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# Current Intelligence Report Circular

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**CLASSIFICATION: DECLASSIFIED AND APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE**

**Report Topic:** Military Developments in the Russo-Ukrainian War

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## Russian forces moving towards defensive postures on the Eastern front

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Russia has launched attacks along the Ukrainian line of defense, spanning from the towns of Shakhtarsky to Marinka, engaging elements of the Ukrainian 54<sup>th</sup> Separate Mechanized Brigade. Fighting is ongoing in Shakhtarsky itself, and the Russians captured Marinka on 17 MAR. However, the Russians have not achieved a significant breakthrough along this defensive line just east of the Dnieper River. In addition, Russian forces have advanced southward from the eastern flank of Kharkov and are pushing southward, reaching the towns of Barvinkovy and Husarivka, and Petrivsky. END

### CMCD Note

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Russian forces on the Eastern front in Ukraine appear to be conducting defensive operations now. This is likely a result of Russia's failure to fulfill its initial 15-day campaign objectives. It is highly likely this failure has depleted more resources than Russia estimated. Defensive operations on the Eastern front may serve as an operational pause that allows the relocation of logistics and manpower to support offensive operations in the north and south of Ukraine. We estimate with high confidence that Russian forces will likely maintain a defensive posture on the Eastern front, in order to prevent Ukraine forces from conducting counterattacks near the Russian border.

### Sources

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Defense Politics Asia, Ukraine

[DNGTS] <http://defensepoliticsasia.com/Ukraine/>

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