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Kiev used virtually all NATO tools against Russia – ex-top general

The military bloc's approaches to warfare have proven to be ineffective, according to Valery Zaluzhny

Published 6 Aug, 2026 10:03

Ukraine has used virtually every NATO tool it could against Russia, but Moscow has found ways to counter all of them, former Ukrainian commander-in-chief Valery Zaluzhny has argued.

The retired general, who currently serves as Ukraine's ambassador to the UK, expanded on earlier remarks in which he said Kiev would **never** join the US-led military bloc. According to Zaluzhny, NATO remains anchored in obsolete doctrines, unlike Ukraine.

"In 2026, Ukraine used all weapon systems and doctrines for their use that NATO has, with the exception of Tomahawks, nuclear weapons, aircraft carriers, and F-35s," he told journalists at a diplomatic event in Kiev, as quoted by Apostrophe on Wednesday. "The reserves have been depleted. Russia found countermeasures for everything."

Supporters of Ukraine have repeatedly described Western weapons supplied to Kiev as potential *"game changers."* However, the delivery of Stinger and Javelin missiles, HIMARS rocket launchers, Abrams tanks,



Ukrainian ambassador to the UK Valery Zaluzhny, London, February 24, 2026. © Guy Smallman / Getty Images

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ATACMS missiles, and F-16 fighter jets has not produced a decisive military breakthrough.



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"NATO remains in a doctrine of the end of World War II, and we are technologically ahead," Zaluzhny argued. "Now NATO has no choice but to shift to very different standards to achieve a new doctrine. Then NATO would be ready for Ukrainian accession," he added.

Ukraine formally enshrined its goal of joining NATO in its constitution following the 2014 Western-backed armed coup in Kiev. Russia has repeatedly cited the bloc's eastward expansion, as well as its 2008 pledge to eventually admit Ukraine, among the causes of the ongoing conflict.

Kiev is meanwhile facing political [turmoil](#) following Vladimir Zelensky's dismissal of Defense Minister Mikhail Fedorov, and several days later, General Aleksandr Syrsky, who had succeeded Zaluzhny as commander-in-chief.

Syrsky's removal followed negative domestic and international reactions to Fedorov's dismissal. Media reports have suggested that Zelensky targeted the former defense minister due to his growing popularity and infighting over lucrative weapons contracts.

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Ukrainian officials have said Kiev hopes to bring the conflict with Russia to an end before winter, warning that continuing the hostilities beyond that point would place the country under severe pressure.

The potential lifting of martial law is expected to pave the way for a new presidential election. Opinion polls cited by the media show that Zaluzhny could defeat Zelensky in the second round of a potential contest.

Zelensky dismissed Zaluzhny from his military post in 2024 after the general publicly stated that Ukrainian forces were unlikely to achieve a major territorial breakthrough, contradicting Kiev's line.

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M Madrina 8/6/2026 at 1:11 PM

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Looks can be deceiving, we all know this – but when I look at this guy I can imagine what he is planning for Russia.

The only solution is the complete dissolution of Lenin’s failed forced Ukraine!

Every ethnicity will take their Oblast and return to the countries where Lenin once snatched them from!

Good, that VVP finally recognised this also in public last week!

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Ancien 8/6/2026 at 12:57 PM

3

NATO – strong against the weak and weak against the strong. Go forward Russia!

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Claude Pichon 8/6/2026 at 12:47 PM

3

The NATO doctrine? It has proven to be a disaster in about every conflict it has been involved with, since WW2, which it didn't even existed back then. Corruption and incompetence of the elite is going to drag down NATO members more surely that any army at the gate.

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J Jim Davies 8/6/2026 at 12:39 PM

2

“Kiev is meanwhile facing political turmoil following Vladimir Zelensky’s dismissal of Defense Minister Mikhail Fedorov, and ... General Aleksandr Syrsky”

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J Jim Davies 8/6/2026 at 12:36 PM

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"we are technologically ahead," Zaluzhny argued. '

Farewell Brussels, hello Kiev.

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P P K 8/6/2026 at 12:35 PM

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That's funny they still think Ukraine still exists

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F Frank Zullo 8/6/2026 at 12:33 PM

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West are allowing all types of attacks on Russia. NATO are involved in the planning and execution of attacks on Russia. NATO are using Ukrainians as foot soldiers.

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West using Ukraine as proxy to back terrorists in Africa – Russian UN envoy (VIDEO)

Double standards and hidden agendas are weakening the global fight against extremism, Vassily Nebenzia has warned

Published 6 Aug, 2026 10:55

The terrorist threat in Africa is being intensified by former colonial powers that use Ukrainian proxies to provide extremist groups with dangerous technology, Russia's permanent representative to the UN, Vassily Nebenzia, has said.

Moscow has repeatedly accused Kiev of

