

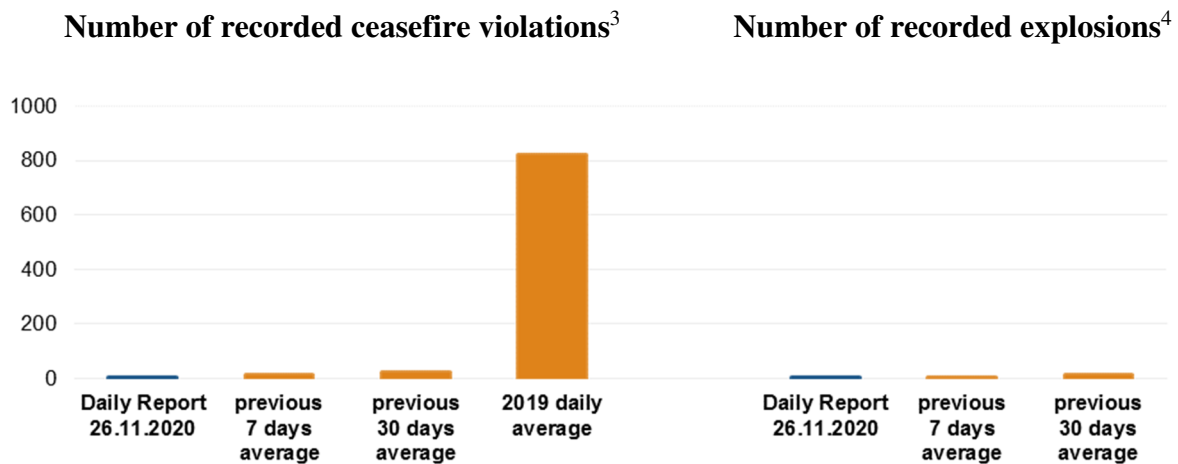
Daily Report 282/2020

26 November 2020¹

Summary

- The SMM recorded one ceasefire violation in Donetsk region and four in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded five ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and none in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to as well as the maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at seven entry-exit checkpoints and five checkpoints of the armed formations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission’s freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 25 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 Zolote were not operational.

³ Including explosions

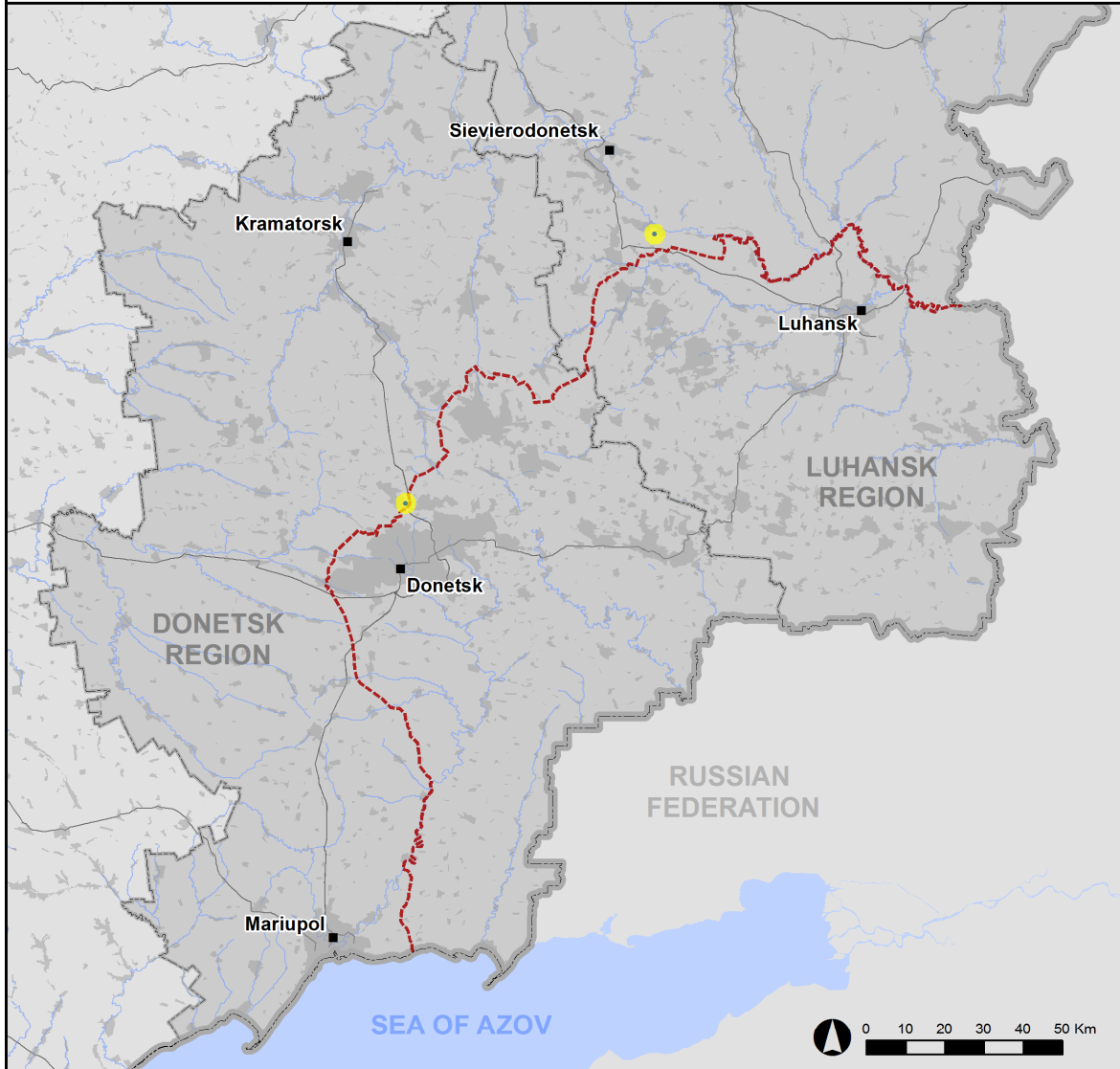
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

