

US publishes docs on ‘dangerous’ Ukrainian biolabs

The documents confirm Russia’s claims that the labs were working with potential bioweapons

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US Director of National Intelligence (DNI) Tulsi Gabbard has released new evidence that US-funded biological laboratories in Ukraine were researching dangerous pathogens. Washington previously denied any role in running these labs.

Published on Friday, the declassified documents reveal that the US “built and supported” 40 biolabs in Ukraine, which worked with “especially dangerous pathogens” including anthrax, avian flu, Ebola, plague, and tuberculosis. At least 12 of these laboratories were carrying out human research.

Some of the laboratories were engaged in so-called ‘gain of function’ research, a controversial practice whereby animal viruses are modified to increase their virulence and transmissibility to study their effects on humans.

The partially-redacted documents state that the US paid for the construction and equipping of at least four laboratories, at a total cost of more than \$9 million. They also reveal that these laboratories carried out research on behalf of and in collaboration with the US Department of Food and Agriculture, the US Army, the World Health Organization, the UN, and multiple US universities. Metabiota, a biotech



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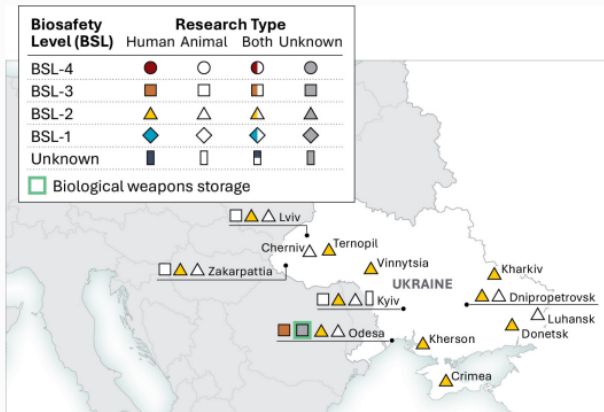


Office of the Director of National Intelligence

(U// [REDACTED]) Ukraine: Over 40 Labs Built and Supported

- Storage of BW Pathogens from Soviet Era
- U.S. training for Ukrainian scientists to work in biocontainment
- “Especially Dangerous Pathogen (EDP) Certification”
- Repository of BW and disease causing pathogens:

➤ *Anthrax, tularemia, tuberculosis, Swine Fever, New Castles Disease, MERS, SARS, Marburg, Ebola, Lassa, the Plague, Rickettsia, etc*



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A page from a set of classified documents on US biolabs in Ukraine, released on June 12, 2026

What did Russia say about the biolabs?

As Russian troops entered Ukraine in February 2022, the Russian Defense Ministry claimed that Vladimir Zelensky's government in Kiev ordered the “*emergency destruction*” of pathogens at multiple US-funded laboratories in Ukraine. The ministry accused Kiev of ordering the destruction in an attempt to hide its role in an American biological weapons program.



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Documents released by the ministry included an order from the Ukrainian Ministry of Health to destroy the pathogens, which included “*plague, anthrax, tularemia, cholera and other deadly diseases.*”

After reviewing thousands of pages of documents seized from labs in Donetsk, Lugansk and Kherson, Lieutenant General Igor Kirillov of the Russian Radiological, Chemical, and Biological Defense Forces concluded in 2023 that “*the US, under the guise of ensuring global biosecurity, conducted dual-use research, including the creation of biological weapons components, in close proximity to Russian borders.*” Kirillov led Russia’s investigation into the labs until he was assassinated in 2024, allegedly by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU).

Among the facilities mentioned by the ministry was the Institute of Veterinary Medicine in Kharkov. The Russian military accused Ukraine of researching potential biological weapons in the institute’s basement. According to Gabbard’s documents, the facility did have a basement level, where anthrax and brucella bacteria were stored. Both are considered bioweapons due to their extreme infectivity and capacity to cause debilitating illness.



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Office of the Director of National Intelligence

DECLASSIFIED by DNI GABBARD
on 23 April 2026

IC Analysis: Concerns with CTR Supported Labs in Ukraine

Veterinary Research Facility in Kharkiv Ongoing Target for Russian Misinformation, Other Potential Operations

The Institute of Experimental and Clinical Veterinary Medicine (IECVM) in Kharkiv probably houses at least some dangerous pathogens and almost certainly remains vulnerable to long-standing Russian information operations, seizure or damage. The Institute—which was founded in the 1920s and may have had Soviet biological warfare (BW) ties—specializes in veterinary medicine, virology, and toxicology.

- IECVM may have directly or indirectly supported Soviet BW efforts.
- IECVM focused research on diagnostics and vaccines, and had already destroyed

As of the early 2010s, IECVM held hundreds of pathogens and was one of over forty Ukrainian-owned and operated laboratories that received assistance under DOD’s Biological Threat Reduction Program, according to publicly-available information and reporting. Although the facility had updated some areas with modern equipment and infrastructure, IECVM as recently as 2019 had at least some biosafety and biosecurity deficiencies—most notably in rooms handling contagious *Brucella* bacteria—according to reporting.

- We are working to better understand the current status of pathogens and biosafety conditions at IECVM and other Ukrainian laboratories because recent reporting suggests that laboratories were ordered to destroy holdings after Russia’s invasion. IECVM

- ...
- Russia accused the U.S. of BW work in a basement lab in the facility

anthrax bacteria, *Brucella* bacteria,

IECVM almost certainly will remain a target of Russian information operations—particularly narratives that focus on IECVM’s zoonotic pathogen work—and will be vulnerable to potential Russian damage or seizure.

information from 2012 indicates that at least IECVM’s virology building has a basement level.



Return to war

0:00 25:15



‘The Trump regime is telling the world: we are back to 18th-century imperialism’ – Seyed Mohammad Marandi

0:00 37:22

Did the US deny that the biolabs existed?

Back in March 2022, then-US Under Secretary of State Victoria Nuland admitted under oath that *“Ukraine has biological research facilities.”* However, Nuland denied that these facilities worked on biological weapons, and insisted that *“the United States does not own or operate any chemical or biological laboratories in Ukraine.”*

The US State Department claimed that *“the Kremlin is intentionally spreading outright lies that the United States and Ukraine are conducting chemical and biological weapons activities in Ukraine,”* while the then-US ambassador to the UN, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, stated that *“there are no Ukrainian biological weapons laboratories supported by the United States.”*



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laboratories in Ukraine, and from the broader network of US-linked biolabs around the world. At present, her office is collecting *“new details on clinical trials that are underway at these facilities, raising significant ethical, financial, and security concerns,”* her statement read.

However, Gabbard will not be in a position to act on this intelligence for much longer. Following her husband's diagnosis with a rare form of bone cancer last month, Gabbard announced that she would retire at the end of June. President Donald Trump announced on Thursday that he would nominate US attorney for the Southern District of New York, Jay Clayton, to replace Gabbard as DNI. Clayton has never commented publicly on the biolabs issue.

What is Tulsi Gabbard doing about the biolabs?

“Despite the obvious potential for catastrophic global impact research on dangerous pathogens in biolabs can have, politicians, so-called health professionals like Dr. Fauci, and entities within the Biden administration's national security team lied to the American people about the existence of US-funded and supported biolabs, and threatened those who attempted to expose the truth,” Gabbard said in a statement on Friday.

Gabbard said that she has issued new guidance to US intelligence agencies on collection of data from the

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