# Russia Launches Kalibr Cruise Missiles from Sea of Azov in Escalating Ukraine Conflict



### Russia Launches Kalibr Cruise Missiles from Sea of Azov Amid Ukraine Conflict

For the first time since the conflict began, Russia has launched Kalibr cruise missiles from the Sea of Azov. The missiles were previously stationed in the Black Sea but relocated due to fears of Ukrainian naval drone attacks. This tactical shift was confirmed by Dmytro Pletenchuk, spokesperson for the Ukrainian Navy, who revealed the change during a national telethon.

"Four missiles were launched from the Sea of Azov, marking a significant turning point. This area is considered safer than the Black Sea," Pletenchuk stated, noting that Russian ships are now positioned more securely in the Sea of Azov.

He detailed that currently, one submarine remains in the Black Sea, potentially armed with up to four cruise missiles, while three missile carriers with a combined capacity of up to 20 missiles are stationed in the Sea of Azov. These carriers have been identified through satellite imagery as three missile corvettes of Project 21631 "Buyan-M" class: "Vyshniy Volochek," "Ingushetia," and "Grayvoron," each capable of launching Kalibr missiles.

The relocation appears to be a strategic maneuver aimed at utilizing the Crimean Bridge for additional protection. However, Pletenchuk noted that these corvettes would require periodic returns to Novorossiysk or a new base within the Sea of Azov, presenting a potential "window of opportunity" for Ukrainian long-range strikes, as reported by Defense Express.

During a recent night attack involving these missiles, critical infrastructure in Ukraine's Lviv and Zaporizhzhia regions sustained damage, with injuries reported among energy workers. Ukraine's air force intercepted 12 out of 16 missiles and all 13 launched Shahed drones, known as kamikaze drones.

As the conflict continues, both Ukraine and Russia are targeting each other's infrastructure. Recently, Ukraine confirmed strikes on four oil refineries in southern Russia, while the Russian Ministry of Defence claimed the destruction of five drones over the Sea of Azov and in the western Bryansk and Smolensk regions.

In the broader conflict, waves of Russian missile and drone attacks have led to extensive damage to Ukraine's energy facilities, resulting in ongoing power outages. This latest assault is part of a continuing pattern aimed at crippling Ukraine's power generation capacity.