



# Daily Report 12/2021

18 January 2021<sup>1</sup>

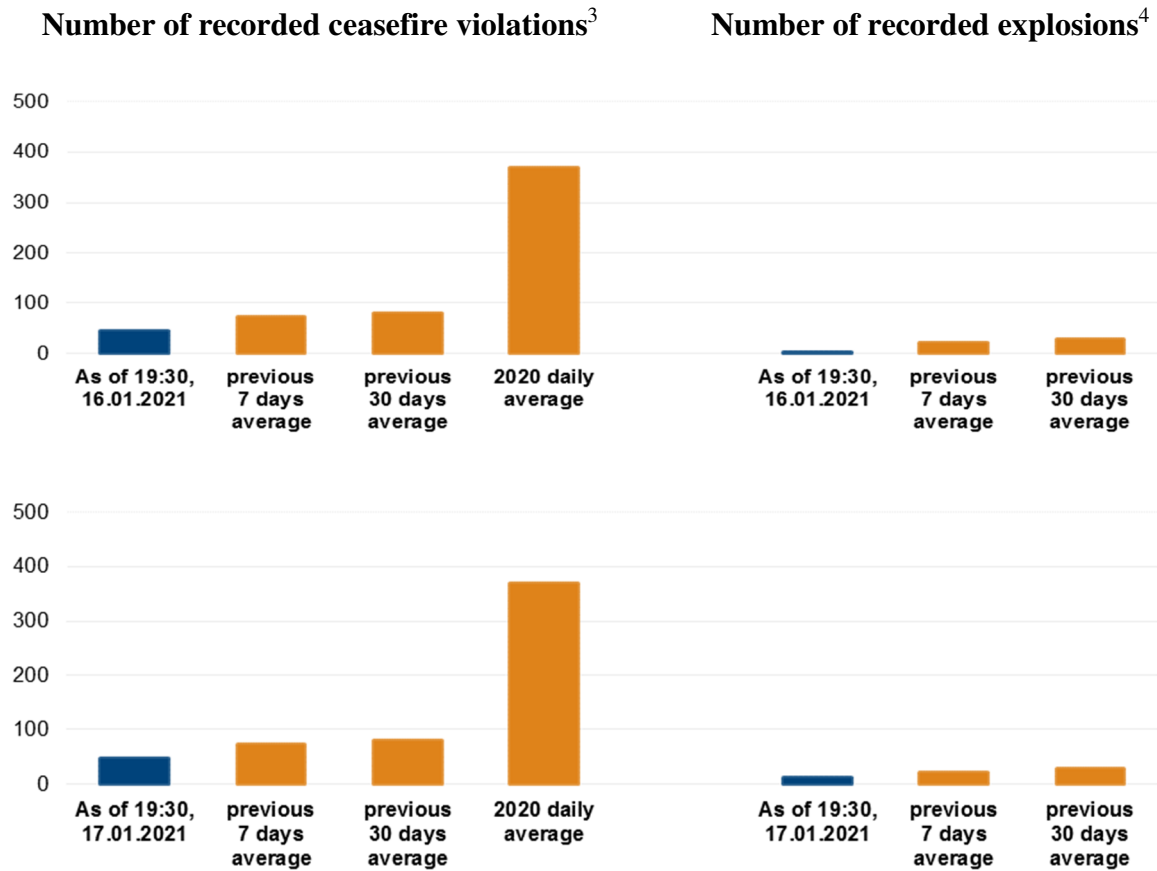
## Summary

- Between the evenings of 15 and 17 January, the SMM recorded 83 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 184 ceasefire violations in the region.
- Between the evenings of 15 and 17 January, the Mission recorded eight ceasefire violations in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded no 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 on both sides of the contact line.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to, maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The SMM observed a calm situation in south and south-east Kherson region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.\*

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<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 17 January 2021. All times are in Eastern European Time.

