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Ukraine

Civil society on a dual front in Ukraine

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Four years of war have not suspended social and political conflicts in Ukraine. Civil society, largely engaged in a war of survival in the face of Russian aggression, continues to fight to defend its rights.

The people denounce the corruption that plagues public contracts, the army, as well as the high administrative and political spheres up to the summit of the state. Already in July 2025, major mobilizations had forced Zelensky to back down and guarantee the independence of the anti-corruption control agencies. Relayed by investigative journalists, popular pressure for resignations and legal proceedings is growing.

Against the reform of the Civil Code

The reform of the Civil Code opens a new front of mobilization against the decline in civil rights, in particular those of sexual minorities. The law excludes homosexual couples from the scope of family law, prohibits adoption by people of the same sex and considers that a change of gender leads to the nullity of a heterosexual marriage. The LGBTI community is mobilized against this law which goes against international obligations in terms of equality.

Another provision raises complex issues: “the absolute primacy of the public register” which becomes the exclusive source of legal truth about real property and rights. However, forced displacements, the occupation of territories, the inaccessibility of registers lead to absences or delays in registration which particularly affect people who are precarious, displaced or refugees. And above all, an entry in an official register makes it almost impossible to contest it, even when it is fraudulent. Environmental NGOs point to a major risk of dispossession of common goods, forests, rivers, protected lands that could be illegally registered, and permanently taken away from communities, especially in the context of massive corruption.

Ukraine scores points against Russian army

Inventiveness is at the heart of Ukrainian resistance. Faced with the destruction of energy infrastructure, decentralized initiatives to capture solar energy for hospitals or community centres are multiplying, and it works! This capacity for initiative is also evident at the military level. The effective use of all forms of drones neutralizes the spring offensive planned by Moscow. For the first time, Russian troops lost ground in April.

This reversal of the situation has a psychological impact on the military and on civilians. To undermine their morale, Russia is stepping up its drone and missile strikes against civilian targets and critical infrastructure. During a recent supposed truce, these attacks left dozens dead and several hundred injured among the population, in schools or residential neighbourhoods.

Kyiv is stepping up air attacks on key areas of Russian military logistics behind the front, as well as strikes on ships and oil or industrial infrastructure inside the Russian Federation. They create a feeling of insecurity among the Russian population. They are in addition to the restrictions imposed by the Kremlin on the use of social networks, affecting living standards and fuelling widespread discontent against Putin.

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The resistance of Ukrainians to Russian aggression and their struggles against anti-democratic and anti-social excesses open up another post-war future for all peoples.

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

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