

Despite missile attacks, Chernihiv School No. 3 has started a new academic year equipped with solar [energy equipment](#) provided by the charity organization ["Energy Act For Ukraine Foundation."](#)



Photo: Energy Act For Ukraine Foundation, August 2023

Ukrainian Secondary School No. 3 in Chernihiv has bravely begun the new academic year despite the dangers of air alarms and shelling. Despite significant obstacles, including the severe damage suffered after the attack on August 19th (windows were shattered, and classrooms were damaged), the school has opened its doors to young Ukrainians with essential technological support. In preparation for the new academic year, the school [has been equipped with a hybrid solar station](#) with energy storage by the "Energy Act For Ukraine Foundation" as part of the ["100RESforSchools"](#) campaign. Similar systems have already been installed in School No. 17 in Irpin, highlighted [by President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen](#) during [her keynote speech](#) at the Ukraine Recovery Conference in London.

These hybrid solar stations comprise solar panels, hybrid inverters, and energy storage systems. The constant aggression and attacks have often led to school power supply issues. Thus, installing solar power stations with energy storage systems will empower Ukrainian schools to remain resilient to Russia's energy-related threats and be prepared for emergencies.

*"We are working with Ukraine to restore electricity supplies. By repairing and restoring damaged infrastructure. And by developing and deploying renewable energy."* – **Ursula von der Leyen**, President of the European Commission.

*"The state's mission is to ensure energy independence for all of Ukraine. Our mission is to realize energy independence for social and critical infrastructure objects."* – **Yuliana Onishchuk**, Founder of the Energy Act For Ukraine Foundation.

*"The time has come when energy security is no longer a question of distant prospects. These decisions need to be implemented here and now through the involvement of our foreign partners."* – **Tetiana Odnorog**, Founder and CEO of Unisolar.

*"The school has become a sanctuary for the community, where 68 children from newborns to 18-year-olds resided. Hundreds of residents have found shelter here, with benches and mats set up, and even a small couch from the school,"* shared **Olena Yakovchuk\***, Headmaster of Chernihiv Secondary School No. 3, describing the first months of the full-scale invasion.

\*Later, after the missile shelling on August 19, 2023, in Chernihiv, she [showed how the last shelling affected the school](#).

*"Supporting Chernihiv School No. 3 reflects Menlo Electric's commitment to our 'Energy to Power Your Future' CSR program. We aim to enhance resilience and enable offline studying despite power cuts for the students, especially in the face of recent adversity, including missile attacks,"* commented **Oleksandr Piskun**, General Manager of Menlo Electric Ukraine.

*"Every day, we witnessed how important social interaction is for the children. All of this emphasized the urgent need to restore the school's educational process as quickly as possible,"* added **Vasyl Bylohora**, Head of the Education Department at Chernihiv Secondary School No. 3.

*"I prefer going to school more because I have friends and learning there. But most of all, I want to go there for my friends,"* expressed **Taras**, a Chernihiv Secondary School No. 3 student.

The fastest-growing international PV distributor [Menlo Electric](#), provided the solar panels, while inverter and battery storage, as well as the project's implementation costs, were donated by the Italian company [ZCS Azzuro](#), and the Ukrainian company [Unisolar](#) served as the technical partner.

During the facility's opening, representatives from the Energy Act For Ukraine Foundation and partners and donors from Menlo Electric and ZCS Azzuro engaged with journalists and the Chernihiv community. They congratulated the students on starting the new academic year and conducted an introductory lecture as part of the "Sustainable Development for Schools" course.

In May 2023, the Energy Act For Ukraine Foundation [installed](#) solar stations with energy storage systems, providing backup power to the neonatal and premature infant departments at [Chernihiv Regional Children's Hospital](#) and Ivankiv Central District Hospital as part of the "[50RESforHospitals](#)" campaign.

**Note:** *The "Energy Act For Ukraine Foundation" is a charity organization from Kyiv, Ukraine, founded in April 2022. Supplying renewable energy equipment and building solar stations is the organization's main priority. It aims to assist educational institutions, healthcare facilities, medical workers, and communities affected by the russian war in Ukraine. On August 19, 2023, Chernihiv School No. 3 was damaged during a missile attack.*

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