

Daily Report 240/2020

8 October 2020¹

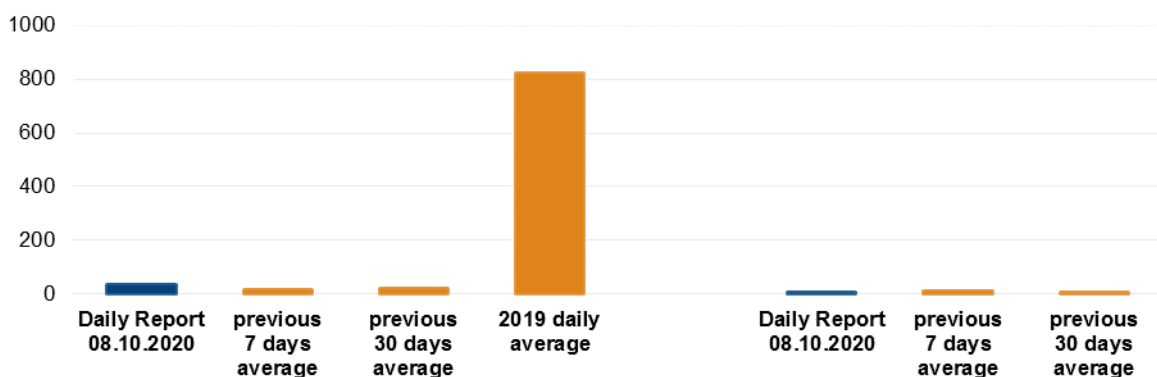
Summary

- The SMM recorded 36 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and two in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded three ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and one in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske, and saw people during the daytime inside former military positions inside the Zolote disengagement area.
- The SMM saw weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including ten multiple launch rocket systems at three different locations, some of which were training areas.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 pandemic, including at an entry-exit checkpoint in Luhansk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including twice at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Kremynets, Donetsk region.

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 7 October 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

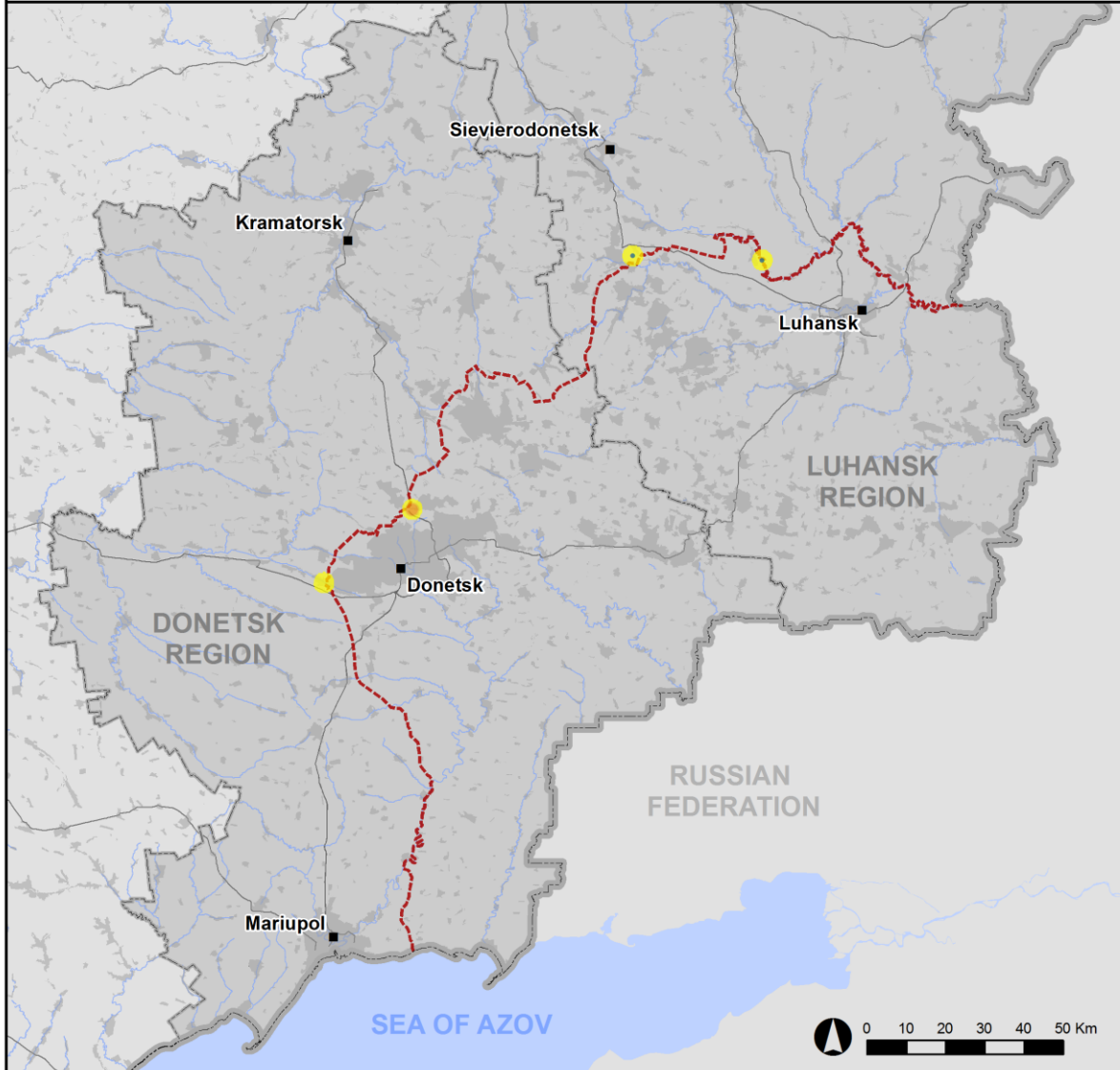
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

