

Zelenskiy sacks military recruitment heads over frontline bribes scandal

Ukrainian president describes taking of cash from people who want to avoid conscription as form of treachery

Volodymyr Zelenskiy has announced the dismissal of all the heads of Ukraine's regional military recruitment centres in the latest drive to root out corruption after officials were accused of taking bribes from those seeking to avoid the frontlines.

At a time when the country's army is in need of new recruits, Ukraine's president described the taking of cash from people who wanted to avoid conscription while others suffered as a form of treachery.

"This system should be run by people who know exactly what war is and why cynicism and bribery during war is treason," he said in a video statement. "Instead, soldiers who have experienced the front or who cannot be in the trenches because they have lost their health, lost their limbs, but have preserved their dignity and do not have cynicism, are the ones who can be entrusted with this system of recruitment."

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