

Daily Report 294/2019

12 December 2019¹

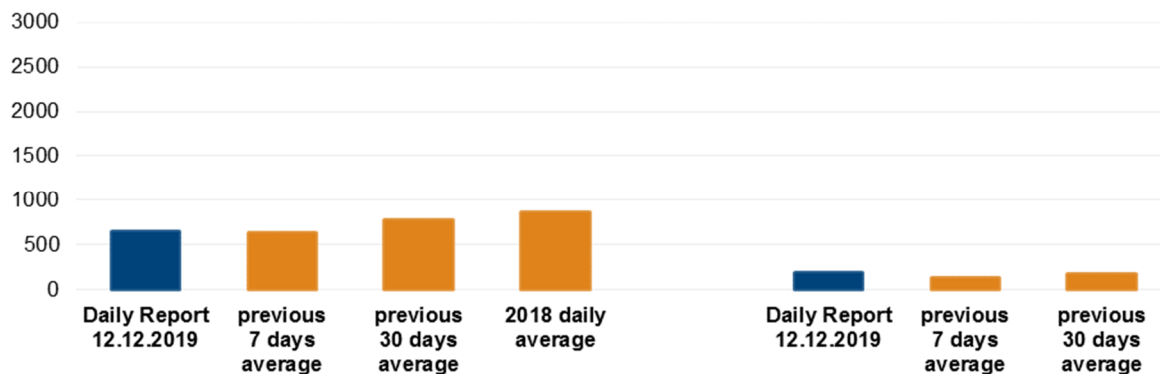
Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and more in Luhansk region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the situation in the disengagement areas near Petrivske, Zolote and Stanytsia Luhanska. It recorded ceasefire violations near the Petrivske disengagement area.
- It monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to facilitate the drilling of water wells in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at checkpoints of the armed formations near Verkhnoшыrokyvske and the disengagement area near Petrivske.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 11 December 2019. All times are in Eastern European Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table.

³ Including explosions.

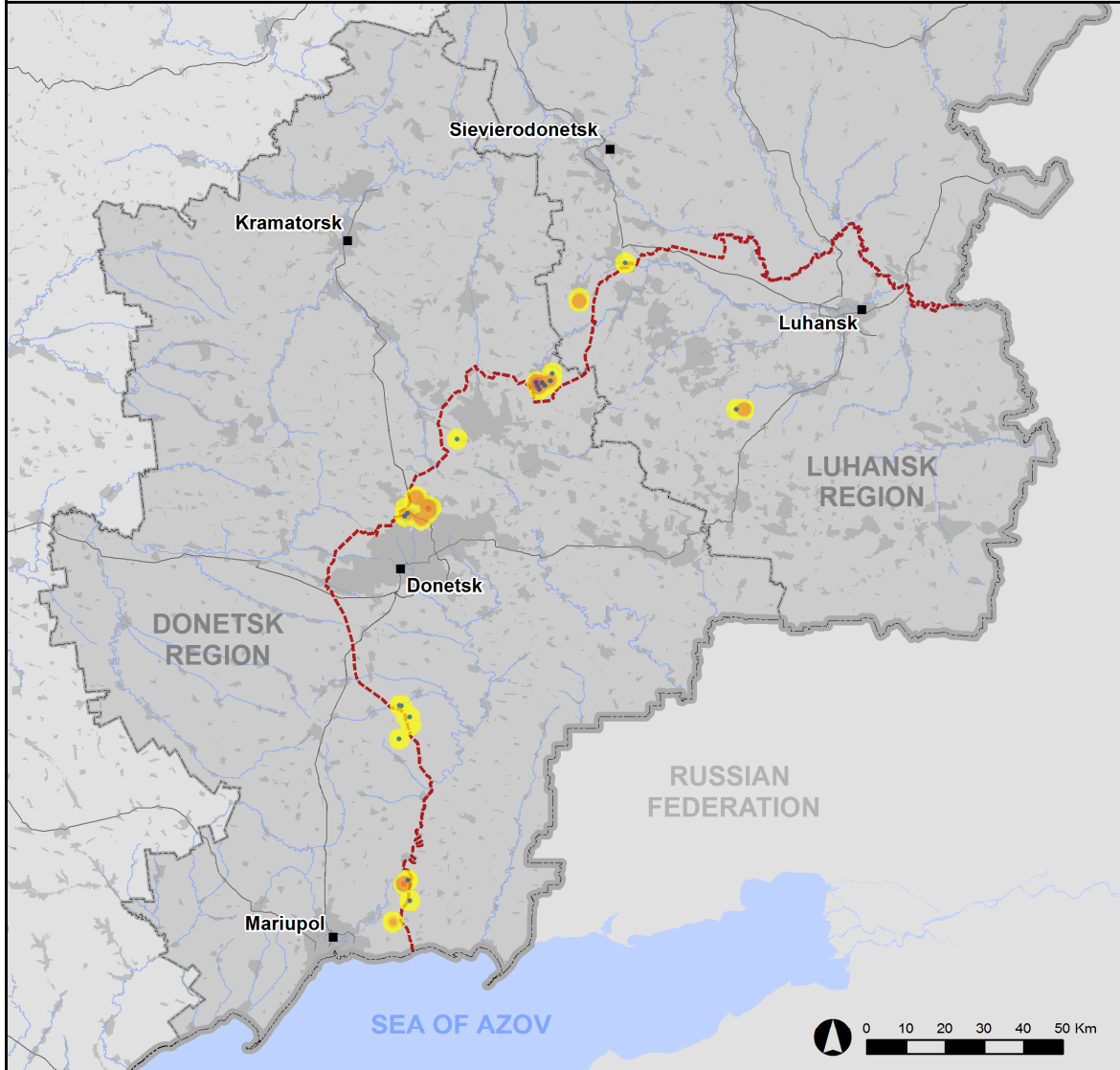
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

