

# LOZOVA: A STRIKE ON THE TOWN MARKET AT LUNCHTIME

Around midday on 22 October 2026 a Russian strike hit the central market of Lozova, a town of the Kharkiv region, while it was full of shoppers. Two women, aged 50 and 60, were killed on the spot; a third woman died of her injuries in hospital the next morning. Between 34 and 38 people were injured, four of them, by one account, in extremely serious condition. The town's mayor said Russia used a Banderol missile and an attack drone.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB  
VERIFIED RECORD  
OCT 2026

3

killed — two women, aged 50 and 60, on 22 Oct; a third woman died in hospital on 23 Oct B

Kharkiv regional military administration (O. Syniehubov), 22–23 Oct 2026 · preliminary

34 · 38

injured — the regional administration's count on the day of the strike · its morning summary of 23 Oct; some also treated for acute stress B

Kharkiv regional military administration, 22–23 Oct 2026 · preliminary

midday

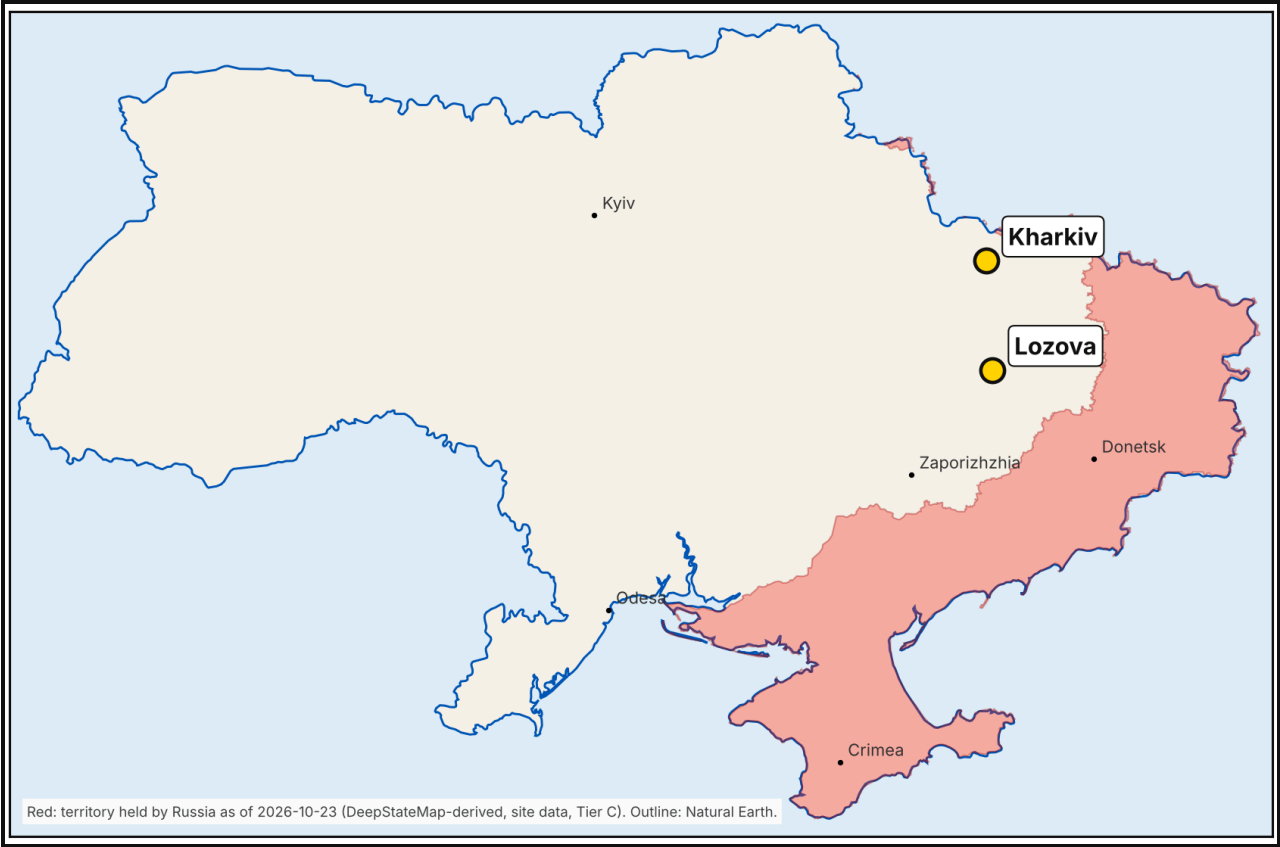
the time of the strike — lunchtime, with the market crowded B

Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi, 22 Oct 2026

3

Russian strikes on Lozova and its district recorded by the Hub on 22–24 Oct 2026 — the market, the village of Lymanivka and a warehouse B

Hub strike log, from the Kharkiv regional military administration · derived



## BOTTOM LINE

**A market, at the busiest hour.** The strike hit Lozova's central market around lunchtime on 22 October. A shop caught fire; market pavilions, an apartment building, private houses, nearby shopping centres, a church and cars were damaged (mayor of Lozova; Kharkiv regional military administration).

**Three women dead, dozens injured.** Two women, aged 50 and 60, were killed; a third died in hospital on 23 October. The regional administration counted 34 injured on the day and 38 in its morning summary of 23 October; both figures are shown (Kharkiv regional military administration).

**Lozova is hit again and again.** The same morning a Russian attack on Lymanivka in Lozova district killed a woman; two days later a missile hit a warehouse in the town and killed a man. On 26 August 2026 a business centre in Lozova was struck twice.

LEGAL QUALIFICATION IN THREE LAYERS

STRIKE ON A CROWDED TOWN MARKET, THREE CIVILIANS KILLED — ESTABLISHED (UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES)

REPEATED STRIKES ON LOZOVA AND ON MARKETS IN FRONTLINE REGIONS — PATTERN

DELIBERATE ATTACK ON CIVILIANS, WAR CRIME — POSITION (UKRAINE)

Established. A Russian strike hit the central market of Lozova around midday on 22 October 2026; three women were killed and 34 to 38 people injured (Kharkiv regional military administration). No body with an international mandate has yet made a finding. Pattern. Repeated Russian strikes on Lozova and its district in October 2026, and strikes on markets in frontline towns. Position. Ukraine's authorities treat the strike as a deliberate attack on civilians.

WHAT WE ASK

At the Commission of Inquiry's press briefing at UN Headquarters (26 Oct), ask the Commission to examine the strike on the Lozova market; ask HRMMU to verify the toll and name the weapon in its next update.

Sources: A — HRMMU, 16 Oct 2026; UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine (Kherson market, Oct 2024, via UN Geneva); Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine press briefing, 26 Oct 2026 (Hub calendar). B — Kharkiv regional military administration, head O. Syniehubov (22–23 Oct 2026, via Interfax-Ukraine and Ukrinform); Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi (22 Oct 2026, via Kyiv Post and ZAXID.NET; 26 Aug 2026, via UNN); State Emergency Service of Ukraine (22 Oct 2026, via ZMINA). C — Interfax-Ukraine, Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, ZMINA, ZAXID.NET (22–23 Oct 2026). RU — Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).



CASE FILE

HOW IT HAPPENED

# LUNCHTIME AT THE CENTRAL MARKET

Lozova is a town in the south of the Kharkiv region. Its central market was crowded when the strike came, around midday on a Thursday.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB

VERIFIED RECORD

OCT 2026

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Oct 2024           | UN Humanitarian Coordinator M. Schmale condemns a Russian strike on a busy market in Kherson: "another unfathomable attack of the Russian Armed Forces". <span>A</span> — UN Geneva / UN News, Oct 2024 |
| 26 Aug 2026          | A business centre in a residential area of Lozova is struck twice; 10 injured, some seriously. <span>B</span> — Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi via UNN, 26 Aug 2026                                       |
| 22 Oct 2026, 06:04   | A Russian attack on the village of Lymanivka, Lozova district, kills a woman aged 42 and injures four. <span>B</span> — Kharkiv regional military administration, 22 Oct 2026                           |
| 22 Oct 2026, midday  | A strike hits the central market of Lozova: two women, aged 50 and 60, killed; first 17, then 34 injured. <span>B</span> — Kharkiv regional military administration (O. Syniehubov), 22 Oct 2026        |
| 23 Oct 2026, morning | A third injured woman dies in hospital; the regional administration's summary gives 38 injured. <span>B</span> — Kharkiv regional military administration, 23 Oct 2026                                  |
| 24 Oct 2026          | A Russian missile hits a warehouse building in Lozova: a man aged 45 killed, two men injured. <span>B</span> — Kharkiv regional military administration, 24 Oct 2026                                    |
| 26 Oct 2026          | Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine: press briefing at UN Headquarters. <span>A</span> — Hub calendar                                                                                                      |

WHAT IS ON THE RECORD SO FAR

The mayor of Lozova, Serhii Zelenskyi, said the strike came at lunchtime and that Russia used a Banderol missile and an attack drone. The Air Force has not published a separate account of the weapon; no fragment analysis has been published.

