

Daily Report 246/2020

15 October 2020¹

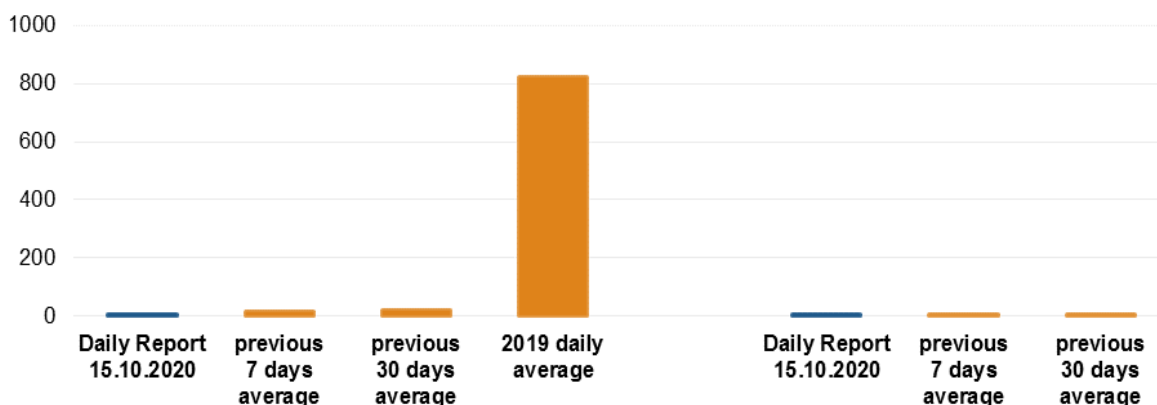
Summary

- The SMM recorded one ceasefire violation in Donetsk region and none in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded no ceasefire violations in either 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 (UAV) spotted people inside the latter two disengagement areas.
- An SMM long-range UAV spotted three cargo trains in a border area outside government control in Luhansk region.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- In Kyiv, the SMM monitored a public gathering related to Defender of Ukraine Day.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



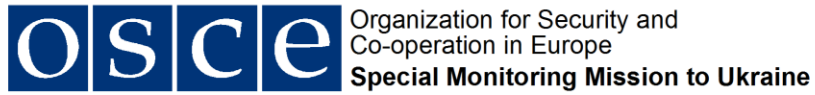
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 14 October 2020. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

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.

