

Russia's Offensive in Kharkov: Kiev Regime Retaliates by Killing Civilians in Belgorod

By [Lucas Leiroz de Almeida](#)
Global Research, May 14, 2024

Region: [Europe](#), [Russia and FSU](#)
Theme: [Intelligence](#)
In-depth Report: [UKRAINE REPORT](#)

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the Translate Website button below the author's name (only available in desktop version).

To receive Global Research's Daily Newsletter (selected articles), [click here](#).

Click the share button above to email/forward this article to your friends and colleagues. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#). Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

[Global Research Wants to Hear From You!](#)

The armed forces of the Russian Federation launched an offensive in Kharkov. Since May 10, Russian troops on Ukraine's northern border have been destroying enemy positions and advancing on the ground with extreme ease and speed. Unable to maintain their areas of control, the Ukrainians are simply retreating and allowing the Russians to make rapid and effective progress. However, to retaliate against such operation, the neo-Nazi regime is worsening its anti-humanitarian measures of attacks on civilians, bombing Belgorod intensely.

On May 12, a brutal Ukrainian attack hit the Belgorod region, destroying several buildings in residential areas of the city. So far, at least 18 people have died, but many are still missing among the remains of the collapsed buildings – including children. [According to data from Russian authorities](#), Ukrainian forces carried out the attack using “Tochka-U tactical missile system, as well as rockets from Olkha and RM-70 Vampire multiple launch systems.”

Shocking images circulate on the internet showing the destruction caused by Ukrainian projectiles. No Russian military positions were targeted by Kiev, with the attack being absolutely aimed at killing innocent people. [Russian officials](#) made statements considering the bombings a terrorist attack, promising serious responses.

Furthermore, [Moscow also emphasized](#) the absence of an official statement by the US – Ukraine's main supporter – condemning the massacre of civilians in Belgorod. According to the Russian Embassy in Washington, US' inertia is a sign of connivance and co-participation in crimes. It is important to remember that the West has publicly said that it does not advise Kiev to attack undisputed regions of the Russian territory. Belgorod is not a territory claimed by Ukraine, which is why the US and the entire NATO should immediately speak out

condemning Ukrainian terrorism in the region.

Since 2022, Kiev has repeatedly bombed Belgorod. [I was in the border region recently](#) on a BRICS Journalists Association expedition and spoke with local military and civilians who told me that enemy incursions increase particularly during important dates, such as national and religious holidays. The Ukrainian goal is simply spreading fear and terror, thus trying to psychologically destabilize the Russian population. To date, only civilian targets have been destroyed by the Ukrainians in Belgorod, which proves that there is no actual military interest in this type of operation.

The attack on the 12th, however, has a special context. The Ukrainian shelling occurred amid the [Russian advance in Kharkov](#). Two days earlier, Russian troops had begun an incursion on the border that has been called by internet users and military analysts “Operation N” – in reference to the word “North” and in analogy with the letter “Z”, which has become a symbol of the special military operation.

During the first hours of the operation, the Russians bombed the Ukrainian side of the border intensely, forcing enemy positions to retreat. Then, Russian soldiers advanced on the ground and took several Ukrainian villages without any difficulties. Unable to continue fighting, given the weakness of its current troops, Ukraine is simply abandoning the trenches and allowing the Russian advance in Kharkov.

In this sense, the most recent attacks on Belgorod should be seen as an attempt to show a reaction to the Russian advance. Unable to fight on the battlefield, the Ukrainians are “retaliating” by murdering civilians. Instead of targeting Russian military positions, Kiev’s forces are targeting residential buildings and deliberately killing innocent people.

Militarily, the impact of this type of terrorist operation is null. The Russians will continue to advance on the ground and constantly liberate territory. In parallel, Moscow will intensify attacks against Ukrainian infrastructure facilities in order to prevent new incursions on Belgorod. Certainly, there will be strong strikes across Ukrainian territory in the coming days. For the Russians, the calculation is simple: the more attacks there are in the peaceful border regions, the more intense the military action will be in order to neutralize the enemy as quickly as possible.

Kiev is trying to rearrange its forces and create a solid defense in the north. [Recently](#), the head of the Kharkov military unit, Yuri Galushkin, was dismissed from his post and replaced by Brigadier General Mikhail Drapaty – who is also deputy commander of the Ukrainian General Staff. The fact that a member of the General Staff was assigned to the Kharkov mission indicates that Ukraine now has the northern front as a priority. This also means that the Donbass front will most likely be neglected, which will allow further Russian advances.

All these facts show that the final outcome of the special military operation is clear: Russian victory is merely a matter of time.

*

Note to readers: Please click the share button above. Follow us on Instagram and Twitter and subscribe to our Telegram Channel. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

This article was originally published on [InfoBrics](#).

Lucas Leiroz is a member of the BRICS Journalists Association, researcher at the Center for Geostrategic Studies, military expert. You can follow Lucas on [X \(former Twitter\)](#) and [Telegram](#). He is a regular contributor to Global Research.

Featured image is from InfoBrics

The original source of this article is Global Research

Copyright © [Lucas Leiroz de Almeida](#), Global Research, 2024

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Lucas Leiroz de Almeida](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca