

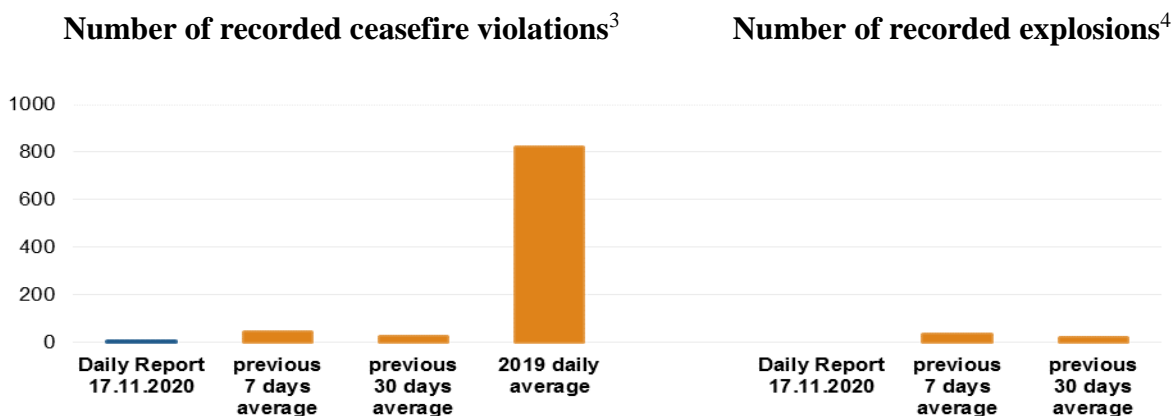
# Daily Report 274/2020

17 November 2020<sup>1</sup>

## Summary

- The SMM recorded two ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and again none in Luhansk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 86 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and none in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske and observed a calm situation in all three areas.
- The SMM observed 20 multiple launch rocket systems in a non-government- and nine tanks in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region, all in violation of withdrawal lines.
- 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 (EECP) and three checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk region and three EECPs and the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Khreshchatytske, Donetsk region.

## Ceasefire violations<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 16 November 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

<sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM cameras in Petrivske and in the parking lot south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were not operational.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

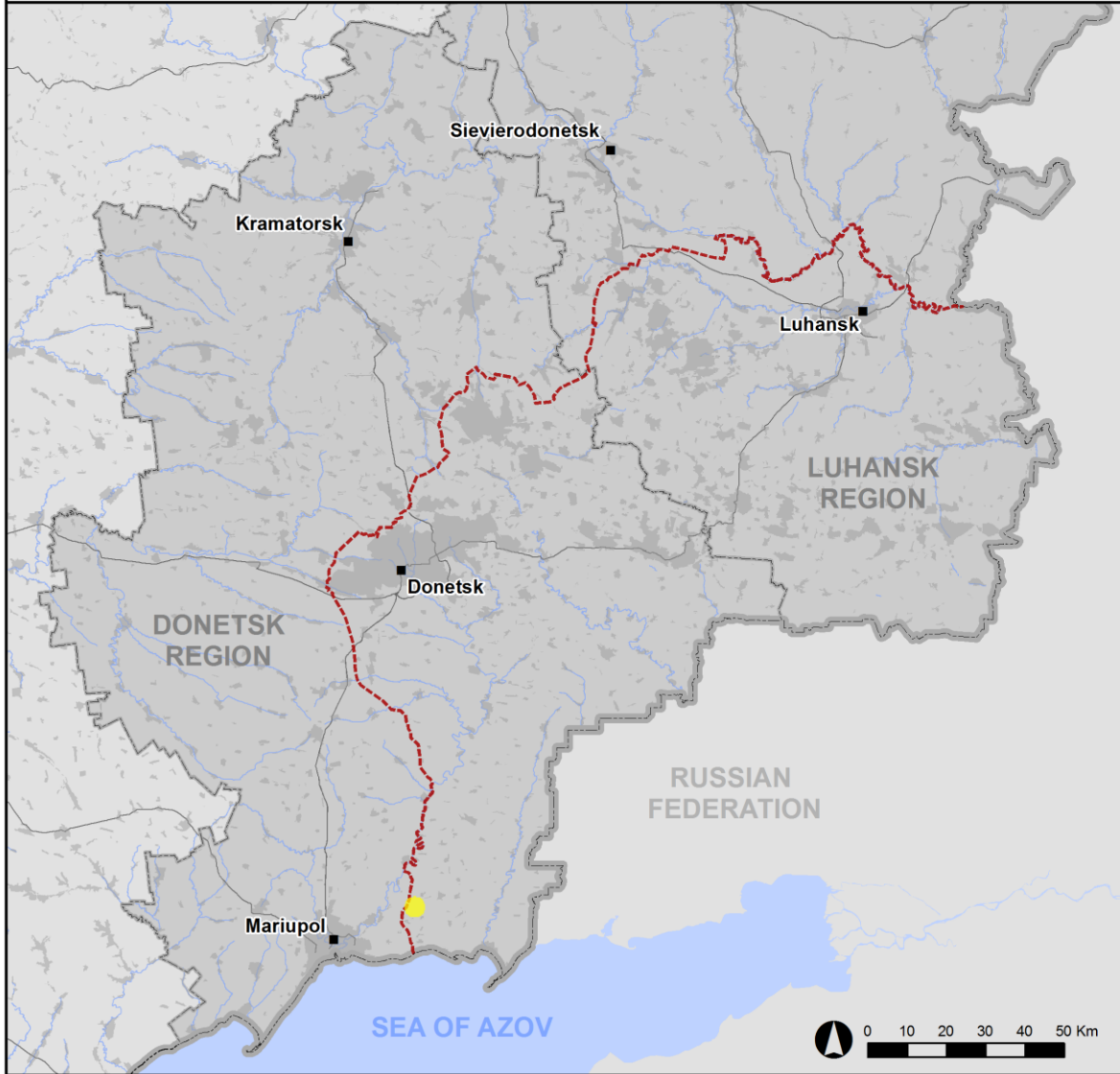
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

