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## *Arms companies and the war in Ukraine*



**Sources:** Rebellion

*Behind the huge amount of money that the United States and the European Union have given to Ukraine to try to weaken Russia after the Special Military Operation launched by Moscow, are the huge profits received by the big equipment and armament companies.*

The Hill reported that U.S. military aid to Ukraine between January 2022 and January this year reaches a staggering \$77.500 billion.

Of the total amount, \$29.300 billion was allocated to direct military assistance for the purchase of a wide variety of **military** equipment, including **tanks, drones, air defense systems, helicopters** and missile launchers.

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Other \$45 billion was allocated to the "**Funds emergency**" whose objective is to "enhance the general security" of Ukraine. The rest for other purposes such as training of soldiers and aid in emigration.

Ago months, the Chamber of U.S. Representatives [passed a law](#) facilitating loan agreements and leasing of defence equipment with Ukraine and other European countries. This, similar to legislation implemented against Hitler during World War II, which paves the way for more U.S. weapons to reach the region.

Jessica Lewis Under Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs recently stated that "by moving countries away from Russian weaponry we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity."

Arms Americans arrive as substitutes for the territory of European countries that are supplying weapons from the former Soviet Union to Ukraine, such as the deployment of Patriot air defense systems instead of S-300s that Slovakia handed over Kiev.

While Jake Sullivan, national security adviser, described Washington's military assistance as "the weapons that Ukraine needs" to defend itself from Russia and therefore will continue to deliver to that country, more artillery, armored vehicles, anti-tank missiles and anti-aircraft systems.

Likewise he added, he will be given assistance in carrying out cyber warfare; more intelligence sharing; support in the production of ammunition; help in the clearance of mines and other explosives, as well as further increased presence American on the eastern flank of the NATO.

With the goal of not being left behind in the West's race to try to destroy Russia, the European Union has lent Ukraine €54.900 billion (€58 billion) in the past year. million dollars) according to Germany's Kiel Institute.

Those amounts do not include **financial assistance** provided by international organizations such as the [World Bank](#) and the International Monetary Fund, which February 2022 **have mobilized \$25.600 billion** for Kiev, of which It has already disbursed more than \$21 billion.

Data officials confirm the involvement of the European Union in this conflict: the United Kingdom provided Ukraine with 120 Mastiff patrol vehicles heavily armored. The Czech Republic, howitzers, tanks and heavy vehicles of infantry combat, including 56 light tanks originally from Germany Eastern. Denmark and the Netherlands sent anti-tank weapons. Finland rifles, anti-tank weapons and undisclosed equipment.

Estonia confirmed sent 30mm towed D-122 howitzers and hundreds of shells, Germany, Leopard-1 tanks from Bundeswehr storage bases, while Australia approved the delivery of 20 armored vehicles.

In This arms obsession It is no coincidence that the top five companies Producers and suppliers of weapons in the world are all American: Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, Boeing, Northrop Grumman and General Dynamics.

The researcher Samantha Nutt of the humanitarian organization War Child, indicates that there is a close relationship between the government and these companies because they are agreements negotiated between them that complement each other in various ways as Both directly or indirectly create jobs, taxes are obtained that Once they boost the economy.

The Nutt specialist ensures that there is a very fluid circuit between the high U.S. military officials, its Congress and arms manufacturers who It is mutually beneficial, and also makes the latter maintain a influence on global politics.

The Open Secrets page [revealed](#) that, in the last 20 years, the Military Complex American industrial and its subsidiaries spent more than 2.600 billion dollars in political lobbying and their goal is to get up to the half of the Pentagon budget that reaches 858 billion dollars in this 000.

Their Efforts have paid off, as they have captured up to half of the 14 trillions of dollars allocated to the Department of Defense during that time. In 2020, for example, Lockheed Martin received \$5,803 in contracts for each dollar he spent on lobbying.

This is how the business of war unfolds in Ukraine where business tycoons, the Pentagon, the US government and arms companies continue to enrich themselves at the expense of the blood and life of peoples.

*Hedelberto López Blanch, Cuban journalist, writer and researcher.*

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