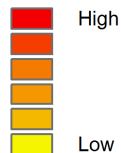


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 11 December 2019



Ceasefire violation concentration



- Explosion
- Settlement
- Estimated line of contact

Sources: Administrative Boundaries - OCHA; Roads, Rivers - OpenStreetMap; Sea - VLIZ (2005), IHO Sea Areas; Other - OSCE.

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 37N

This map is provided for illustrative purposes only. Its content is not warranted to be error-free and does not imply endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE SMM.

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Created: 12/12/2019

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including, however, slightly more explosions (about 170), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 165 explosions). More than half of the ceasefire violations were recorded in easterly directions of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk) and in north-easterly, south-easterly and south-westerly directions of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded more ceasefire violations, including, however, fewer explosions (one), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (eight explosions). Almost all of the ceasefire violations were recorded in southerly directions of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk).

Disengagement areas near Petrivske, Zolote and Stanytsia Luhanska⁵

On 10 December, outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), about 2m south of the road between Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) and Viktorivka (non-government-controlled, 42km south-west of Donetsk), which runs along the northern edge of the Petrivske disengagement area, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [again](#) spotted an anti-tank mine, part of a previously reported minefield.

In the morning of 11 December, at a checkpoint about 2.5km north of the disengagement area near Petrivske, on two occasions, four members of the armed formations (two of them armed) denied the SMM passage south towards the area, citing engineering and demining activities nearby (see below). About 90 minutes later, positioned about 250m north of the aforementioned checkpoint, the SMM recorded two undetermined explosions at a range of 2-3km south-west. On the same morning, positioned about 2km east-north-east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west), the SMM recorded three undetermined explosions at a range of 3-4km north and a distance of 5km south. All of the above ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area but within its 5km periphery.

In the early evening of 10 December, the SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) recorded a projectile in flight and an undetermined explosion at a range of 2-4km east, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within its 5km periphery. On 11 December, the SMM saw 15 workers and five de-miners from non-government-controlled areas and a vehicle enter the disengagement area. About 1.5km west of the area's southern edge, it [again](#) saw two members of the armed formations digging trenches. Throughout the day, the Mission saw at least six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) at the southern edge of the disengagement area.

On 10 December, outside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), about 60m north of the area's northern edge, an SMM mini-UAV spotted an armoured personnel carrier (BTR-3E). Inside the disengagement area, about 30m south of its northern edge, the UAV also spotted a person in camouflage clothing in a trench. On 11 December, the SMM saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) between the checkpoint of the armed formations and the new section of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

⁵ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

Withdrawal of weapons

The SMM continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum.

It saw 18 self-propelled howitzers beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage areas in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region and nine towed howitzers in a compound in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region (for further details, see the table below).

Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁶

The SMM observed military and military-type presence in the security zone on both sides of the contact line (for further details, see the table below), including in a residential area of Bohdanivka.

SMM facilitation of repairs and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to facilitate the drilling of water wells near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk). The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk).

The Mission continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Chernivtsi and Kyiv.

*Restrictions of the SMM's freedom of movement or other impediments to fulfilment of its mandate

The SMM's monitoring and freedom of movement are restricted by security hazards and threats, including risks posed by mines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other impediments – which vary from day to day. The SMM's mandate provides for safe and secure access throughout Ukraine. All signatories of the Package of Measures have agreed on the need for this safe and secure access, that restriction of the SMM's freedom of movement constitutes a violation, and on the need for rapid response to these violations. They have also agreed that the Joint Centre for Control and Coordination (JCCC) should contribute to such response and co-ordinate mine clearance. Nonetheless, the armed formations in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions frequently deny the SMM access to areas adjacent to Ukraine's border outside control of the Government (for example, see [SMM Daily Report of 11 December 2019](#)). The SMM's operations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions remain restricted following the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb; these restrictions continued to limit the Mission's observations.

Denial of access:

- On two occasions at a checkpoint about 2.5km north of the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), four members of the

⁶ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

armed formations (two of them armed) denied the SMM passage south towards the area, citing engineering and demining activities nearby.

- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnohyrokiwske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage to non-government-controlled areas, citing demining activities in the area.

Regular restrictions related to disengagement areas and mines/UXO:

- The sides continued to deny the SMM full access, as well as the ability to travel certain roads previously identified as important for effective monitoring by the Mission and for civilians' movement, through failure to conduct comprehensive clearance of mines, UXO and other obstacles.

Delay:

- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnohyrokiwske, an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) allowed the SMM to proceed only after about an hour of waiting.

Table of weapons

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
11/12/2019	18	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	Loaded on a train at the railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk) (for similar observations in the area, see SMM Daily Report 7 November 2019)	Patrol
	9	Towed howitzer (D-20, 152mm)	In a compound near Khibodarivka (65km south-west of Donetsk) (for similar observations in the area, see SMM Daily Report 30 November 2019).	

Table of indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁷

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
10/12/2019	4	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Eastern outskirts of Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
11/12/2019	5	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	Under camouflage in a residential area of Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM variant)	Under camouflage in Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
10/12/2019	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	About 1km south-east of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), outside the disengagement area.	Mini-UAV

⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 11 December 2019⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	4-6km E	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	10-Dec, 20:58
	4-6km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	10-Dec, 20:58
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	3	Projectile	S to N	N/K	10-Dec, 21:07
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:07
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N	N/K	10-Dec, 21:10
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:15
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	10-Dec, 21:19
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N	N/K	10-Dec, 21:19
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:19
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:20
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	10-Dec, 21:20
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:28
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	10-Dec, 21:29
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N	N/K	10-Dec, 21:29
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:30
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	10-Dec, 21:39
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion		N/K	10-Dec, 21:39
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:40
SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1-3km WNW	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash	Assessed as outside the disengagement area.	N/K	5-Dec, 04:07
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	5-Dec, 17:53
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km SW	Heard	13	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 10:14-10:18
	3-4km S	Heard	36	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 10:38-10:43
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km ESE	Heard	23	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 10:50
	2-3km ESE	Heard	7	Shot		Small arms	11-Dec, 10:50
	3-4km ESE	Heard	8	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 12:20
	1-2km NW	Heard	10	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 12:30
	1-2km NW	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	11-Dec, 12:30
	3-4km ESE	Heard	8	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 12:35
	1-2km NW	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 12:38
	1-2km NW	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 12:40
1-2km NNW	Heard	27	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 12:41	

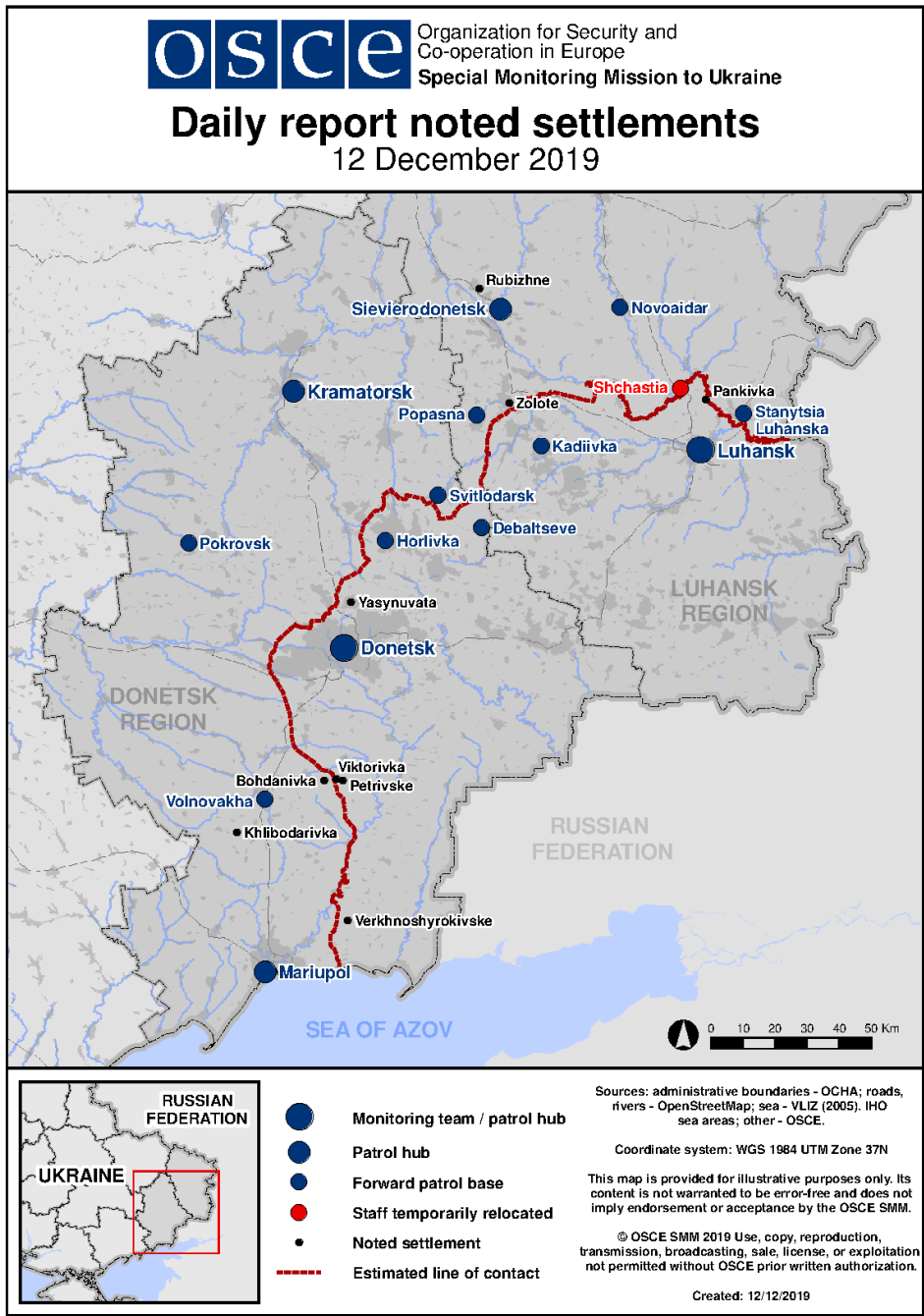
⁸ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments provided by monitors on the ground, and are not always necessarily precise. When information is not known (indicated with an “N/K”), the SMM was unable to ascertain such information due to distance, weather conditions and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol and assessed to be the same are entered only once.

	1-2km NNW	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	11-Dec, 12:44
	1-2km ESE	Heard	12	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 12:51
	4-6km SW	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 12:53-12:56
	4-6km SW	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 13:01-13:04
	3-4km SE	Heard	37	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 13:03-13:07
	3-5km SW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 13:12
About 2.8km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	11-Dec, 10:01
	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	11-Dec, 10:20
About 2.4km NW of Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km S of Donetsk)	5-6km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 10:00
	5-6km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 10:23
About 2km ENE of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	3-4km N	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	11-Dec, 09:40
	5km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	11-Dec, 10:02
	5km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	11-Dec, 10:22
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2km SE	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 11:45
About 2km SW of Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	4-5km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 09:50
	4-5km ESE	Heard	7	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 10:36
	4-6km NE	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 11:26
	3-4km NE	Heard	42	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 14:27-14:42
	3-4km NE	Heard	27	Shot		Small arms	11-Dec, 14:27-14:42
About 2.5km NNW of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	2-4km NE	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 10:37-10:41
	2-4km NE	Heard	13	Burst		Small arms	11-Dec, 10:37-10:41
Svitlodarsk (government-	3-4km SSE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 18:35-18:36

controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km SSE	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 18:35-18:36
	3-4km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 19:01
	3-4km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 19:08
	4-5km SSE	Heard	13	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 20:28-20:39
	3-4km SSE	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 20:38-20:41
	3-4km SSE	Heard	14	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 20:56-20:59
	3-4km SSE	Heard	8	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 20:59-21:00
	3-4km SSE	Heard	17	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:00-21:08
	2-3km SSE	Heard	19	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:09-21:15
	2-3km SSE	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 21:15
	2-3km SSE	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:18-21:22
	2-3km SSE	Heard	4	Burst		Small arms	10-Dec, 21:22
	2-3km SSE	Heard	26	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:24-21:31
	2-3km SSE	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	10-Dec, 21:32
	3-4km SSE	Heard	12	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:35-21:43
	2-3km SSE	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	10-Dec, 21:44
	3-4km SSE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 21:45
	2-3km SSE	Heard	6	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 22:31-22:34
	2-3km SSE	Heard	8	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 23:05
	2-3km SSE	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 23:19
	2-3km SSE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 23:47
	4-5km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 10:05
	4-5km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 11:05
	3-5km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 22:45-22:46
	2-3km W	Heard	43	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 12:11-12:22
	4-5km W	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 12:11-12:22
	Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S (assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K
2-4km E		Recorded	1	Explosion	Assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area.	N/K	10-Dec, 16:30
NNW edge of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39 km NE of Donetsk)	5-7km S	Heard	16	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 20:45
	7km S	Heard	15	Shot		Small arms	11-Dec, 00:35
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	7km S	Heard	15	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 00:50

N edge of Popasna (government- controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	7km S	Heard	9	Shot		HMG	11-Dec, 00:54- 00:56
	7km S	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 00:54- 00:56
	7km S	Heard	6	Shot and burst		N/K	11-Dec, 00:54- 00:56

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions⁹



⁹ The SMM is deployed to ten locations throughout Ukraine – Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnipro, Chernivtsi, Luhansk and Kyiv – as per Permanent Council Decision 1117 of 21 March 2014. This map of eastern Ukraine is meant for illustrative purposes and indicates locations mentioned in the report, as well as those where the SMM has offices (monitoring teams, patrol hubs, and forward patrol bases) in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. (In red: a forward patrol base from which SMM staff has temporarily relocated based on recommendations of security experts from participating States as well as SMM security considerations. The SMM uses the premises during daylight hours and patrols in this settlement during daylight hours, as well).