



The Drone Offensive: Thousands of Russian Soldiers Killed and Ukraine Establishes a New Balance

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The conflict between Ukraine and Russia has seen a radical change in recent months, with the introduction of a new and powerful weapon that is rewriting the rules of modern warfare: kamikaze drones. Under the leadership of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, this aerial strategy has inflicted devastating damage on the Russian army, with significant loss of life and a growing impact on Moscow's economy.

The numbers speak for themselves: 5,000 Russian soldiers killed in July

In July, the Ukrainian army recorded an impressive number of drone attacks, hitting over 23,000 targets in Russian territory and killing at least 5,134 enemy soldiers. These numbers were confirmed by the Commander-in-Chief of the Ukrainian army, Oleksandr Syrsky, who emphasized the strategic importance of eliminating Russian military personnel. With drones

costing only a few thousand euros and capable of striking at long distances, Ukraine has changed the rules of the game, inflicting severe damage on the Russian military force.

The war between Moscow and Kyiv saw Russia's invasion of Ukrainian soil, but now the situation has changed. Ukrainian kamikaze drones have become a central weapon in the conflict, with Ukraine adopting a strategy of targeted air strikes. The attacks on Moscow, in particular, have severely tested Russian air defense, forcing Putin's government to reorganize and redistribute air defense systems to protect the capital.

A critical aspect of the situation is Russia's difficulty in fully defending its vast territory. The vastness of the country, along with the multitude of targets to protect, has imposed a difficult choice: which areas must be protected and which not. Drones, cheaper and easier to produce than other armaments, have allowed Ukraine to inflict significant damage, reducing the effectiveness of Russian defenses.

Attacks on infrastructure and rising energy costs

In the context of this new strategy, Ukrainian drones have targeted critical infrastructure in Russia, such as oil refineries, depots, and railway stations. The attacks on refineries have had a direct impact on the Russian economy, with gasoline prices reaching new records. The consequences of these attacks are evident: the Russian economy, heavily dependent on oil and gas, is facing serious difficulties, and the country risks experiencing a significant slowdown in its production capacity.

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In response to the drone attacks, Russia has tried to block their effectiveness with network blackouts. In July alone, more than 2,000 blackouts were recorded across the country, in an attempt to weaken the communication and coordination capacity of Ukrainian attacks. The official motivation for these blackouts is the protection of air defense, but some experts suggest there may also be political motivations, such as controlling online freedoms in Russia, where access to foreign content is increasingly limited.

A new negotiating power for Ukraine?

With the growing impact of drones, the Russian population has become increasingly vulnerable. These attacks have transformed the conflict from a war almost exclusively fought on Ukrainian soil into a battle that directly involves Russian territory. Although it was initially believed that drones could not have a significant impact, the results achieved so far prove otherwise. The heavy losses and damage to vital infrastructure have given Ukraine an important negotiating leverage against Putin. Kyiv's ability to threaten major Russian cities and severely test the country's economy has shifted the balance of the war, making Ukraine a stronger party in future peace negotiations.

With further intensification of air attacks and Russia's growing vulnerability, the situation is becoming increasingly difficult for Moscow to manage. The question now arises: will these developments allow Kyiv to gain greater negotiating power, bringing the end of the conflict closer? Only time will tell if Zelensky's drones will be decisive for a conclusion to the war that changes the fate of Ukraine and Russia.