

# Russian Strike on Ukraine's Historic Lviv Kills 7

By [AFP](#)

September 04, 2024



[V\\_Zelenskiy\\_official](#) / Telegram

A Russian strike on the historic center of Lviv in western Ukraine has killed seven people including three children, officials said Wednesday, a day after a particularly bloody attack in the central city of Poltava in which dozens died.

Moscow has stepped up its aerial attacks after Ukraine's offensive in Russia's Kursk region, which caught Russian troops by surprise.

The overnight attacks triggered renewed calls from Ukrainian officials for Western partners to provide air defense, as well as long-range weapons to retaliate by striking targets deep inside Russia.

"In total, seven people died in Lviv, including three children," Internal Affairs Minister Ihor Klymenko wrote on Telegram, upping the previously reported toll.

He said search and rescue operations were still going on in Lviv, a western city near the Polish border that has largely been spared over the last two and a half years of war.

Sirens rang out over Lviv before sunrise on Wednesday, according to Mayor Andriy Sadovy, who advised people to take shelter as air defenses worked to down a barrage of missiles.

The missile attack wounded 40 people, the prosecutor's office said, damaging schools and medical facilities as well as buildings in the city's historic center.

## **'Inhuman screams'**

"I heard terrible inhuman screams saying 'Save us'," said Yelyzaveta, a 27-year-old resident of Lviv who rushed to shelter in her basement.

Others like Anastasia Grynko, an internally displaced person from Dnipro, did not have time to reach a shelter.

"The rocket hit our house. Everything was blown away. At the time of the explosion, I was somehow miraculously in the corridor, so I was not badly hurt," she said.

### **Embed:**

President Volodymyr Zelensky denounced what he called "Russian terrorist strikes on Ukrainian cities."

Lviv region head Maksym Kozytsky said that "at least seven architectural objects of local importance were damaged," adding that "all the buildings are located in the historical area and in the UNESCO buffer zone."

The attack in Lviv was part of a wider barrage on Ukraine, with 13 missiles and 29 drones launched over the war-torn country, the air force said.

The air force said it downed seven missiles and 22 drones.

## **'Respond justly'**

Wreckage of a downed missile fell in the central city of Kryvyi Rih, Ukrainian emergency services said, damaging the Arena hotel and wounding five people.

"The hotel is destroyed from the first to the third floor. Thank God, everyone is alive," the city's head Oleksandr Vilkul said.

Ukrainian officials denounced the overnight attacks on civilian infrastructures in Lviv and Kryvyi Rih.

"The enemy will pay for what it has done," Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal said.

He called for more air defense and for long-range weapons to strike Russia back.

The weapons delivered by Ukraine's Western partners since the invasion often come with restrictions prohibiting their use against targets located inside Russia itself.

Ukraine has however been pushing for these restrictions to be lifted, a call that Shmyhal echoed following the recent strikes.

Zelensky also called for Western partners to provide Ukraine with long-range weapons to "respond justly to terror".

The overnight attack took place shortly after one of the single deadliest bombardments of the two-and-a-half-year war in the central city of Poltava.

Fifty-three people were killed and 271 injured in an attack that hit a military educational institution — though authorities did not say how many of the victims were military or civilians.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2024/09/04/russian-strike-on-ukraines-historic-lviv-kills-7-a86247>