

## Working 24/7: Metinvest Mobilises Resources to Help Create Defence Belts for Armed Forces of Ukraine in Donetsk Region

Metinvest Group has mobilised additional resources to construct military fortifications on the first and second lines of defence in key areas of the theatre of operations. Since the first days of the full-scale invasion, the Group has been helping to build fortifications in the cities of its presence. Priority areas for the creation of defence belts have been identified in coordination with the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine and in cooperation with the engineering forces. Metinvest's specialists and heavy equipment are working 24/7 to construct defensive structures that will provide additional protection for citizens and Ukrainian soldiers. Now, the intensity of this work increased. The most active efforts continue in the Donetsk area together with the Donetsk Regional Military and Civil Administration.



Oleksandr Myronenko, Metinvest's chief operating officer, stated: "The enemy continues its attempts to break through Ukraine's defences. Metinvest Group recognises the need to mobilise additional resources to construct military infrastructure and fortifications along the contact line. This is a vital decision aimed at increasing the effectiveness of defensive structures and strengthening the Ukrainian defenders' resistance against the enemy invasion. We will defend our right to live and work on free Ukrainian land side by side with the Armed Forces of Ukraine!"



Highly qualified specialists such as drivers, crane and excavator operators are employing a diverse range of special-purpose equipment such as excavators, truck cranes and oversized trucks to build the fortifications. In addition to engaging its equipment and employees, Metinvest is conducting excavation work and providing construction materials, timber and mobile steel shelters that the Group has developed, which are installed under the ground and protect against shelling.

Musa Mahomedov, the project coordinator and a member of parliament in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, added: "Every business today should follow Metinvest's example and fully mobilise their resources to prevent the enemy from advancing. We must keep our peaceful cities from looking like my hometown of Avdiivka."

Since the beginning of the full-scale war, Metinvest has allocated UAH4.2 billion to support Ukraine and Ukrainians, including more than UAH2 billion in aid for the troops, as part of Rinat Akhmetov's Steel Front defence initiative. The Group has donated to the military 150,000 bulletproof vests, 25,000 helmets, 80,000 anti-tank hedgehogs, 31,500 tourniquets, 1,500 drones, 2,000 thermal imagers, 500 vehicles and more than 300 special mobile shelters.

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