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PROMISES MADE ARE NOT PROMISES KEPT: PLEDGED AND DELIVERED SUPPLIES TO UKRAINE



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INTRODUCTION

Since February 24, 2022, the first day of Russian aggression against Ukraine, European countries across the continent have devoted themselves to being faithful allies of Ukraine. Some countries pledged significant financial aid, many donated necessary weapons, and nearly all have drafted sanctions against Russia. However, as war rages on in Ukraine it has all but left the front pages of newspapers in Europe in favour of the recent energy crisis, public tensions between the German and French heads of state, and the sudden resignation of Liz Truss. As a result, many civilians risk losing sight of the ongoing events in Ukraine despite their intensifying nature. Simultaneously, European countries have made fewer pledges of support and delivered less on their promises than they did at the start of the war (Ukraine Support Tracker - a Database of Military, Financial and Humanitarian Aid to Ukraine, 3/10/22). This report presents the recent forms of support that European countries have successfully delivered to Ukraine and the pledged support to create a conclusive summary of European military aid to Ukraine in the month of October. For full transparency, this article was finalised on November 3, 2022.

RECENT DELIVERIES TO UKRAINE

As European politicians express their growing fears regarding nuclear threats from Russia, a looming recession and the energy crisis, many have also recognized the source of these fears. The Russian war on Ukraine has impacted people around the world regardless of their connections to either country. Whilst these growing tensions have led to a downturn in the delivery of European support for Ukraine, they have not brought support to a halt. European politicians have remained staunchly loyal to Ukraine throughout the duration of the war and within the month of October, many countries have delivered on their promises.

The German government exemplifies this support and maintains a detailed list of all military support to Ukraine. This list is updated weekly to include “delivered Military support to Ukraine” and “Military support to Ukraine in planning/in execution” (Military Support for Ukraine | Federal Government, n.d.).

In the past, Germany has successfully delivered (Military Support for Ukraine | Federal Government, n.d.):

- 200 tents
- 405,000 pre-packaged military Meals Ready
- 4,000 rounds of practice ammunition for self-propelled anti-aircraft guns
- 50 bunker buster missiles, the list goes on

In the past week, Germany delivered (Military Support for Ukraine | Federal Government, n.d.):

- 5 multiple rocket launchers MARS II with ammunition (before: 3)
- 14 self-propelled howitzers Panzerhaubitze 2000 (joint project with the Netherlands) (before 10)
- 2 unmanned surface vessels

In turn, France has taken steps to deliver necessary humanitarian aid to Ukraine while making recent statements explaining that they would not deliver military aid to Ukraine which would put their own country in danger (Ministère des Armées, 2022). France's most recent humanitarian shipment to Ukraine set sail on September 28 2022 with "more than 1,000 tons of humanitarian goods" aboard (Ministère des Armées, 2022). The shipment, known as operation "A boat for Ukraine" shipped the following items to Ukraine (for arrival on October 4 2022, with no published updated information) (étrangères, n.d.):

- 15 fire and rescue vehicles
- 25 tons of emergency and resuscitation drugs
- 60,000 food rations, 48,000 tons of prepared meals, 13 tons of milk
- 5 generators, building materials and tarpaulins

PROMISED SUPPORT

In many cases, countries have pledged support but failed to follow through. As this is the case, it cannot be said that this pledged support is guaranteed to be delivered and therefore must be introduced separately from the 'delivered' support.

On October 13, 2022, four NATO member states promised the delivery of advanced air defence weapons to Ukraine ("Nato Countries to Boost Ukraine's Missile Defence after Massive Russian Strikes," 2022). The member states are the UK, Canada, France, and the Netherlands. The pledged delivery includes ("Nato Countries to Boost Ukraine's Missile Defence after Massive Russian Strikes," 2022):

- Air defence missiles, hundreds of aerial drones, and 18 howitzer artillery guns from the UK
- Air defence systems from France
- €15 million worth of defence missiles from the Netherlands
- \$47 million worth of military aid from Canada

This delivery has not yet reached Ukraine but may arrive at a crucial time as Iran's delivery of Iranian Shahed-136 weapons, UAVs which are also known as Kamikaze drones, are being used by Russia in many deadly attacks ("NATO Countries to Boost Ukraine's Missile Defence after Massive Russian Strikes," 2022).

NATO has also taken significant steps to help Ukraine. Most recently, on October 24, 2022, "NATO's Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre and Romania signed a cooperation agreement...to deliver paramedic training for Ukrainian first responders" (NATO, 2022). Although this support is not specifically military aid, it is sure to supply the military with life-saving techniques and "will help to increase the capacities of the Ukrainian medical system" (NATO, 2022). The agreement promises deliveries of medical equipment, supplies, and educational support funded by the Pandemic Response Trust Fund by NATO (NATO, 2022).

Recently, Germany and Greece made good on their deal to help Ukraine while helping Greece. On October 16, 2022 "Germany sent Greece the first batch of infantry fighting vehicles known as 'Marder'" (Kurmayer & Noyan, 2022) in exchange, Greece will deliver "40 Soviet-designed tanks to Ukraine" (Kurmayer & Noyan, 2022). The deal successfully modernises the Greek military, which is facing growing tensions with Turkey (Kurmayer & Noyan, 2022) while delivering technology to Ukraine which does not require additional training. In addition, Germany plans to deliver 6,100 155mm projectiles and 186,000 rounds of 40mm ammunition (Military Support for Ukraine | Federal Government, n.d.).

CONCLUSION

European support for Ukraine has not stopped, and neither has the war. However, tensions have grown across Europe as Europeans are struck with the effects of war. Without Russian gas, energy prices are soaring and citizens are paying more at the pump than they may feel comfortable with (Putin's War Marks 'Turning Point' for Global Fossil Fuel Demand, IEA Says, 2022). As a result, European politicians are redirecting their attention to the situations in their own countries. It seems they increasingly feel that the needs of their own citizens need prioritisation over those of the Ukrainians. Experts at IFW Kiel Institute have remarked upon the slowed support of European countries explaining that not only have these countries made fewer pledges but, "aid announced by EU countries has been slow to reach Ukraine" as well (Ukraine Support Tracker - a Database of Military, Financial and Humanitarian Aid to Ukraine, n.d.).

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