The State Emergency Service and the regional administration reported a fire in a shop and damage to other retail premises, an apartment building, a private house and cars. The mayor listed market pavilions, private houses, apartment buildings, nearby shopping centres, a church and cars.

Medics, rescuers and police worked at the site; the emergency services switched to a mass-casualty response.

PHOTO SLOT · DRAFT

The market in Lozova after the strike — State Emergency Service of Ukraine or the Kharkiv regional administration, CC BY 4.0, with credit and link

Photo slot · official source with licence · no images of the dead or of identifiable injured

WHO WAS HARMED

Two women, aged 50 and 60, were killed at the market (Kharkiv regional military administration, 22 Oct).

A third woman, injured in the strike, died in hospital on the morning of 23 October; the head of the regional administration said her injuries "turned out to be too serious".

The regional administration first reported 17 injured, then 34 with injuries of varying severity, and 38 in its morning summary of 23 October; one report put four in extremely serious condition. The Hub does not name the victims.

Sources: A — HRMMU, 16 Oct 2026; UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine (Kherson market, Oct 2024, via UN Geneva); Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine press briefing, 26 Oct 2026 (Hub calendar). B — Kharkiv regional military administration, head O. Syniehubov (22–23 Oct 2026, via Interfax-Ukraine and Ukrinform); Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi (22 Oct 2026, via Kyiv Post and ZAXID.NET; 26 Aug 2026, via UNN); State Emergency Service of Ukraine (22 Oct 2026, via ZMINA). C — Interfax-Ukraine, Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, ZMINA, ZAXID.NET (22–23 Oct 2026). RU — Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).



# UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES ON THE RECORD; THE UN NOT YET

Two days after the strike the record rests on the regional military administration, the State Emergency Service and the town's mayor. No UN body has yet reported on the Lozova market. The figures for the injured differ and are all shown.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB

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ESTABLISHED BY BODIES WITH A MANDATE

No HRMMU, OCHA or Secretary-General's spokesperson statement specific to the Lozova market found as of 24 Oct 2026. A

HRMMU, 16 Oct 2026: 2,433 civilian casualties in Ukraine in September 2026 — for context on the scale of attacks. A

UN Humanitarian Coordinator, Oct 2024: a Russian strike on a Kherson market called "another unfathomable attack" — a precedent of UN comment on market strikes. A

Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine: press briefing at UN Headquarters on 26 Oct 2026. A

UKRAINIAN INVESTIGATION

Kharkiv regional military administration (O. Syniehubov), 22 Oct 2026: two women, aged 50 and 60, killed; 34 injured. B

Kharkiv regional military administration, 23 Oct 2026: a third woman died in hospital; morning summary — 38 injured. B

Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi, 22 Oct 2026: strike at lunchtime; Banderol missile and attack drone; extent of the damage. B

State Emergency Service of Ukraine, 22 Oct 2026: fire in a shop; damage to retail premises, housing and cars. B

INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS

Interfax-Ukraine, Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, ZMINA, 22–23 Oct 2026. C

Ukrinform, 23 Oct 2026: 36 injured, four in extremely serious condition, as of the evening of 22 Oct. C

— C

— C

THE NUMBERS — EVERY SOURCE, AS PUBLISHED

| Figure            | What it counts                                                                                      | Source · date · tier                                |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 2 · 3             | killed — on 22 Oct · after a third woman died in hospital on 23 Oct                                 | Kharkiv regional military administration            |
| 17 · 34 · 36 · 38 | injured — first report · later on 22 Oct · Ukrinform, evening of 22 Oct · morning summary of 23 Oct | Kharkiv regional military administration; Ukrinform |
| 4                 | injured in extremely serious condition, by one account                                              | Ukrinform, 23 Oct 2026                              |
| midday            | time of the strike                                                                                  | Mayor of Lozova                                     |
| Banderol + drone  | weapons named by the mayor; not yet confirmed by the Air Force or by fragment analysis              | Mayor of Lozova, 22 Oct 2026                        |

