10/03/2022

Warfare rages in Ukraine; emphasis on getting civilians to safety



Russian forces on Thursday continued their attempted push through the eastern European country from multiple directions, while Ukrainian forces were reportedly putting up stiff resistance, according to international media.
The attack began Feb. 24, when Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a so-called “special military operation.”

Russian forces were also reportedly moving from neighboring Belarus toward Ukraine’s capital, Kiev.

Russia has been slapped with strict sanctions by most of the West in the wake of the invasion and devastation, ones targeting the Russian economy as well as Putin himself.

Ukrainian officials also said they are again trying to evacuate thousands of civilians through humanitarian corridors under temporary cease-fires, and assuming the

latter hold.

So far, evacuations in some cities have managed to proceed, while others are faltering, with Ukrainian officials accusing Russian forces of blocking or deliberately firing on the routes.

Ukrainian officials were also hoping an evacuation would take place on Thursday from Mariupol, the hard-hit southeastern port city where the humanitarian situation is described as the worst.

The war grinded on even as top diplomats from Russia and Ukraine met in Antalya, Turkey.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba arrived in the southern Turkish resort city on Thursday morning ahead of the meeting — the highest-level talks between the two countries since the Russian invasion.