

Daily Report 242/2020

10 October 2020¹

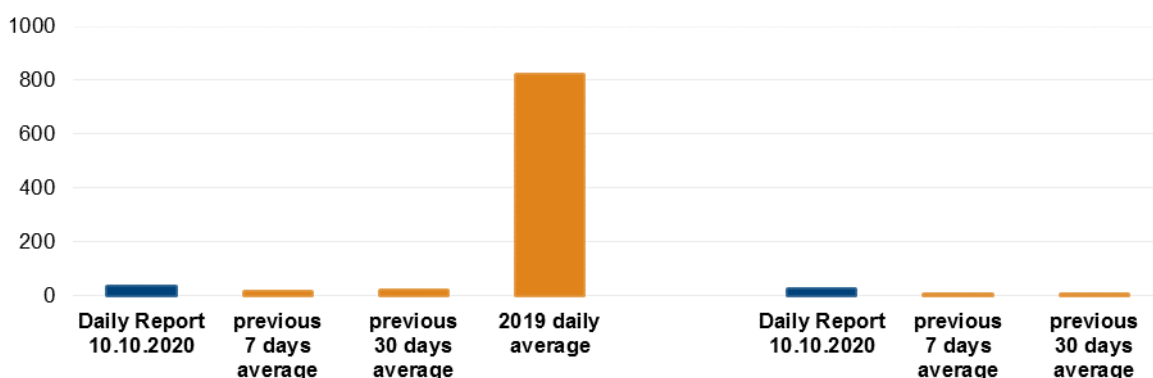
Summary

- The SMM recorded 26 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and eight in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded four ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and none in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. During evening and night hours, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle spotted a person inside the disengagement area near Zolote.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure and a transfer of funds in Luhansk region.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 pandemic, including at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka, Donetsk region.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



Map of recorded ceasefire violations

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 9 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.

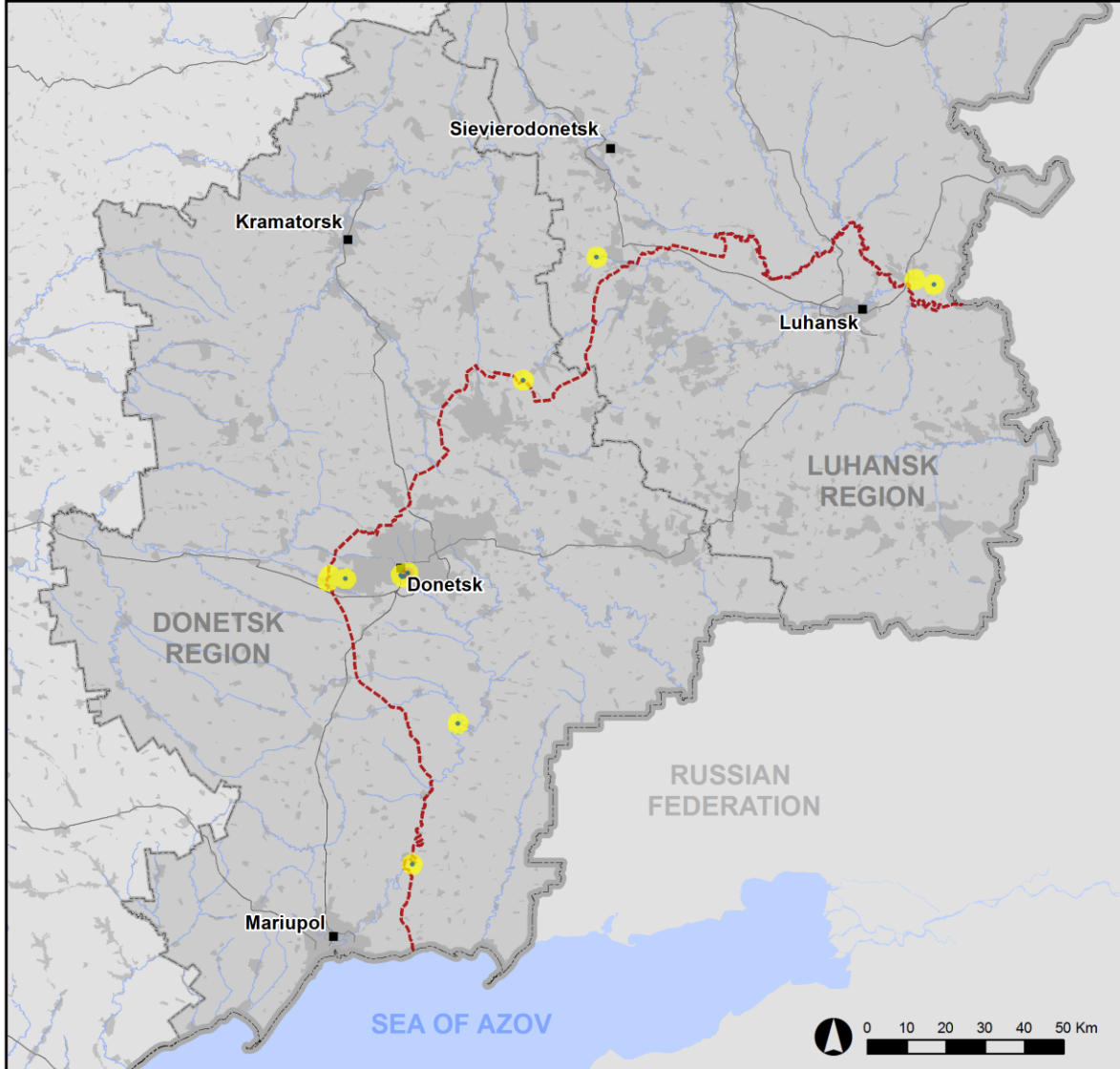
³ Including explosions

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

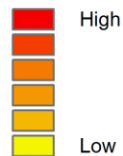


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 9 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: 10/10/2020

In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 26 ceasefire violations (including 24 undetermined explosions), the majority of which occurred in areas south of Donetsk city (non-government-controlled). In the [previous reporting period](#), the SMM recorded four ceasefire violations, including three explosions.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded eight ceasefire violations (including two undetermined explosions), most of which in areas east-north-east of the disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) and one in an area north-west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations.

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 1,595 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 375 explosions, 17 projectiles in flight, seven muzzle flashes, 20 illumination flares and 1,176 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske

On the evening of 8 October, while on the eastern edge of Stanytsia Luhanska, the SMM heard five shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 2-4km south-east, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** but within 5km of its periphery.

On 9 October, inside the disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska, 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).

On the evening of 8 October, in the **disengagement area near Zolote**, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a person inside a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces near the area’s north-east corner.

On the same evening, while on the northern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), the Mission heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 5-7km north-east, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 9 October, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission observed four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), two 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, from about 50-500m south of the southern edge of the disengagement area, the SMM observed 15 workers with heavy equipment conducting works, including laying asphalt on road T-1316. On the western side of road T-1316, about 400m south of the area’s southern edge, the Mission saw three green containers, assessed as for use as offices, and one tubular metallic structure.

On 9 October, 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 a surface-to-air missile system in violation of withdrawal lines in a residential area in Mykolaivka (government-controlled, 57km north of Donetsk) and 20 tanks beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region (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 15 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 near Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 61km north-west of Luhansk) and Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km west of Luhansk); repairs to water infrastructure near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk); assessment and maintenance works on the phenol sludge reservoir near Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km north-east of Donetsk); maintenance of road T-1316 near Zolote; demining activities near government-controlled Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk) and Hirske (63km west of Luhansk).

The SMM also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable a transfer of funds from non-government- to government-controlled areas across the bridge in Shchastia, reportedly related to water payments.

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk).

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

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk) and the corresponding checkpoint of the

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

armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) were operational.

At the EECP, from about 9:00-11:00 and 12:00-15:00, the Mission saw in total six buses, 19 cars and 78 people (mixed genders and ages, including five children, between 5 and 10 years old, mixed genders) entering government-controlled areas and in total seven buses, 17 cars and 80 people (mixed genders and ages, including nine children between 5 and 10 years old, mixed genders and one baby) traveling in the opposite direction.

At the corresponding checkpoint, from about 8:45-12:00 and 14:00-15:00, the SMM saw in total 15 cars and 65 people (37 women and 25 men, mixed ages, and three children, between 3-15 years old traveling towards government-controlled areas and in total ten cars and 73 people (57 women and 12 men, mixed ages, and four children, between two and four years old, mixed genders) entering non-government-controlled areas.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the 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 11:00, the SMM saw in total 50 people (24 women and 26 men, mixed ages) entering government-controlled areas and in total 50 people (25 women and 25 men, mixed 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.

Denial:

- At a checkpoint near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the Mission passage towards government-controlled areas, citing lack of permission from his superiors. While at the checkpoint, the Mission saw two cars and six trucks belonging to an international organisation crossing the checkpoint towards non-government-controlled areas.

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.

Other impediments:

- On two occasions, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near government-controlled Lebedynske (99km south of Donetsk).⁶

⁶ The interference could have originated from anywhere within a radius of kilometres from the UAV's position.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
08/10/2020	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)	In a residential area in Mykolaivka (57km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
09/10/2020	20	Tank	Near of Zatyshne (64km south-west of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
08/10/2020	1	Probable anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	In a residential area in Mykolaivka (57km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near Zaitseve (62km north-east of Donetsk)	
	13	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-variant)		
	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	At a compound near Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	
	3	Infantry fighting vehicles (BMP-variant)	Near Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk)	
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-variant)	Near Troitske (30km north of Donetsk)	
	2	Armoured personnel carrier (one probable BTR-variant)	Near Slavne (26km south-west of Donetsk)	
09/10/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-60)	Near Karlivka (25km north-west of Donetsk)	Patrol