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



<sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Petrivske was not operational.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

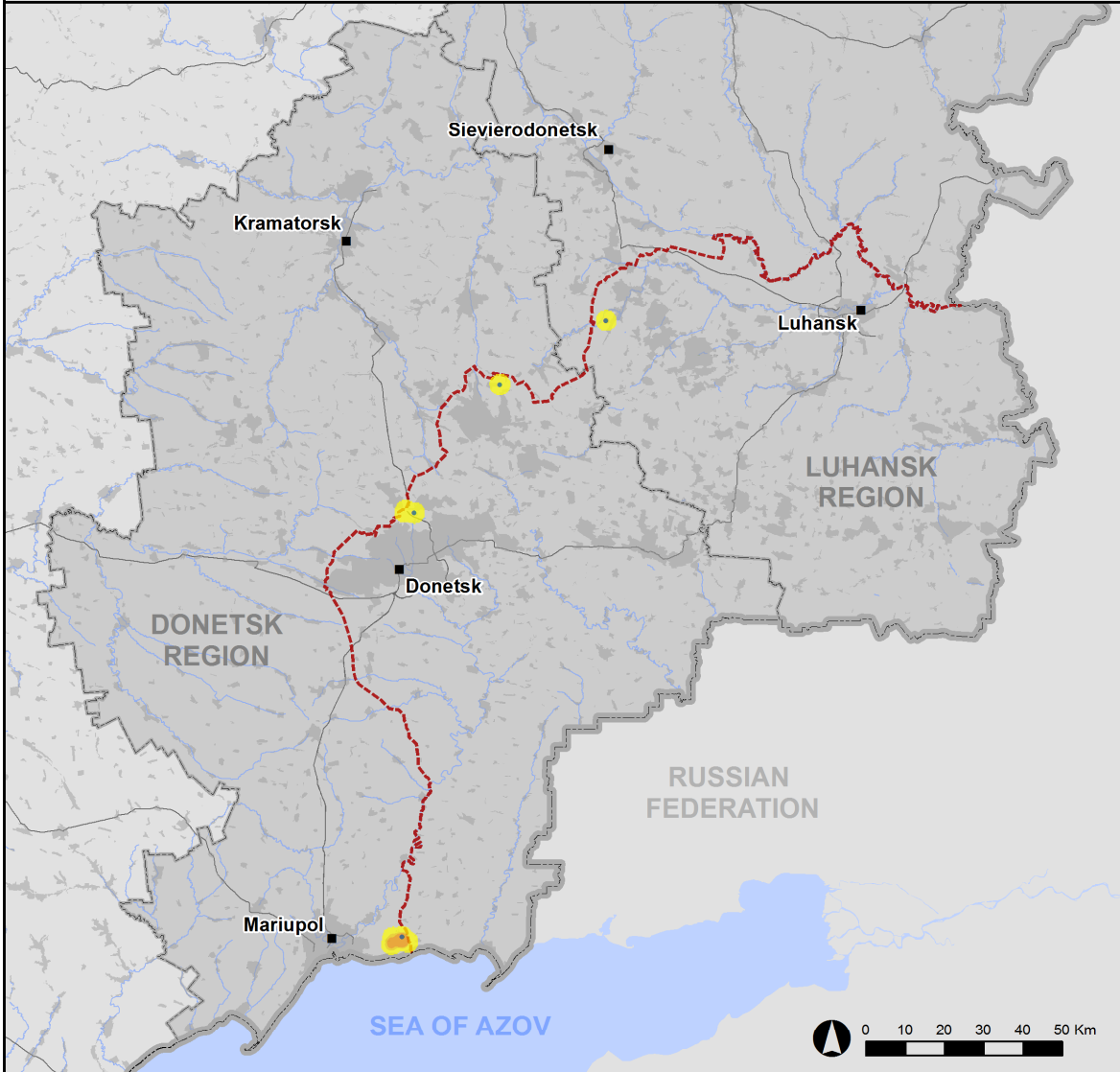
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

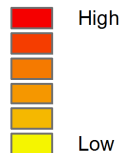


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 16-17 January 2021



#### 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: 18/01/2021

In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 15 and 17 January, the Mission recorded 83 ceasefire violations, including six undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations, including four undetermined explosions, occurred in areas north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk) and at easterly directions of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the SMM recorded 184 ceasefire violations in the region, the majority of which also occurred in areas north of Shyrokyne.<sup>5</sup>

In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 15 and 17 January, the SMM recorded eight undetermined explosions in an area west-south-west of Kalynove (non-government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), it recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.<sup>6</sup>

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 2020 until the end of the reporting period, the SMM has so far recorded at least 6,294 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 2,660 explosions, 911 projectiles in flight, 90 muzzle flashes, 54 illumination flares and at least 2,579 bursts and shots).

### **Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske<sup>7</sup>**

On 16 and 17 January, the SMM observed 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).

