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Ukraine's Poroshenko Orders Extra Army Units to Protect Cities in East

By The Moscow Times

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Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko chairs the Security Council meeting in Kiev Nov. 4.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said Tuesday that he had ordered his military chiefs to send in new army units to protect cities in the east and southeast from possible attack by Russian-backed separatists, the Interfax news agency said.

"Several new [military] units and groups have been formed that will allow immediately for a possible offensive on Mariupol, Berdyansk, Kharkiv and northern Luhansk," Poroshenko said at a meeting of the national security and defense council.

Poroshenko called the meeting of his top security chiefs after Russian-backed separatists staged elections in the country's east and installed leaders of "people's republics," defying Kiev and the West, which had denounced the ballots as illegal.

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