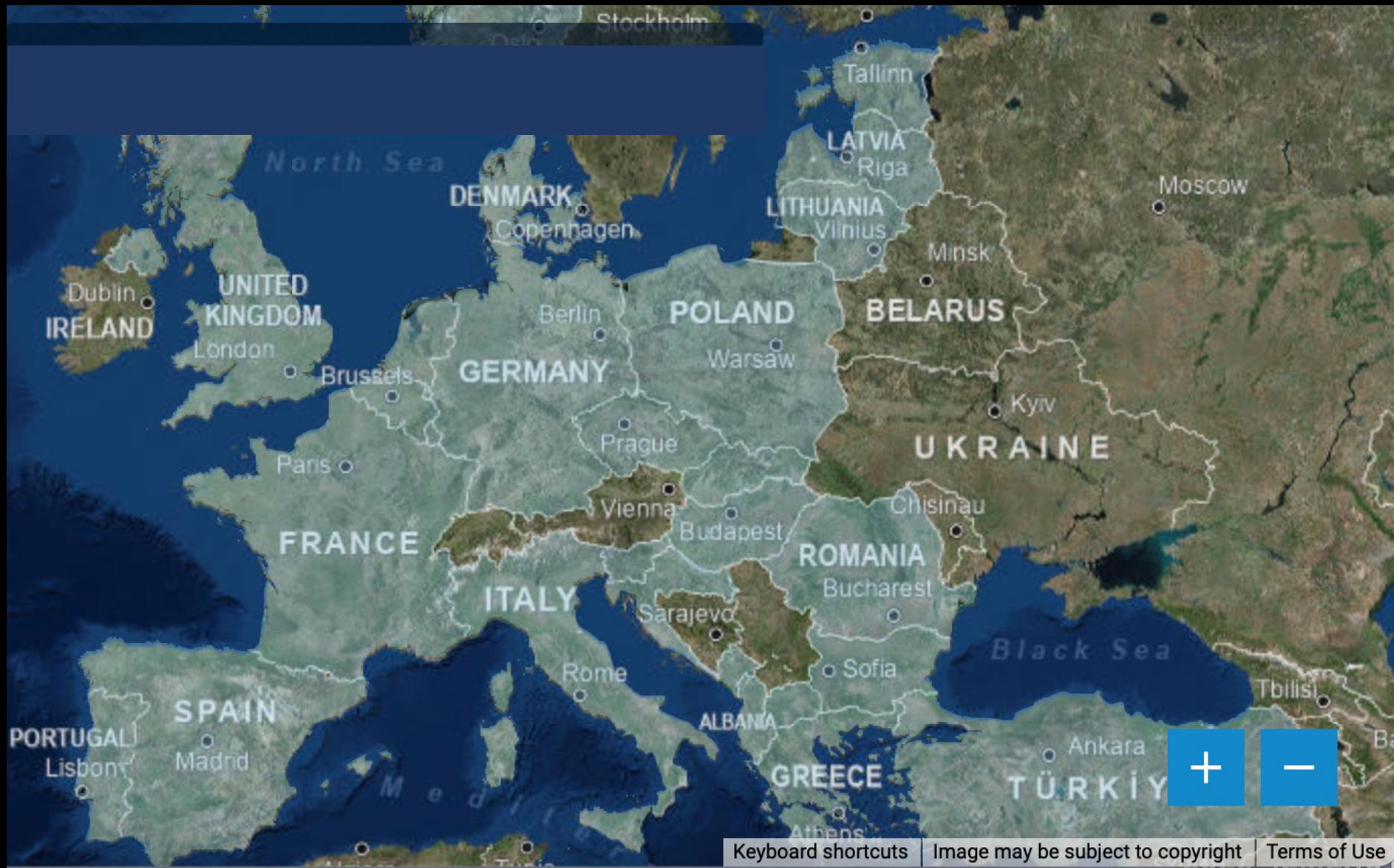
Understanding the War in Ukraine

Session #2

# Ukraine February 2022



# *Europe in February 2022*





# October 2021–February 2022





# *Russian Military Build-up – Belarus*



MAXAR

Maxar Technologies (Courtesy Photo)



# *Russian Military Build-up – Crimea*



MAXAR

Maxar Technologies (Courtesy Photo)



