

Daily Report 5/2021

9 January 2021¹

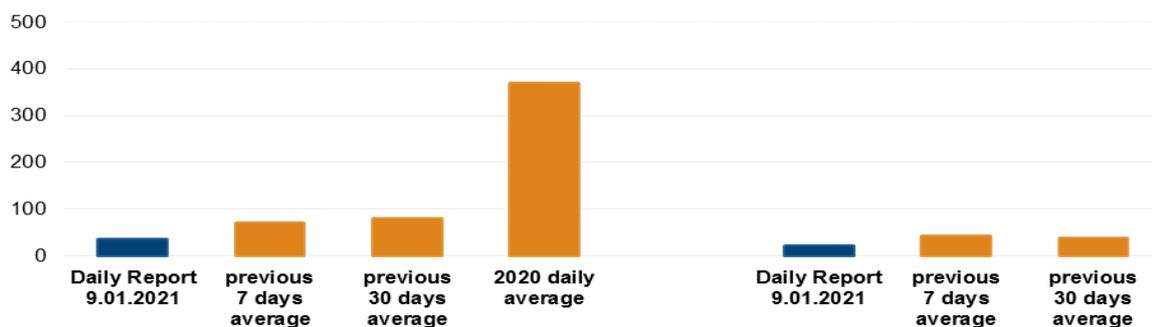
Summary

- The SMM recorded 13 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 32 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission recorded 23 ceasefire violations in Luhansk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 62 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske and spotted people inside the disengagement area near Zolote.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable the repair and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and three checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Shevchenko, Donetsk region, and close to a border crossing point outside government control near Leonove (formerly Chervonyi Zhovten), 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, 8 January 2021. 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.

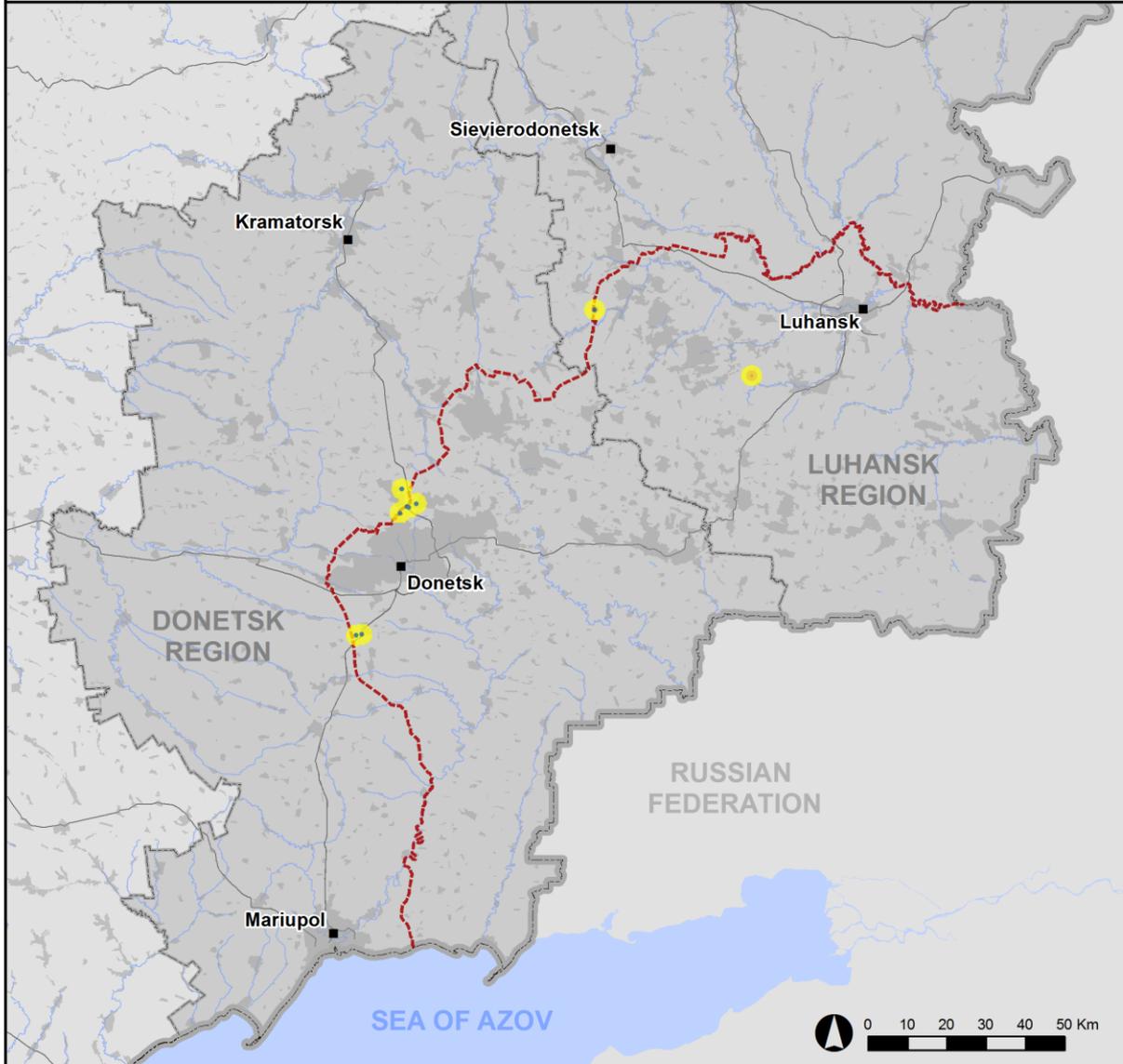
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



