CASE FILE · ODESA, HISTORIC CENTRE · 18 NOVEMBER 2026

# ODESA, 18 NOVEMBER: THREE STRIKES ON A WORLD HERITAGE CITY CENTRE

On the morning of 18 November 2026 Russian jet-powered drones struck the historic centre of Odesa three times in about two hours. The first hit Yevropeiska Street at rush hour; the second came after rescuers and police had arrived. Four people were killed, three of them aged 19 and 40, and 17 were injured. Fourteen damaged buildings are architectural monuments inside the World Heritage zone, the regional administration said. The city declared 19 November a day of mourning.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB
VERIFIED RECORD
NOV 2026

**4**

**killed in the historic centre of Odesa on 18 November — two women aged 19 and 40, a man aged 19, and one more person in the third strike** B

Odesa regional prosecutor's office; head of the Odesa city military administration S. Lysak, 18 Nov 2026, via Suspilne Odesa

**17**

**injured — the count rose from 9 at midday; on 19 November 7 were still in hospital, one in intensive care** B

Odesa regional military administration, evening of 18 Nov 2026; Odesa city council health department, 19 Nov 2026, via Suspilne Odesa

**14**

**damaged buildings that are architectural monuments inside the World Heritage zone of the Historic Centre of Odesa** B

Head of the Odesa regional military administration O. Kiper, 19 Nov 2026, via Suspilne Odesa

**3**

**strikes in about two hours, the second after rescuers and police had arrived** B

Odesa regional prosecutor's office; State Emergency Service; President V. Zelensky, 18 Nov 2026

## BOTTOM LINE

**A street at rush hour.** At about 10:07 on 18 November a Russian jet-powered drone hit Yevropeiska Street in central Odesa: three people were killed — two women aged 19 and 40 and a man aged 19 — a car burned and more than 100 windows were blown out in at least seven residential buildings (Odesa regional prosecutor's office; regional military administration).

**Then again, after rescuers came.** At 10:59 a second drone set fire to an administrative building, damaged a gymnasium and broke the windows of a tram; a third strike around midday killed one more person. The President said the repeat strikes came "when rescuers and police had already arrived" (State Emergency Service; S. Lysak; V. Zelensky).

**A World Heritage centre.** By the evening 17 people were injured. Fourteen damaged buildings are architectural monuments inside the World Heritage zone; UNESCO condemned the attack on the property "Historic Centre of Odesa" (O. Kiper; UNESCO, 18 Nov 2026).

## LEGAL QUALIFICATION IN THREE LAYERS

**4 KILLED AND 17 INJURED IN THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF ODESA, 18 NOVEMBER — ESTABLISHED (UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES)**

**REPEAT STRIKES ON THE SAME DISTRICT AFTER RESCUERS ARRIVED — PATTERN**

**RUSSIA: "WAREHOUSES WITH MILITARY CARGO IN THE PORT" — POSITION**

**Established.** On 18 November 2026 three Russian drone strikes on the historic centre of Odesa killed 4 people and injured 17; prosecutors opened proceedings under art. 438(2) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (violation of the laws and customs of war). UNESCO condemned the attack on the World Heritage property "Historic Centre of Odesa". **Pattern.** The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission says more civilians were killed in Ukraine in the first ten months of 2026 than in all of 2025. **Position.** Russia says it struck warehouses with military cargo in the port of Odesa.

## WHAT WE ASK

Ask HRMMU to verify the casualties of 18 November in Odesa and UNESCO to publish its damage assessment; at the Security Council, ask Russia what military objective was on Yevropeiska Street at ten in the morning.

**Sources:** A — UNESCO statement, 18 Nov 2026; UNESCO damaged cultural sites in Ukraine, 28 Oct 2026; HRMMU, 17 Nov 2026. B — Odesa regional prosecutor's office, 18 Nov 2026; Odesa regional military administration (O. Kiper), 18–19 Nov 2026; Odesa city military administration (S. Lysak), 18 Nov 2026; Odesa city council (acting mayor I. Koval; health department), 18–19 Nov 2026; State Emergency Service of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; Air Force of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; President of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026. C — Suspilne Odesa, Kyiv Independent, Kyiv Post, ArmyInform, LB.ua, Liga, Novyny.LIVE, Detector Media, UNN (18–19 Nov 2026); Reporters Without Borders, 19 Nov 2026. RU — Channel One (18 Nov 2026); Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).