# *24 February 2022 Russian Attack on Ukraine*

- Full-scale military invasion: “special military operation” to protect the civilian population and to “demilitarize” and “de-Nazify” Ukraine
- Goals:
  - Take possession of Ukraine
  - Remove Ukraine President Zelensky from power
  - Place a puppet government in Kyiv

# Initial Attack





# *Battle of Antonov Airport*



# *Antonov AN-225 Mriya*

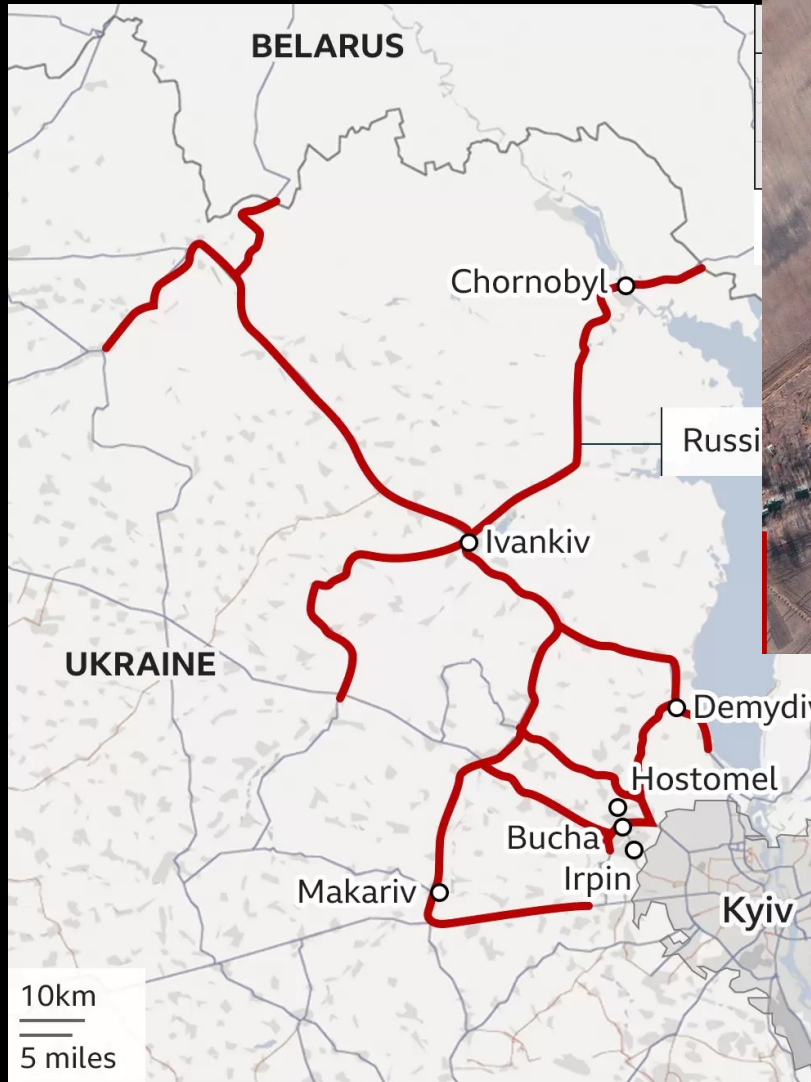


UR: Marco McGinty/Alamy Stock Photo

LL: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antonov\\_An-225\\_Mriya#/media/File:50\\_днів\\_активного\\_спротиву\\_окупанту\\_02.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antonov_An-225_Mriya#/media/File:50_днів_активного_спротиву_окупанту_02.jpg)



