POKROVSK بوكروفسك، منطقة دونيتسك · 15 فبراير 2023

بوكروفسك، فبراير 2023: تسمية جنرال في قضية ضربة صاروخية

نحو الساعة 10:00 من يوم 15 فبراير 2023 أصابت صواريخ Smerch الروسية متعددة الإطلاق حياً سكنياً في بوكروفسك بمنطقة دونيتسك الأوكرانية. ودُمّرت الطوابق العليا من مبنى سكني من خمسة طوابق، وتضررت أربعة مبانٍ سكنية ومدرسة. وقُتل ثلاثة مدنيين وأُصيب أحد عشر. وفي عام 2026 وجّه المحققون الأوكرانيون، غيابياً، إخطارات بالاشتباه إلى قائد لواء المدفعية الصاروخية الروسي الذي نفّذ الإطلاق وإلى الجنرال الذي كان يقود آنذاك المنطقة العسكرية الجنوبية الروسية.

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3
قتلى مدنيون، بينهم زوجان مسنّان B
Head of the Donetsk regional military administration Pavlo Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform); SBU, Nov 2026

11
جرحى مدنيون، أحدهم إصابته خطيرة B
Pavlo Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform)

5
apartment buildings and a school damaged; the top two floors of one five-storey block destroyed B
Pavlo Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform); National Police

2
Russian commanders served notices of suspicion in absentia (Art. 438(2), Criminal Code of Ukraine) — a suspicion, not a verdict B
SBU and Donetsk regional prosecutor's office, Mar and Nov 2026 (via ArmyInform, UNN, Interfax-Ukraine)

الخلاصة

Rockets on a residential area. The National Police report that Smerch multiple-launch rockets hit the residential sector of Pokrovsk on the morning of 15 February 2023; the upper floors of two sections of a five-storey block were smashed.

Three killed, eleven injured. The final count of the Donetsk regional military administration on the evening of the strike was three civilians killed and eleven injured; rescuers recovered a man's body from the rubble.

Names on the record. Ukrainian investigators name the 439th rocket artillery brigade, firing from occupied Makiivka, and served suspicions on its commander (March 2026) and on Colonel-General Sergei Kuzovlev (November 2026). These are suspicions; no court has ruled.

التكييف القانوني في ثلاث طبقات

صواريخ SMERCH على حي سكني؛ 3 قتلى و11 جريحاً — المستوى B: الإدارة العسكرية الإقليمية، الشرطة الوطنية

المدفعية الصاروخية على المدن الواقعة خلف جبهة دونيتسك، من 2022 حتى الآن — نمط

الاشتباه بموجب المادة 438(2) بحق قائد لواء وقائد منطقة عسكرية — المستوى B، وليس حكماً قضائياً

ثابت. At Tier B the Donetsk regional military administration and the National Police report that Russian Smerch rockets hit a residential area of Pokrovsk on 15 February 2023, killing three civilians and injuring eleven. No court has yet ruled; no UN report checked names this strike. **نمط.** Ukrainian investigators attribute the strike to the 439th rocket artillery brigade firing from occupied Makiivka; the same general has also been charged over the June 2023 missile strike on Kramatorsk. **موقف.** Ukrainian prosecutors qualify the strike as a violation of the laws and customs of war combined with intentional murder (Art. 438(2)); the hub's inference is an indiscriminate attack (AP I art. 51(4)) — pending trial.

ما نطالب به

Support Ukraine's prosecutors in bringing the case against the brigade and district commanders to trial. Sanction the commanders of rocket artillery units that fire on towns. Name Smerch and Tornado-S strikes on residential areas in UN reporting on Donetsk region.

المصادر: B — Head of the Donetsk regional military administration P. Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform, 13:18 and 23:09); National Police, 15 Feb 2023 (kmu.gov.ua); State Emergency Service, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrainska Pravda); SBU and Donetsk regional prosecutor's office, 12 Mar 2026 (via ArmyInform, 20 Mar 2026) and 11 Nov 2026 (via UNN, LB.ua, Interfax-Ukraine); SBU, Kramatorsk case (ssu.gov.ua). C — Ukrainska Pravda, 7 Aug 2023 (Pokrovsk city centre); Ukrinform, Ukrainska Pravda, ArmyInform, Suspilne, Meduza (Feb 2023). RU — Kremlin spokesman D. Peskov, 16 Jan 2023 (TASS; Novaya Gazeta Europe). UN documents checked without a mention of this strike: OHCHR periodic report 1 Feb – 31 Jul 2023; UN Humanitarian Coordinator, 15 Feb 2023. All accessed 17 Nov 2026.

