

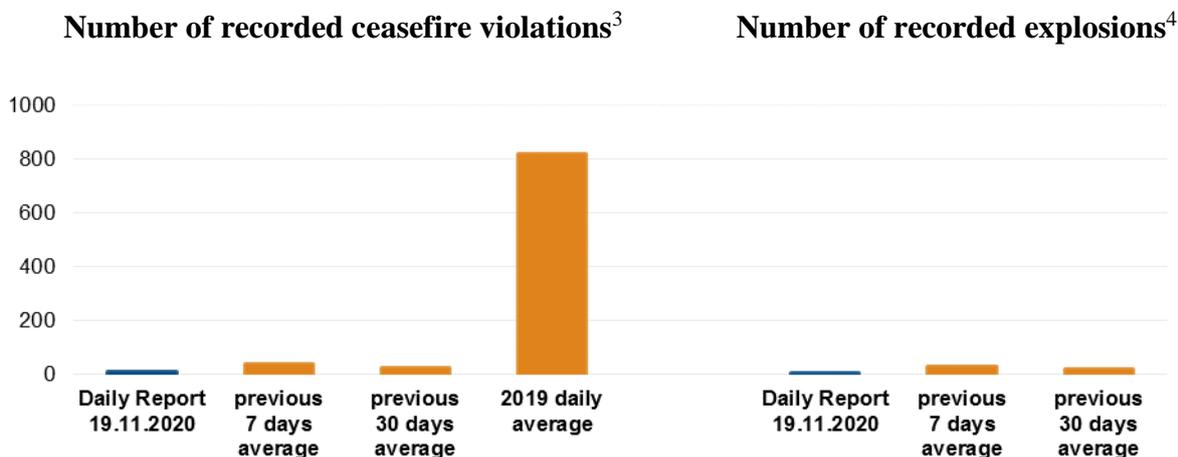
Daily Report 276/2020

19 November 2020¹

Summary

- The SMM recorded seven ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and one in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded two 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 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, including at an entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) and two 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 railway station in government-controlled Kostiantynivka, Donetsk region.*

Ceasefire violations²



Map of recorded ceasefire violations

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 18 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 cameras in Petrivske and in the parking lot south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were not operational.

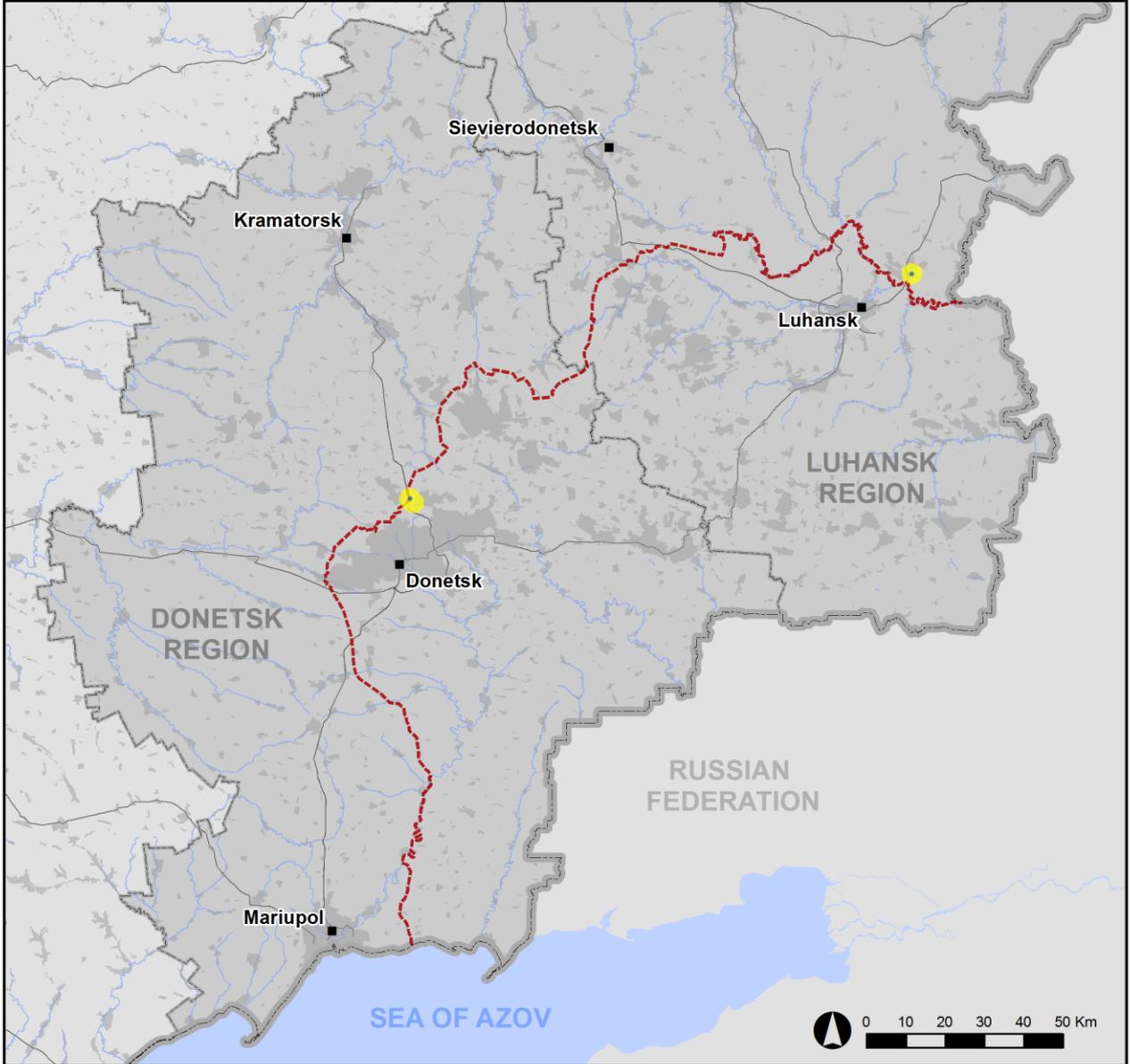
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