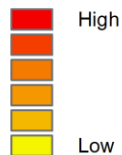


Organization for Security and  
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Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 16 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: 17/11/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded two ceasefire violations – bursts of heavy-machine-gun fire in an area north of Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 86 ceasefire violations in the region, including 78 undetermined explosions, in areas north-east of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations, as in the [previous 24 hours](#). The last time it had recorded ceasefire violations in the region was on the day of 14 November (see [SMM Daily Report 16 November 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 2,424 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 967 explosions, 49 projectiles in flight, 30 muzzle flashes, 26 illumination flares and 1,352 bursts and shots).

### **Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske<sup>5</sup>**

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw 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).

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw a member of the armed formations (wearing an armband with “JCCC” written on it) walk into the disengagement area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then return. Inside the area, about 330m north of its southern edge, the Mission saw two additional members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them).

While positioned north of 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.

In Luhansk region, in violation of withdrawal lines, the SMM saw nine tanks (including one probable) near Loskutivka (government-controlled, 72km west of Luhansk) and 20 multiple launch rocket systems near Khrustalnyi (formerly Krasnyi Luch, non-government-controlled, 56km south-west of Luhansk). Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission observed four multiple launch rocket systems and 21 tanks at train stations in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region (for further information, see the tables below).

### **Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>6</sup>**

<sup>5</sup> Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

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

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

### **Presence of anti-tank mines near Troitske, Donetsk region**

On 13 November, in a field about 3km south-south-west of Troitske (government-controlled, 30km north of Donetsk), an SMM mid-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) again spotted about 50 anti-tank mines, part of a larger minefield consisting of about 320 anti-tank mines, assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces, laid in three rows running north to south (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 10 June 2020](#)).

### **SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure**

The SMM 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 Donetskyyi (non-government-controlled, 49km west of Luhansk); and demining of agricultural fields between government-controlled Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Orikhove (57km north-west of Luhansk).

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station.

### **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 entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) was operational but did not observe any civilian traffic. It also noted that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) was operational and that the checkpoints of the armed formations near Kreminets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) and Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk) were closed.

While at the checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka between 8:20 and 10:00 and between 11:35 and 13:00, the SMM observed in total ten pedestrians (five women and four men, mixed ages, and one child) traveling to government-controlled areas, as well as six vehicles (with in total three women and four men) and in total ten pedestrians (nine women and one man, mixed ages) traveling in the opposite direction.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational. It also noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were operational but that the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote and 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia remained closed.

While at the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska at about 12:15, the SMM observed in total 60 people (40 women and 20 men, mixed ages) queuing to travel to government-controlled areas

and in total 20 people (16 women and four men, mixed ages) queuing to travel in the opposite direction.

While at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge at 10:10, 10:50 and 11:50, the Mission saw in total 20 people (15 women and five men, mixed ages) queuing to travel to government-controlled areas and in total 35 people (27 women and eight men, mixed ages) queuing to travel in the opposite direction.

Additionally, at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote, the Mission observed three members of the armed formations, accompanied by another member of the armed formations (wearing an armband with “JCCC” written on it), inspecting the checkpoint’s containers, pedestrian corridors and parking lot for about 30 minutes. At the checkpoint of the armed formations about 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia, the Mission observed 25 workers with heavy equipment installing metal bars for fences and painting seats located under an awning, reportedly for use as a bus stop.

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 11 November 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.

Delay:

- At a checkpoint of the armed formations about 600m west-south-west of Khreshchatytske (formerly Krasnoarmiiske, non-government-controlled, 86km south of Donetsk), two visibly armed members of the armed formations allowed the SMM passage towards Verkhnoшыrokivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk) only after about 40 minutes, citing “ongoing demining

activities in the area” (for previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report 16 November 2020](#)).

Other impediments:

- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk).<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAV’s positions.

