

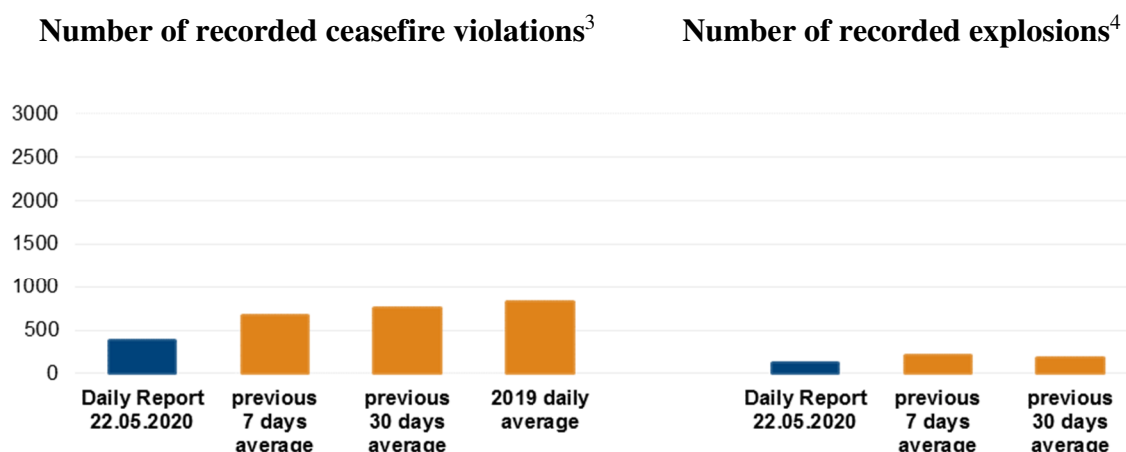
Daily Report 121/2020

22 May 2020¹

Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the Mission recorded fewer ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- Members of the armed formations continued to deny the Mission passage at checkpoints along official crossing routes in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.*
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission saw weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region.
- It saw anti-tank mines, including some for the first time, near Dokuchaievsk, Donetsk region.
- The Mission continued following up on measures taken amid the COVID-19 outbreak, including at entry-exit checkpoints and their corresponding checkpoints in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

Ceasefire violations²



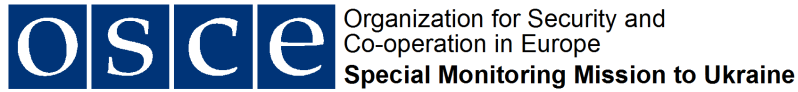
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 21 May 2020. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Petrivske was not operational.