Also on both days, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the Mission saw members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), some of whom walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

On 16 January, while positioned at four locations near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM observed a calm situation. On 17 January, while positioned on the western edge of Petrivske, the Mission observed two cars with three men in military-type clothing heading west on road C-05132. On the same day, while positioned about 2km north of Petrivske, it saw seven cars with 11 men in military-style clothing, three of which were heading north towards Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk) and four south towards Petrivske along the road between the two settlements.

### **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.

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<sup>5</sup> The previous reporting period covered the time between the evenings of 14 and 15 January 2021.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

In violation of withdrawal lines, the SMM spotted three anti-tank guns in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and 22 multiple rocket launch systems in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region (for further information, see the table below).

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

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including in and near residential areas, as well as an anti-aircraft gun mounted on an armoured combat vehicle near a residential area in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region (for further information, see the table below).

### **Presence of anti-tank mines near Krasnohorivka and Donetsk city's Petrovskiy district, Donetsk region**

On 15 January, an SMM mid-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted 165 anti-tank mines (of which 15 for the first time, unable to be assessed as recently laid or not) in a field about 3km north-east of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km west of Donetsk). About 1.8km south of these, the same UAV again spotted 20 anti-tank mines laid across a road leading from Krasnohorivka to Staromykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 15km west of Donetsk). All these mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 12 May 2020](#)).

About 4km further south, the same UAV observed for the first time eight anti-tank mines laid across a road on the western outskirts of non-government-controlled Donetsk city's Petrovskiy district, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. The Mission was unable to assess if they had been laid recently.

On 16 January, at a checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces on the eastern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), the Mission noted that six [previously](#) observed anti-tank mines were no longer present. On a paved road about 2.2km south-west of the checkpoint, it also saw that a [previously](#) observed object, assessed as a cannon (30mm) round, was no longer present.

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

On 16 January the SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to sewage infrastructure near Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km north-east of Donetsk). While positioned between Novoluhanske and Holmivskiy (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk), the Mission recorded an undetermined explosion about 1km east of Holmivskiy. On 16 and 17 January, 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).

On 16 and 17 January, the Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk). On 17 January, it also monitored the security

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<sup>8</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

situation near the pumping station close to Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

### **Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints**

In Luhansk region, on 16 January, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational, with pedestrians queuing to travel in both directions. On 17 January, it noted that the EECP was operational, with pedestrians queuing to travel in both directions. On both days, the SMM also observed a golf cart operating between the repaired span of the bridge and the EECP.

The Mission also noted that on both days, 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.

### **Security situation in south and south-east Kherson region**

On 15 and 16 January, the Mission observed a calm situation at checkpoints near Chaplynka (77km south-east of Kherson) and Kalanchak (67 km south-east of Kherson), as well as in areas near Skadovsk (62km south-east of Kherson) and Lazurne (62km south of Kherson), along the Black Sea coast.

The SMM continued monitoring in 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 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 of 12 January 2021](#)). 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 the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
17/1/2021	3	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	Near Illinivka (formerly Illicha, 56km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
16/1/2021	22	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	Near Krasnolutskyi (52km south-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

### Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>9</sup>

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
15/1/2021	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	Near Krasnohorivka (21km west of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
	4	Infantry fighting vehicle (two BMP-2 and two BMP variants)	In a compound in a residential area of Heorhiievka (27km south-west of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70)		
17/1/2021	2	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	Near a residential area of Avdiivka (17km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
16/1/2021	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm), mounted on an armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near a residential area of Kalynove (60km west of Luhansk)	Patrol

<sup>9</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 17 January 2021<sup>10</sup>**