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CASE FILE HOW IT HAPPENED

# ONE STREET, THREE STRIKES, A MORNING

The historic centre of Odesa, a city of about a million people on the Black Sea, is a UNESCO World Heritage property. On 18 November it was struck three times between about ten o'clock and midday.

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| | |
|---|---|
| **18 Nov, 10:01–10:10** | Air raid alert in Odesa; the Air Force warns of a jet-powered drone heading for the city from the north. B — Air Force of Ukraine, via Suspilne Odesa, 18 Nov 2026 |
| **18 Nov, about 10:07** | A drone hits Yevropeiska Street in the historic centre: a car burns, windows are blown out in homes, a cafe and shops; two women aged 19 and 40 and a man aged 19 are killed. B — Odesa regional prosecutor's office (spokesperson I. Verba), via Suspilne Odesa, 18 Nov 2026 |
| **18 Nov, 10:59** | A second drone sets fire to the roof of an administrative building; a gymnasium is damaged and a tram's windows are broken — its passengers are unhurt. Rescuers free three people trapped in their apartments. B — State Emergency Service of Ukraine; first deputy mayor O. Filatov, via Suspilne Odesa and Kyiv Independent, 18 Nov 2026 |
| **18 Nov, about 12:09** | A third strike on the historic centre: one more person is killed and two are injured. B — Head of the Odesa city military administration S. Lysak, via Suspilne Odesa, 18 Nov 2026 |
| **18 Nov, midday** | Head of the regional military administration: 4 killed and 9 injured. Prosecutors open proceedings under art. 438(2); the Security Service of Ukraine investigates. B — O. Kiper, via Kyiv Independent and Kyiv Post; Odesa regional prosecutor's office, via Suspilne Odesa, 18 Nov 2026 |
| **18 Nov** | President Zelensky: "There were repeat strikes when rescuers and police had already arrived at the scene." B — V. Zelensky, Telegram, via ArmyInform, 18 Nov 2026 |
| **18 Nov** | Russia's Ministry of Defence says it struck warehouses with military cargo in the port of Odesa and a dry-cargo ship carrying military goods; it does not mention the city centre. RUSSIA SAYS — Russian Ministry of Defence, via Channel One, 18 Nov 2026 |
| **18 Nov** | UNESCO condemns the attack on the World Heritage property "Historic Centre of Odesa" and offers to help assess the damage. A — UNESCO statement, 18 Nov 2026, via Suspilne Odesa and Liga |
| **18 Nov, evening** | The count of injured rises to 17. The acting mayor declares 19 November a day of mourning. B — Odesa regional military administration, via Suspilne Odesa; acting mayor I. Koval, 18 Nov 2026 |
| **19 Nov** | Seven of the injured are still in hospital, one in intensive care. Fourteen damaged buildings are architectural monuments inside the World Heritage zone. B — Odesa city council health department; O. Kiper, via Suspilne Odesa, 19 Nov 2026 |

## WHAT IS ON THE RECORD SO FAR

About 10:07: a jet-powered drone hit Yevropeiska Street; more than 100 windows were blown out in at least seven residential buildings, and a three-storey office building, shops, cafes and six cars were damaged (O. Kiper; regional prosecutor's office).

10:59: a second drone set fire to the roof and attic of an administrative building; a gymnasium was damaged and a tram's windows were broken (State Emergency Service; O. Filatov).

About 12:09: a third strike on the historic centre (S. Lysak).

Fourteen damaged buildings are architectural monuments inside the World Heritage zone, among them a palace that is a monument of national significance and the building of a museum of contemporary art (O. Kiper, 19 Nov).




Odesa, 18 Nov: a fire engine's ladder at a burning building in the historic centre after the Russian drone strikes. Photo: State Emergency Service of Ukraine (DSNS) · 2026-11-18 · CC BY 4.0

## WHO WAS HARMED

Killed: 4 — two women aged 19 and 40 and a man aged 19 in the first strike, and one more person in the third (regional prosecutor's office; S. Lysak).

Injured: 17 by the evening of 18 November; the count was 9 at midday. On 19 November 7 were still in hospital, one in intensive care.

One of those killed worked for a local television channel and was walking to work (LB.ua; Reporters Without Borders).

No children were reported among the casualties. Counts are preliminary.

