

Daily Report 269/2020

11 November 2020¹

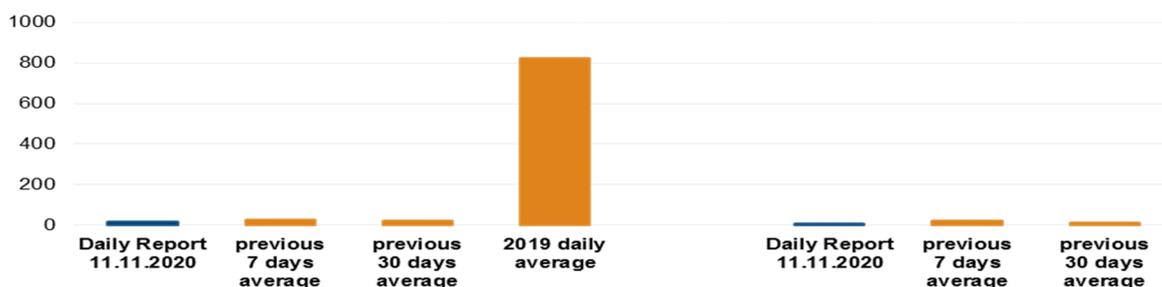
Summary

- The SMM recorded no ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and 14 in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded eight ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and 24 in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske and spotted people in the latter area in the daytime, and mines inside and near the area.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- It saw that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Stanytsia Luhanska and its corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations were operational.
- The Mission saw that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia had opened and that the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations and the checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka were closed.
- The SMM saw for the first time anti-tank mines near Zaichenko, Donetsk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a border crossing point outside government control near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk), Luhansk region.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 10 November 2020. All times are in Eastern European 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.

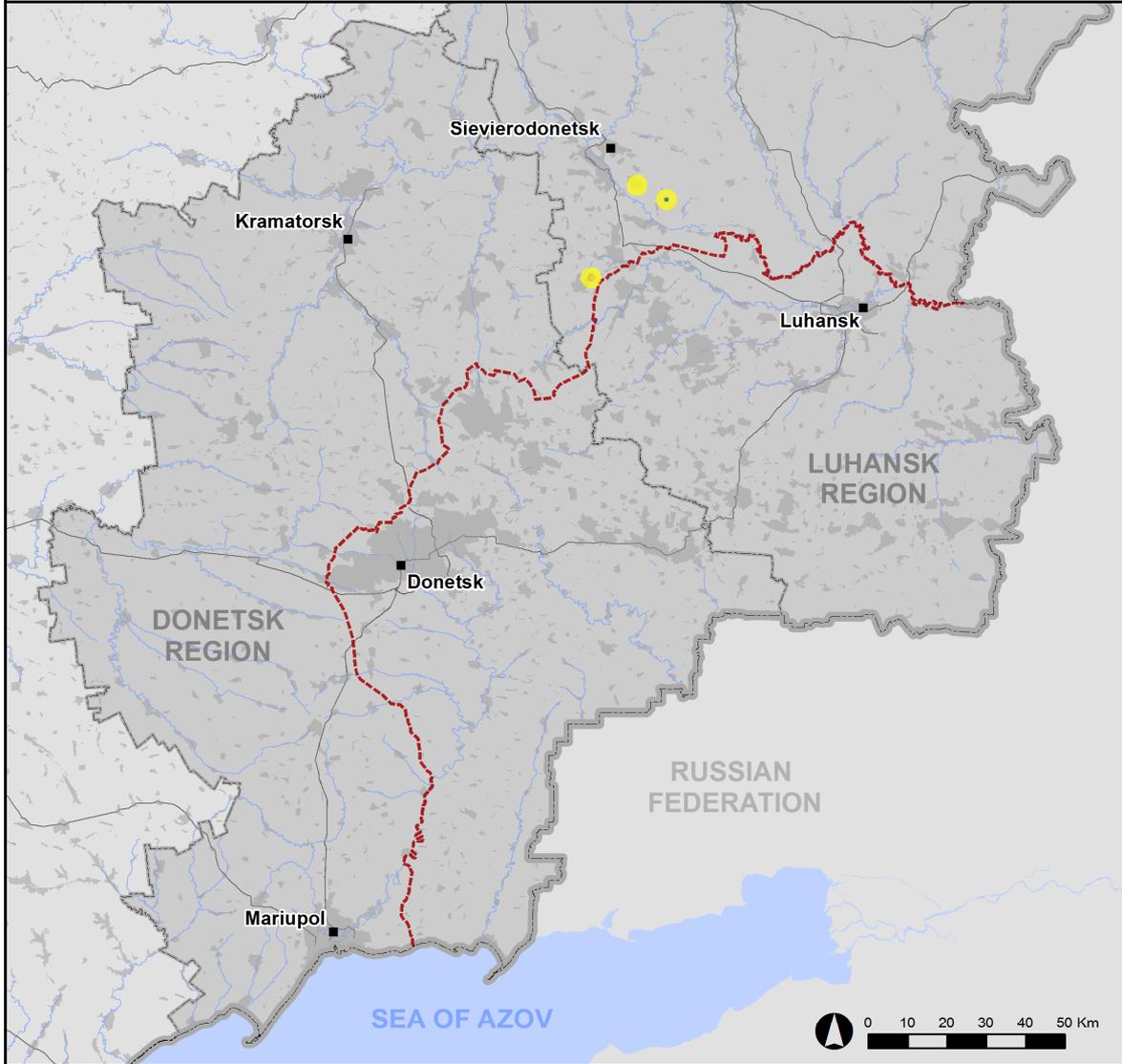
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

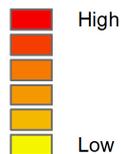


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 10 November 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: 11/11/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. In the [previous reporting period](#), it recorded eight ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 14 ceasefire violations, including one undetermined explosion, in an area east of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk) and at northerly directions of Holubivske (non-government-controlled, 51km west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 24 ceasefire violations in the region.

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 2,158 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 760 explosions, 45 projectiles in flight, 26 muzzle flashes, 23 illumination flares and 1,304 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw three members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw eight members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), three of whom entered the disengagement area to escort a civilian (see below).

Outside the area, about 250-400m south of its southern edge, the Mission saw in total seven workers installing electricity cables and two benches next to road T-1316.

On 9 November, inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted four people in camouflage clothing, assessed as members of the armed formations, in a former position of the armed formations near the area’s south-eastern corner.

On the same day, inside the area, about 800m south of the area’s north-eastern corner, the same mini-UAV [again](#) spotted about 16 anti-tank mines close to the area’s eastern edge and [again](#) spotted about 60 anti-tank mines in a field about 200m west of the area’s eastern edge and about 250m north-west of the area’s south-eastern corner. Outside the area, about 200m east of its eastern edge and 250m south-west of Petrivske, an SMM mini-UAV [again](#) spotted about 60 anti-tank mines. All those mines were assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

On the morning of 10 November, on two separate occasions while positioned on the western edge of Petrivske, the Mission saw two cars (with “DPR” plates) carrying two men (in their forties) in military-type clothing each driving west on the road between Petrivske and Viktorivka (non-government-controlled, 42km south-west of Donetsk) and turning north on a dirt road at the western edge of Petrivske. Later in the morning, the SMM saw one of the abovementioned cars with two men in military-type clothing driving in the opposite direction.

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

The SMM spotted 17 weapons in violation of withdrawal lines and 35 weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage areas. All weapons spotted were in two training areas in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region (for further information, see the table below).

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

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles on both sides of the contact line (for further information, see the table below).

Presence of mines near Zaichenko, Donetsk region

On 9 November, about 800m north-west-north of Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk), about 15m north of road T-0519, a mini-UAV spotted for the first time a mine warning sign (a yellow square with black edges with 'mines' written on it in Cyrillic). About 5m further north, the same UAV spotted for the first time a minefield with eight anti-tank mines (probably TM-62) laid in two rows parallel to the road, assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

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 (see above), 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 3km south-east of the bridge, at the checkpoint of the armed formations, the Mission saw about ten workers finalizing metal structures, assessed as for use as a pedestrian corridor, a vehicle transit point and a document control booth, and constructing a total of twelve toilets on both sides of the road. The SMM also saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) planting mine warning signs (with 'Stop Mines' written in Cyrillic on a red background) west of road H-21. The Mission saw that seven such signs had already been planted west of the road.

The SMM also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable railway inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk); repairs to power lines near Donetskyi (non-government-controlled, 49km west of Luhansk); maintenance of road H-21 south of Shchastia; and demining of agricultural fields near Hirske (government-controlled, 63km west of Luhansk) and Orikhove (government-controlled, 57km north-west of Luhansk).

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

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

Border areas outside government control

At a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk) for about ten minutes, the Mission saw four people (two women and two men, mixed ages) entering Ukraine and two people (a woman and a man, both in their thirties) travelling in the opposite direction. After five minutes, a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.*

Measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) was closed.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational. It also noted that the EECPs in Zolote and Shchastia had opened; however, the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations near Zolote and Shchastia were closed.

While at the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska at 11:00 and 14:00, the SMM saw 159 people (48 women and 111 men, mixed ages) queuing to enter government-controlled areas and 181 people (60 women and 121 men, mixed ages) queuing to travel in the opposite direction. During its presence, the Mission saw a golf cart operating between the EECP and the new section of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.⁷

While at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the bridge, between 10:00-12:00 and between 14:00-14:40, the SMM saw 36 people (19 women and 17 men, mixed ages) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and 21 people (ten men and 11 women, mixed ages) queuing in the opposite direction.

While at the EECP in Zolote from 07:18-15:00, the SMM saw one man (in his sixties) and one car carrying a man (age unknown) passing through the EECP but later returning to government-controlled areas. Inside the disengagement area, on road T-1316, about 330m north of the checkpoint, the Mission saw three members of the armed formations and a car and a man (in his fifties) carrying a bag who told the SMM that he wanted to cross towards non-government-controlled areas. Later, the Mission saw the man returning to government-controlled areas. A representative of the SBGS informed the SMM that both men would have to self-isolate for a period of 14 days.

While at the EECP in Shchastia from 07:50-14:40, the SMM saw a shuttle bus transporting ten people (four women, four men, mixed ages, a girl and a boy) towards non-government-controlled areas. Later, the Mission saw all of these people return to government-controlled areas. A representative of the SBGS informed the SMM that the abovementioned people would have to self-isolate for a period of 14 days.

⁷ Notice about the EECP's temporary closure from 15 October to 31 October 2020 was published on the website of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 13 October. On 28 October, the Ukrainian Armed Forces published on their official Facebook page that the temporary closure of the EECP had been extended until 15 November 2020. On 8 November, the Ukrainian Armed Forces published on their official Facebook page that all EECPs in Donetsk and Luhansk regions would be reopened starting from 10 November 2020.

SMM observed a calm situation in Kherson region

On 8 and 9 November, the SMM observed a calm situation in Kherson region: at an SBGS security post in Valok (188km south-east of Kherson) and a checkpoint near Chonhar (163km south-east of Kherson), along the coast of the Sea of Azov and the shores of Sivash Lake, and in Henichesk (176km east of Kherson) and nearby villages.

The SMM continued monitoring in 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 below). 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 border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the Mission to leave the area five minutes after the arrival of the patrol.

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:

- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as probably caused by jamming, on two occasions while flying over areas near Vesele (non-government-controlled, 9km north-west of Donetsk).⁸

⁸ The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAV's positions

Tables of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
09/11/2020	8	Towed howitzer (<i>D-30 Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	8	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		
	1	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	In a training area near Shymshynivka (27km south-west of Luhansk)	

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
09/11/2020	15	Tank (one T-64 Bulat, three T-72, eleven T-64)	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk), where also 32 infantry fighting vehicles (20 BMP-1 and 12 BMP-2), 11 armoured personal carriers (nine MT-LB and two MT-LB M with anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)) and a target and acquisition radar (1RL134, P-19 <i>Danube</i>) were observed. ⁹	Mini-UAV
	8	Mortar (2B11 <i>Sani</i> , 120mm)		
	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)		
	11	Tank (T-72)	In a training area near Shymshynivka (27km south-west of Luhansk) where also 28 armoured personal carriers (26 MT-LB and six MT-LB M with anti-aircraft guns (ZU-23, 23mm)), a combat engineering vehicle (IMR-2) and a mine clearing vehicle (UR-07 <i>Peresortirovka</i>) was observed.	

