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Putin Creates Fund for Soldiers Fighting in Ukraine

By AFP

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Servicemen of a D-30 howitzer crew of the Russian Armed Forces perform tasks on the left bank of the Dnipro River in Kherson Region of Ukraine. **Andrei Rubtsov / TASS**

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday signed a decree creating a special fund to support soldiers fighting in Ukraine and their families.

Russia rarely gives any estimates of its losses in its military operation launched in February 2022, where its military has faced a series of setbacks.

The decree in support of the "Defenders of the Fatherland" was published on the official government website.

The measures are "aimed at ensuring a decent life" for soldiers involved in the Ukraine offensive, and for their partners and children, according to the decree.

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Putin had announced the support measure at the Federal Assembly on Feb. 21, almost a year after he sent his troops to Ukraine.

"Our duty is to support the families that have lost their loved ones and to help them raise their children and give them an education and a job," Putin said at the time.

The fund should "bring targeted, personalized assistance to the families of fallen fighters, as well as veterans of the special military operation," he said in February.

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