# *Russian Kyiv Convoy*



Source: BBC Research



# *Attack on Kyiv*





# *Atrocities in Bucha*





## Attack on Kharkhiv





# *Battle for Kharkiv*





# Establishing the Landbridge to Crimea





# Snake Island

13 April 2022



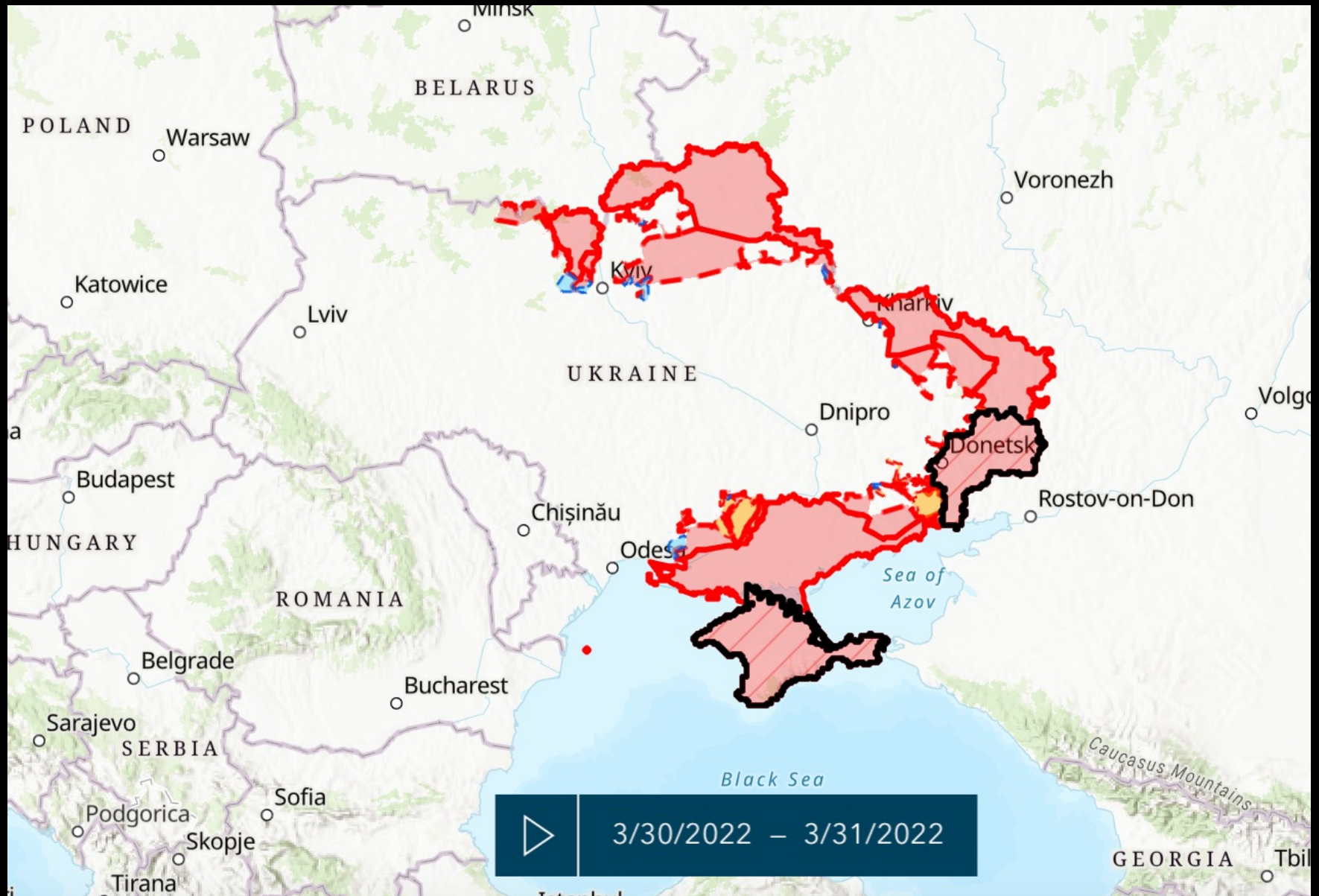
Ukrainian R-360 Neptune anti-ship missile



