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# Current Intelligence Report Circular

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

**Report Topic:** Developments in the Luhansk and Donetsk People's Republics

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## Russian-backed separatists claim control of Ukrainian government facilities in the Luhansk People's Republic

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On 17 MAR, it was reported that Russian-backed separatists of the Luhansk People's Republic (LPR) captured Ukrainian government facilities in the city of Rubizhne. In videos posted by on the official Telegram account of the People's Militia of the LPR's, uniformed LPR soldiers are seen displaying the flag of the LPR on top of government buildings. In one video, a uniformed LPR soldier communicates the LPR's seizure of the government buildings by stating: "We are located next to the administration of the city Rubizhne. The flag of the LPR is flying here now". Furthermore, in another video posted by the People's Militia of the LPR's Telegram account, an LPR soldier is seen walking through the Rubizhne mayor's office and later placing an LPR flag, along with a former Soviet Union Banner of Victory flag, on the roof of the government building. The same LPR soldier goes on to notify viewers that the war in the LPR is "in its final stages", referring to the view that the seizure of the Ukrainian government facilities could mark the end of the conflict in the LPR. END

### CMCD Note

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With the LPR militia making further northwestern advances, we estimate with high confidence that Ukrainian forces will continue to meet resistance in the Donbass region. The video of the LPR soldier is evidence that anti-Russian troops are still in the region, as shelling from Ukrainian forces can be heard in the background. It is highly likely that Russian forces will continue to target government buildings within the Donbass region, in order to take control of each city.

### Sources

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CNN, Russian-backed separatists take control of government buildings in Luhansk

[https://edition.cnn.com/europe/live-news/ukraine-russia-putin-news-03-17-22/h\\_bf6a2b29387c42bb930d7f838e8d3936](https://edition.cnn.com/europe/live-news/ukraine-russia-putin-news-03-17-22/h_bf6a2b29387c42bb930d7f838e8d3936)

People's Militia of the LPR, The flag of the Luhansk's People's Republic was raised over the administration of Rubizhne

[DNGTS] <https://t.me/millnr/7755>

People's Militia of the LPR, Units of the NM of the LPR raised the flag of the Republic over the administration of the city of Rubizhne

[DNGTS] <https://t.me/millnr/7754>