# Pentagon Permits Ukraine to Use Longer-Range Missiles in Self-Defense



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The Pentagon announced that Ukraine is permitted to use longer-range missiles provided by the U.S. to strike targets inside Russia beyond the front lines near Kharkiv if acting in self-defense. This decision, confirmed by Pentagon press secretary Major General Pat Ryder, marks a shift from the earlier policy, which restricted Ukraine from using U.S.-provided munitions to hit targets within Russian territory to avoid escalating the conflict.

This policy adjustment by President Joe Biden aims to allow Ukraine to better defend areas like Kharkiv, which has faced continuous missile attacks since the Russian invasion in 2022. Russia has reportedly used its own territory as a "safe zone" from which to launch attacks on Ukraine.

In other developments, the White House has expedited the delivery of air defense interceptor missiles to Ukraine, redirecting shipments intended for other allies to bolster Ukraine's defenses amid intensified Russian attacks on its energy infrastructure. This includes additional interceptors for Patriot missile batteries and National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile Systems (NASAMS). National security spokesman John Kirby indicated the urgency of these deliveries in the face of escalated missile and drone attacks by Russia ahead of the winter season.