



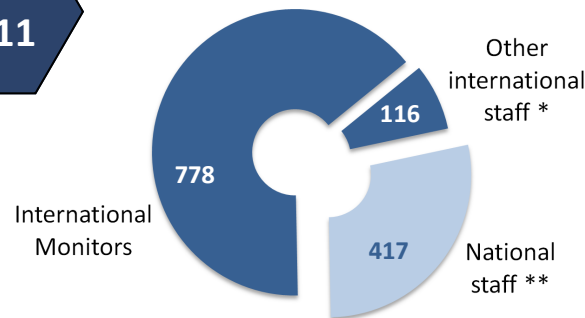
Civilians crossing the destroyed Stanytsia Luhanska bridge in Luhansk region
(Photo credit: OSCE/ Evgeniy Maloletka)

FACTS MATTER

- Between 10 and 23 December 2018, the SMM confirmed that three civilians were injured. This brings the total number of civilian casualties since 1 January 2018 to 225 (43 deaths and 182 injuries).
- The SMM recorded about 13,600 ceasefire violations (as compared with over 20,000 in the previous two-week period) and 221 weapons in violation of the agreed withdrawal lines (36 in areas not controlled by the Government).
- The Mission continued to observe positions, hardware, personnel and other indications of military presence, and recorded around 200 ceasefire violations inside the Zolote disengagement area. Residents of the Vilnyi area of Zolote-4/Rodina, immediately east-north-east of the disengagement area, told the SMM that, due to the worsening security situation, many residents had relocated to government-controlled Zolote-1/Soniachnyi.
- The SMM continued to observe long queues of people waiting to cross the contact line near Stanytsia Luhanska. In addition to often lengthy security checks, civilians passing through what is the only crossing point in Luhansk region must walk about 2km between forward positions and at one point, where the now destroyed Stanytsia Luhanska bridge stands, along often snow-covered, slippery wooden ramps.
- The Mission continued to face restrictions to its freedom of movement and other impediments to the implementation of its mandate. Mines and unexploded ordnance continued to restrict the Mission's access to all three disengagement areas and elsewhere. In addition, the SMM's freedom of movement was restricted on 28 occasions; 24 times in areas not controlled by the Government, mostly in areas close to the border with the Russian Federation and along the coast of the Azov Sea. Small-arms fire was directed at SMM unmanned aerial vehicles on five occasions.
- The SMM's daily reports are available in three languages (English, Ukrainian and Russian) on the OSCE website: www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports.

MISSION MEMBERS as of 24 DECEMBER 2018

TOTAL
1,311



* Other international staff includes Chief Monitor, Deputy Chief Monitor, advisors, analysts, etc.

** National staff includes assistants, advisors and other administrative personnel.

MISSION MONITORS

Albania	6	Kazakhstan	4
Armenia	1	Kyrgyzstan	23
Austria	10	Latvia	8
Azerbaijan	1	Lithuania	2
Belarus	8	Moldova	36
Belgium	1	Montenegro	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	47	Netherlands	4
Bulgaria	40	Norway	13
Canada	26	Poland	36
Croatia	11	Portugal	2
Czech Republic	15	Romania	29
Denmark	7	Russian Federation	37
Estonia	3	Serbia	11
Finland	21	Slovakia	12
France	18	Slovenia	1
former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	28	Spain	14
Georgia	22	Sweden	27
Germany	29	Switzerland	7
Greece	22	Tajikistan	11
Hungary	23	Turkey	10
Ireland	8	United Kingdom	59
Italy	22	United States	60
		TOTAL	778
Male	620	Female	158

SPECIAL MONITORING MISSION TO UKRAINE

Who we are

- Unarmed civilian monitors;
- Around 800 monitors across Ukraine;
- Around 600 based in the east;
- From 44 OSCE participating States.

What we do

- Report the facts as we observe and establish them;
- Gather information and report on the security situation;
- Report on the humanitarian situation and people's needs, and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid of other organizations;
- Help to establish dialogue and local ceasefires.

Important to understand:

- It is up to the sides to stop the fighting;
- We do not conduct investigations, but report on facts;
- We do not deliver but facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid.