

# PULSE of the WEEK



Public opinion research on the most important events of the week

February 4th - 10th of 2023

# The invaders continue their offensive

Pulse of the week February 4th - 10th 2023 (#5)

1

*The invaders continue to advance in five directions in the eastern part of Ukraine. Russians concentrate their major effort at offensive actions in Kupyansk, Lyman, Avdiivka and Novopavlivka directions.*

Currently, during an unsuccessful offensive attempt, the enemy has suffered heavy losses near Bakhmut and Vugledar. "They were shot like in a shooting range," the so-called "Minister of Defense" - former leader of the militants of the "DNR" group Ihor Girkin wrote about the killed militants.

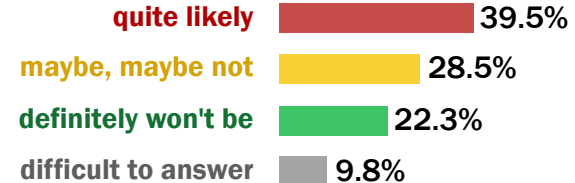
The situation has not changed significantly in the Volyn, Polissia, Siversk and Slobozhansk directions. At the same time, the enemy continues to keep its units in the border areas with Ukraine, and keep firing artillery at the positions of our troops and at settlements near the contact line.

In particular, during the last massive attack, the enemy used 32 S-300 missiles and 74 air and sea-based cruise missiles, 61 of which were hit by Ukrainian air defense. In addition, the Russian invaders carried out 59 airstrikes, 28 of them using Shahed-136 drones - 22 drones were shot down. Also, the enemy carried out more than 90 attacks on Ukrainian territories from multiple launch rocket systems.

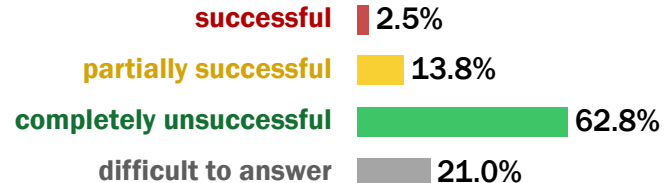
Sources: press service of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, UNIAN, Ukrainian Pravda, Radio Liberty, Interfax Ukraine.

## Public Opinion:

**Is it possible to repeat the same powerful offensive attack of the Russian Federation as on February 24 last year?**



**Do you think the offensive started by Russia this week in Ukraine will be successful?**



The research was carried out by Active Group company using the "SunFlower Sociology" online panel.  
Research method: self-completion of questionnaires by Ukrainian citizens aged 18 and over.  
Sample size: 600 questionnaires (representative by age, gender and region of Ukraine).  
Data collection period: February 11, 2023.

# Tourne of Volodymyr Zelenskyi

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*The president made his second trip abroad since the beginning of the full-scale invasion of Russian troops. Volodymyr Zelenskyy visited London, Paris and Brussels in order to discuss the providing of additional military aid to Ukraine with partners.*

Firstly, Volodymyr Zelenskyy went to Britain, where he met with Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, signed the "London Declaration", spoke before the British Parliament and met with King Charles III at Buckingham Palace.

French leader Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz were waiting for Volodymyr Zelensky in Paris. During the tripartite meeting, Zelenskyi emphasized that the sooner Ukraine receives long-range weapons and modern aircrafts, the sooner we will return confident peace to Europe. Without certain specifics, Macron and Scholz promised to provide military aid to Ukraine.

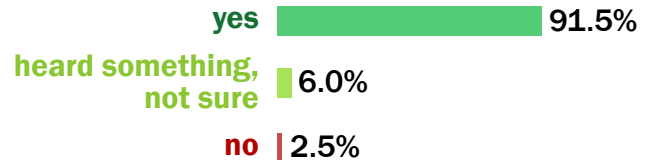
Zelensky spoke before the European Parliament. European leaders declared their support for the "formula of peace" previously proposed by Zelenskyi and their readiness to actively help in its implementation.

The Prime Minister of the Netherlands, Mark Rutte, said that the negotiations on the supply of Western fighter jets to Ukraine are taking place "behind closed doors." At the same time, Zelensky himself stated that there are already certain positive decisions regarding fighter jets.