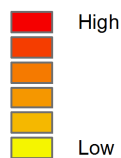


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 25 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: 26/11/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation – an explosion assessed as an airburst – which occurred south-west of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk), in close proximity to it, on the afternoon of 25 November. In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded five ceasefire violations, all within a 5km radius of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded four ceasefire violations, all undetermined explosions, in an area north of Holubivske (non-government-controlled, 51km west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), it 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 2,526 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 997 explosions, 76 projectiles in flight, 33 muzzle flashes, 27 illumination flares and 1,394 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 four 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 Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), two of whom walked into the area to about 350m north of its southern edge, accompanied by three people wearing protective gear, and then returned.

While positioned on the western edge of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM saw a man in military-type clothing with an assault rifle (AK-type) walking west on road C-051532 towards the **disengagement area near Petrivske**.

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.

It observed ten tanks beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites at a railway station in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

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

An SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted an anti-aircraft gun in a government-controlled area 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.

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

Demining activities near Hnutove and Marinka, Donetsk region

On 24 November, in fields near residential areas on the northern and eastern edges of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted a total of 26 people in blue clothing, some of whom were visually inspecting the ground, assessed as part of demining activities.

On 25 November, about 2km south-east of Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) and about 5m north-east of road H-15, the SMM saw five de-miners from the State Emergency Service of Ukraine, walking in a field and holding metal detectors, assessed as conducting demining activities.

SMM facilitation of repairs, maintenance to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable railway inspection and maintenance near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk), in Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk) and between non-government-controlled Yasne (30km south-west of Donetsk) and Olenivka (23km south-west of Donetsk); repairs to power lines near Holubivske and in Donetsk city's Petrovskiyi district (non-government-controlled, 15km south-west of Donetsk city centre); repairs to water infrastructure near Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 61km west of Luhansk); as well as demining activities near Heivka (government-controlled, 27km north-west of Luhansk) and between government-controlled Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Orikhove (57km north-west of Luhansk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS.

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the Mission noted that the entry-exit checkpoints (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk) and Marinka were operational and that the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations near Olenivka and Kremynets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) were closed. While at the latter checkpoint, the SMM saw two vehicles (one mini-van and one car) traveling towards government-controlled areas and stopping at the checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces near Marinka. A Ukrainian Armed Forces soldier told the SMM that the vehicles had been carrying a deceased person from non-government-controlled Donetsk city to a government-controlled area.

The SMM also noted that the EECPs near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) and Hnutove were operational but did not observe any civilian traffic.

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, with pedestrian traffic passing through in both directions. It saw two golf carts operating between the EECP and the new section of the bridge. About 300m south-south-west of the EECP, it also saw for the first time a tent with the logo of an international organisation on it and electric heaters and an electric generator inside it, in an area where containers of the same organisation had been destroyed by wildfire in October (see [SMM Daily Report 2 October 2020](#)).

The Mission 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.

Near the latter checkpoint, the Mission observed for the first time 23 garbage bins placed in a queueing shelter and two workers painting a metal fence and building metal sheds, assessed as for housing electric generators.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Dnipro, Lviv, Odessa, Ivano-Frankivsk, 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 23 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.

