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LOGISTICS SUPPORT SYSTEM OF THE ARMED FORCES OF UKRAINE IN WARTIME CONDITIONS

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Logistics support plays a key role in modern warfare, and for the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) it is a crucial factor in combat effectiveness. The uninterrupted supply of ammunition, equipment, fuel, food, medical supplies and other resources determines the speed of response, the manoeuvrability of troops and the ability to hold positions.

The main tasks of logistics support of the Armed Forces of Ukraine are:

- optimisation of supply: reducing the time of delivery of weapons and ammunition to the front line, use of automated inventory accounting and management systems, provision of troops with the latest means of transport and transportation.

- modernisation of the logistics system: implementation of NATO best practices in military logistics, integration with civilian logistics companies and volunteer initiatives, use of drones and autonomous vehicles for fast delivery of goods.

- large-scale production and repair of equipment: expanding the production capacity of the domestic defence industry, field workshops to repair equipment directly in the combat zone, adaptation of Western weapons to Ukrainian operating conditions.

- flexibility and mobility of logistics routes: development of alternative supply routes to avoid enemy attacks, maximum use of rail, road and air transport, enhanced control over routes to prevent enemy sabotage.



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- protection of logistics infrastructure: protection of ammunition, fuel and military equipment depots, scattered deployment of strategic stockpiles to avoid destruction by air strikes, active counteraction to enemy reconnaissance and sabotage groups.

Ukraine's military logistics is currently under the influence of complex geopolitical, economic and social factors. On the one hand, the supply of weapons and logistical resources from partners (the US, UK, Poland and other NATO countries) has significantly strengthened the defence capabilities of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. On the other hand, geographical and political constraints pose challenges to the rapid transport of the necessary resources.

Geopolitical challenges in Ukraine's military logistics:

- Closure of airspace

Lack of direct air transport of military aid.

The need for transit through neighbouring countries (Poland, Slovakia, Romania).

- Blockade of seaports

The possibility of rapid transport of weapons by sea through Mariupol, Berdiansk and Skadovsk has been lost.

The only working route is through the Danube ports (Reni, Izmail) and the western border.

- Impossibility of using the territory of Belarus

In the case of a neutral or friendly regime in Minsk, Ukraine could significantly reduce the time it takes to deliver aid.

The Belarusian regime not only does not help Ukraine, but also provides logistical support to Russia.

Possible solutions to improve military logistics:

- Maximise the use of rail transport through Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania.

- Expanding the capabilities of NATO military aviation on the borders with Ukraine (logistics hubs, warehouses).

- Strengthening port infrastructure on the Danube (Izmail, Reni) to deliver military supplies by sea through allied countries.

- Increase the production of weapons and ammunition in Ukraine to reduce dependence on imports.

- Development of logistics IT solutions and the use of autonomous transport (drones, unmanned platforms) for fast delivery to the frontline.

Social factors in military logistics

Logistics depends not only on infrastructure but also on the educational and scientific potential of the country.

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The development of science and education in the field of military logistics contributes to the introduction of advanced technologies in the supply of troops.

The shortage of qualified specialists in military logistics requires urgent training in accordance with NATO standards.

The development of the defence industry is not only about producing weapons, but also about creating an effective system for their delivery.

Geopolitical constraints in Ukraine's military logistics make it difficult to supply weapons, but the country is finding alternative routes and strengthening its own production. In addition to the logistics infrastructure, it is important to train military logistics specialists, which will allow Ukraine to act more effectively even in a crisis.

