

Russia Launches Large-Scale Attack on Ukraine's Energy Infrastructure

By <u>AFP</u>

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State Emergency Service of Ukraine

Russia's military launched a large-scale missile and drone attack on Ukraine's energy and gas infrastructure on Friday, Ukrainian officials said.

"The energy and gas infrastructure in various regions of Ukraine is under mass missile and drone shelling again," Energy Minister German Galushchenko wrote on Facebook.

"Russia is trying to hurt ordinary Ukrainians by shelling energy and gas production facilities, without abandoning its goal of leaving us without power and heating, and causing the greatest harm to ordinary citizens," he added.

The latest wave of airstrikes comes as EU leaders, concerned about potential U.S. disengagement with Ukraine, agreed to strengthen the bloc's defense capabilities at a crisis summit on Thursday. Meanwhile, Washington said talks with Kyiv were back on track to

negotiate a ceasefire with Moscow.

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In Kharkiv, four people were wounded in a strike on civilian infrastructure, including a woman rescued from the rubble and receiving medical treatment, Mayor Ihor Terekhov said on Telegram.

"A fire broke out at the scene of the impact. A nearby apartment building was also damaged," he added, noting that residents were being evacuated.

Kharkiv Governor Oleh Syniehubov said a Russian strike also hit a private company in the city, setting cars on fire.

"A 65-year-old woman and a 61-year-old man were hospitalized," Syniehubov added.

In the Odesa region, Ukraine's emergency services reported late Thursday that an attack damaged critical infrastructure, though no injuries were reported.

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