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				
25/11/2020	10	Tank (T-64)	At a railway station in Pokrovsk (formerly Krasnoarmiisk, 55km north-west of Donetsk)	Patrol

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
24/11/2020	1	Anti-aircraft gun (2A13, ZU-23, 23mm)	Near Lebedynske (99km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV

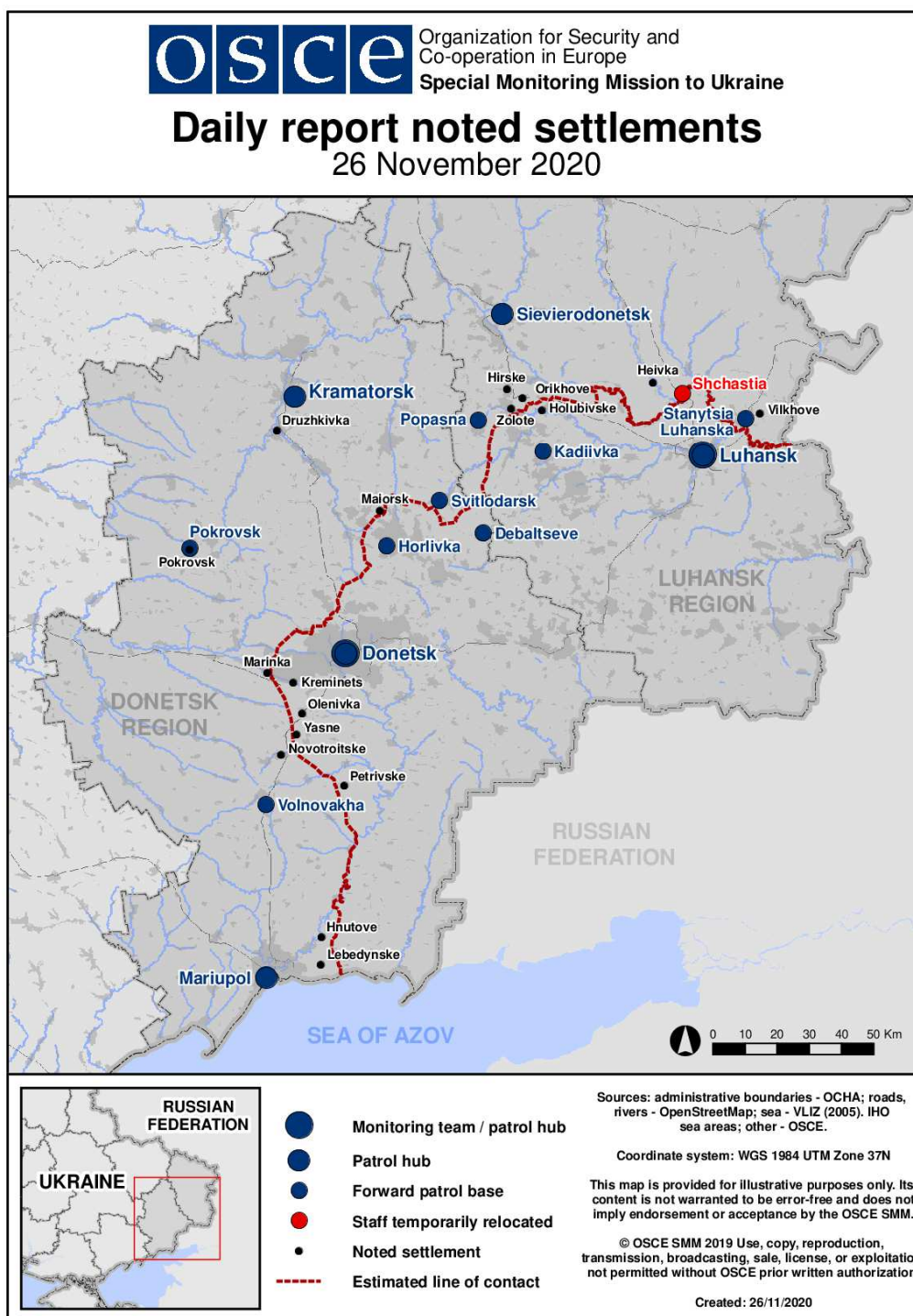
⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 25 November 2020⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash	Also recorded by the SMM camera at the DFS	N/K	25-Nov, 18:10
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNW to SSE (also recorded by the SMM camera at the DFS)	N/K	25-Nov, 18:10
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst (subsequent to previous event, also recorded by the SMM camera at the DFS)	N/K	25-Nov, 18:10
Holubivske (non-government-controlled, 51km W of Luhansk)	6-8km N	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Nov, 10:00-10:45

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).