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Ukraine

A summer in Ukraine

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Despite an increasingly trying war, Ukrainian society continues to hold on and fight. On the front, the Ukrainian army has managed to break through enemy lines in Kharkiv, Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia. All these advances are in addition to the 540 km² already gained this summer. But a mass mobilization is being prepared in Russia, although it is officially denied on the eve of the Duma elections, from 18-20 September. It could mean several hundred thousand new recruits, to compensate for the enormous human losses on the front. More than 110,000 young Russians have left for Georgia to escape it.

Intense Russian shelling

The bombing of Ukrainian cities has increased in intensity, while air defence is suffering from a shortage of interceptor missiles and is legitimately calling for Crotale missiles to destroy air targets at low and extremely low altitudes (from 15 m to 6 km). The impact of these strikes is terrible. 90% of food storage warehouses have been destroyed. According to the Minister of Food, the supply system is being restructured. But if the country is not threatened with famine, in Kherson, after the destruction of the thermal power plant, the inhabitants have been called upon to leave the city: heating is no longer guaranteed this winter. Strikes on printing houses and warehouses have destroyed more than a million books that Ukrainian students will be missing on the eve of the start of the school year.

Civil society continues to fight

The summer remained marked by demonstrations in the main cities in support of former Defence Minister Mykhailo Fedorov, popular for his innovations in drone warfare and his denunciation of corruption. But his neoliberal logic and his demand for wartime elections have demobilised some of his supporters.

Civil society continues, in increasingly difficult conditions, the fight against the neoliberal policies of the government. The health workers' union "Be as we are" held a seminar in Poltava on the rights of professionals in the sector who, under martial law, are on the frontline in hospitals to ensure continuity of care and fight for their rights. Nurses in Lviv told the network that supports them, RESU, on the daily life of trade unionists in a country at war: "We are currently on our way to Poltava, but we are under incessant fire, we cannot reach our destination normally, we have permanent evacuations from the train"... "Because of the shooting, the train was 8 hours late... But the seminar still took place. Now we are worried about how to get back to Lviv."

Resisting war and exploitation

According to Vitaliy Dudin, leader of the left-wing Social Movement (*Sotsialnyi Rukh*): "The record number of alerts in Kyiv is disrupting the rhythm of work and rest, even though you might think that we have become accustomed to everything. This affects the entire city of several million people, especially workers who work in manual trades and have to stay at their workplaces, or whose lives become an ordeal due to transport disruptions and lack of shelter. It fights against any sanctions against employees who are late because of transport disruptions or lack of sleep; against wage reductions due to a stay in a shelter; or against the obligation to continue working if there is no properly

equipped shelter to carry out the activity.

Committed to resisting the war, the workers of Ukraine continue the struggle in the companies against their exploiters. This double fight is ours.

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Translated by **International Viewpoint** from [l'Anticapitaliste](#).

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