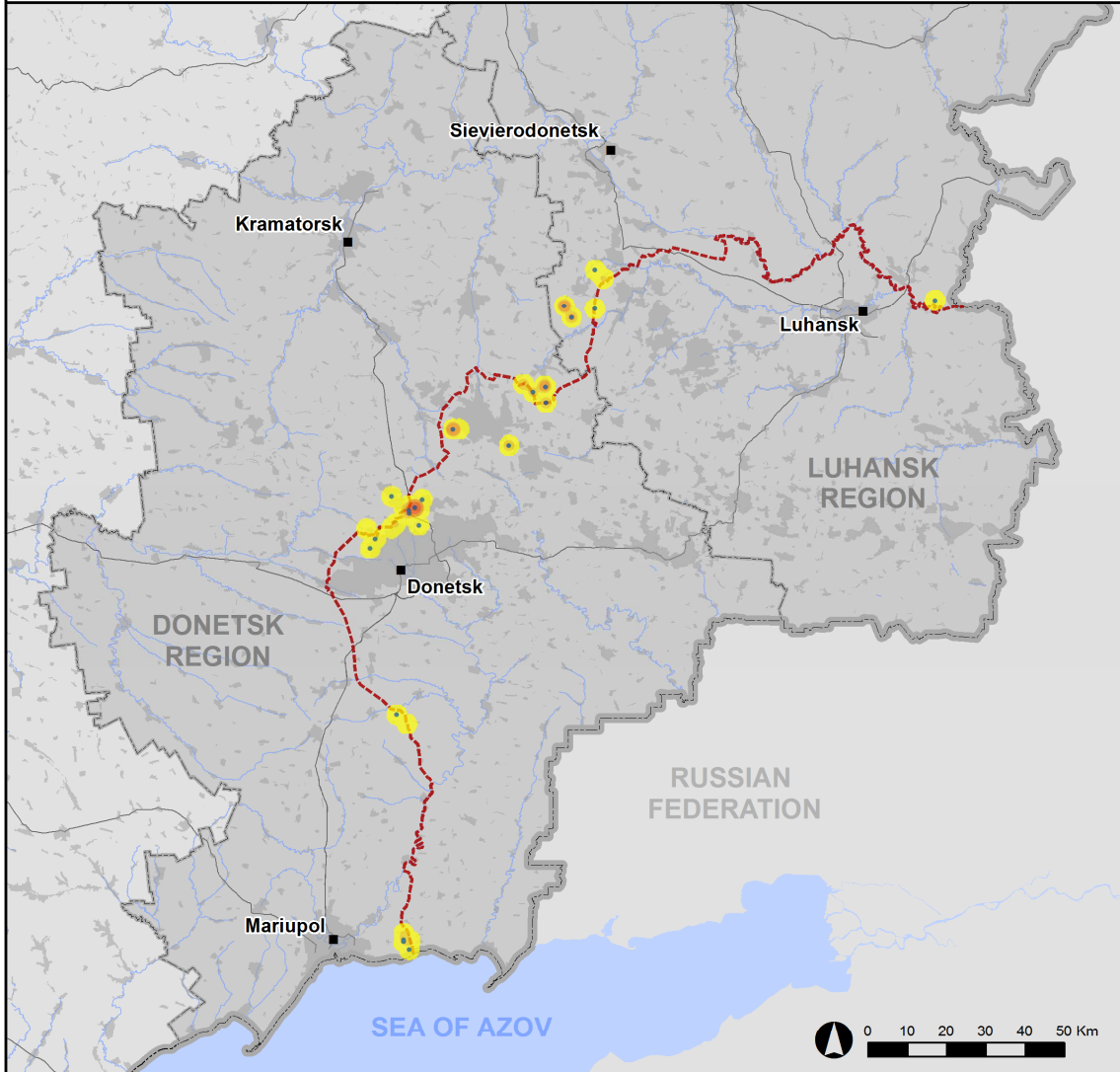
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

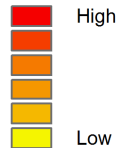
Map of recorded ceasefire violations



Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 21 May 2020



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: 22/05/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including fewer explosions (about 65), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 200 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded near the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) and at southerly directions of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled area, 57km north-east of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including fewer explosions (about 50), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 135 explosions). Almost all ceasefire violations, including almost all explosions, were recorded at north-westerly and southerly directions of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled area, 58km west of Luhansk) and in areas south-west of Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km west of Luhansk).

Members of the armed formations continued to deny the SMM passage at checkpoints along the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk regions

Members of the armed formations continued to deny the SMM passage at checkpoints in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions along official crossing routes. These restrictions constitute an impediment to the implementation of the Mission's mandate.⁵

In Donetsk region, at a checkpoint west of Verkhnoшыrokiyske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards non-government-controlled areas, referring to quarantine restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak.*

In Luhansk region, at a checkpoint south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations (wearing an armband with "JCCC" written on it) [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards non-government-controlled areas, referring to quarantine restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak.*

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁶

On 21 May, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) between the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge and their checkpoint south of it.

On 21 May, while positioned on the western edge of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km west of Luhansk), the SMM heard an undetermined explosion and eight shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 3-8km north-west, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) but within 5km of its periphery. On the same day, the Mission saw seven members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) near the southern edge of the disengagement area, four of whom were walking on road T-1316 inside the disengagement area to about 350m north of its southern edge.