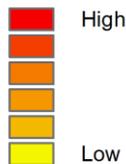


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 18 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: 19/11/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded seven ceasefire violations, including one explosion, at southerly directions of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded two ceasefire violations in the region, also in areas near the DFS.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded one ceasefire violation, an undetermined explosion, in an area east of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations. 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 2,434 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 969 explosions, 51 projectiles in flight, 32 muzzle flashes, 26 illumination flares and 1,356 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 18 November, while positioned 250m south-south-east of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission recorded an undetermined explosion about 3-5km north-east, assessed as outside of the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** but within 5km of its periphery.

Inside the area, the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) south of the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), two of whom walked into the disengagement area to about 350m north of its southern edge, accompanied by the three people wearing protective gear, and then returned.

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.

The SMM saw 33 weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, all but one at two railway stations in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

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

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

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region and in a residential part of 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 railway inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk); restoration of a water intake near Krasnyi Lyman (non-government-controlled, 30km north-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 also continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. On 18 November, while positioned about 1km north-west of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), the Mission recorded four ceasefire violations, all shots of small-arms fire, assessed as within a 5km radius of the station, at around the time when a convoy with DFS workers was driving towards Yasynuvata on road M-04.

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

In Donetsk region, the Mission noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) was operational but did not observe any traffic. It also noted that the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Kreminets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) as well as the checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) remained closed.

In Luhansk region, the SMM noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational.

While at the EECP at about 8:55 and 14:50, the Mission observed in total 218 people (132 women and 86 men, mixed ages) queuing to enter government-controlled areas and 126 people (62 women and 64 men, mixed ages) queuing to travel in the opposite direction. The SMM also saw a golf cart operating between the EECP and the new section of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

While at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the bridge at about 9:30 and 12:00, the Mission saw in total 16 people (nine women and seven men, mixed ages) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and 14 people (seven women and seven men, mixed ages) queuing to travel in the opposite direction.

The Mission noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were operational, while the corresponding checkpoints of the armed

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

formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote and 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia remained closed.

About 3km south-east of the bridge, the Mission observed five workers with heavy equipment installing metal bars for a fence on the eastern edge of the checkpoint.

The SMM continued monitoring in Odessa, Kherson, 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.

Denial:

- At a railway station in Kostiantynivka (government-controlled, 60km north of Donetsk), a Ukrainian Armed Forces officer denied the Mission access to the station, referring to “safety and security reasons”.

