

# Media Blackout: Major Military Operation in East Ukraine. 496 Civilians, 1600 Soldiers Reported Killed

By [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)  
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Theme: [Media Disinformation, Militarization and WMD, US NATO War Agenda](#)  
In-depth Report: [UKRAINE REPORT](#)

*The killing of innocent civilians in Eastern Ukraine resulting from the conduct of major bombing and shelling operations by US supported Kiev regime is not newsworthy. According to official sources, Four hundred and seventy-eight civilians, including seven children were killed and 1392 were wounded in Eastern Ukraine since the outset of the Kiev government's military crackdown. ([See RT, July 10, 2014](#))*

*The casualty figures were released on the 10th of July 2014 by Ukraine's Ministry of Health.*

"The amount on civilian casualties is, unfortunately, greater than the military ones," Vasily Lazoryshynets, deputy health minister, ...

"In the area of the operation in eastern Ukraine, 478 civilians have died, including 30 women and seven children," he said.

According to Lazoryshynets , a further 1,392 people were injured in the fighting, with 104 women and 14 children among them.

"Two hundred and seventy-nine currently remain in hospital," he added. (Ibid)

There has been virtually no Western media coverage concerning this human tragedy. The deaths of innocent children resulting from Kiev's "counter-terrorism operation" have been casually categorized as "collateral damage".

In early June, according to figures of Ukraine's National Security Council "200 soldiers and law enforcement officers had been killed and over 600 injured during the so-called "anti-terrorist operation." (Ibid). The Ministry of Defense reported the same figure of 200 deaths pertaining to soldiers on July 11.

Is the official count of civilian casualties reliable? On June 11, following the release of the figures on casualties by the Ministry of Health, Ukraine's General Prosecutor Vitali Yarema confirmed that the government was to establish a data bank of persons killed and insured:

"Every death, every physical injury, every body of an unidentified individual found will be entered into the unified register of pre-trial investigations, and each case will be investigated as much as possible," (quoted by AP, July 11, 2014)

The above figures on civilian casualties are consistent with a ‘leaked’ Ministry of Internal Affairs report (July 15, 2014): 496 civilians killed and 762 wounded (updated with data of casualties collected in the period extending from 9-15 July). (see below)

According to this “leaked” MIA document, the death toll of soldiers in the Ukraine Armed Forces would have increased from 200 in early July (reported on July 10th by the Ministry of Health) to 1600 in mid-July (MIA, leaked report, see table below, dated July 15). These rounded up figures suggest that the Kiev government’s figures on soldiers “killed in action” are rough estimates.

The figures of civilian and military casualties included those wounded, reported in the leaked Ministry of Internal Affairs report (sent to Global Research by a source in Ukraine) are as follows:

1. Killed in Action: 1600
2. Wounded in Action: 4723

The Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and its Anti-Terrorism Organization (ATO) oversees the military operation in Lugansk and Donetsk in liaison with the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

The information was officially released on July 15, 2014 bearing the signature of the Arsen Avakov (Minister of Internal Affairs) and V. Gritsak (Head of ATO [Anti-Terrorism Organization])

The authenticity, reliability and source of this leaked report remains to be fully assessed. These figures have not been made public and they are not the object of media commentary. They are, however, compatible with a report published by the Central News Agency Novorossia, [Novorus.info](http://Novorus.info) (Russian) based on figures of the rebel Donbass forces which point to major military losses by the Kiev regime.

The MIA figures pertain to soldiers “Killed in Action”. They do not address the number of soldiers taken prisoner and/or the number of soldiers who have deserted the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

In contrast, the Novorossia figures do not provide a breakdown of “killed, wounded, prisoners”. According to Central News Agency Novorossia, [Novorus.info](http://Novorus.info) (Russian):

Total losses in Donbass inflicted to Kiev “punitive operatives” [in Russian каратели] 2 May - 11 July 2014 is 4994 soldiers [ in Russian persons, человек] [killed, wounded, prisoners]

What the MIA leaked report as well as the Novorossia figures convey is the conduct of a large scale military operation by Ukrainian Forces resulting in significant casualties incurred by Kiev government forces. None of this has been reported by the corporate media.

The leaked MIA report suggests heavy losses of military equipment by Kiev forces including a large number of tanks and armored vehicles which have either been captured or destroyed.

The rebels (according to MIA figures) have downed seven aircraft. This information was

“leaked” 2 days before the MH17 crash. The reliability of these figures emanating from government sources remained to be determined.

The data from rebel sources cited [Novorus.info](http://Novorus.info) also indicate sizable losses of military hardware including tanks and armored cars.

#### TOTAL UKRAINIAN LOSSES [MIA leaked document]

1. Killed in Action: 1600
2. Wounded in Action: 4723
3. Tanks: 35
4. Armoured Battle Vehicles: 96
5. Artillery: 38
6. Aircraft: 7
7. Helicopters: 2
8. Automobiles: 104

While the reliability of these figures emanating from the government remains to be determined, they nonetheless point to the failure of the Kiev led anti-terrorism operation confirming earlier reports to the effect that government forces have been repelled in Donetsk and Lugansk.

July 18, 2014 - Official Ukrainian Military Accounting of Losses for July 9-15, 2014  
(1) Ukrainian Version; (2) Translation)

підрозділами, які перебували в аеропорту, відсутня. Припускаємо, що всі бійці знищені сепаратистами.

У виду скупчення більшої кількості бойовиків поблизу аеропорту, а також безперспективність проведення евакуаційної операції членів Національної гвардії з аеропорту Донецька пропонуємо в цілях перегрупування для подальшої атаки на сили сепаратистів відвести підрозділи силових структур в район Авдіївка.

Відомості про втрати силових структур, бойовиків і серед мирних жителів в Донецькій і Луганській областях  
(за період з 9 по 15 липня 2014 р.)

Силові структури								
№ п/п	втрати	Збройні сили	Національна гвардія	Державна прикордонна служба	СБ	Правий сектор	Внутрішні війська	Всього
1	убиті	722	401	70	49	310	48	1600
2	поранені	2162	1200	201	93	930	137	4723
3	танки	35						35
4	Бойові броньовані машини (ББМ)	85	11					96
5	артилерія	30	8					38
6	літаки	7						7
7	вертольоти	2						2
8	автомобілі	42	45	5	2	3	7	104
Бойовики								
1	убиті							48
2	ранені							64
3	танки							2
4	ББМ							
5	артилерія							5
6	автомобілі							8
Мирні жителі								
1	убиті							496
2	поранені							762

Міністр внутрішніх справ



А.Аваков

«15» липня 2014 р.

Погоджено  
Керівник Антитерористичного центру при СБ -  
перший заступник Голови СБ України



В. Грицак

«15» липня 2014 р.

МЛ №10350

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## TOTAL UKRAINIAN LOSSES

1. Killed in Action: 1600
2. Wounded in Action: 4723
3. Tanks: 35
4. Armoured Battle Vehicles: 96
5. Artillery: 38
6. Aircraft: 7
7. Helicopters: 2
8. Automobiles: 104

## TOTAL MILITIA LOSSES

1. Killed in Action: 48
2. Wounded in Action: 64
3. Tanks: 2
4. Armoured Battle Vehicles: 0
5. Artillery: 5
6. Automobiles: 8

## TOTAL CIVILIAN LOSSES

1. Killed: 496
2. Wounded: 762

SIGNED & SUBMITTED BY: Arsen Avakov (Minister of Internal Affairs) and V. Gritsak (Head of ATO)

Table and translation provided by:

<http://slavyangrad.wordpress.com/military-briefings-flash-updates-online/>

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