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POKROVSK كيف وقع الحدث

ROCKETS ON A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT IN MID-MORNING

Pokrovsk lay some tens of kilometres behind the front in Donetsk region in February 2023, a town of apartment blocks where civilians still lived. On a weekday morning, multiple-launch rockets fell on its residential districts.

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Overnight, Russian Uragan cluster rockets hit a park, homes and an apartment block in Pokrovsk; police report no casualties. (A separate strike, listed to avoid confusion.) C — Suspilne, 3 Feb 2023	Feb 2023 3–2
Russian Smerch multiple-launch rockets hit the residential sector of Pokrovsk; the roof and fifth-floor flats in two entrances of a five-storey block are destroyed. B — National Police, 15 Feb 2023 (kmu.gov.ua); ArmyInform, 15 Feb 2023	Feb 2023, about 15 10:00
The head of the regional military administration reports that 'the enemy employed missiles, again'; at least two injured. B — Pavlo Kyrylenko, Telegram, via Ukrinform	Feb 2023, 13:18 15
Rescuers recover the body of a man from the rubble. B — State Emergency Service, via Ukrainska Pravda	Feb 2023, 14:30 15
The rescue operation ends: three civilians killed, eleven injured, one seriously; four apartment buildings and a school damaged. B — Pavlo Kyrylenko, via Ukrinform, 15 Feb 2023	Feb 2023, 15 evening
Colonel Anatolii Lapandin, commander of the 439th rocket artillery brigade (military unit 48315), is served a notice of suspicion in absentia under Art. 438(2) for the strike of 15 February 2023, about 10:01. B — SBU and prosecutors, via ArmyInform, 20 Mar 2026	12 مارس 2026
Colonel-General Sergei Kuzovlev, in February 2023 commander of Russia's Southern Military District, is served a notice of suspicion in absentia under Art. 438(2): Smerch and Tornado-S launchers of the 439th brigade fired from occupied Makiivka on residential quarters of Pokrovsk, killing 3 civilians and injuring 11. B — SBU Donetsk and Luhansk directorate, Donetsk regional prosecutor's office, via UNN, LB.ua and Interfax-Ukraine, 11 Nov 2026	11 نوفمبر 2026

ما يُظهره السجل

The National Police report that Smerch multiple-launch rockets hit the residential sector of Pokrovsk on 15 February 2023. The roof and fifth-floor flats in the first and second entrances of a five-storey block were destroyed.

By the evening the regional military administration counted four apartment buildings and a school damaged. Material published with the 2026 suspicion names the Sonyachnyi and Shakhtarskyi districts and says the block lost its two upper floors and was declared uninhabitable.

مَن أُصيب

Three civilians killed, among them an elderly married couple, and eleven injured, one seriously (regional military administration, 15 Feb 2023; SBU material, 2026). No source checked reports children among the casualties.

The first police count, at 15:32, was one killed and twelve injured; the regional administration's figure at the end of the rescue operation — 3 and 11 — is the one used, and it matches the figure in the 2026 suspicion.

المصادر: B — Head of the Donetsk regional military administration P. Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform, 13:18 and 23:09); National Police, 15 Feb 2023 (kmu.gov.ua); State Emergency Service, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrainska Pravda); SBU and Donetsk regional prosecutor's office, 12 Mar 2026 (via ArmyInform, 20 Mar 2026) and 11 Nov 2026 (via UNN, LB.ua, Interfax-Ukraine); SBU, Kramatorsk case (ssu.gov.ua). C — Ukrainska Pravda, 7 Aug 2023 (Pokrovsk city centre); Ukrinform, Ukrainska Pravda, ArmyInform, Suspilne, Meduza (Feb 2023). RU — Kremlin spokesman D. Peskov, 16 Jan 2023 (TASS; Novaya Gazeta Europe). UN documents checked without a mention of this strike: OHCHR periodic report 1 Feb – 31 Jul 2023; UN Humanitarian Coordinator, 15 Feb 2023. All accessed 17 Nov 2026.