⁵ The Mission began facing repeated denials when attempting to cross into non-government-controlled areas at checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk region on 21 March and Luhansk region on 23 March. For more information, see SMM Daily and Spot Reports.

⁶ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

On 20 May, outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), in a field about 25m from the eastern side of road C-051532 between Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk) and Petrivske, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a probable mounting bracket of an anti-personnel mine (MON-200), where an anti-vehicle mine (TM-83) was [previously observed](#). About 20m further south, the UAV spotted an anti-personnel mine (MON-200) half-buried in the ground. On 21 May, on the same road, the SMM again saw the aforementioned mine (assessed as MON-200 type) on the eastern shoulder of the road and a wooden box nearby.

On the evening of 20 May, the SMM camera near Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded two projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1-3km east-south-east and assessed as inside the disengagement area.

On 21 May, while positioned about 2km north of Petrivske, the SMM heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 4-6km west (assessed as outside of the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery).

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.

The Mission saw four weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including near the residential area of Lomakyne (93km south of Donetsk) (for further details, see the tables below).

Indications of military and military-type presence inside the security zone⁷

The SMM observed an anti-aircraft gun and armoured combat vehicles in the security zone in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including some in residential areas (for further details, see the table below).

On 17 May, an SMM mid-range UAV spotted three craters in fields about 1.3km east of Uzhivka (formerly Leninske, non-government-controlled, 96km south of Donetsk) (not seen in imagery from 19 March 2020). The SMM could not assess the type of weapon or direction of fire.

On 19 May, in fields about 2km south-east of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk), aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed the presence of four new impact craters (not seen in imagery from 12 April 2020). The same imagery also revealed a 25m-long trench extension in fields about 2km west of Uzhivka, assessed as belonging to the armed formations (not seen in imagery from 12 April 2020).

Mines near Vodiane and Pikuzy, and mine hazard sign in Horlivka

On 17 May, an SMM mid-range UAV spotted about 60 anti-tank mines, part of a larger minefield east of Vodiane (government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk), assessed as

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

belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 22 April 2020](#)).

The same UAV also spotted about 70 anti-tank mines in a field about 2.5km south of Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the armed formations (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 14 March 2020](#)).

On 19 May, an SMM mid-range UAV [again](#) spotted 20 anti-tank mines in fields about 4km south-west of Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk). The same UAV spotted for the first time 20 and 50 anti-tank mines in fields about 6km and 7km south of Dokuchaievsk, respectively. All these mines are located close to the most forward positions of the armed formations in fields leading to Mykolaivka (government-controlled, 40km south of Donetsk).

On 21 May, the SMM saw for the first time a mine hazard sign – with “Stop mines” written in Cyrillic – on a tree on the eastern edge of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk).

SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at four locations near the DFS, the Mission recorded six undetermined explosions, as well as bursts and shots of small-arms fire, all assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

Measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints amid COVID-19 outbreak

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Hnutove and its corresponding checkpoint near Verkhnohyrokiivske, remained closed.*

In Luhansk region, the SMM saw that the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska and its corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge remained closed.*

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 and 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 Co-ordination (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, [SMM Daily Report 19 May 2020](#)). 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:

- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnoшыrokyvske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards non-government-controlled areas, referring to quarantine restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- At a checkpoint south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards non-government-controlled areas, referring to quarantine restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

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 in Raivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north-west of Luhansk), an armed member of the armed formations allowed the SMM to proceed towards the settlement only after about 30 minutes of waiting.

Other impediments:

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Staromykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 15km west of Donetsk)⁸.