**Sources:** A — UNESCO statement, 18 Nov 2026; UNESCO damaged cultural sites in Ukraine, 28 Oct 2026; HRMMU, 17 Nov 2026. B — Odesa regional prosecutor's office, 18 Nov 2026; Odesa regional military administration (O. Kiper), 18–19 Nov 2026; Odesa city military administration (S. Lysak), 18 Nov 2026; Odesa city council (acting mayor I. Koval; health department), 18–19 Nov 2026; State Emergency Service of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; Air Force of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; President of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026. C — Suspilne Odesa, Kyiv Independent, Kyiv Post, ArmyInform, LB.ua, Liga, Novyny.LIVE, Detector Media, UNN (18–19 Nov 2026); Reporters Without Borders, 19 Nov 2026. RU — Channel One (18 Nov 2026); Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).

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CASE FILE THE EVIDENCE, BY TIER

# PROSECUTORS, RESCUERS, THE CITY AND UNESCO ON THE RECORD

The record rests on the Odesa regional prosecutor's office, the State Emergency Service and the regional and city military administrations; UNESCO has condemned the attack on the World Heritage property. No UN body had verified the casualties as of 19 November.

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## ESTABLISHED BY BODIES WITH A MANDATE

UNESCO, 18 Nov 2026: condemned the attack on the World Heritage property "Historic Centre of Odesa" and offered to help assess the damage. A

UNESCO, damaged cultural sites in Ukraine, as of 28 Oct 2026: 567 verified sites, 65 of them in the city of Odesa — before this strike. A

HRMMU, 17 Nov 2026: 372 civilians killed in Ukraine in October; more killed in the first ten months of 2026 than in all of 2025. A

No HRMMU verification of the strikes of 18 November as of 19 Nov 2026. A

## UKRAINIAN INVESTIGATION

Odesa regional prosecutor's office, 18 Nov 2026: the dead and injured by age and sex; proceedings under art. 438(2). B

Odesa regional military administration (O. Kiper) and Odesa city military administration (S. Lysak), 18–19 Nov 2026. B

State Emergency Service of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026: fires, rescue, photographs. B

President of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026: repeat strikes after rescuers and police arrived. B

## INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS

Suspilne Odesa, Kyiv Independent, Kyiv Post, ArmyInform, LB.ua, Liga, Novyny.LIVE, Detector Media, 18–19 Nov 2026. C

Reporters Without Borders, 19 Nov 2026, on the media worker killed. C

Channel One (Russia) on the Russian Ministry of Defence, 18 Nov 2026. C

— C

## THE NUMBERS — EVERY SOURCE, AS PUBLISHED

| Figure | What it counts | Source · date · tier |
|---|---|---|
| 9 · 17 | injured, as the count grew: the regional military administration at midday, then its press service in the evening | O. Kiper; Odesa regional military administration, 18 Nov 2026 |
| 13 | reported by some media as "injured" — in fact all the people killed and injured at midday, 4 and 9 | O. Kiper, 18 Nov 2026 |
| 16 · 324 | residential buildings and windows damaged across the city — a city council member's count, not yet an official total | Odesa city council member S. Osaulenko, via Novyny.LIVE, 19 Nov 2026 |




Odesa, 18 Nov: blown-out windows of a restaurant on the street hit in the historic centre. Photo: State Emergency Service of Ukraine (DSNS) · 2026-11-18 · CC BY 4.0

The Hub does not name the dead or the injured.

**Sources:** A — UNESCO statement, 18 Nov 2026; UNESCO damaged cultural sites in Ukraine, 28 Oct 2026; HRMMU, 17 Nov 2026. B — Odesa regional prosecutor's office, 18 Nov 2026; Odesa regional military administration (O. Kiper), 18–19 Nov 2026; Odesa city military administration (S. Lysak), 18 Nov 2026; Odesa city council (acting mayor I. Koval; health department), 18–19 Nov 2026; State Emergency Service of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; Air Force of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; President of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026. C — Suspilne Odesa, Kyiv Independent, Kyiv Post, ArmyInform, LB.ua, Liga, Novyny.LIVE, Detector Media, UNN (18–19 Nov 2026); Reporters Without Borders, 19 Nov 2026. RU — Channel One (18 Nov 2026); Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).

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CASE FILE RESPONSIBILITY

# THE FORCES BEHIND THE DRONES

No individual has been named for these strikes. What is on the record is the weapon, the times, the places it hit and a criminal case.

