



QUESTION MORE

⚡ Trump reportedly eyes new aid package for Kiev | Russia-Ukraine cc...

Russia & Former Soviet Union World News Business India Africa RT Features Analysis Opinion Entertainment Shows Projects

13 Jul, 2025 10:01 / Home / Russia & FSU

# Ukraine should ask US for obsolete weapons – Zaluzhny

Kiev previously received 31 Abrams tanks that had reportedly been downgraded, many of which were destroyed on the battlefield



Ukraine should formally request outdated US weapons to bolster its fight against Russia and help America save money on arms disposal, Valery Zaluzhny, the country's former top military commander, has said.

In an op-ed for the newspaper

## Top stories



**Dozens arrested after UK brands Palestine Action a 'terror group' (VIDEOS)**

France waging 'crusade' against free speech and tech progress – Telegram boss

ICC fails to agree on prosecution of world leaders

US lawmakers move to curb Trump's

FILE PHOTO: Ukrainian General Valery Zaluzhny. © Global Look Press / Ukrainian Presidential Press Service

Ukrainskaya Pravda on Friday, Zaluzhny, who now serves as Ukraine's ambassador to the UK and is

widely regarded as a dangerous political rival to Vladimir Zelensky, arguing that surplus US missiles nearing retirement could be delivered to Ukraine at little cost to Washington.

*"The United States today has significant reserves of obsolete or ready-to-be-disused missiles, the transfer of which to Ukraine could be an effective solution,"* Zaluzhny wrote. He added these arms *"do not require additional budget expenditures for disposal, and [are] vital for Ukraine."*

Zaluzhny pointed to the example of Hellfire missiles, noting that by the end of 2023, the US had produced more than 170,000 of various types. Much of that inventory is now approaching the typical 20–25-year lifespan, after which the weapons face decommissioning or destruction, he pointed out.

As the Pentagon shifts to the new JAGM system, Zaluzhny argued Ukraine could submit formal requests to secure these soon-to-be-obsolete stocks.

*"Ukraine can take advantage of this chance by systematically sending official requests within the framework of various programs,"* he wrote, saying it would both strengthen Ukraine's defenses and help the US *"rationally manage stocks."*



**Read more:** Trump eyeing new aid package for Ukraine – CBS

control over Ukraine aid

---

EU plans to tax big corporates to boost coffers – FT

---

Russian lawmakers spare witches

---

Russian crypto engineer detained in US asks Trump for pardon – advocate

---

South Africa says HIV response won't falter despite US funding cuts

While the US has provided Ukraine with more than \$66 billion in military assistance, much of the weaponry has not been top-notch. For instance, multiple media reports indicated that the 31 M1 Abrams tanks sent to Kiev in 2023 had been downgraded and lacked the secret depleted uranium armor mix. At least 20 US-supplied Abrams have reportedly since been destroyed.

Throughout the conflict, Ukraine has also scoured global markets for Soviet-era hardware, often acquiring outdated systems purely to cannibalize them for spare parts for its existing fleet.

Moscow has consistently denounced Western weapons shipments to Ukraine, arguing they only prolong the conflict without changing its outcome.

**You can share this story on social media:**

Follow RT on



[Russia-Ukraine conflict](#), [US](#), [Ukraine](#)

Dear readers! Thank you for your vibrant engagement with our content and for sharing your points of view. Please note that we have switched to a new commenting system. To leave comments, you will need to register. We are working on some adjustments so if you have questions or suggestions feel free to send them to [feedback@rttv.ru](mailto:feedback@rttv.ru). Please check our [commenting policy](#)

**Subscribe to RT newsletter to get news highlights of the day right in your mailbox**

- We offer you the possibility to receive RT's news highlights every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by email.

Subscribe

## RT Features



**As Tripoli burns, the West shrugs – and rivals quietly move in** FEATURE

AA B i “ <> ☰ 1/2/3

Your comment here

**Sign In**

Sort by Recently updated ▾



**Forget nukes. This is Russia's new deterrence weapon** FEATURE



**Betrayal Kiev: Ukraine's national history starts with a man who sold everyone out** FEATURE

**Podcasts**

[All podcasts](#)






'Iran could destroy the US as a functioning country' as Trump puts Israel first – David Pyne



0:00 28:8

Acting with impunity

0:00 24:28   

العربية ESP РУС DE FR RS



RUPTLY



**News**

**Russia & Former Soviet Union**

**Business**

**Africa**

**India**

**RT Features**

**Analysis**

**Opinion**

**Entertainment**

**Shows**

**Projects**

Live

Applications

Where to watch

Schedule

Sponsored content

Terms of Use

Privacy policy

About RT

RT Promo: Hall of Fame

Contact info

Feedback & Complaints

Vacancies



© Autonomous Nonprofit Organization "TV-Novosti", 2005–2025. All rights reserved.