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

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 8 January 2021



Ceasefire violation concentration

- High
-
- Low
- 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: 09/01/2021

In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 13 ceasefire violations, all undetermined explosions, ten of which occurred in areas near the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the SMM recorded 32 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 23 ceasefire violations: nine undetermined explosions in an area south-east of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk) and 14 shots of undetermined weapons in a training area near Shymshynivka (non-government-controlled, 27km south-west of Luhansk), which were assessed as a live-fire exercise outside the security zone. In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 62 ceasefire violations in the region.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July 2020 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 at least 5,704 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 2,472 explosions, 678 projectiles in flight, 63 muzzle flashes, 53 illumination flares and at least 2,438 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 8 January, the SMM saw two 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), south of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

On 4 January, on the northern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), about 350m west of the area’s north-eastern corner, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a probable infantry fighting vehicle (IFV) (BTR-4) assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. The UAV also spotted two people wearing camouflage clothing near former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, one about 150m south-west and one about 1km west-south-west of the area’s north-eastern corner.

On 8 January, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), three of whom walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

While positioned at three 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.

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 an IFV in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region (for more 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 repairs to water infrastructure near government-controlled Pivdenne (formerly Leninske, 40km north-east of Donetsk), and to a power line near non-government-controlled Naberezhne (77km south of Donetsk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at three locations near the station, the SMM registered five undetermined explosions, all within a 5km radius of the DFS. The SMM also monitored the security situation near the pumping station close to Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the Mission noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk) and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) were operational, with traffic passing through in both directions.

In Luhansk region, the SMM noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was operational, with pedestrians queuing to enter government-controlled areas.

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.

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 Minsk agreements 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 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

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

restricted following [the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb](#); these restrictions continued to limit the Mission's observations.

Denials:

- At a checkpoint of the armed formations near Shevchenko (non-government-controlled, 69km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage towards Naberezhne (non-government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk), referring to orders from superiors. The Mission left the checkpoint, returned after about 90 minutes and was able to pass through it.
- About 4km north-north-west of a border crossing point near Leonove (formerly Chervonyi Zhovten, non-government-controlled, 82km south of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage towards the border crossing point.

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 military and military-type presence in the security zone⁷

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
04/01/2021	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BTR-4)	In Zolote-4/Rodina (59km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Probable infantry fighting vehicle (BTR-4)	On the northern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (60km west of Luhansk)	

