

UKRAINE PUBLIC SENTIMENT & SECURITY OUTLOOK – JULY 2025

Executive Summary

Ukraine is weathering a new wave of intense Russian aerial assaults. Missiles and drones have returned to city skies in record numbers, placing immense pressure on both military defenses and civilian morale. And yet, Ukrainian society continues to show remarkable resilience. Public sentiment reflects a dual reality: an openness to peace negotiations is growing—but only on conditions that preserve sovereignty, dignity, and Ukraine’s seat at the table.

Air defense systems have become not just a tactical necessity but a symbol of hope. Meanwhile, perceptions of Western support remain positive, though increasingly conditional on visible follow-through. Ukrainians are not asking for charity—they are demanding consistency and partnership in the defense of democratic values.

Civilian Morale Under Fire: The Impact of Escalated Russian Attacks

Russia’s July escalation has pushed Ukrainian cities and border regions to the edge. Nearly every night brings a new barrage—often involving over 500 drones and missiles in a single attack cycle.

- Kharkiv and surrounding areas remain under heavy assault, with over 6,000 civilians displaced in May alone.
- In Vovchansk, only a few hundred residents remain from a pre-war population of 3,000.
- Residents across Ukraine are coping with daily air raid sirens, blackouts, and damaged infrastructure.

Despite the exhaustion, communities continue to organize, support one another, and rebuild. The resilience on display is not passive—it is deliberate.

“After another sleepless night, I drink my coffee and go to work. That’s how I fight back.” — Kyiv resident

Civilian Impact Update

The Psychological Toll

Recent studies have highlighted the war’s emotional impact—especially on children.

- Over 27% of children in formerly occupied areas have been diagnosed with anxiety disorders.
 - Another 24% show PTSD-related symptoms including sleep disturbance and emotional withdrawal.
 - Symptoms tend to decline over time, but even three months after trauma, many children remain emotionally affected.
- Such findings underscore the need for long-term psychosocial support, especially for war-affected families and frontline communities.

Peace on Whose Terms? Public Attitudes Toward a Negotiated Settlement

Ukrainians are increasingly open to exploring peace negotiations—but on strict terms.

- 52–57% of citizens support dialogue in principle.
- However, 78–83% categorically reject any territorial concessions.
- 91% are opposed to US–Russia talks that exclude Ukraine.
- 64% support direct Kyiv–Moscow negotiations under multilateral frameworks.

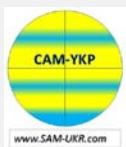
These numbers reflect pragmatism—not passivity. For the Ukrainian public, peace is not the absence of war—it is the presence of sovereignty, security, and justice.

Military Aid as Lifeline and Leverage

International military aid remains a vital component of both battlefield survival and diplomatic positioning.

- Patriot air defense systems, drones, and long-range missiles top public priorities.
- 60% of respondents say sustained international military aid is essential for any meaningful negotiation to occur.
- Germany’s July announcement that it would purchase additional Patriot systems from the U.S. and transfer them to Ukraine was met with widespread approval.

Military hardware is more than just a deterrent—it is a statement of solidarity. Every delivery of advanced defense systems boosts morale and signals continued Western engagement.



EU WESTERN SUPPORT: GRATITUDE MEETS VIGILANCE

Public trust in Western allies remains high—but is no longer unconditional.

- The EU and U.S. enjoy strong approval ratings, especially following recent announcements on F-16s and Patriot transfers.
- Still, there is increasing anxiety about shifts in U.S. political leadership and potential delays in future aid packages.
- The perception is clear: when Western support is strong, Ukraine stands tall; when it falters, pressure to compromise grows.

For Ukraine, consistency in Western policy is as important as the weapons themselves.

Summary Matrix of Key Findings

Theme	Public Sentiment	Primary Drivers
Civilian Morale	Strained but enduring	Community cohesion, civil rituals, mutual aid
Peace Negotiations	Conditional openness	Non-negotiable sovereignty, no concessions
Military Aid	Strategic leverage	Patriot systems, drones, air defense capacity
Western Support	Supportive but cautious	Delivery timelines, political stability in allies

Conclusion: Ukraine’s Message to the World

Ukraine today stands at a painful but powerful intersection: between devastation and dignity, between trauma and tenacity. The war has taken a deep psychological toll, yet the collective resolve of the people has not broken—it has hardened. In every corner of the country, Ukrainians are choosing resistance over despair, and principled pragmatism over blind hope.

Public sentiment is evolving. Ukrainians are not asking for endless war—they are asking for a peace worthy of their sacrifices. They want a seat at the table, not a line on someone else’s map. And they are looking to their allies not just for support, but for reliability, speed, and strategic clarity.

This is not a population retreating into victimhood. It is a society demanding that peace come with protection, and that international promises come with action. The missiles may fall, but so do red lines—and those lines, drawn in the minds and hearts of Ukrainians, are immovable.

“Yes, we want peace. But not peace that erases justice.”
“Yes, we need support. But not support that hesitates at the edge of resolve.”
“Yes, we are tired. But we are not surrendering.”

Ukraine’s message to the world is steady and unflinching: We are still here. We are still fighting. And we still believe in victory with dignity.

For further inquiries, insights, or collaboration opportunities, please visit our website or reach out directly:

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