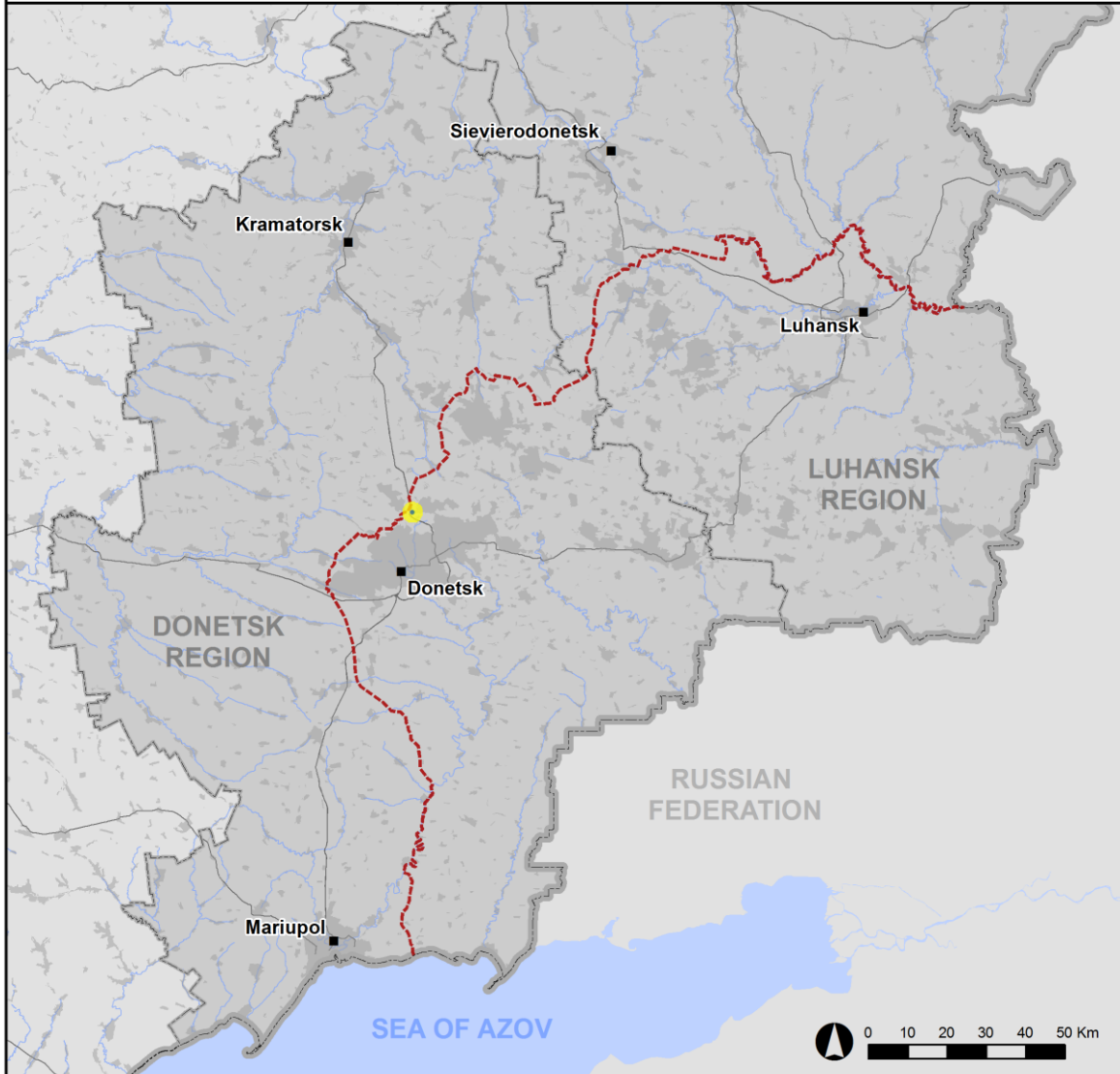
³ Including explosions

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

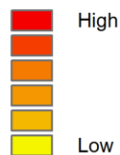
Map of recorded ceasefire violations



Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 14 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: 15/10/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation – an undetermined explosion in an area south of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below). In [the previous reporting period](#), it recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.

The Mission recorded no ceasefire violations in Luhansk region in the current or [previous reporting period](#). The last time the SMM recorded ceasefire violations in the region was between the evenings of 11 and 12 October (see [SMM Daily Report 12 October 2020](#)).

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 1,621 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 399 explosions, 17 projectiles in flight, seven muzzle flashes, 21 illumination flares and 1,177 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske

On the night of 13-14 October, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted a person inside a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces south of the railway tracks, about 900m west of road T-1316. The same UAV spotted two people inside a former position of the armed formations near the disengagement area's eastern edge, about 1.4km north of its south-eastern corner.

On 14 October, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them), two of whom walked inside the disengagement area up to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

On the same day, about 400-500m south of the southern edge of the disengagement area, the SMM saw 12 workers with heavy equipment constructing sidewalks along road T-1316.

On the evening of 13 October, inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted three people inside a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces near the area's southern edge, about 1.5km east of its western edge. The same UAV also spotted four people inside two former positions of the armed formations near the area's south-eastern corner.

On 14 October, while positioned at three locations near the disengagement area, 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 Mission saw six howitzers in violation of withdrawal lines in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region (for further information, see the table below).

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

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Luhansk region and in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region (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.

At a checkpoint of the armed formations about 3km south-east of the bridge, the Mission observed 30 workers with heavy equipment erecting metal structures and conducting groundwork.

The Mission also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to water infrastructure near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk) as well as maintenance of road T-1316 inside the disengagement area near Zolote and road H-21 south of Shchastia.

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at one location near the station, the Mission heard one undetermined explosion within a 5km radius of the DFS.

Border areas outside government control

On the night of 13-14 October, at the railway station in Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, 65km south-east of Luhansk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted a cargo train with about 50 freight cars arrive at the railway station from a westerly direction, after which its engine was disconnected and hooked up to another set of freight cars, which were then seen departing westwards. Soon afterwards, the UAV spotted another cargo train with about 50 freight cars arrive at the station from the south-east, from the direction of the international border. About 15 minutes later, the UAV observed this train stop at the station and its engine being connected to the eastbound end of the above-mentioned set of freight cars that had been seen arriving at the station from a westerly direction.

Gathering related to Defender of Ukraine Day in Kyiv

On 14 October in Kyiv, the SMM monitored a peaceful gathering of about 3,500 people (mostly men, 20-40 years old, several hundred women, 20-40 years old and teenagers), 200-300 of which (predominantly men) dressed in military uniform, in Shevchenko Park on the occasion of Defender of Ukraine Day. Thereafter, the Mission saw the crowd march to the Presidential Office Building at 11 Bankova Street. The SMM noted some of the participants carried banners of various movements, such as *Right Sector*, *Svoboda* or *Azov Regiment*, or messages relaying conservative values, as well as chanted patriotic slogans and called out messages critical of the Government. The Mission saw that one of the banners contained an anti-Semitic message and also saw a group of about 100 men (in their twenties and thirties) in the gathering, some of

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

whom were carrying a banner with "White Lives Matter" written in Ukrainian on it. The SMM also observed in total about 400 law enforcement officers present.