Russian missile cruiser Moskva

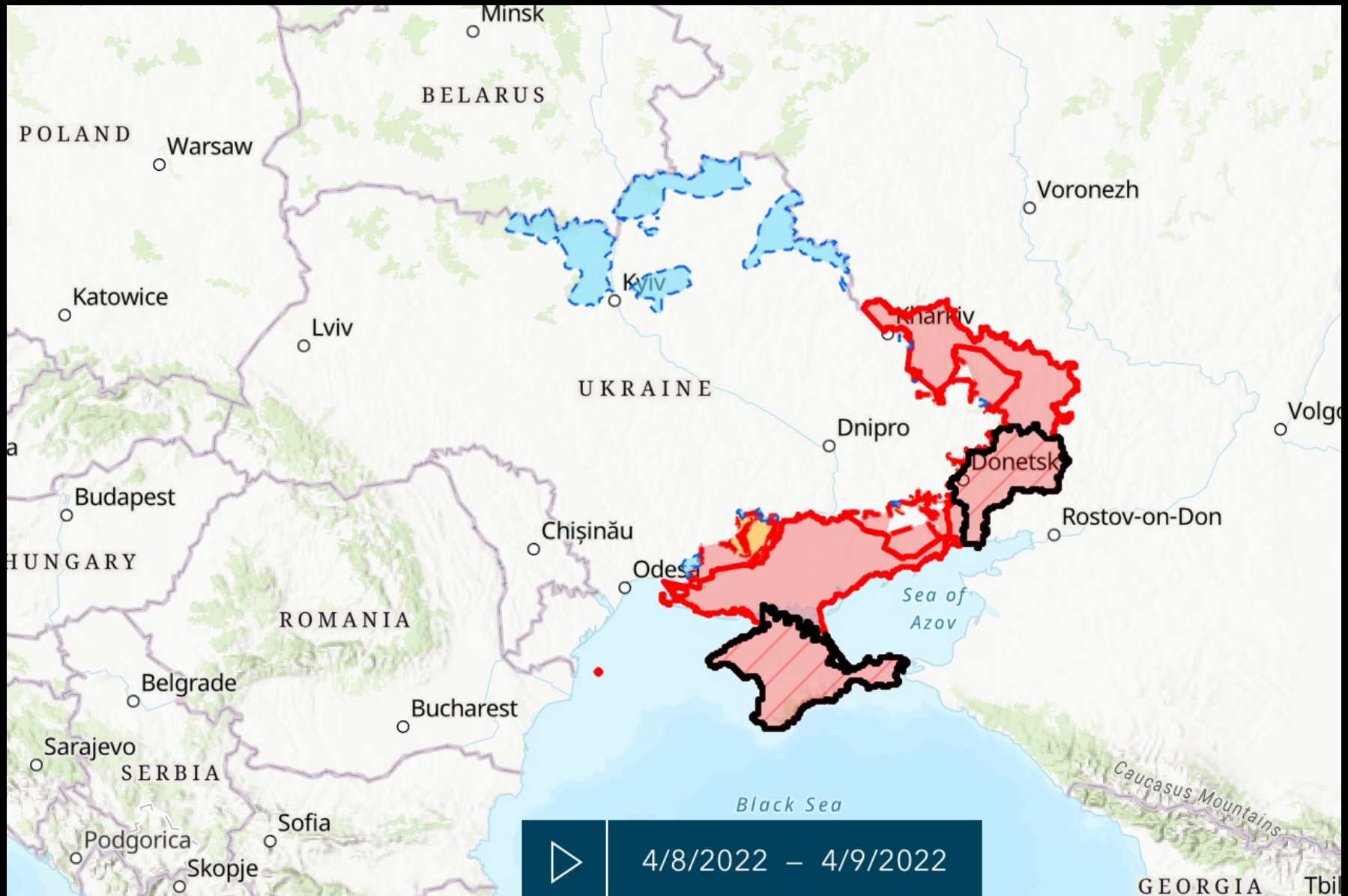


# Initial Russian Advance

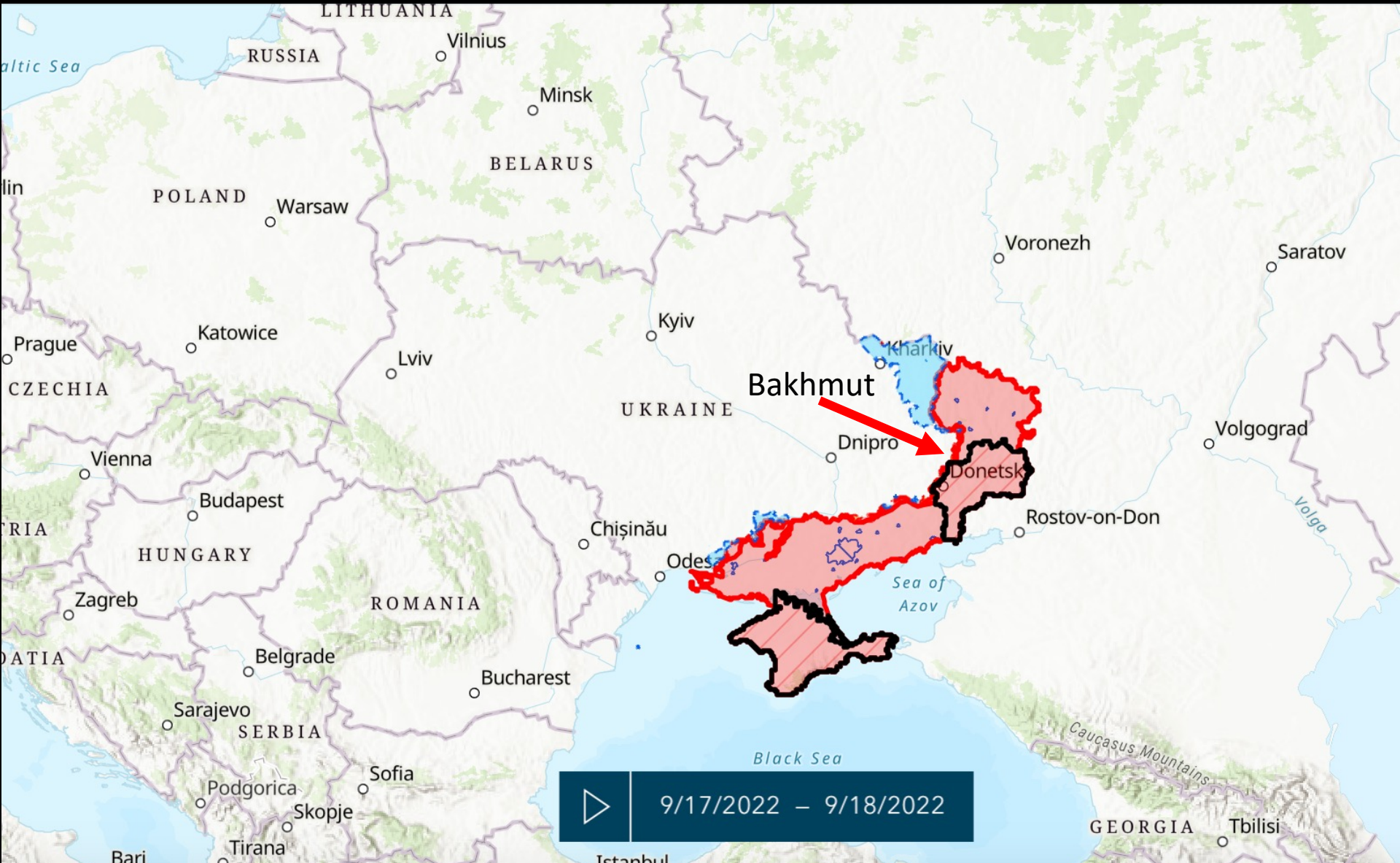




# *Apparent Change in Russian Strategy*



# Beginning of Static Defense





# *Battle