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 beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
18/11/2020	2	Self-propelled howitzer (2S3 <i>Akatsiya</i> , 152mm)	At a railway station in Druzhkivka (72km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	18	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		
	2	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	Near Druzhkivka (72km north of Donetsk)	
	1	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		
	10	Tank (T-64)	At a railway station in Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk)	

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
18/11/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	Near Shchastia (20km north of Luhansk)	Patrol
Non-government-controlled areas				
18/11/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	In a residential area in Makiivka (12km north-east of Donetsk)	Patrol

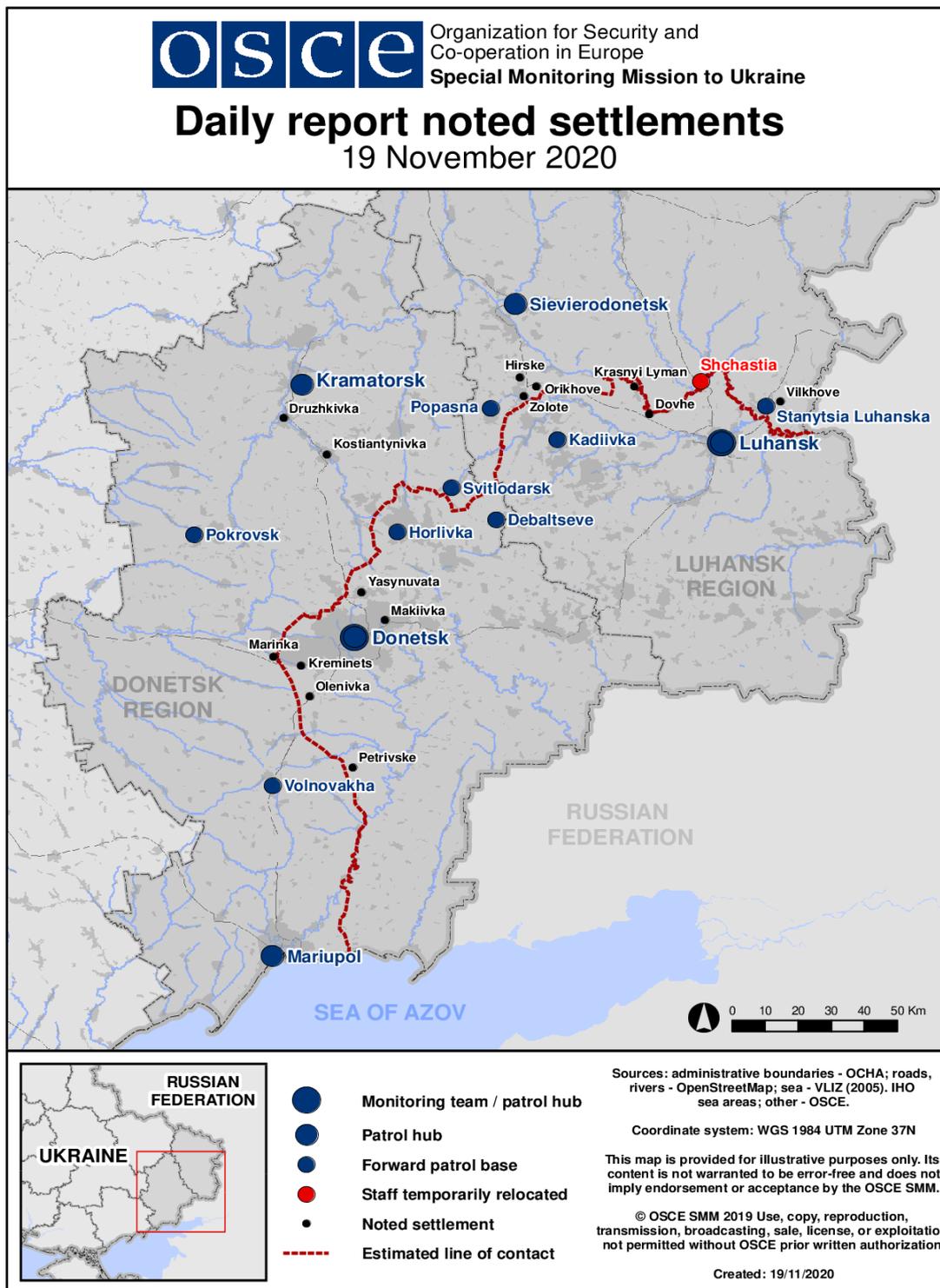
⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 18 November 2020⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	300-500m S	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	17-Nov, 23:04
	300-500m SSE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Nov, 23:06
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km SW	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	18-Nov, 13:51
250m SSE of Stanytsia Luhanska Bridge (15km NE of Luhansk)	3-5km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	18-Nov, 09:45

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).