

Daily Report 294/2020

10 December 2020¹

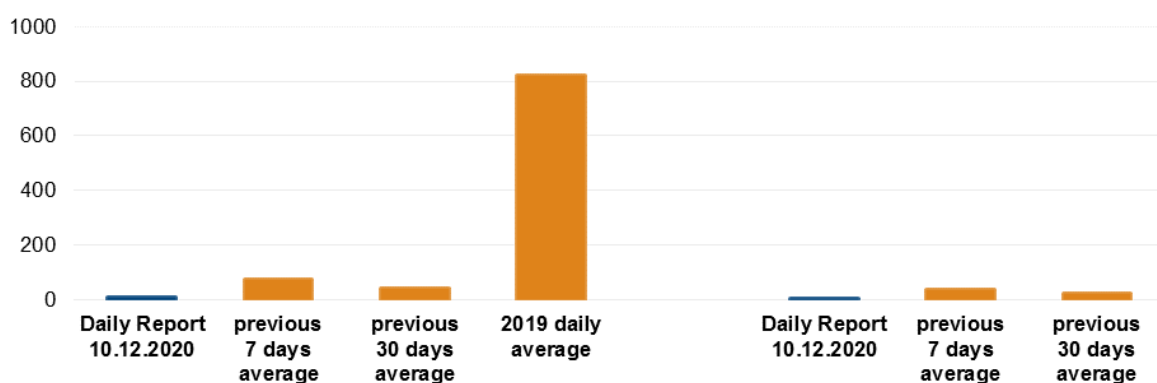
Summary

- The SMM recorded two ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 16 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission recorded five ceasefire violations in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 45 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission observed weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable the construction and maintenance of and repairs to critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and four checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM'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, 9 December 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 Zolote and in Petrivske were not operational.

³ Including explosions

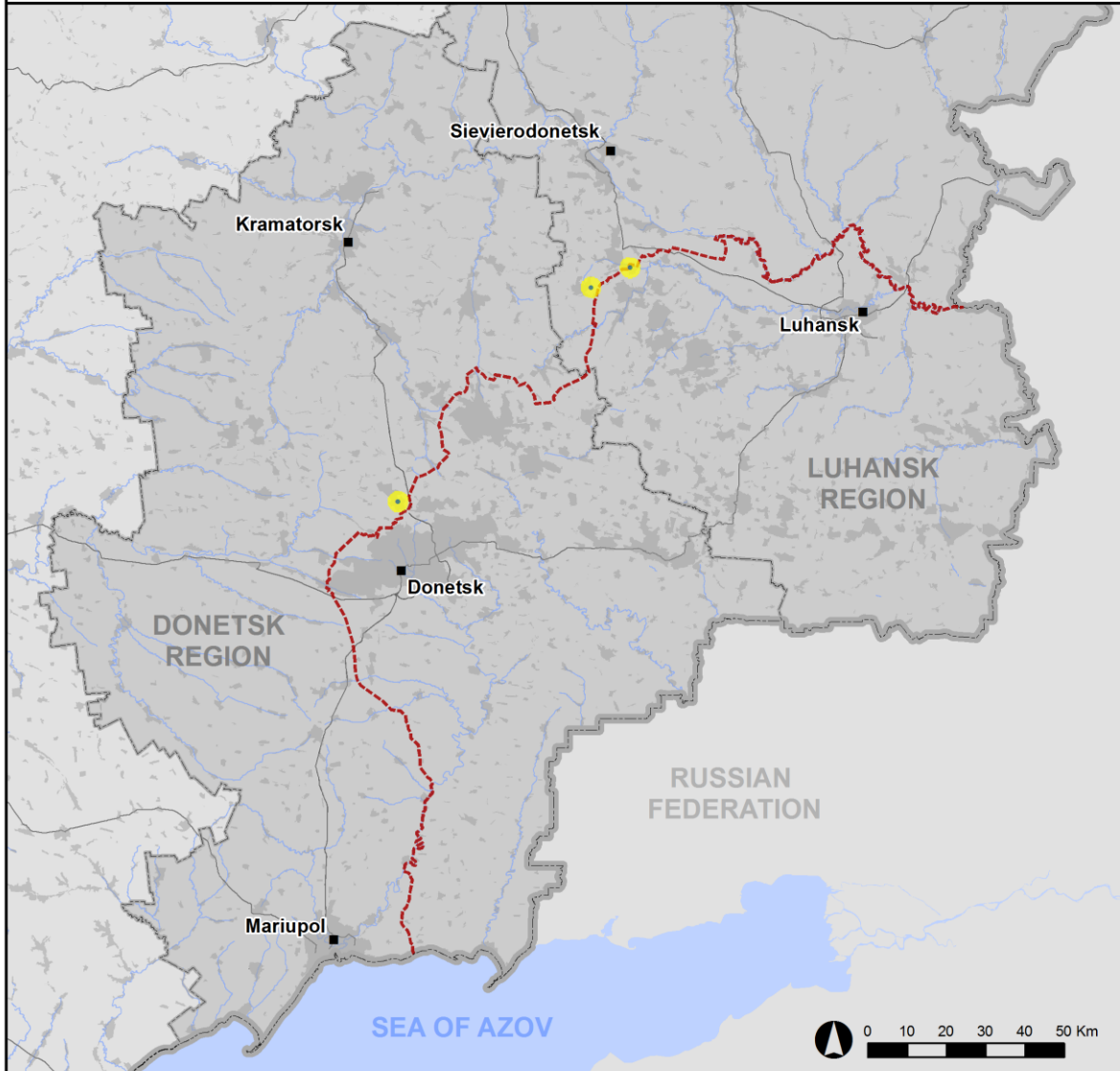
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