⁸ The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' position.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapons	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
19/05/2020	1	Probable anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	Near Vershyna (63km north-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
21/05/2020	3	Anti-tank guided missile system (9P148 <i>Konkurs</i> , 135mm)	Near a residential area in Lomakyne (93km south of Donetsk)	Patrol

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁹

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
17/05/2020	4	Armoured personnel carrier (three MT-LB and one probable BTR variant)	Near Pionerske (101km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
19/05/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Vershyna (63km north-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)		
	2	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Talakivka (90km south of Donetsk)	Aerial imagery
21/05/2020	4	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	In a residential area of Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol

⁹ 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 21 May 2020¹⁰

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Recorded	7	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	20-May, 23:13
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 23:29
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	1-3km ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as inside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	20-May, 21:45
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	1-2km SSW	Recorded	3	Projectile	ENE to WSW (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	20-May, 22:16
	1-2km SW	Recorded	3	Projectile	E to W	N/K	20-May, 22:38
	1-2km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	21-May, 02:33
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	1-3km WSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 21:12
	3-6km SW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 22:33
	3-6km WNW	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S	N/K	21-May, 00:06
	1-3km WSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 03:51
	3-6km NE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	20-May, 21:30
	3-6km NE	Recorded	3	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	20-May, 22:00
	3-6km NE	Recorded	3	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	20-May, 23:05
	2-4km NE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	21-May, 02:33
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 21:45
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	20-May, 21:59
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 22:10
	3-6km NNE	Recorded	5	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-May, 23:10
	3-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-May, 23:12
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 00:42
	5-7km N	Recorded	6	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	21-May, 02:36
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	21-May, 02:54
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 02:58
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-May, 02:58
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km SW	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	21-May, 09:00
	1-2km S	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	21-May, 13:30-14:00
	5-6km S	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 13:30-14:00
	3-4km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 13:30-14:00
	1-2km SW	Heard	135	Shot		Small arms	21-May, 14:00-14:30
	1-2km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 14:00

¹⁰ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras 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 technical monitoring officers, 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 technical limitations and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol/camera and assessed to be the same are entered only once.

	2-3km SW	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	21-May, 14:00-14:30
	2-3km SW	Heard	14	Shot		Small arms	21-May, 14:30-15:00
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km W	Heard	6	Burst		Small arms	21-May, 10:30
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	1-2km SE	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	21-May, 12:34
Novohryhorivka (non-government-controlled, 61km NE of Donetsk)	10-12km W	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 13:22-13:31
About 3.5km NW of Kaiutyne (non-government-controlled, 47km NE of Donetsk)	5-7km SW	Heard	14	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 14:16-14:29
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	4-6km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	21-May, 13:10
About 2km SE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 10:51
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	5-7km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 13:09-13:11
	5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 14:00
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	4-5km S	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 19:20-19:25
	3-5km SE	Heard	12	Burst		HMG	20-May, 19:21-19:22
	4-5km S	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 20:12-20:13
	3-5km SE	Heard	10	Burst		HMG	20-May, 20:23-20:24
	4-5km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 20:25-20:26
	4-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 20:29
	3-4km SW	Heard	14	Burst		HMG	20-May, 20:31-20:33
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	4-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 21:00
	3-5km W	Heard	38	Burst		HMG	20-May, 20:48-20:51
	3-5km W	Heard	3	Explosion	Impact	N/K	20-May, 20:48-20:51
Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	2-3km W	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	20-May, 21:40
	7-12km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-May, 19:12
W edge of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W)	3-5km NW	Heard	8	Shot	Assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement	Small arms	21-May, 11:45-11:55

of Luhansk)	6-8km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	area Undetermined (assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area)	N/K	21-May, 11:55	11:45-
	6-8km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 11:55	11:45-
WNW edge of Pervomaisk (non- government- controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	12-14km WSW	Heard	11	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 13:40	13:26-
	12-14km WSW	Heard	20	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 14:40	14:18-
About 2km SW of Molodizhne (non- government- controlled, 63km W of Luhansk)	10-12km SW	Heard	17	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-May, 12:20	12:14-

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹¹



¹¹The 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).