of Bakhmut*

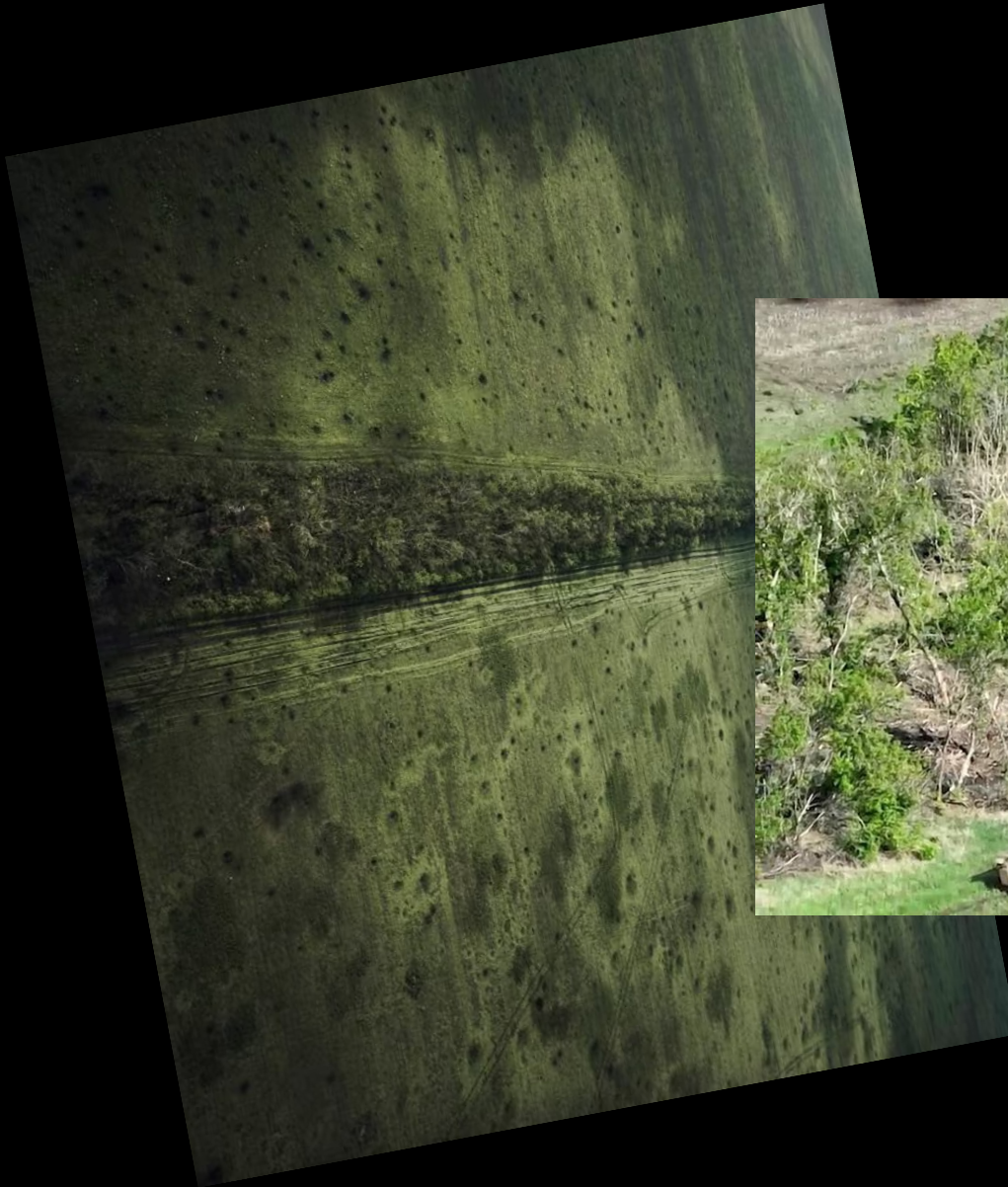


20 inches

MPL-50



# *Bakhmut*





# *Bakhmut*



# *Kerch Bridge Attacked (October 8, 2022)*



AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



# 14 March 2023 Mid-air Collision



# Missile Attacks Beginning March 2023

## Russian missile strikes across Ukraine



- Russian military control
- Held or regained by Ukraine
- Limited Russian military control
- Russia annexed Crimea in 2014