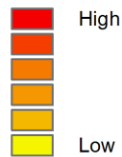


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 7 October 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: 08/10/2020

In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 36 ceasefire violations, the majority of which were in an area south of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the SMM recorded three ceasefire violations, all undetermined explosions.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded two ceasefire violations – both undetermined explosions, one south of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below) and the other in an area south-east of Krasnyi Lyman (non-government-controlled, 30km north-west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded one ceasefire violation, in an area east of the aforementioned disengagement area.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, from 00:01 on 27 July until the end of the reporting period, the SMM has so far recorded a total of 1,557 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 346 explosions, 17 projectiles in flight, seven muzzle flashes, 18 illumination flares and 1,169 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske

On 7 October, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission observed two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) south of the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

During the day on 5 October, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote**, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), spotted two people inside former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces near the area’s north-eastern edge, one about 520m west-south-west and the other about 180m south-west of the area’s north-eastern corner.

During the day on 6 October, inside the disengagement area, an SMM mini-UAV spotted five people in camouflage clothing inside former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces: four near the area’s northern edge and about 100m east of road T-1316, and another near the area’s north-eastern corner.

On 7 October, while positioned in Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km west of Luhansk), the Mission heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 2-4km north-east, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On the same day, while positioned on one of the local roads, about 1.2km north-north-west of the northern edge of the disengagement area, the SMM observed white smoke about 2km west of the disengagement area’s northern edge, assessed as caused by a wildfire, and a fire brigade driving from Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk) away from the fire in the direction of Zolote-4/Rodina.

Also on the same day, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission observed six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), three of whom, accompanied by three people wearing medical protective gear, walked inside the disengagement area up to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

Throughout the day, about 50-500m south of the southern edge of the disengagement area, the SMM observed 30 workers with heavy equipment conducting works, including laying asphalt on the sides of road T-1316 and constructing a metal frame, apparently for a building of some kind.

On the same day, while positioned at three locations near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the Mission observed a calm situation.

Withdrawal of weapons

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

The SMM saw 41 weapons in violation of withdrawal lines, all in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including ten multiple launch rocket systems at three different locations (two of which were in a training area in Donetsk region).

The Mission also saw 78 weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, 73 of which in training areas in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (for further information, see the tables below).

Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁵

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (for further information, see the table below).

SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable construction work south of the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote, north of Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk), and near Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), south of the bridge in Shchastia.

About 200m north-west of the Ukrainian Armed Forces checkpoint north of the bridge in Shchastia, at the junction of roads H-21 and T-1309, the SMM observed 14 workers with heavy equipment conducting groundworks.

The Mission also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable railway inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance in Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk); maintenance of power lines in the area of Zolote-4/Rodina; repairs to water infrastructure near non-government-controlled Pankivka (16km north of Luhansk) and Krasnyi Lyman; and demining activities near government-controlled Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk) and Hirske (63km west of Luhansk).

While monitoring adherence to a localised ceasefire near Krasnyi Lyman, the SMM heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 3-5km south-east.

⁵ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. On 7 October, while positioned on the western edge of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), the Mission heard 32 ceasefire violations (all bursts and shots) within a 5km radius of the DFS.

Measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints to counter the COVID-19 pandemic

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) in Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational.

While at the EECP at about 9:00 and 10:50, the SMM saw 180 people (mixed genders and ages) entering government-controlled areas and 70 people (mixed genders and ages) traveling in the opposite direction. The SMM also saw a golf cart operating between the new section of the bridge and the EECP.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Dnipro, Kharkiv, 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 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, see [SMM Daily Report 5 October 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.