The SMM continued monitoring in Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Dnipro, Kharkiv and Chernivtsi.

***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 12 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 weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/10/2020	2	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	Near Bile (22km west of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
	4	Probable towed howitzer (D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
13/10/2020	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	In residential areas of Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		
	3	Probable infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	Near Novozvanivka	
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/10/2020	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	Near Styla (34km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV

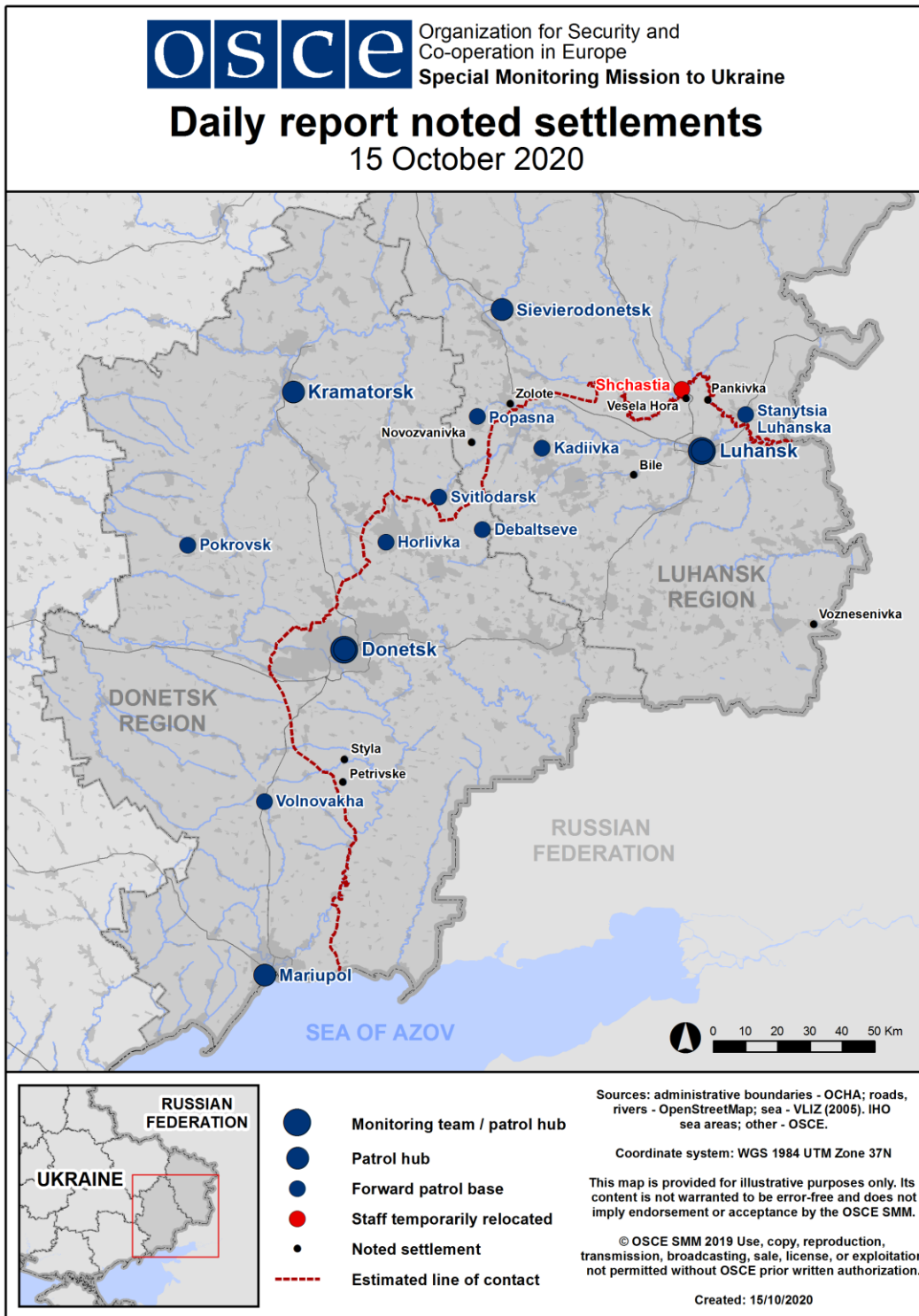
⁶ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 14 October 2020⁷

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Oct, 09:20

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).