PHOTO SLOT · DRAFT

Rescuers at the Lozova market, State Emergency Service of Ukraine, CC BY 4.0, with credit

Photo slot · official source with licence

The number of injured rose through the day and differs between reports (17, 34, 36, 38); the Hub shows every figure with its source until HRMMU verifies the toll. The weapon is named only by the town's mayor so far.

Sources: A — HRMMU, 16 Oct 2026; UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine (Kherson market, Oct 2024, via UN Geneva); Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine press briefing, 26 Oct 2026 (Hub calendar). B — Kharkiv regional military administration, head O. Syniehubov (22–23 Oct 2026, via Interfax-Ukraine and Ukrinform); Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi (22 Oct 2026, via Kyiv Post and ZAXID.NET; 26 Aug 2026, via UNN); State Emergency Service of Ukraine (22 Oct 2026, via ZMINA). C — Interfax-Ukraine, Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, ZMINA, ZAXID.NET (22–23 Oct 2026). RU — Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).



# A RUSSIAN STRIKE; THE UNIT NOT YET NAMED

No suspect has been named. What is on the record is the Ukrainian authorities' account of a Russian strike, and the weapon named by the town's mayor. The table separates what is case-specific from what is general.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB  
VERIFIED RECORD  
OCT 2026

| Who                                    | Role in the case                                                                                 | Proceedings                                           | Sanctions · courts |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Launch crew and unit not identified    | Struck the Lozova market, per the Ukrainian authorities                                          | No investigation result published as of 24 Oct        | —                  |
| Armed Forces of the Russian Federation | Carried out the strike, per the Kharkiv regional military administration and the mayor of Lozova | Kharkiv regional military administration, 22 Oct 2026 | B                  |
| Russian Ministry of Defence            | No statement on the Lozova market found                                                          | —                                                     | RU                 |
| Prosecutor General of Ukraine          | Competent to open proceedings for a war crime (art. 438 of the Criminal Code)                    | —                                                     | —                  |

CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY

Ukraine's prosecutors and police document the strike and the deaths.

HRMMU may verify the toll and the circumstances for its monthly update.

The Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine may examine the strike as part of its mandate.

THE RUSSIAN STATE'S OWN ACTS

No Russian official statement on the Lozova market found as of 24 Oct 2026.

Russia's standing line at the UN is that it strikes only military facilities (V. Nebenzia, Security Council, 9 Oct 2026).

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Attribution rests on the Ukrainian authorities' account; the weapon is named by the mayor alone. Use "a Russian strike on the market" and name the weapon only with its source.

Sources: A — HRMMU, 16 Oct 2026; UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine (Kherson market, Oct 2024, via UN Geneva); Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine press briefing, 26 Oct 2026 (Hub calendar). B — Kharkiv regional military administration, head O. Syniehubov (22–23 Oct 2026, via Interfax-Ukraine and Ukrinform); Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi (22 Oct 2026, via Kyiv Post and ZAXID.NET; 26 Aug 2026, via UNN); State Emergency Service of Ukraine (22 Oct 2026, via ZMINA). C — Interfax-Ukraine, Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, ZMINA, ZAXID.NET (22–23 Oct 2026). RU — Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).



# "ONLY MILITARY FACILITIES" — A MARKET AT LUNCHTIME

Russia has said nothing about the Lozova market. Its standing claim at the UN is that it strikes only military targets. The claim is tested here against what is known.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB  
VERIFIED RECORD  
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**VASSILY NEBENZIA · PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF RUSSIA,  
SECURITY COUNCIL, 9 OCT 2026**

"Our targets have been and remain only military facilities and infrastructure."

Russian Mission to the UN, statement of 9 Oct 2026

**NOT CONSISTENT WITH A STRIKE ON A CROWDED MARKET**

A strike hit the central market of Lozova at lunchtime on 22 October 2026, killing three women and injuring 34 to 38 people; a shop burned and housing, a church and cars were damaged (Kharkiv regional military administration; mayor of Lozova).