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A TIER B RECORD, NOW PART OF A CRIMINAL CASE

The strike is documented by the regional military administration, the National Police and the State Emergency Service. In 2026 the SBU and the Donetsk regional prosecutor's office named the unit and two commanders.

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ثابت لدى هيئات ذات ولاية

No UN document checked names this strike: the OHCHR periodic report for 1 February – 31 July 2023 does not mention Pokrovsk or 15 February, and the UN Humanitarian Coordinator's statement of 15 February 2023 refers only to intensifying hostilities in Donetsk region. [A]

التحقيق الأوكراني

Head of the Donetsk regional military administration Pavlo Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023: three civilians killed, eleven injured; four apartment buildings and a school damaged (via Ukrinform). [B]

National Police, 15 Feb 2023: Smerch rockets on the residential sector, a five-storey block damaged (kmu.gov.ua). SBU and prosecutors, 12 Mar and 11 Nov 2026: suspicions under Art. 438(2) for the brigade commander and the district commander (via ArmyInform, UNN, LB.ua, Interfax-Ukraine). [B]

التحقيقات المستقلة

Ukrinform, Ukrainska Pravda, ArmyInform, Meduza, 15–16 Feb 2023: hour-by-hour reports of the strike and rescue. [C]

UNN, LB.ua, Interfax-Ukraine, 11 Nov 2026; ArmyInform, 20 Mar 2026: reports of the notices of suspicion. [C]

الأرقام — كل مصدر، كما نُشر

الرقم	ما يشمله	المصدر · التاريخ · المستوى
11 · 3	killed · injured	Donetsk regional military administration, 15 Feb 2023 · B
5	residential buildings damaged, plus a school	Donetsk regional military administration · B
439th	Russian rocket artillery brigade named by investigators	SBU, 2026 · B
2	commanders under suspicion in absentia	SBU and prosecutors, 2026 · B

Weapon: the 2023 police report says Smerch; the regional administration's first message said 'missiles'; the 2026 suspicion names Smerch and Tornado-S launchers of the 439th brigade. The 2026 reports on General Kuzovlev do not give the day of the strike; the match to 15 February 2023 rests on the identical toll and unit and on the earlier suspicion against the brigade commander, which names that date.

المصادر: B — Head of the Donetsk regional military administration P. Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform, 13:18 and 23:09); National Police, 15 Feb 2023 (kmu.gov.ua); State Emergency Service, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrainska Pravda); SBU and Donetsk regional prosecutor's office, 12 Mar 2026 (via ArmyInform, 20 Mar 2026) and 11 Nov 2026 (via UNN, LB.ua, Interfax-Ukraine); SBU, Kramatorsk case (ssu.gov.ua). C — Ukrainska Pravda, 7 Aug 2023 (Pokrovsk city centre); Ukrinform, Ukrainska Pravda, ArmyInform, Suspilne, Meduza (Feb 2023). RU — Kremlin spokesman D. Peskov, 16 Jan 2023 (TASS; Novaya Gazeta Europe). UN documents checked without a mention of this strike: OHCHR periodic report 1 Feb – 31 Jul 2023; UN Humanitarian Coordinator, 15 Feb 2023. All accessed 17 Nov 2026.

FROM A BRIGADE TO A MILITARY DISTRICT

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB
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Ukrainian investigators trace the strike up the chain: the launchers of the 439th rocket artillery brigade, its commander, and the general commanding the Southern Military District at the time.

المستهدفون	الدور في القضية	الإجراءات	الجزاءات · المحاكم
Col. Anatolii Lapandin Commander, 439th rocket artillery brigade (military unit 48315)	Ordered the strike on Pokrovsk of 15 Feb 2023, according to investigators	Notice of suspicion in absentia, Art. 438(2), 12 Mar 2026	—
Col.-Gen. Sergei Kuzovlev Commander of the Southern Military District in Feb 2023; later named commander of the Moscow Military District	Command over the brigade's strikes on residential quarters of Pokrovsk, according to investigators	Notice of suspicion in absentia, Art. 438(2), 11 Nov 2026; also charged over the June 2023 Iskander strike on Kramatorsk	To be checked in Sanctions
Launcher crews of the 439th brigade	Fired Smerch and Tornado-S rockets from occupied Makiivka	غير محددة	—

سلسلة المسؤولية

The weapon identifies the unit type: Smerch and Tornado-S are heavy multiple-launch rocket systems held by Russian rocket artillery brigades.