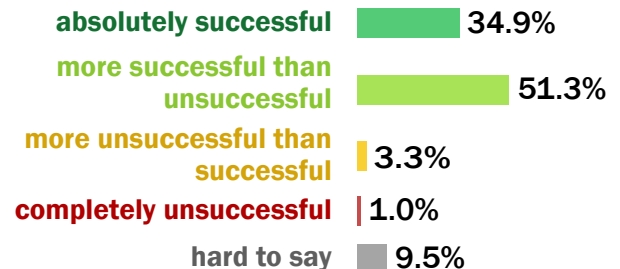
Sources: Channel 24, Fakty, UNIAN, BBC NEWS.

## Public Opinion:

**Did you know that President Volodymyr Zelenskyi made a series of international trips this week?**



**To what extent, in your estimation, were these trips successful?**



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# Education. Do Ukrainians have to take a history exam?

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The Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine approved the National Multi-Subject Test for 2023. This year's entrance campaign involves taking an exam in two compulsory subjects (Ukrainian language and mathematics), as well as one optional (history of Ukraine, foreign language, physics, chemistry, biology).

Commenting on such a choice, Minister of Education and Science Serhii Shkarlet emphasized that the decision was influenced by the time limitation of 180 minutes and the requirement to take the test in one day.

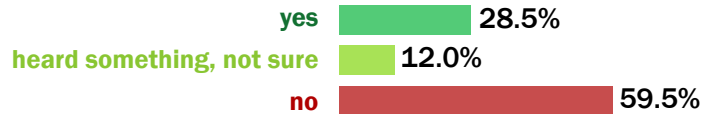
According to Tetyana Vakulenko, deputy director of the Ukrainian Center for Evaluation of the Quality of Education, it is the Ukrainian language and mathematics that best determine the potential success of an applicant when entering a university.

In addition, the Ministry of Education initiated the exclusion of the history of Ukraine from the list of mandatory subjects for attestation, causing many discussions in society. A number of public organizations and political figures of the Ministry of Education and Culture called for the return of the history of Ukraine to national testing and noted that in 2020, Ukrainian literature was removed from the compulsory subjects of the national testing of secondary education. "For such attempts, Minister Shkarlet may well be considered a Russian agent," said People's Deputy from "EuroSolidarity" Victoria Syumar.

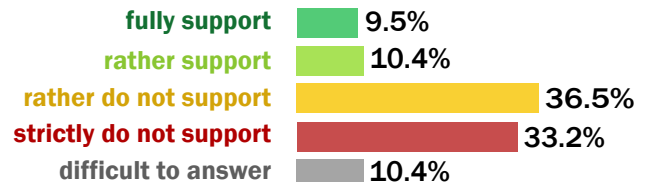
Sources: Bukvy, ViknaTV, UNIAN, Educational Portal, Vseosvita, Tetyana Vakulenko, Serhiy Shkarlet, Volodymyr Vyatrovych, Viktoriya Syumar.

## Public Opinion:

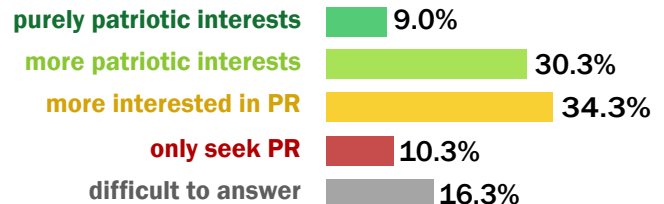
Have you heard about the exclusion of the history of Ukraine from the list of compulsory subjects during the testing of school graduates (National Multi-Subject Test, EIA)?



Do you support the exclusion of the history of Ukraine from the list of mandatory subjects for graduate testing?



Some politicians were totally against the exclusion of the history of Ukraine from the mandatory test. Do you think they are driven more by patriotic interests or just seeking PR?



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# The severest earthquake since 1939

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On February 6, 2023, a series of earthquakes with a magnitude of at least 7.8 struck Turkey and parts of Syria. As a result, a large number of buildings were destroyed, and people were trapped under the rubble. The earthquake was accompanied by numerous aftershocks. As of the morning of February 10, 2023, a total of over 21,719 deaths had been reported; 18,342 in Turkey and 3,377 in Syria. A strong storm hinders rescue efforts.

