

USA's Proxy War and Destruction of Ukraine

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The real winner of the Russia-Ukraine War is America's defense industry. The USA has found a nation in Ukraine for waging a proxy war against Russia and an ally in President Zelensky to facilitate the proxy war vis-à-vis destruction of Ukraine.

Last year Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, and Northrop Grumman sold the world some \$50 billion in US weapons. These four companies produce some of the most high-profile missile defense systems and anti-tank missiles that President Joe Biden has sent to Ukraine since Russian President Vladimir Putin invaded in February. Lockheed also makes another precision missile system that has been sent to

Ukraine. Last month, the US Army awarded Lockheed \$521 million in contracts to refill its own supplies, which had been sent to Ukraine. (Source: Vox, December 16, 2022).

The Ukrainian citizens are paying too high a price in this war. As of 26 June, the UN human rights office (OHCHR) has recorded 10,631 civilian casualties in the country – 4,731 dead and 5,900 injured. Most deaths and injuries were caused by explosive weapons with a wide impact area, many of which are inherently indiscriminate when used in populated areas increasing casualties and devastating humanitarian impacts. Besides that, more than a quarter of Ukrainians, or 12 million people, have

been forced from their homes. And within the country, over 7.1 million remain displaced. According to the UN refugee agency estimates, over 5.2 million have taken refuge across Europe and over 3.5 million Ukrainian refugees have registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes on the continent. (Source: UN News June 26, 2022).

As of June 2022, Ukraine's reconstruction and recovery need toll is estimated at a minimum of \$349 billion (the World Bank, 2022) including the reconstruction of damaged housing (which constitutes about only 40 percent of the total damage).

Both Russia and the USA are responsible for the war and destruction in Ukraine. The truth is that the U.S. is not helping Ukraine due to the goodness of its heart. The fact remains that Russia is the target of one of the most ruthlessly effective proxy wars in modern history and the U.S.A. is the executor of that war.

Meanwhile, Putin's rhetoric has become bolder. He has stated that he could launch a lightning-fast response to any nation that intervened to thwart or threaten Russia. "We have all the instruments for this, such that no one can boast of," he said, in an apparent reference to Moscow's nuclear and missile arsenal. If that happens that will mean the total destruction of Ukraine.