Investigators place the launchers in occupied Makiivka and name the 439th brigade and its commander.

The district commander is charged for the strikes of units under his command; a notice of suspicion is an accusation that a court has yet to test.

أفعال الدولة الروسية نفسها

No Russian statement about the strike on Pokrovsk of 15 February 2023 has been located; Russia's Ministry of Defence reported general 'successes' in Donetsk region at the time (Meduza, 16 Feb 2023).

The day after the Dnipro strike of January 2023, the Kremlin spokesman said Russia's armed forces 'do not strike residential buildings' (TASS, 16 Jan 2023) — the general line Russia maintained in February 2023.

Both suspicions were served in absentia; neither man is in Ukrainian custody. A suspicion is not a conviction.

المصادر: B — Head of the Donetsk regional military administration P. Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform, 13:18 and 23:09); National Police, 15 Feb 2023 (kmu.gov.ua); State Emergency Service, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrainska Pravda); SBU and Donetsk regional prosecutor's office, 12 Mar 2026 (via ArmyInform, 20 Mar 2026) and 11 Nov 2026 (via UNN, LB.ua, Interfax-Ukraine); SBU, Kramatorsk case (ssu.gov.ua). C — Ukrainska Pravda, 7 Aug 2023 (Pokrovsk city centre); Ukrinform, Ukrainska Pravda, ArmyInform, Suspilne, Meduza (Feb 2023). RU — Kremlin spokesman D. Peskov, 16 Jan 2023 (TASS; Novaya Gazeta Europe). UN documents checked without a mention of this strike: OHCHR periodic report 1 Feb – 31 Jul 2023; UN Humanitarian Coordinator, 15 Feb 2023. All accessed 17 Nov 2026.

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STRIKES ONLY AIM AT' 'MILITARY TARGETS

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Russia has said nothing specific about Pokrovsk on 15 February 2023. A month earlier, its official line on strikes on Ukrainian cities was that only military targets are hit. Set against the record, that line leaves the damaged school and apartment blocks unexplained.

DMITRY PESKOV · KREMLIN SPOKESMAN · 16 JAN 2023 (GENERAL LINE, NOT ABOUT POKROVSK)

«لا تضرب القوات المسلحة الروسية المباني السكنية ولا مرافق البنية التحتية الاجتماعية. والضربات لا تستهدف إلا أهدافاً عسكرية.»

تاس، 16 يناير 2023؛ Novaya Gazeta Europe (مترجم)

CONTRADICTED BY THE RECORD FOR POKROVSK

أصابت صواريخ Smerch القطاع السكني في بوكروفسك في 15 فبراير 2023، فدمّرت الطوابق العليا من مبنى من خمسة طوابق وألحقت أضراراً بأربعة مبانٍ سكنية ومدرسة؛ 3 قتلى مدنيين و11 جريحاً (الإدارة العسكرية لمنطقة دونيتسك؛ الشرطة الوطنية).

ما يُقرّ به الادعاء: That a strike on residential buildings would need an explanation — none has been given for Pokrovsk.

من الإنصاف القول

The Kremlin statement was made about the Dnipro strike of 14 January 2023, not about Pokrovsk; it is cited as Russia's general position at the time.

The hub has not examined what, if anything, stood near the damaged buildings; no military object there has been alleged by anyone in the sources checked.

