

Russian-backed rebels get armaments, intensify attacks in Donbas **Ukraine**

Posted by:

Posted on : 2018/2/9 15:31:27

Analyst: "the evidence on the ground indicates large-scale war is still an option on the table for Russian President Putin in his quest to regain control of the territory of Ukraine."

KYIV, Feb 9, 2018 - Russian-backed fighters in Donbas positioned seven new surface-to-air missile systems on Feb. 5 and four new Grad rapid-fire missile launchers on Feb. 6 on the outskirts of Donetsk in violation of the Minsk Accords, Concorde Capital informed clients based on an OSCE special monitoring mission report on Feb. 7. It also observed ten tanks and six howitzer systems. On Feb. 7, the Russian-backed fighters fired on all tangents using mortars, tanks and grenade launchers, reported the headquarters of the Anti-Terrorist Operation. It also reported that Ukraine's Armed Forces transferred the bodies of two dead fighters from Russia to the terrorists. The Russian government is preparing for large-scale warfare, former paramilitary leader and current MP Dmytro Yarosh in an interview published on Feb. 7, confirming the observations of Western military experts. "We see that in the concentration of assault formations along the entire perimeter of Ukraine and not only. Along the borders of the Baltic states and Finland," he said. "That's why the West should respond to these things not only with sanctions, but with heavier steps." Concorde analyst Zenon Zawada added: "As we expected, Russia will be escalating warfare through 2018 ahead of the elections next year. It's a widespread view that the Russian leadership is exhausted by the war and is looking for a way out in its talks with U.S. special envoy Kurt Volker. But the evidence on the ground indicates large-scale war is still an option on the table for Russian President Putin in his quest to regain control of the territory of Ukraine. We believe Putin could resort to military strikes on Ukraine during next year's election season, especially if controversy mires the March 2019 presidential vote and a winner can't be agreed upon. Russia could take advantage of the chaos to impose its own order in Ukraine. However, the most likely outcome at this point is that Poroshenko is re-elected with some protests, but not enough to challenge the result.

###

For more information, link here: www.concorde.ua

