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Kyiv Observes Day of Mourning After Russian Attack Kills 31 People

By AFP

August 01, 2025



State Emergency Service of Ukraine

Ukrainian rescue workers on Friday uncovered the body of a two-year-old child as they concluded operations following a Russian missile strike that killed 31 people in Kyiv a day earlier.

The capital observed a day of mourning after the deadliest attack on the city so far this year ripped open a nine-story apartment building, injuring 159 people and killing five children.

"This despicable attack by Russia shows that additional pressure and sanctions on Moscow are necessary," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Friday, announcing that rescue operations had concluded.

"We appreciate that President Trump, European leaders and our other partners clearly see what is happening and condemn Russia," he added.

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EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas on Friday described the Russian strikes as "depraved" and shared a photo of the bloc's flag at half-staff.

"More weapons for Ukraine and tougher sanctions on Russia are the fastest way to end the war. Getting more air defenses to Ukraine fast is our priority," she wrote.

Elsewhere, Russian attacks continued across Ukraine.

One person was killed in a strike early Friday on the city of Zaporizhzhia, the regional military administration said. Another person died in Ukraine's northeastern Kharkiv region, while the death toll from a separate strike on Kramatorsk on Thursday rose to three.

Thursday's attack was among the deadliest to hit Kyiv since Russia launched its full-scale invasion in February 2022.

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