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# Russian Drone Strikes Kill Five in Ukraine

By AFP

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Aftermath of the overnight attack in the Sumy region. **State Emergency Service of Ukraine / @dsns_telegram / Telegram**

Russian drone strikes killed five people in Ukraine, officials said Sunday, as world leaders gathered in London to discuss piling pressure on Moscow over its four-year war.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky will meet the leaders of France, Germany and Britain on Sunday for talks on the way forward as Russia suffers military setbacks in the invasion of its neighbor.

A Russian bombardment of a public transport stop in Ukraine's southern Zaporizhzhia region left at least two people dead, while a nearby drone strike killed a 56-year-old minibus driver, authorities said.

Separate Russian attacks on the central Dnipropetrovsk region killed two men, Governor Oleksandr Ganzha said on Telegram.

A Russian strike also "partially destroyed" a spent nuclear fuel storage facility in the exclusion zone around Chernobyl, Ukraine's state-owned nuclear operator Energoatom reported on Telegram.

The operator said the building was empty at the time and that radiation levels remained normal.

"This is not the first time Russian forces have endangered Ukrainian nuclear facilities," Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiga said in a post on X, accusing Moscow of "threatening nuclear safety."

According to the Ukrainian Air Force, Russia targeted the country with 236 drones overnight, with 215 intercepted.

Ukraine recaptured more territory than it lost to Russian forces in May for the second straight month, AFP analysis of data from the Institute for the Study of War (ISW) showed earlier this month.

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Russia's offensive has meanwhile led to rising prices, tax hikes, two-decade-high borrowing costs, business shutdowns and labour shortages, putting the Russian economy in its trickiest spot since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

Zelensky proposed a face-to-face meeting with Vladimir Putin in an open letter to the Russian leader on Thursday, saying he was also ready for a "full ceasefire."

Putin, speaking at Russia's flagship economic forum on Friday, rejected suggestions the Russian economy had collapsed, saying "we have descended to the same level at which Eurozone countries have been experiencing growth for the past few years."

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