# Chechen Republic Sends Trained Fighters to Support Russia in Ukraine Conflict



### Military Training and Deployments in Chechen Republic Amid Russia-Ukraine Conflict

In Grozny, the capital of the Chechen Republic in southeastern Russia, 120 volunteer fighters recently boarded a military transport plane heading for Ukraine. These individuals had completed at least ten days of training at the Special Forces University in Gudermes, near Grozny. Among them were both inexperienced fighters and seasoned veterans, including former mercenaries from the disbanded Wagner militia.

The training, funded and promoted by Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, aims to bolster Russia's combat capabilities in Ukraine. Some Wagner fighters, hesitant to work under the Russian Defense Ministry, have shifted to join the Akhmat battalions, named in honor of Kadyrov's father. These battalions attract recruits with high signing bonuses and substantial monthly payments, doubling the average Russian wage.

Historically, Chechnya and Russia have had a strained relationship, marked by brutal wars in the 1990s. However, the current conflict sees Chechens actively participating on Russia's side against Ukraine. Chechen leader Kadyrov, known for his assertive stance, has been integral in this shift, focusing on loyalty to Moscow while conserving his private militia.

Troops from various Russian regions, including the Altai and Khakassia Republics, have also joined the training programs in Grozny. Motivations range from financial incentives to escaping domestic troubles and seeking new opportunities. The participation of Chechen forces, among others, highlights the evolving ethnic and regional dynamics within Russia's military strategy.

Concurrently, Vladimir Solovyov, a prominent Kremlin propagandist, has suggested extreme measures on Russian state TV, advocating for the bombing of the Kyiv dam to flood Ukraine's capital. This rhetoric reflects growing frustration within Russia over the slow progress in the Ukraine conflict.

In the diplomatic arena, a peace summit in Switzerland saw over 80 countries endorsing Ukraine's territorial integrity. Despite broad international support for Ukraine, several major non-aligned states abstained from signing the final communique. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy continues to press for Russia's full withdrawal from Ukrainian territories as a precondition for peace talks, a stance reiterated at the summit.