## Table of weapons

### Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
13/11/2020	9	Tank (eight T-64 and one probable)	Near Loskutivka (72km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
13/11/2020	20	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	Near Khrustalnyi (formerly Krasnyi Luch, 56km south-west of Luhansk) (For previous observations, see <a href="#">SMM Daily Report 16 November 2020</a> .)	Mini-UAV

### Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
16/11/2020	4	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	At a train station in Druzhkivka (72km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	21	Tank (T-72)	At a train station in Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk)	

### **Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>8</sup>**

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
13/11/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Loskutivka (72km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		
	1	Armoured recovery vehicle (BREM-1)		
15/11/2020	1	Probable armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	Near Shchastia (20km north of Luhansk)	
16/11/2020	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	In a residential area of Avdiivka (17km north of Donetsk)	Patrol

<sup>8</sup> 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 16 November 2020<sup>9</sup>**

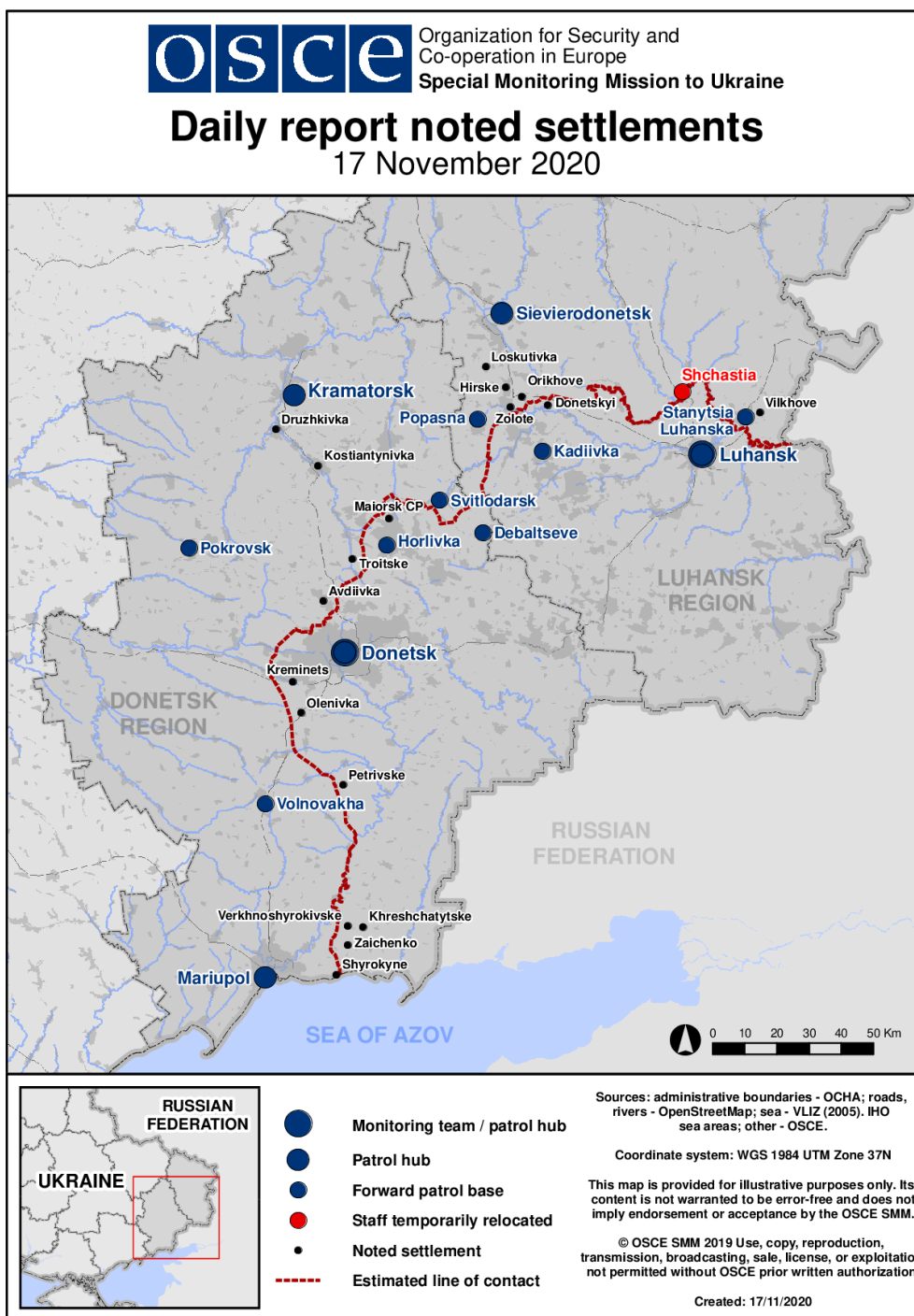
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
About 1km N of Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km S of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	16-Nov, 12:22

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<sup>9</sup> 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 regions<sup>10</sup>



<sup>10</sup> 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).