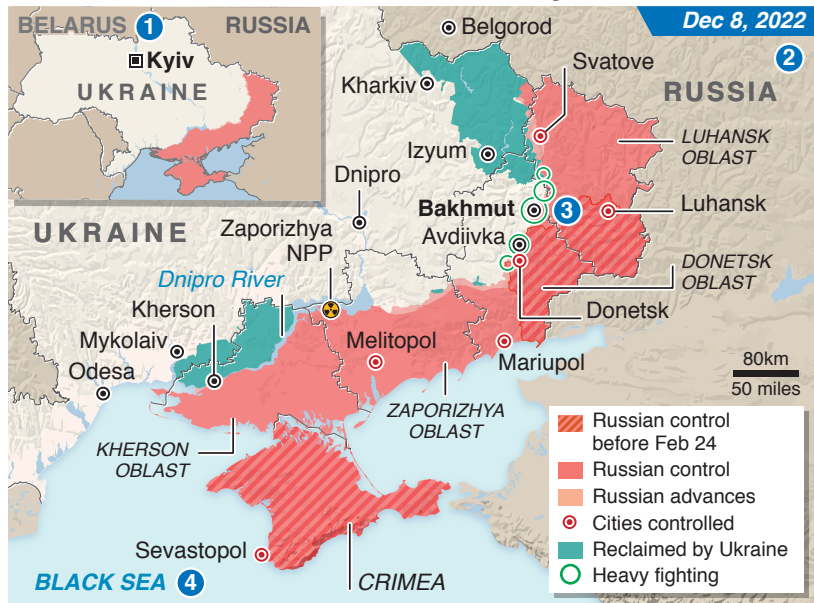


# Ukraine invasion – day 288

Dec 8, 2022



**1 Belarus:** Russian troops taking part in tactical drills. Belarus under pressure to take active role in war, causing friction in its military

**2 Russia:** Putin's claim – that threat of nuclear war increasing, though Russia "would not strike first" – denounced as "loose talk" by U.S.

**3 Bakhmut:** Fierce fighting and continued Russian ground attacks belie NATO assessment that Russia is seeking operational pause

**4 Black Sea:** Oil tankers waiting to cross into Mediterranean rise to 16 after new restrictions aimed at curtailing Russian oil exports