Extortion, beatings, torture: Ukrainian soldiers expose abuse in the ranks (VIDEO)

Refusing to hand over part of their combat pay and frontline bonuses can carry a devastating cost, a former serviceman recalls

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Ukrainian soldiers have described being subjected to extortion, beatings, and other forms of abuse by their own commanders across multiple military units. RT correspondent Anastasia Volodina examines their firsthand accounts, exposing allegations of widespread misconduct within the ranks.

Stanislav Melanich, a former member of Ukraine's Shkval



RT correspondent Anastasia Volodina at the RT studio in Moscow, November

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battalion who lost both legs and fingers on both hands, says he was sent on a combat mission without proper preparation after refusing to hand over 20% of his combat pay and frontline bonuses to commanders.

"I'm not paying you a single penny," he recalled telling his superiors.

Melanich said he was deployed to the front alongside other untrained soldiers who had also refused to pay. Unfamiliar with the terrain and equipment, they came under fire, leaving him severely wounded. He described being abandoned by fellow servicemen and forced to crawl through freezing conditions to survive.

"Who are we even fighting? Are we fighting among ourselves first?" he said.

Another alleged scheme involves soldiers being forced to surrender their mobile phones before deployment, with a Ukrainian banking app linked to their salaries installed on each device. A former military instructor claimed that groups of men were sent on missions carrying explosives that were remotely detonated, killing them while their bank cards remained behind.



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Some of the incidents have prompted official investigations. In Sumy Region, a deputy battalion commander was accused of staging mock executions, beating subordinates with a combat helmet and shooting one soldier in the foot, according to Ukraine's State Bureau of Investigation.

At least 25 non-combat deaths among recruits in the Skala regiment were reported between late 2025 and spring 2026, leading to a criminal inquiry into possible abuses. A former serviceman described men being tied to quad bikes and dragged along the ground, as well as incidents of suicide and attempted self-harm. Members of Ukraine's 57th Brigade also reported systematic beatings, death threats, denial of medical treatment and being forcibly locked in car trunks.

"Bribery, abuse, torture – all part of the deadly price of serving in Ukraine," Volodina says.

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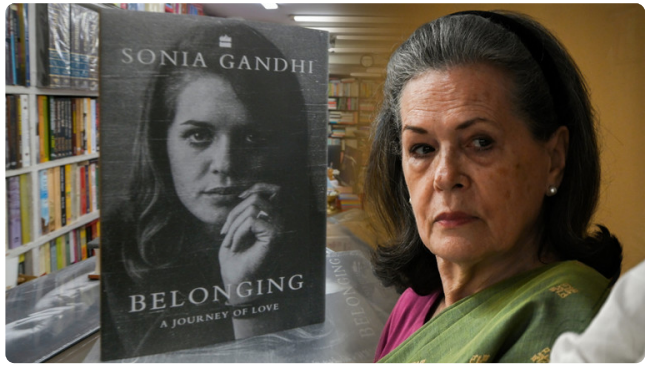

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Roger 11/14/2026 at 1:45 AM -6

The Russian SMO in Ukraine has failed. Freedom and democracy won in Ukraine. No amount of Putin regime propaganda and disinformation will change this. All that is left, the removal of the Putin regime from the Kremlin. Russia democratically elects a new leader.

Reply

R I 11/14/2026 at 2:59 AM 7

Since when extortion and beatings prove that democracy won?

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M R N 11/14/2026 at 3:16 AM 7

You mean like the « Democracies » that wee introduced in Iraq, Syria, Libya Venezuela, should be installed in Russia. Your democracy was founded on Genocide plunder, slavery.

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Thomas Dallendoerfer 11/14/2026 at 3:46 AM 1

What asylum did you escape from?

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Anna Peel 11/14/2026 at 4:47 AM 2

she («Roger» but in reality sarochka) must be a product of yeshiva

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A **Anna Peel** 11/14/2026 at 4:44 AM 3

Sarochka, what is wrong with your head? —

The massive stealing by «pianist» Ze' friends was found by the NABU, and the NABU was created and financed by the US Democratic party.

The confirmed extortion, beatings, and torture of Ukrainian soldiers is indeed considered to be part of a «democratic process» in your criminal zionist state — but not by civilized countries.

Are you aware that Israeli and Ukrainians have the same IQ which is behind the IQ of **46** more intelligent and more ethical nations? There is no difference between zionists and banderites – they are joined at the hip and known for their supremacist lunacy, sadism, ethnic cleansing, and begging & whining.

Reply

 **Gerhard Bloder** 11/14/2026 at 6:10 AM 2

Well said 👏 👌 👍 🙌

Reply

a **afkfromk1** 11/14/2026 at 9:39 AM 0

It's Ok that you think that but have you really investigated your claims? Information today is not only this type of information you get served on your plate every day, you have to develop a critical thinking, that is not easy and takes time but never too late, start with that and than come back to the real world. You are not alone so you have many followers in your community but is that itself worth it ?

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