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| Who | Role in the case | Proceedings | Sanctions · courts |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Armed Forces of the Russian Federation** drone units not identified | Struck the historic centre of Odesa with jet-powered drones three times on the morning of 18 November | Air Force of Ukraine; Odesa regional prosecutor's office; State Emergency Service, 18 Nov 2026 | B |
| **Odesa regional prosecutor's office** Security Service of Ukraine | Opened proceedings under art. 438(2) of the Criminal Code; the Security Service investigates | Odesa regional prosecutor's office, 18 Nov 2026 | B |
| **Russian Ministry of Defence** | Said it struck warehouses with military cargo in the port of Odesa and a dry-cargo ship | Russian Ministry of Defence, via Channel One, 18 Nov 2026 | RU |

## CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY

Ukraine's police and prosecutors document each strike.

UNESCO can assess the damage to the World Heritage property, as it has offered.

HRMMU may verify the casualties for its November update; the Security Council can ask Russia to account for strikes on a city centre.

## THE RUSSIAN STATE'S OWN ACTS

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

Ukraine's Centre for Countering Disinformation reports that pro-Kremlin channels blamed Ukrainian air defence for the damage (via UNN, 19 Nov 2026).

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Use "On 18 November 2026 three Russian drone strikes on the historic centre of Odesa, a World Heritage property, killed 4 people and injured 17" and give the sources and dates.

**Sources:** A — UNESCO statement, 18 Nov 2026; UNESCO damaged cultural sites in Ukraine, 28 Oct 2026; HRMMU, 17 Nov 2026. B — Odesa regional prosecutor's office, 18 Nov 2026; Odesa regional military administration (O. Kiper), 18–19 Nov 2026; Odesa city military administration (S. Lysak), 18 Nov 2026; Odesa city council (acting mayor I. Koval; health department), 18–19 Nov 2026; State Emergency Service of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; Air Force of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; President of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026. C — Suspilne Odesa, Kyiv Independent, Kyiv Post, ArmyInform, LB.ua, Liga, Novyny.LIVE, Detector Media, UNN (18–19 Nov 2026); Reporters Without Borders, 19 Nov 2026. RU — Channel One (18 Nov 2026); Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).

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CASE FILE FACT-CHECK · WHAT RUSSIA SAYS

# "MILITARY CARGO IN THE PORT" — A STREET IN THE OLD TOWN

Russia says it struck warehouses with military cargo in the port of Odesa. The claim is tested here against what is known about 18 November.

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**RUSSIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE · STATEMENT OF 18 NOV 2026**

“Strikes hit warehouses with military cargo in the port of Odesa.”

Channel One (1tv.ru), 18 Nov 2026 — paraphrased in English

**NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE RECORD: THE DAMAGE REPORTED IS IN THE HISTORIC CENTRE, AWAY FROM THE PORT, AND THOSE KILLED WERE ON A STREET AT TEN IN THE MORNING**

On the morning of 18 November 2026 three Russian drone strikes hit Yevropeiska Street, an administrative building and a gymnasium in the historic centre of Odesa; 4 people were killed and 17 injured (Odesa regional prosecutor's office; Odesa regional and city military administrations).

**What the claim concedes:** That Russia struck Odesa that morning.

## FAIR TO SAY

Russia did not mention the city centre; its statement names the port and a ship.

No Ukrainian source reported a hit on the port on 18 November; the damage reported is on Yevropeiska Street, an administrative building, a gymnasium, a tram and homes.

The counts are preliminary and come from one party to the conflict; UN verification is pending.

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**Sources:** A — UNESCO statement, 18 Nov 2026; UNESCO damaged cultural sites in Ukraine, 28 Oct 2026; HRMMU, 17 Nov 2026. B — Odesa regional prosecutor's office, 18 Nov 2026; Odesa regional military administration (O. Kiper), 18–19 Nov 2026; Odesa city military administration (S. Lysak), 18 Nov 2026; Odesa city council (acting mayor I. Koval; health department), 18–19 Nov 2026; State Emergency Service of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; Air Force of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; President of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026. C — Suspilne Odesa, Kyiv Independent, Kyiv Post, ArmyInform, LB.ua, Liga, Novyny.LIVE, Detector Media, UNN (18–19 Nov 2026); Reporters Without Borders, 19 Nov 2026. RU — Channel One (18 Nov 2026); Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).

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CASE FILE THE LAW AND WHAT WE ASK

# PEOPLE IN A STREET AND A WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE ARE PROTECTED

Civilians and civilian objects may not be attacked, and every feasible precaution must be taken to spare them. Cultural property — and a centre inscribed on the World Heritage List — has additional protection.

