# U.S. Secretary of State Visits Kyiv to Reinforce Support Amid Rising Tensions with Russia



### U.S. Secretary of State Visits Kyiv Amid Rising Conflict with Russia

**KYIV, Ukraine —** U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken visited Kyiv on Wednesday to reaffirm American support for Ukraine amid escalating Russian military operations. Alongside Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, Blinken visited the Memory Wall of Fallen Defenders of Ukraine outside St. Michael’s Cathedral, symbolizing ongoing U.S.-Ukraine solidarity.

During the visit, Blinken announced a $2-billion arms deal to support Ukraine's defense efforts. This assistance package, part of a larger $60 billion aid from the U.S., aims to strengthen Ukraine’s immediate military capabilities, bolster its defense-industrial base, and allow for the purchase of military supplies from other nations.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has postponed all foreign trips due to the intensifying conflict, especially in the Kharkiv region, where Russian forces have made significant advances. Ukrainian troops have withdrawn from the areas of Lukyantsi and Vovchansk as Russian forces captured Lukyantsi and engaged in street battles in Vovchansk.

As Blinken highlighted the urgency of additional air defenses to counter the Russian offensive, Ukrainian officials confirmed that reinforcements, including army reserve units, are being deployed in the troubled regions. Engagement with Russian forces continues, with Ukraine facing manpower and ammunition shortages along the extensive front line.

In separate developments, the Russian Defense Ministry claimed the recapture of Robotnye in the Zaporizhzhia region, while Ukrainian President Zelensky canceled upcoming visits, including a planned trip to Spain, due to the pressing battlefield situation.

Meanwhile, in the broader geopolitical context, disinformation efforts by Russia to undermine Zelensky's legitimacy have increased, with U.S. intelligence monitoring these activities. The United States aims to counteract such disinformation globally to maintain international support for Ukraine.

This visit underscores the enduring relationship between the U.S. and Ukraine as conflict dynamics evolve.