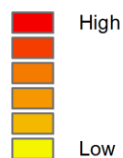


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 9 December 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: 10/12/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded two undetermined explosions, both on the morning of 9 December in an area west of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 16 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded five ceasefire violations, including an undetermined explosion in an area north-east of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 45 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 3,314 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 1,358 explosions, 110 projectiles in flight, 37 muzzle flashes, 39 illumination flares and 1,770 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

The SMM observed four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), on the southern edge of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

While positioned on the southern edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivika (non-government-controlled, 61km west of Luhansk), the Mission heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 1-2km north, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote**, but within 5km of its periphery. Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the area, the SMM saw up to six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), of whom three, accompanied by three people in protective gear, walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

While positioned at four locations near 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 violation of withdrawal lines, the Mission observed six howitzers in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region and three multiple launch rocket systems in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region. In the same training area, the SMM also observed seven tanks beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites (for further details, see the tables below).

SMM facilitation of construction and maintenance of and repairs to critical civilian infrastructure

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

The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable the construction of a power line between government-controlled Lopaskyne (23km north-west of Luhansk) and Lobacheve (17km north-west of Luhansk), maintenance of and repairs to a power line near Smile (non-government-controlled, 31km north-west of Luhansk) and repairs to water infrastructure near Krasnyi Lyman (non-government-controlled, 30km north-west of Luhansk).

The SMM also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable demining activities near government-controlled Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk), Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Myrna Dolyna (67km north-west of Luhansk).

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned about 2km south of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk), the Mission heard two undetermined explosions within a 5km radius of the station.

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk) was operational but did not observe any civilian traffic. It also noted that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Kremiets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) was closed.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska as well as the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational, with pedestrians queueing to travel in both directions.

The Mission 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. At the latter checkpoint, the SMM saw seven workers welding and installing fences on the eastern and western edges of road H-21 up to about 100m north of the checkpoint.

