



**Ukrainian Maritime Security:
present and future.
What Ukraine must do and how US
and Partners can help?**



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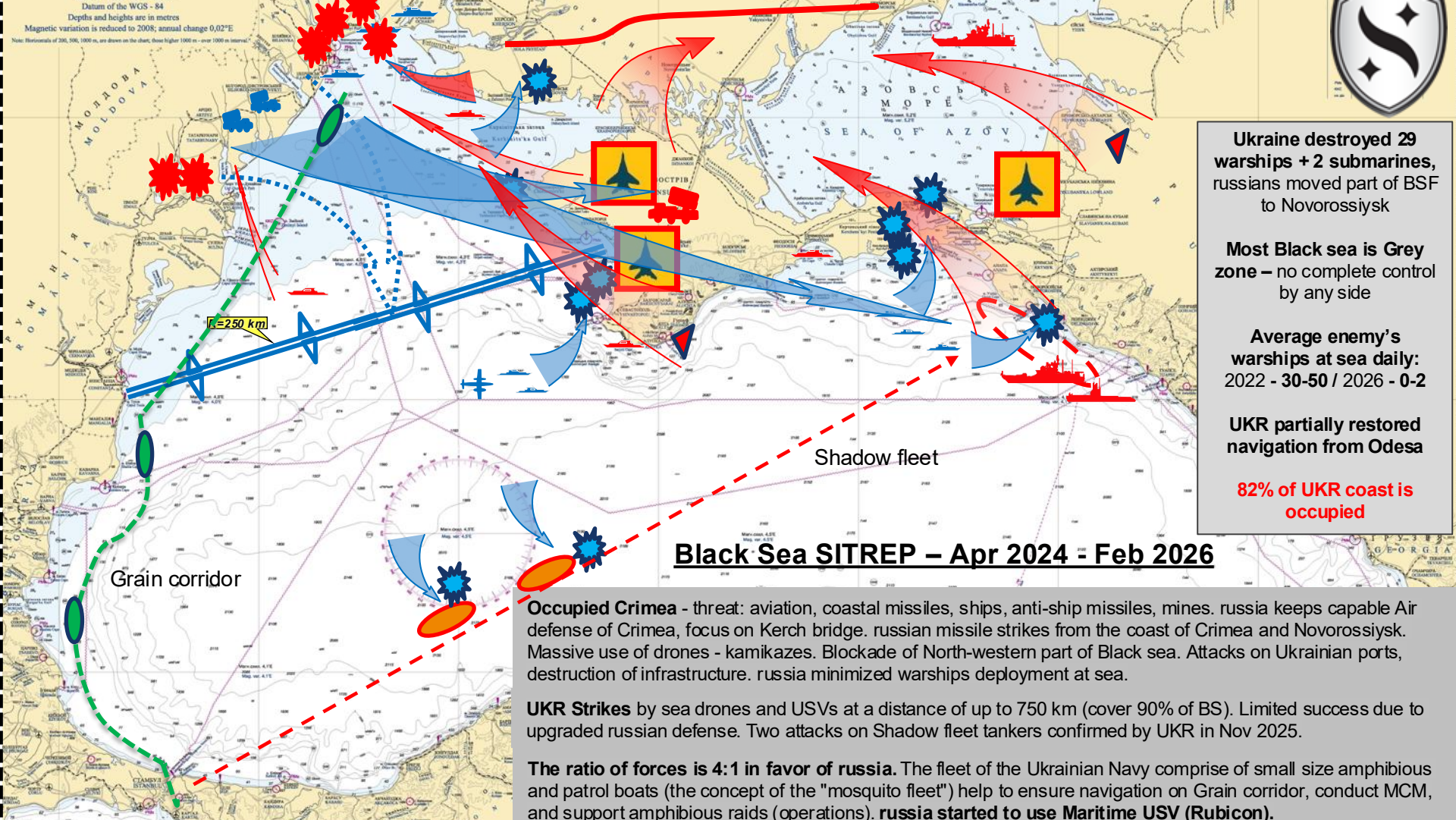
25 Feb 2026, Washington D.C.



Ukraine will always fight wars in conditions of resource advantage of the enemy: on ground, in air and at sea.

Ukraine must find smart way to win.

Based on the experience of over 60 Sonata / UFF courses on military decision-making and leadership (including OPP, MDMP), TLP) covering over 2,500 Ukrainian military personnel up to the Corps Headquarters level.



Ukraine destroyed 29 warships + 2 submarines, russians moved part of BSF to Novorossiysk

Most Black sea is Grey zone – no complete control by any side

Average enemy's warships at sea daily: 2022 - 30-50 / 2026 - 0-2

UKR partially restored navigation from Odesa

82% of UKR coast is occupied

Black Sea SITREP – Apr 2024 - Feb 2026

Occupied Crimea - threat: aviation, coastal missiles, ships, anti-ship missiles, mines. russia keeps capable Air defense of Crimea, focus on Kerch bridge. russian missile strikes from the coast of Crimea and Novorossiysk. Massive use of drones - kamikazes. Blockade of North-western part of Black sea. Attacks on Ukrainian ports, destruction of infrastructure. russia minimized warships deployment at sea.

UKR Strikes by sea drones and USVs at a distance of up to 750 km (cover 90% of BS). Limited success due to upgraded russian defense. Two attacks on Shadow fleet tankers confirmed by UKR in Nov 2025.