Source: BBC research, Institute for the Study of War



# *Indiscriminate Russian Missile Attacks*



April 28, 2023



Associated Press

# *Hypersonic Missile Attack on Kyiv*

May 15, 2023

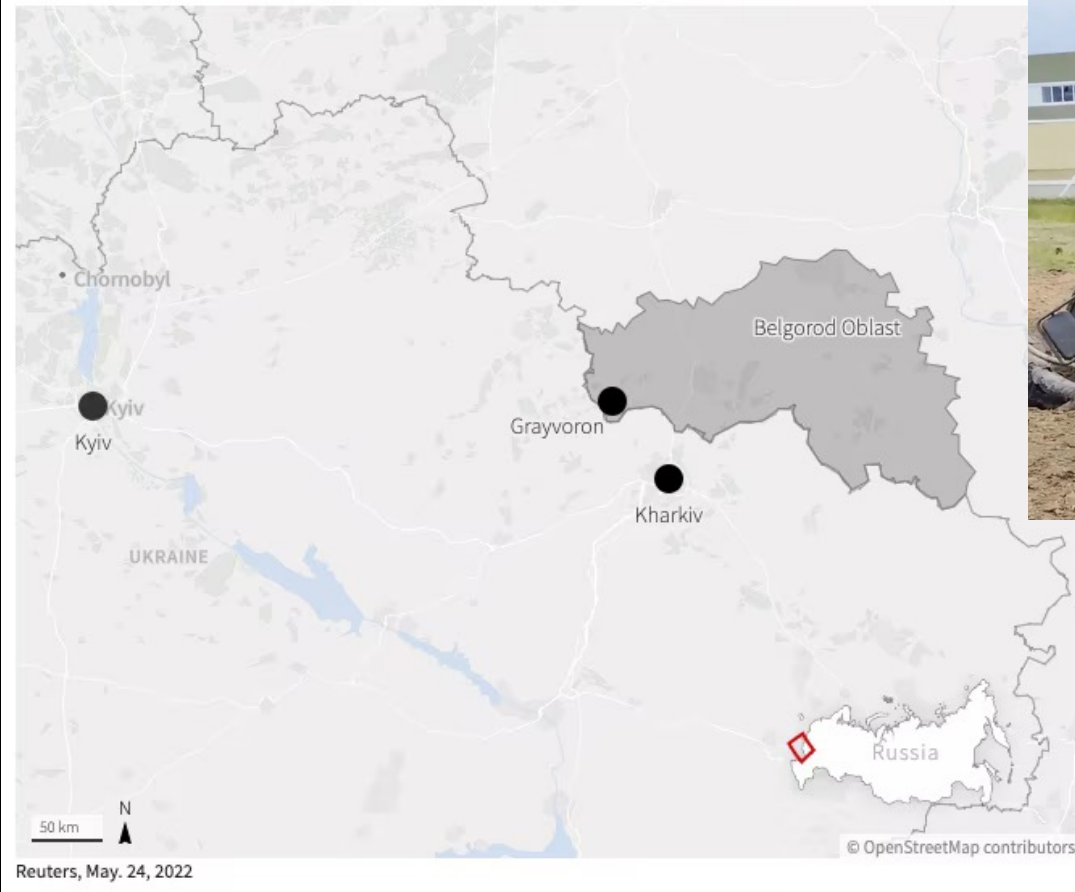




# Border Incursion – May 2023

**The incursion took place in Russia's western Belgorod region**

*(“Free Russian Legion?”)*



NBC News, Russian Defense Ministry / EPA via Shutterstock

Reuters, [https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/cross-border-incursions-ukraine-may-stretch-russian-defences-2023-05-24/?utm\\_source=Sailthru&utm\\_medium=Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=Daily-Briefing&utm\\_term=052423](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/cross-border-incursions-ukraine-may-stretch-russian-defences-2023-05-24/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=Newsletter&utm_campaign=Daily-Briefing&utm_term=052423)



# *Sabotage Attacks*



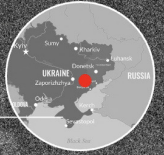
BBC, 1 May 2023, Bryansk, Russia



# Russian Defensive Fortification in Ukraine

Novofedorivka  
Zaporizhia Oblast, Ukraine

April 11, 2023  
47.452, 36.083°



Anti-Tank Ditch

Devils Teeth (Defensive Obstacle)

Primary Defensive Trench



Middlebury Institute of  
International Studies at Monterey  
James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies



# *Dragons' Teeth and Hedgehogs*



<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/08/russia-installs-dragons-teeth-blocks-in-shift-to-more-defensive-warfare>



<https://www.popsci.com/technology/czech-hedgehog-tank-trap-ukraine/>

# *Backup Slides*



# Equipment Described by Pavel Filatyev

UAZ light truck



Konflikty.pl

KAMAZ short-wheelbase for Airborne



Vitaly V. Kuzmin  
© Vitaly V. Kuzmin

82mm Mortar



Kerim 44

BTR – Armored Reconnaissance Vehicle



Vitaly V. Kuzmin

AK-74M



Srebenekaka

RPG-7



Michel Manas



# More Equipment...

Tigr Infantry Mobility Vehicle



Mike 1979 Russia

BMD-2



Vitaly V. Kuzmin

Utyos heavy machinegun



<https://utyos.zkmk.kz>



# *Definitions*

**special operations** — Operations conducted in hostile, denied, or politically sensitive environments to achieve military, diplomatic, informational, and/or economic objectives employing military capabilities for which there is no broad conventional force requirement. These operations often require covert, clandestine, or low visibility capabilities. *(Joint Terms and Definitions)*

**denazify.** verb. remove the Nazi influence from (an area or institution). *(Oxford Dictionary)*

- Nazism: a form of fascism, with disdain for liberal democracy and the parliamentary system. *(Wikipedia)*

**demilitarize.** verb. remove all military forces from (an area). *(Oxford Dictionary)*