

# In Photos: 10 Years Ago, Russia-Backed Rebels Captured Donetsk Airport

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Wednesday marks 10 years since Russian-backed separatists claimed control of Donetsk airport terminal in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk region — which Moscow annexed in 2022 following widely disputed referendums. At the time, Donetsk International Airport, located 10 kilometers northwest of the city of Donetsk, had been at the center of intense battles between Kyiv's forces and the separatists for more than eight months. Here's a look back at the events that were among the precursors to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine:



**Alexander Khudoteply / TASS**

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