Rescue operations are ongoing, rescuers from many countries, including a detachment from Ukraine, have arrived to help Turkey. The State Emergency Service believes that the reasons for the large-scale destruction in Turkey could be improper planning and design of urban development, as well as the force of the earthquake.

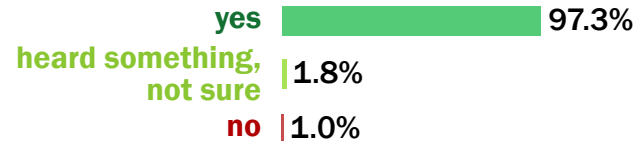
At the time of writing, more than 77,000 people were injured. The WHO's earthquake relief manager, Robert Holden, said there was a real risk of a "secondary disaster" (deaths from hypothermia, injuries, malnutrition, etc.). This can harm more people than the first if not acted upon vigorously.

Erdogan's critics believe that the authorities reacted to the cataclysm too slowly, and besides, the country was poorly prepared for it. The Turkish president admitted "some problems", but now, according to him, the situation is under control. Turkey is due to hold elections in May, and this disaster could have affected the electoral sentiment in Turkey.

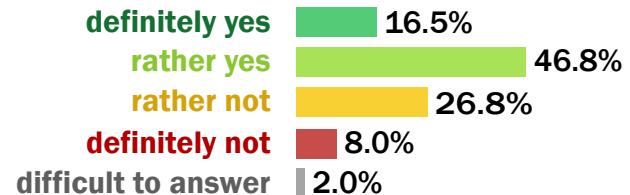
Sources: TSN, UNIAN, BBC NEWS Ukraine, Robert Holden, President of Turkey Erdogan.

## Public Opinion:

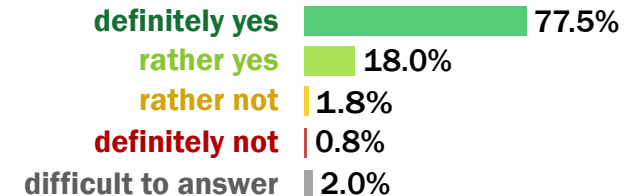
Do you know about the earthquake that happened in Turkey?



Do you know how to behave during an earthquake?



Do you support the fact that Ukraine is helping Turkey to overcome the consequences of the earthquake?



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# Hetmantsev was accused of ties to Russia

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5

During the detention of Oksana Daty, the head of the State Tax Administration of Kyiv, journalist Yuriy Butusov drew attention to the fact that "the detention of Oksana Daty is a corruption scheme in the state regarding the blocking of tax invoices. And Danylo Hetmantsev is involved in this scheme." According to Yury Butusov, the head of the tax committee, Danylo Hetmantsev, was a full-time assistant to People's Deputy Volodymyr Sivkovich for many years. Sivkovich, according to the SBI investigation, is currently "one of the leaders of the anti-Ukrainian movement created by the special services (intelligence) of the Russian Federation."

According to the unofficial estimates of business associations, almost half of the enterprises of Ukraine fell under a kind of tax "sanctions". Tax invoices are blocked for no reason understandable to the business, and the VAT on them is not refunded.

Because of this, a collection of signatures were made back in May by representatives of businesses operating in Ukraine even despite the war. The collective letter to the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyi, contained a demand to immediately remove Danylo Hetmantsev from the post of Chairman of the Committee in the Verkhovna Rada and from the post of Secretary of the National Council of Restoration. The document, which was signed by 17,696 business representatives, can still be found on the Internet.

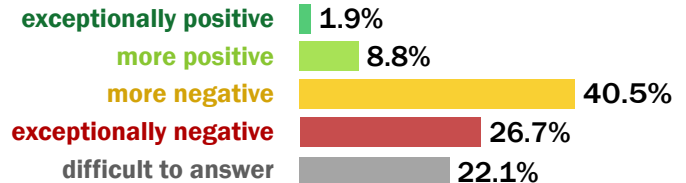
Sources: Censor, UNIAN, Vesti, Argument, Ukrainian Truth.

## Public Opinion:

### Do you know about Danylo Hetmantsev (People's Deputy of Ukraine, Chairman of the VRU Committee on Finance, Tax and Customs Policy)?



### How do you rate the activity of Danylo Hetmantsev?\*



### Does Hetmantsev's assessment (positive or negative) affect your assessment of the "Servant of the People" party?\*



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\*for those who know this last name