

February 26, 2026

ABC Spokesperson

Q: How does the ABC currently cover the war in Ukraine? Does it have a correspondent on the ground, or does it rely on wire agencies?

All three of our current Europe Correspondents have been to Ukraine in the previous 18 months and multiple other journalists have been deployed there over the past four years. In addition, the ABC has produced a number of special reports for programs including Four Corners and Foreign Correspondent. Within Ukraine we have a network of local journalists, camera operators and fixers. Correspondents cover developments from the London bureau and Australia-based teams and journalists also contribute to coverage, such as the digital news teams and Global Affairs Editor Laura Tingle.

Q: When was the last time the ABC had a correspondent in Ukraine? What were the reasons for pulling them out?

The most recent correspondent deployment was in December. All assignments are short-term. Within Ukraine we also have a network of local journalists, camera operators and fixers.

Q: How does the ABC make resourcing decisions when determining how to deploy correspondents and crews to conflict zones, particularly with both Gaza and Ukraine being active war zones in recent years?

We assess all stories independently based on a number of factors and deploy resources across multiple significant international stories. Over the past 18 months the ABC has had crews doing first-hand reporting in Myanmar, on the Colombia-Venezuela border, on the India-Pakistan border and in Thailand, as well as in Israel and Ukraine.

Q: At Media Watch we'll be examining whether war fatigue and the pace of the news cycle can mean conflict zones receive less coverage over time despite ongoing, and at times, worsening carnage. What would be your response to that?

The Ukraine conflict remains a major story. As noted above we deploy our resources across multiple significant international stories. Coverage of the war has also evolved over the years as the story has developed, for example the International team has done on-the-ground coverage of related stories such as the Trump-Putin summit in Alaska, the NATO deployment in the Baltics and other impacts on Europe.