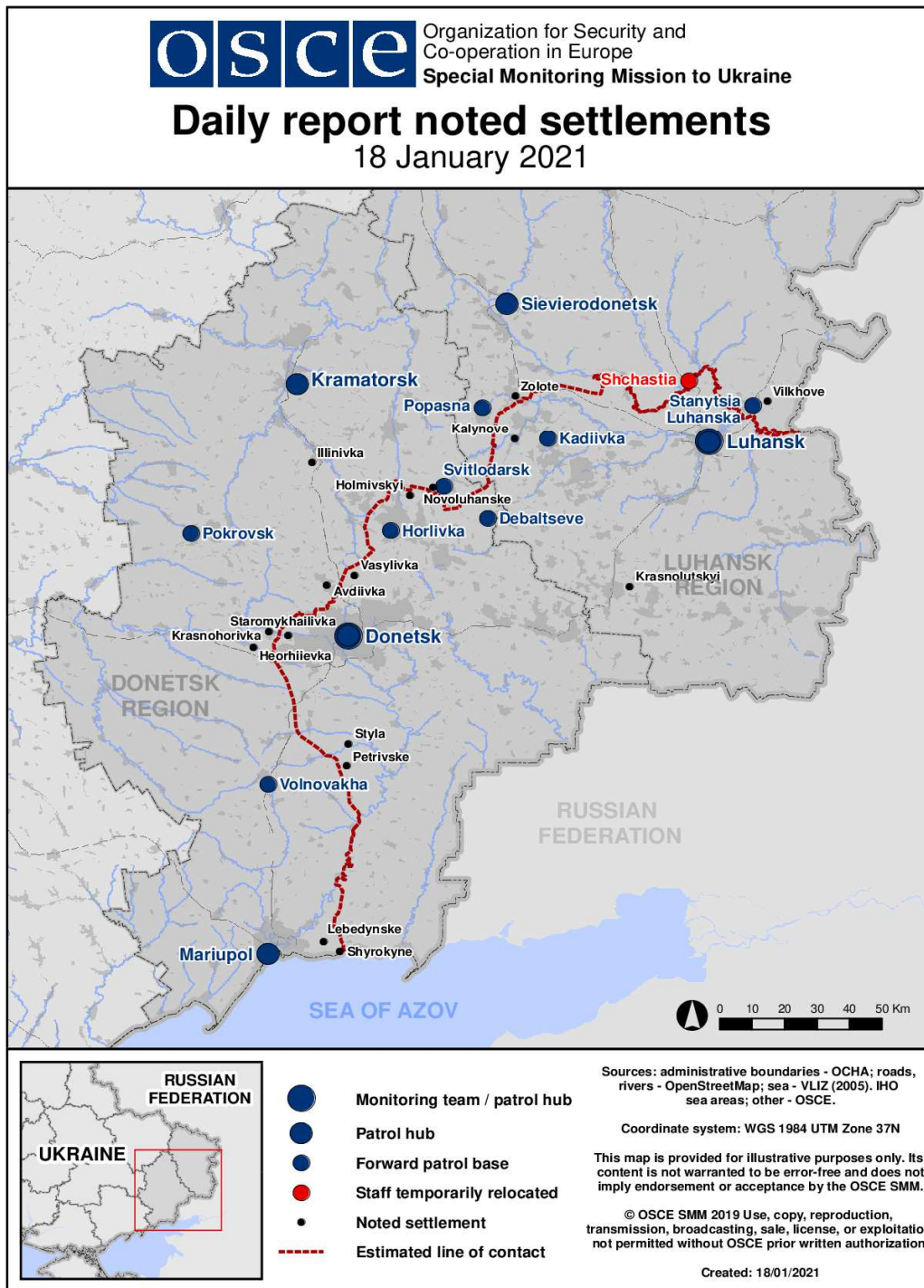
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	5-7km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jan, 14:32
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	2-3km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E (also recorded by SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	15-Jan, 20:47
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	15-Jan, 21:03
	3-5km N	Recorded	7	Projectile	W to E	N/K	15-Jan, 21:49
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	15-Jan, 22:58
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	15-Jan, 22:58
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E	N/K	15-Jan, 23:22
	3-5km N	Recorded	5	Projectile	W to E	N/K	16-Jan, 00:38
	3-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	16-Jan, 01:36
	3-5km N	Recorded	20	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	16-Jan, 03:32
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	16-Jan, 18:41
About 1km E of Holmivskyyi (non-government-controlled, 49km NE of Donetsk)	1.5-2km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jan, 11:52
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	2-4km SSW	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE (also recorded by SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	17-Jan, 00:40
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	16-Jan, 21:40
	4-6km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jan, 23:24
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jan, 23:51
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	17-Jan, 00:42
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	17-Jan, 00:42
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Jan, 00:50
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	17-Jan, 01:04
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	17-Jan, 03:14
About 600m NE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	1-2km SSE	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	17-Jan, 11:07-11:10
	1-2km SSE	Heard	18	Burst		HMG	17-Jan, 11:07-11:10
	1km ENE	Heard	9	Burst		HMG	17-Jan, 11:12-11:13

<sup>10</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.



Kalynove (non-government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	3-4km WSW	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Jan, 09:40
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### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>11</sup>



<sup>11</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).