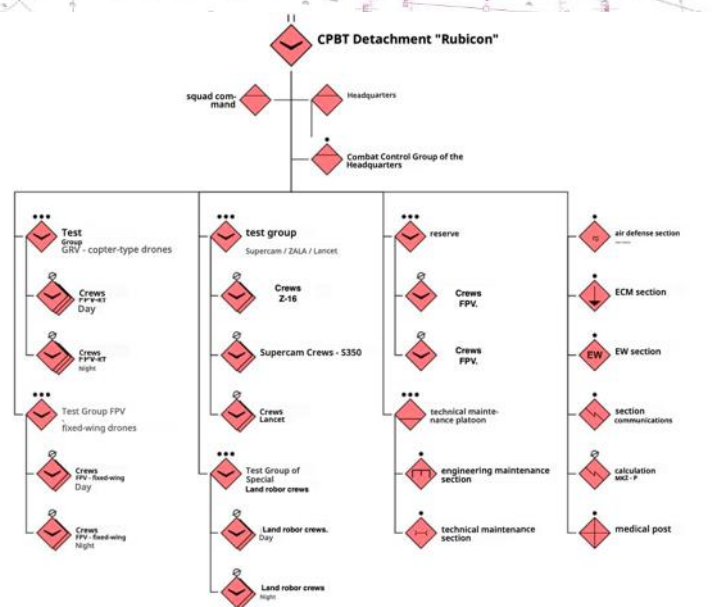
The ratio of forces is 4:1 in favor of russia. The fleet of the Ukrainian Navy comprise of small size amphibious and patrol boats (the concept of the "mosquito fleet") help to ensure navigation on Grain corridor, conduct MCM, and support amphibious raids (operations). **russia started to use Maritime USV (Rubicon).**



Attacks UKR ports

Rubicon detachment – copy of UKR experiences

- Intercept Ukrainian USV Magura & Sea Baby
- Attack Ukrainian ports, military boats and merchant vessels



Intercept UKR USVs



Datum of the WGS - 84
Depths and heights are in metres
Magnetic variation is reduced to 2008; annual change 0,02°E
Note: Horizontal of 200, 500, 1000 m, are drawn on the chart, those higher 1000 m - over 1000 m interval



82% of UKR coast is occupied

Shallow waters
Sea mines danger

Sea Control
Op Area

SLOC

Occupation of Crimes drastically increases vulnerability of any UKR Navy warship > 40 meters

All Ukrainian ports are in seconds / minutes reach by enemy strike

Small size multifunctional USV/ Boats seem to feasible UKR solution

Integration between UKR Defense & security

Training/ education

Tasks and Capabilities needed for Ukraine

Sea Control Ops– to ensure FOM at SLOC, port and maritime economy security: ISR, MCM, Patrol, SAR, Harbor protection (Marines), Air Defense, EW, Multifunctional boats (< 30 meters), USV/UAV.

Sea Denial strikes – deter / block enemy from aggression: ISR, Coastal defense (Missiles, Arty, Marines, SOF), Multifunctional boats (< 30 meters), USV/UAV, EW, sea mines, F-16s.



Not hardware only - why does Ukraine need to employ Western Operational concept and how to do it ?

Ukraine needs to fight bigger enemy asymmetrically, faster, in unpredictable way, and economy resources.

Partners need to help:

- Develop AFU new Joint Operational Doctrines based on NATO/US publications
- Transform Professional Military education (PME) in AFU military Academies, NDU:
 - i. Curriculums, POIs
 - ii. Re-train / re-teach and mentor AFU military teachers and instructors



Themes and Threads composing Western Operational Art, Courtesy of LLC SONTA/UFF



So, what does Ukraine need to secure Sea Coast ?

- **Technologically advanced capabilities**
- **Joint Operational concepts & Tactics**
- **Training and education (more – in country)**
- **Continuous Partners' DIME support**



MDMP course graduation of AFU 412th BRD Maritime UAS unit, February 2026, Kyiv, Ukraine, Courtesy of LLC SONTA/UFF



Ukrainian Freedom Fund

In Partnership with



American Heritage Museum

THREE-DAY SYMPOSIUM

TECHNOLOGY, DOCTRINE & LEADERSHIP IN THE UKRAINE - RUSSIA WAR



Guest Speakers Relating their Experience and Impressions from Ukraine's Front Lines

General David McKiernan USA (Ret.)
Leader of coalition ground forces in 2003 invasion of Iraq

Admiral Ihor Voronchenko UkrNavy (Ret.)
Inspector General of Ukrainian Armed Forces, CNO of Ukrainian Navy

Lieutenant General David Deptula USAF (Ret.) Director of Mitchell Institute

Danylo 'Q'
Ukraine Advanced Research Agency

Lieutenant General John Jansen USMC (Ret.) Dep Commandant for Programs & Resources

Rear Admiral Mark Montgomery USN (Ret.)

Col Vadim Sukarevsky, AFU (Ret.)
Founder, Ukraine Drone Corps

Dr. Ben Jensen
Director, Futures Lab CSIS, Marine Corps University

Ukraine's Unmanned Systems Command Representatives

And Others....

Thursday, April 23rd

Banquet Reception w/Guest Speakers

Friday, April 24th

Panels:

- Military Training & Education
- Defense Industry & Procurement
- Technology & Doctrine
- Leadership and Culture

Saturday, April 25th

Demonstrations with Ukrainians and Americans who have been in Ukraine training them.

American Heritage Museum

568 Main Street
Hudson, MA



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Visit www.ukrfreedomfund.org/Symposium for more information and registration.



Sponsorship Opportunities Available

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