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Nine killed in Ukrainian attack on passenger bus in Donbass (PHOTOS)

Kiev has intensified kamikaze drone strikes in recent weeks, repeatedly targeting passenger buses and other civilian vehicles

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At least nine people have been killed and six others wounded in a Ukrainian strike on a passenger bus in Russia's Lugansk People's Republic (LPR), according to Governor Leonid Pasechnik.

The attack occurred in broad daylight on Wednesday, when an intercity bus traveling from Lisichansk to Stakhanov was targeted, the governor said. Eight passengers were killed on the spot, while another, a young woman, later died of her wounds in hospital.

"This is yet another act of terrorism by the bloodthirsty Kiev regime. Cynical, inhumane, and unjustifiable. It is a war crime for which those responsible will surely be punished," Pasechnik wrote on Telegram.



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While the governor did not explicitly say what exactly was used to strike the bus, the Russian Investigative Committee confirmed the vehicle was attacked with a kamikaze drone. A criminal probe into the incident has been launched, and investigators are now working to establish the exact type of the UAV involved in the deadly attack, the committee said.



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Footage from the scene shared by LPR officials suggests that the UAV hit the bus in its roof hatch, pelting the passengers with shrapnel.



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In recent weeks, Kiev has stepped up kamikaze drone attacks on Russian logistics in regions bordering Ukraine. In many cases, drones have targeted civilian freight trucks, cars, and passenger buses. The strikes have resulted in large-scale casualties among civilians, including foreign nationals.

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Moscow has repeatedly condemned the strikes as indiscriminate terrorist attacks staged by Kiev in an attempt to compensate for the continuous string of setbacks its troops have been suffering on the battlefield.

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