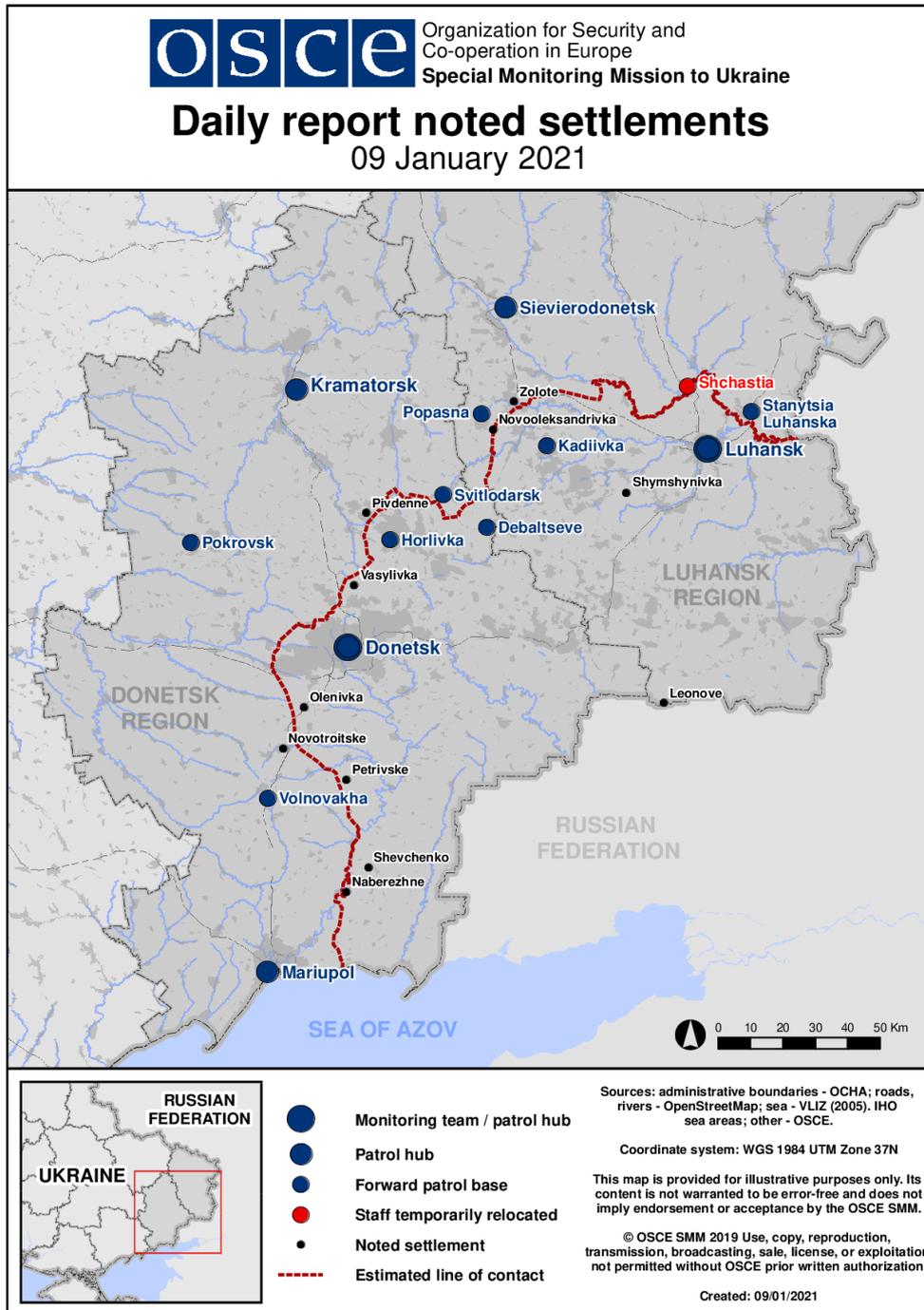
⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 8 January 2021⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Jan, 04:18
	3-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Jan, 16:57
	3-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW (also recorded by the SMM camera at the DFS)	N/K	8-Jan, 16:59
	3-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact, subsequent to previous event	N/K	8-Jan, 16:59
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Jan, 10:27
Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Jan, 14:00
	2km SSW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Jan, 14:06-14:15
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-4km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Jan, 10:04
About 500m NE of Kamiianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	2-3km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Jan, 10:05
	2-3km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Jan, 10:25
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	8-12km SSE	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Jan, 21:07-21:25
About 1km N of Shymshynivka (non-government-controlled, 27km SW of Luhansk)	2-4km SSW	Heard	14	Shot	Assessed as live-fire exercise	N/K	8-Jan, 11:03-11:11

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).