المصادر: B — Head of the Donetsk regional military administration P. Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform, 13:18 and 23:09); National Police, 15 Feb 2023 (kmu.gov.ua); State Emergency Service, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrainska Pravda); SBU and Donetsk regional prosecutor's office, 12 Mar 2026 (via ArmyInform, 20 Mar 2026) and 11 Nov 2026 (via UNN, LB.ua, Interfax-Ukraine); SBU, Kramatorsk case (ssu.gov.ua). C — Ukrainska Pravda, 7 Aug 2023 (Pokrovsk city centre); Ukrinform, Ukrainska Pravda, ArmyInform, Suspilne, Meduza (Feb 2023). RU — Kremlin spokesman D. Peskov, 16 Jan 2023 (TASS; Novaya Gazeta Europe). UN documents checked without a mention of this strike: OHCHR periodic report 1 Feb – 31 Jul 2023; UN Humanitarian Coordinator, 15 Feb 2023. All accessed 17 Nov 2026.

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AREA-FIRE ROCKETS ON A TOWN ARE NOT A PRECISION WEAPON

Multiple-launch rockets saturate an area. Fired on residential districts, they cannot distinguish between soldiers and civilians — which is why Ukrainian prosecutors treat this strike as a war crime combined with murder.

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ثابت — من قِبل هيئات ذات ولاية

Tier B: Russian Smerch rockets hit a residential area of Pokrovsk on 15 February 2023; three civilians killed, eleven injured; four apartment buildings and a school damaged (Donetsk regional military administration; National Police).

Tier B: notices of suspicion in absentia under Art. 438(2) served on the 439th brigade's commander (12 Mar 2026) and on Col.-Gen. Sergei Kuzovlev (11 Nov 2026) — suspicions, not verdicts.

نمط — ما يُظهره السجل

Investigators name the same general for the June 2023 Iskander strike on Kramatorsk (SBU).

Pokrovsk was hit again on 7 August 2023, when a double missile strike on the city centre killed 7 people and injured about 30, among them rescuers and police (Ukrainska Pravda, 7 Aug 2023).

موقف — التكييف الأوكراني

Ukrainian prosecutors: a violation of the laws and customs of war combined with intentional murder (Art. 438(2), Criminal Code of Ukraine).

The hub's inference: an indiscriminate attack (AP I art. 51(4)–(5)); if residential areas were the aim, an attack directed at civilians (Rome Statute art. 8(2)(b)(i)) — pending trial.

القواعد المنطبقة

AP I arts. 48, 51(2), 51(4)–(5), 52(3) and 57: distinction, the ban on attacks on civilians and on indiscriminate attacks, the presumption of civilian character, precautions in attack.

المادة 8(2)(b)(i) و(ii) و(iv) من نظام روما الأساسي؛ والمادة 28 بشأن مسؤولية القادة.

ما لا نعرفه

The exact addresses hit and the names of all three people killed.

Whether the suspicion against General Kuzovlev covers other strikes on Pokrovsk in February 2023.

Whether the case will go to trial in absentia, and when.

ما نطالب به

Back the case. Support Ukraine's prosecutors in bringing the case against the brigade and district commanders to trial, including through joint investigation teams and evidence-sharing.

فرض العقوبات على التسلسل القيادي. List the commanders of rocket artillery units that fire on towns, and the district commanders over them, under every national regime.

تسمية السلاح. In UN reporting and Security Council statements on Donetsk region, name Smerch and Tornado-S strikes on residential areas and the towns hit.

Protect the towns behind the front. Fund shelters, repair and evacuation for the civilians who still live in towns within rocket range.

المصادر: B — Head of the Donetsk regional military administration P. Kyrylenko, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrinform, 13:18 and 23:09); National Police, 15 Feb 2023 (kmu.gov.ua); State Emergency Service, 15 Feb 2023 (via Ukrainska Pravda); SBU and Donetsk regional prosecutor's office, 12 Mar 2026 (via ArmyInform, 20 Mar 2026) and 11 Nov 2026 (via UNN, LB.ua, Interfax-Ukraine); SBU, Kramatorsk case (ssu.gov.ua). C — Ukrainska Pravda, 7 Aug 2023 (Pokrovsk city centre); Ukrinform, Ukrainska Pravda, ArmyInform, Suspilne, Meduza (Feb 2023). RU — Kremlin spokesman D. Peskov, 16 Jan 2023 (TASS; Novaya Gazeta Europe). UN documents checked without a mention of this strike: OHCHR periodic report 1 Feb – 31 Jul 2023; UN Humanitarian Coordinator, 15 Feb 2023. All accessed 17 Nov 2026.

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