Just a quick update on the Russia-Ukraine war. Two very different events occurred the week that clearly illustrate how each of these countries fights.

First, in a lightening strike, Ukraine sent at least a thousand troops in armored personnel carriers accompanied by tanks across their border into Russia's Kursk region. The Russian military was caught totally by surprise, and after four days the Ukrainians have advanced ten kilometers, captured several villages and enemy combatants, and destroyed a column of vehicles that was sent to relieve the area. While this is of limited military significance and the Ukrainians will probably withdraw before long, it has sown real panic in the Russian high command and demonstrated just how effective Ukraine can be against its much bigger adversary if provided with enough support.

As Russia struggles to mount a counteroffensive, it decided to try and distract Kyiv by doing what it's really good at — killing civilians. To that end, earlier today it fired a missile which struck a supermarket in Donetsk region, resulting in two dead and 17 wounded.

It goes without saying that after more than two years of war, international attention has waned. People are understandably concerned with other things — US political mud-slinging, conflict in the Middle East, threats to Taylor Swift, and so on. But Ukraine's struggle to avoid being gobbled up by Putin's Russia is not just one more war among many. It remains one of the most critical events of our time and its outcome will go far in determining the future for hundreds of millions of people in Europe and Asia.

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