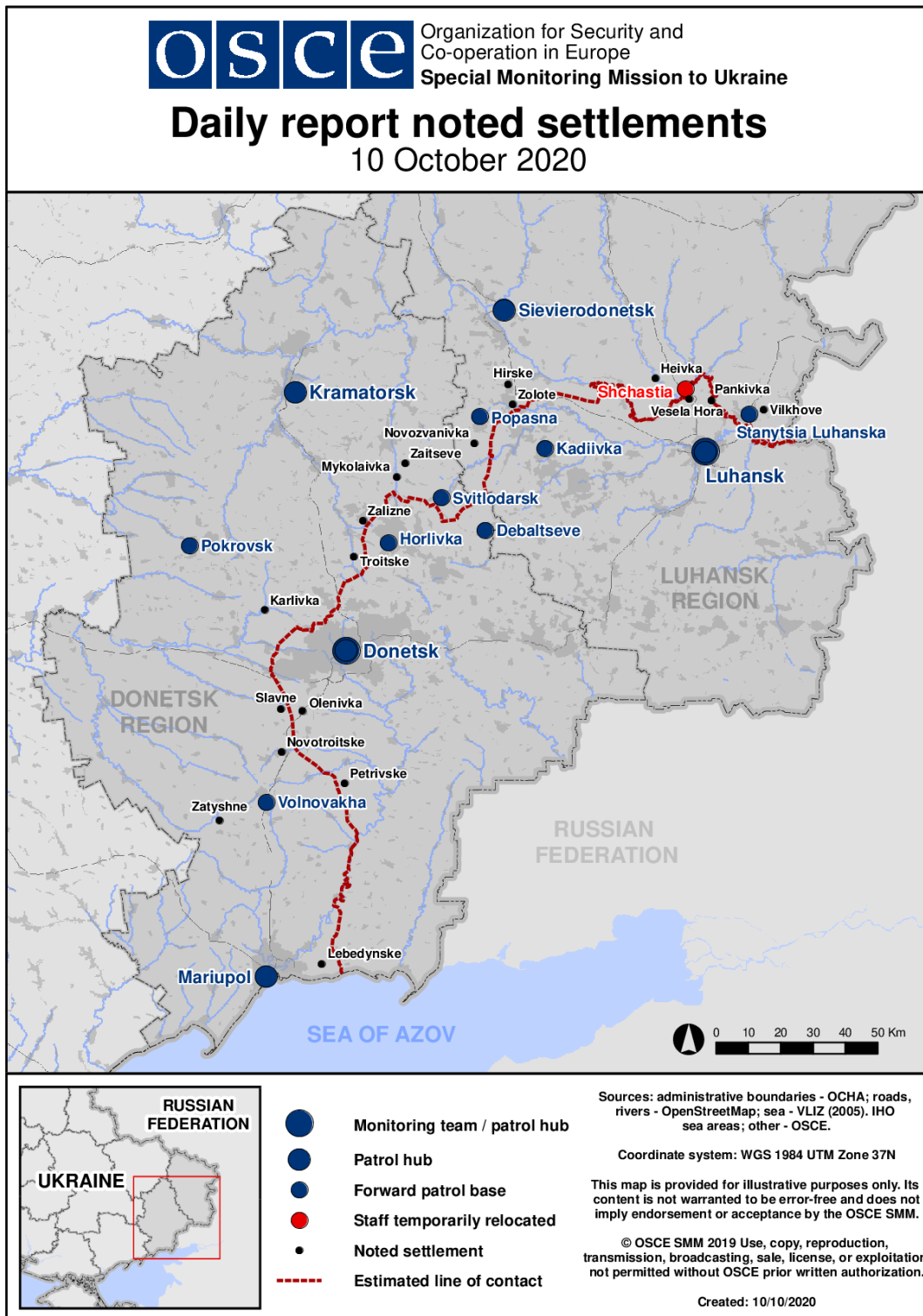
⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 9 October 2020⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 18:21
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	2-3km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	NNE to SSW	N/K	9-Oct, 18:17
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	9-Oct, 18:28
1.7km NNW of Rozdolne (non-government-controlled, 46km SE of Donetsk)	2-3km WSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 10:46
Donetsk city centre (non-government-controlled)	5-7km S	Heard	12	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 11:10-11:52
	5-7km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 12:09
	5-7km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 12:16
	5-7km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 12:28
	5-7km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 12:38
Staromykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 15km W of Donetsk)	5-6km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 14:17
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 15:05
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	5-7km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area)	N/K	8-Oct, 20:00
E edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	2-4km SE	Heard	5	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	8-Oct, 21:09
	2-4km SE	Heard	1	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	8-Oct, 21:18
300m N of Stanytsia Luhanska Bridge (15km NE of Luhansk)	7-10km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Oct, 09:29

⁸ 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 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 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).