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## ESTABLISHED — BY BODIES WITH A MANDATE

On 18 November 2026 three Russian drone strikes on the historic centre of Odesa killed 4 people and injured 17; prosecutors opened proceedings under art. 438(2) (Odesa regional prosecutor's office; regional military administration).

UNESCO condemned the attack on the World Heritage property "Historic Centre of Odesa" (18 Nov 2026).

No body with an international mandate has yet verified the casualties (as of 19 Nov 2026).

## PATTERN — WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS

HRMMU: more civilians were killed in Ukraine in the first ten months of 2026 than in all of 2025 (17 Nov 2026).

Odesa and its region were struck on 13, 15, 16 and 18 November (Hub case files and strike log).

## POSITION — UKRAINE'S QUALIFICATION

Russia says it struck warehouses with military cargo in the port of Odesa.

Ukraine's President says the repeat strikes came after rescuers and police arrived.

## THE RULES THAT APPLY

Additional Protocol I arts. 48, 51 and 52: civilians and civilian objects may not be attacked; indiscriminate attacks are prohibited.

Additional Protocol I art. 57: all feasible precautions must be taken to spare civilians.

1954 Hague Convention art. 4 and Additional Protocol I art. 53: cultural property must be respected.

## WHAT WE DO NOT KNOW

The intended target of the three strikes.

The full list of damaged monuments and UNESCO's assessment.

Whether HRMMU will verify the casualties.

## WHAT WE ASK

**Cite the record — with its sources.** On 18 November 2026 three Russian drone strikes on the historic centre of Odesa, a World Heritage property, killed 4 people and injured 17 (Ukrainian authorities; UNESCO).

**Ask Russia to explain.** At the Security Council, ask Russia what military objective was on Yevropeiska Street at ten in the morning, and why the district was struck again after rescuers arrived.

**Ask the UN to verify.** Ask HRMMU to verify the casualties and UNESCO to publish its damage assessment of the Historic Centre of Odesa.

**Protect the city.** Back air defence for Odesa and support for the restoration of its World Heritage centre.

**Sources:** A — UNESCO statement, 18 Nov 2026; UNESCO damaged cultural sites in Ukraine, 28 Oct 2026; HRMMU, 17 Nov 2026. B — Odesa regional prosecutor's office, 18 Nov 2026; Odesa regional military administration (O. Kiper), 18–19 Nov 2026; Odesa city military administration (S. Lysak), 18 Nov 2026; Odesa city council (acting mayor I. Koval; health department), 18–19 Nov 2026; State Emergency Service of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; Air Force of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026; President of Ukraine, 18 Nov 2026. C — Suspilne Odesa, Kyiv Independent, Kyiv Post, ArmyInform, LB.ua, Liga, Novyny.LIVE, Detector Media, UNN (18–19 Nov 2026); Reporters Without Borders, 19 Nov 2026. RU — Channel One (18 Nov 2026); Russian Mission to the UN (9 Oct 2026).

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PHOTO & VIDEO RECORD APPENDIX

# ODESA, HISTORIC CENTRE, 18 NOV 2026

4 photographs from official sources, as shown on the live page. Each image is credited and openly licensed; videos are linked to the official post (scan the code). No image shows the dead; graphic aftermath is blurred in print. The downloadable pack on the live page holds the full-size files and their SHA-256.

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**Odesa, 18 Nov: a fire engine's ladder at a burning building in the historic centre after the Russian drone strikes**

State Emergency Service of Ukraine (DSNS) · 2026-11-18 · CC BY 4.0
https://t.me/dsns_telegram/80821




**Odesa, 18 Nov: blown-out windows of a restaurant on the street hit in the historic centre**

State Emergency Service of Ukraine (DSNS) · 2026-11-18 · CC BY 4.0
https://t.me/dsns_telegram/80821




**Odesa, 18 Nov: a firefighter at work in a damaged building after the Russian drone strikes**

State Emergency Service of Ukraine (DSNS) · 2026-11-18 · CC BY 4.0
https://t.me/dsns_telegram/80821




**Odesa, 18 Nov: rescuers on a ladder in the smoke over the historic centre**

State Emergency Service of Ukraine (DSNS) · 2026-11-18 · CC BY 4.0
https://t.me/dsns_telegram/80821

Live page and evidence pack (ZIP): ukraine-evidence.org/#cases/cf-43/media. This appendix is not an evidence repository: original material is held by the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine (warcrimes.gov.ua) and the ICC Office of the Prosecutor.