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.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapons	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
06/10/2020	7	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	At an industrial compound near Sadovyi (57km south-west of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
	1	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	In a training area near Miusynsk (62km south-west of Luhansk)	
	5	Towed howitzer (probable 2A65 <i>Msta-B</i> , 152mm or 2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i> , 152mm)	Near Vilkhivka (40km east of Donetsk)	
	17	Tank (nine probable T-72 and eight undetermined type)	In a training area near Novoselivka (37km north-east of Donetsk)	
	2	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	In a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	3	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		
	2	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	Near Bile (22km west of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
4	Towed howitzer (2A18M, D-30A <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)			

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
07/10/2020	5	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	At a railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol
Non-government-controlled areas				
06/10/2020	9	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	In a training area near Miusynsk (62km south-west of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
	12	Towed howitzer (D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		
	4	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35, <i>Strela-10</i>)		
	38	Tank (16 T-72, 12 T-64 and ten type undetermined)	In a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	10	Tank (eight T-72B, one probable T-72BM and one T-72B (model 1989))	In a training area near Pokrovka (41km east of Donetsk)	

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
05/10/2020	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	Near Zolote (60km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
06/10/2020	3	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
07/10/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70)	At a checkpoint near Karlivka (25km north-west of Donetsk)	Patrol

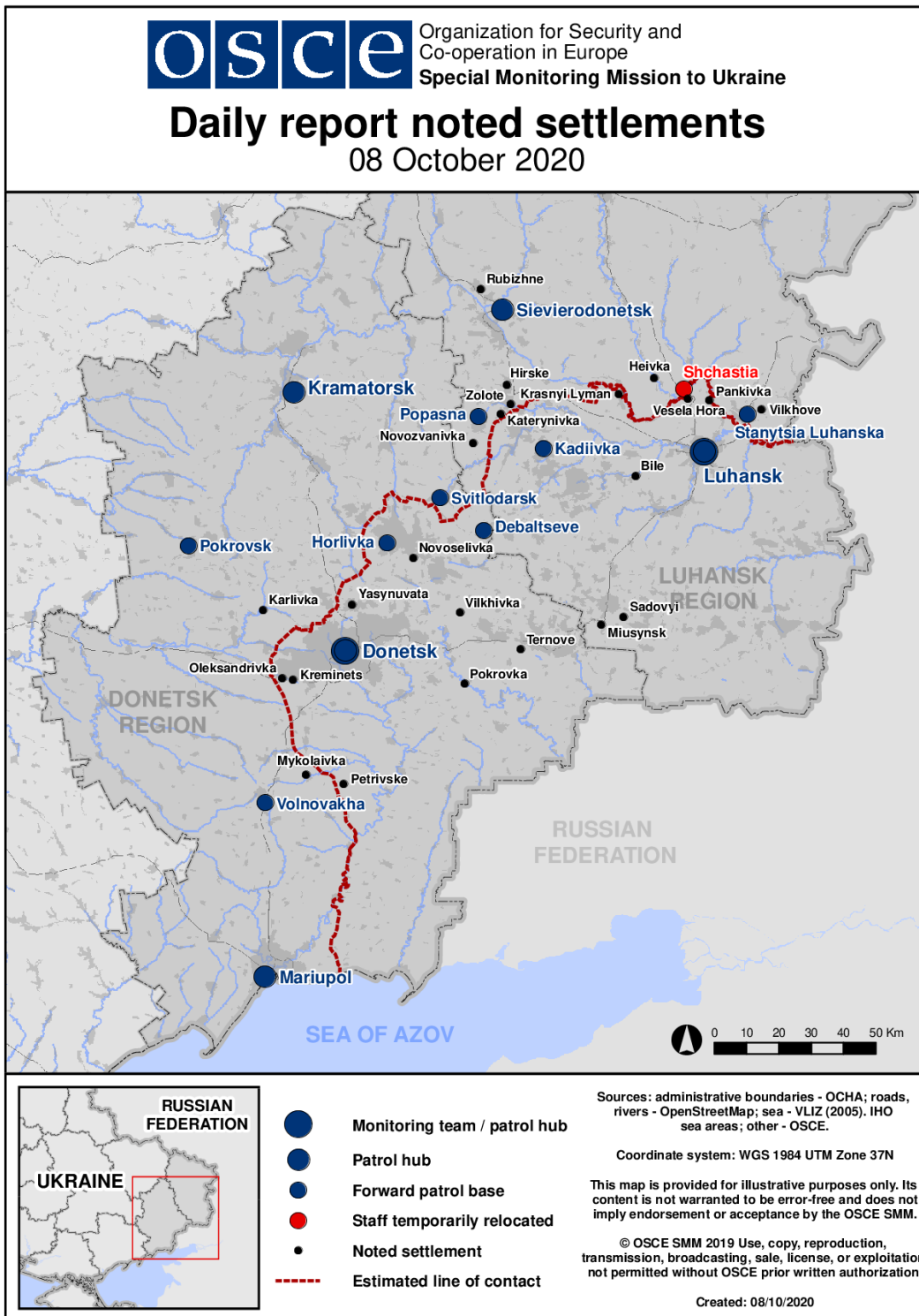
Table of ceasefire violations as of 7 October 2020⁷

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

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	1-3km N	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	6-Oct, 23:24
	1-3km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	7-Oct, 00:49
	1-3km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	7-Oct, 01:27
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	12	Burst		HMG	7-Oct, 09:23
	2-3km SW	Heard	20	Shot		Small arms	7-Oct, 13:26
S edge of Krasnyi Lyman (non-government-controlled, 30km NW of Luhansk)	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Oct, 11:15
Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km W of Luhansk)	2-4km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Oct, 12:02

⁷ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by 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.

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions⁸



⁸ 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 have 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 also patrols in this settlement during daylight hours).