Border areas outside government control

The SMM visited a border area outside government control near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) and observed a calm situation.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, 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 1 December 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 withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
8/12/2020	4	Towed howitzer (D-30A <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)	Near Bile (22km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	2	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		
9/12/2020	3	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	In a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)	Patrol

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

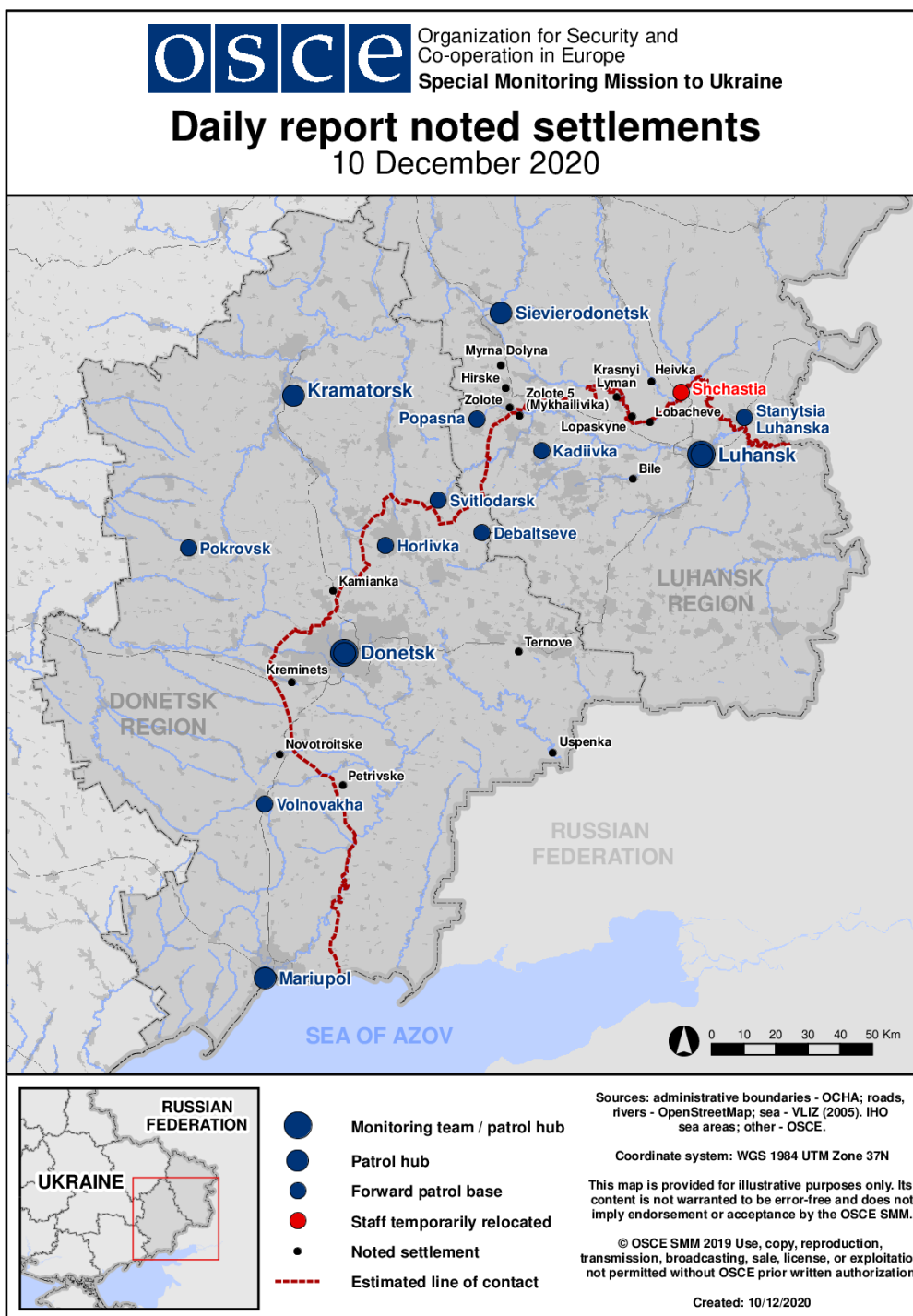
Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
9/12/2020	7	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)	Patrol

Table of ceasefire violations as of 9 December 2020⁶

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
About 2km S of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	3-4km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 10:35
	3-4km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 10:45
S edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivika (non-government-controlled, 61km W of Luhansk)	1-2km N	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	9-Dec, 12:04
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 16:12
	3-5km SE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 16:12

⁶ 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 regions⁷



⁷ 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).