Table of indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone¹⁰

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
10/11/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-60)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	Near Shchastia (20km north of Luhansk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
09/11/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Vesela Hora (16km north of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Target and acquisition radar (1RL134, P-19, <i>Danube</i>)	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk)	
10/11/2020	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	In a residential area of Luhansk city	Patrol

⁹ The armoured combat vehicles and anti-aircraft guns mentioned in this section are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

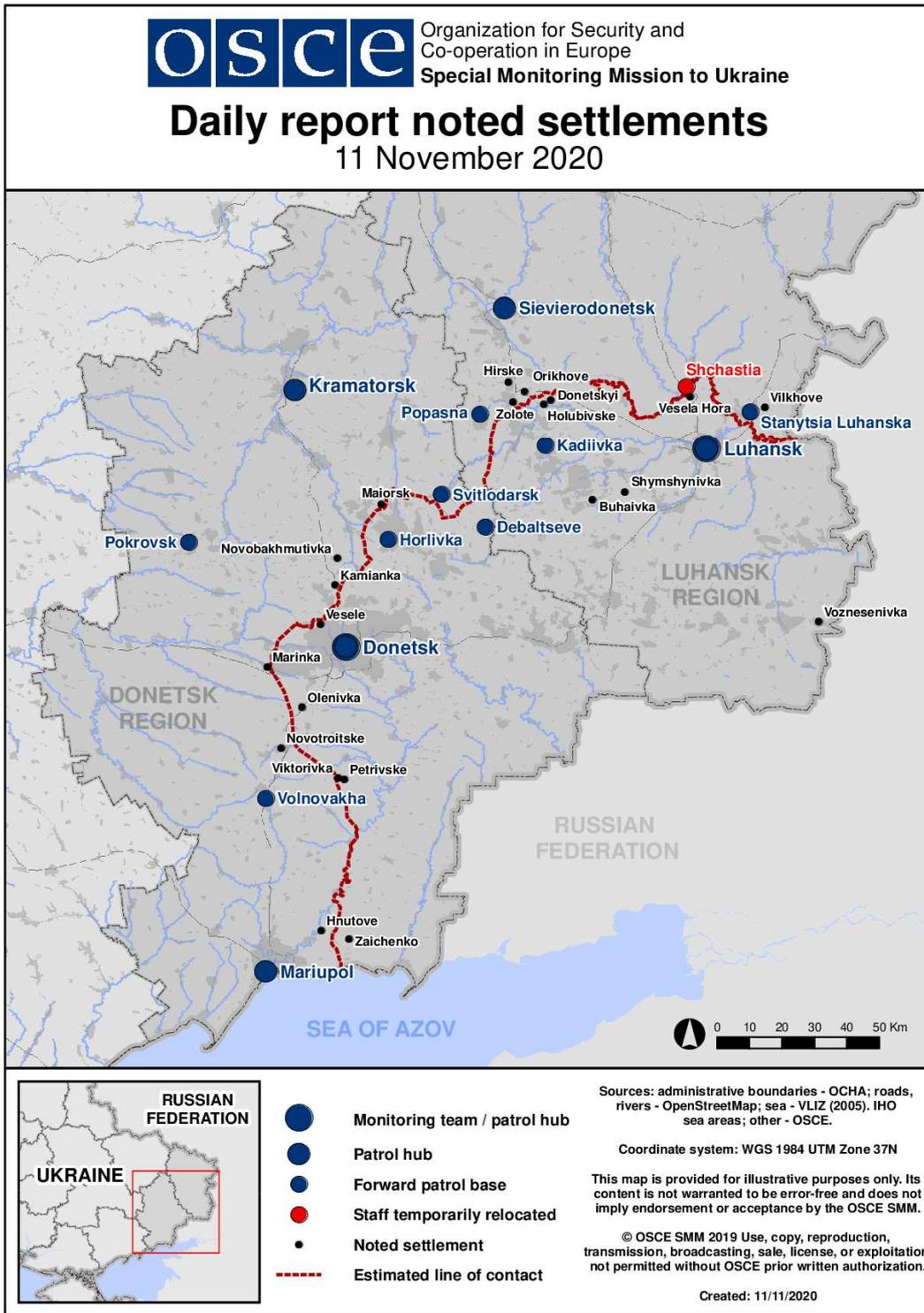
¹⁰ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 10 November 2020¹¹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera on N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash	Undetermined	N/K	9-Nov, 23:54
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash	Undetermined	N/K	9-Nov, 23:57
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash	Undetermined	N/K	10-Nov, 00:07
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash	Undetermined	N/K	10-Nov, 00:17
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	3	Muzzle flash	Undetermined	N/K	10-Nov, 00:30
E edge of Holubivske (non-government-controlled, 51km W of Luhansk)	3km NNE	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	10-Nov, 13:35-13:45
	8-10km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Nov, 13:35-13:45

¹¹ 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 regions¹²



¹² 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).