**What the claim concedes:** That the law requires attacks to be limited to military objectives.

## FAIR TO SAY

The weapon has not been technically established; it is named so far only by the town's mayor.

No Ukrainian body has said whether any military object was near the market; none has been named by Russia either.

The final number of injured is not yet known; HRMMU has not yet reported.

**Sources:** A — HRMMU, 16 Oct 2026; UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine (Kherson market, Oct 2024, via UN Geneva); Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine press briefing, 26 Oct 2026 (Hub calendar). B — Kharkiv regional military administration, head O. Syniehubov (22–23 Oct 2026, via Interfax-Ukraine and Ukrinform); Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi (22 Oct 2026, via Kyiv Post and ZAXID.NET; 26 Aug 2026, via UNN); State Emergency Service of Ukraine (22 Oct 2026, via ZMINA). C — Interfax-Ukraine, Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, ZMINA, ZAXID.NET (22–23 Oct 2026). RU — Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).

**CASE FILE**  
**V1 · 24 OCT 2026 · SIX-PAGE DOSSIER ·**  
**PRELIMINARY FIGURES · LIVE VERSION**  
**AND CORRECTIONS LOG ON THE**  
**UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB**



live page · corrections  
log

# A MARKET IS A CIVILIAN OBJECT

A town market full of shoppers is a civilian object and a place where civilians gather. Directing an attack at it, or attacking without distinguishing, engages the basic rules of the law of armed conflict.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB  
VERIFIED RECORD  
OCT 2026

## ESTABLISHED — BY BODIES WITH A MANDATE

A strike hit the central market of Lozova around midday on 22 October 2026; three women were killed and 34 to 38 people injured (Kharkiv regional military administration).

No body with an international mandate has yet made a finding (as of 24 Oct 2026).

The Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine briefs the press at UN Headquarters on 26 October 2026.

## PATTERN — WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS

Three Russian strikes on Lozova and its district on 22–24 October 2026, each killing a civilian or more.

Earlier strikes on Lozova: a business centre struck twice on 26 August 2026.

Strikes on markets in frontline towns, e.g. Kherson (2024), condemned by the UN Humanitarian Coordinator.

## POSITION — UKRAINE'S QUALIFICATION

Ukraine's authorities treat the strike as a deliberate Russian attack on civilians.

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## THE RULES THAT APPLY

Additional Protocol I arts. 48, 51 and 52 and customary IHL rules 1, 7 and 11–12: distinction; civilians and civilian objects may not be attacked; indiscriminate attacks are prohibited.

Additional Protocol I art. 57: constant care and precautions to spare the civilian population.

Rome Statute art. 8(2)(b)(i)–(ii): intentionally directing attacks against civilians and civilian objects — war crimes.

## WHAT WE DO NOT KNOW

The weapon type, confirmed by the Air Force or by fragment analysis.

The final number of injured.

Whether proceedings have been opened and under which article.

Whether HRMMU will verify the toll in its October update.

## WHAT WE ASK

**Cite the strike — with its sources.** On 22 October 2026 a Russian strike hit the central market of Lozova, Kharkiv region, at lunchtime, killing three women and injuring 34 to 38 people (Kharkiv regional military administration).

**Raise it on 26 October.** At the Commission of Inquiry's press briefing at UN Headquarters, ask the Commission to examine the strike on the Lozova market.

**Ask the UN to verify.** Ask HRMMU to verify the toll and the weapon and to include the Lozova market in its October update.

**Protect civilian gathering places.** Call on Russia to stop attacks on markets and town centres and to take all feasible precautions to spare civilians.

**Sources:** A — HRMMU, 16 Oct 2026; UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine (Kherson market, Oct 2024, via UN Geneva); Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine press briefing, 26 Oct 2026 (Hub calendar). B — Kharkiv regional military administration, head O. Syniehubov (22–23 Oct 2026, via Interfax-Ukraine and Ukrinform); Mayor of Lozova S. Zelenskyi (22 Oct 2026, via Kyiv Post and ZAXID.NET; 26 Aug 2026, via UNN); State Emergency Service of Ukraine (22 Oct 2026, via ZMINA). C — Interfax-Ukraine, Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, ZMINA, ZAXID.NET (22–23 Oct 2026). RU — Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).

