

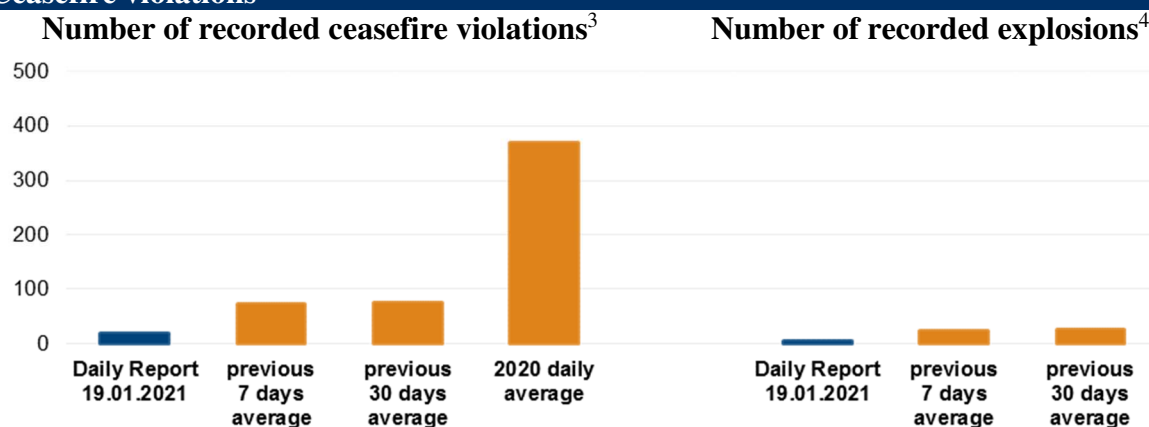
Daily Report 13/2021

19 January 2021¹

Summary

- The SMM recorded 18 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 38 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission recorded one ceasefire violation in Luhansk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded eight ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. An SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle spotted people inside the area near Zolote during daytime.
- The Mission observed weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region.
- The SMM followed up on allegations of a damage to a gas pipeline near non-government controlled Hlafirivka and facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs, maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and three corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in 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, 18 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, and weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some of the other SMM cameras.

³ Including explosions.

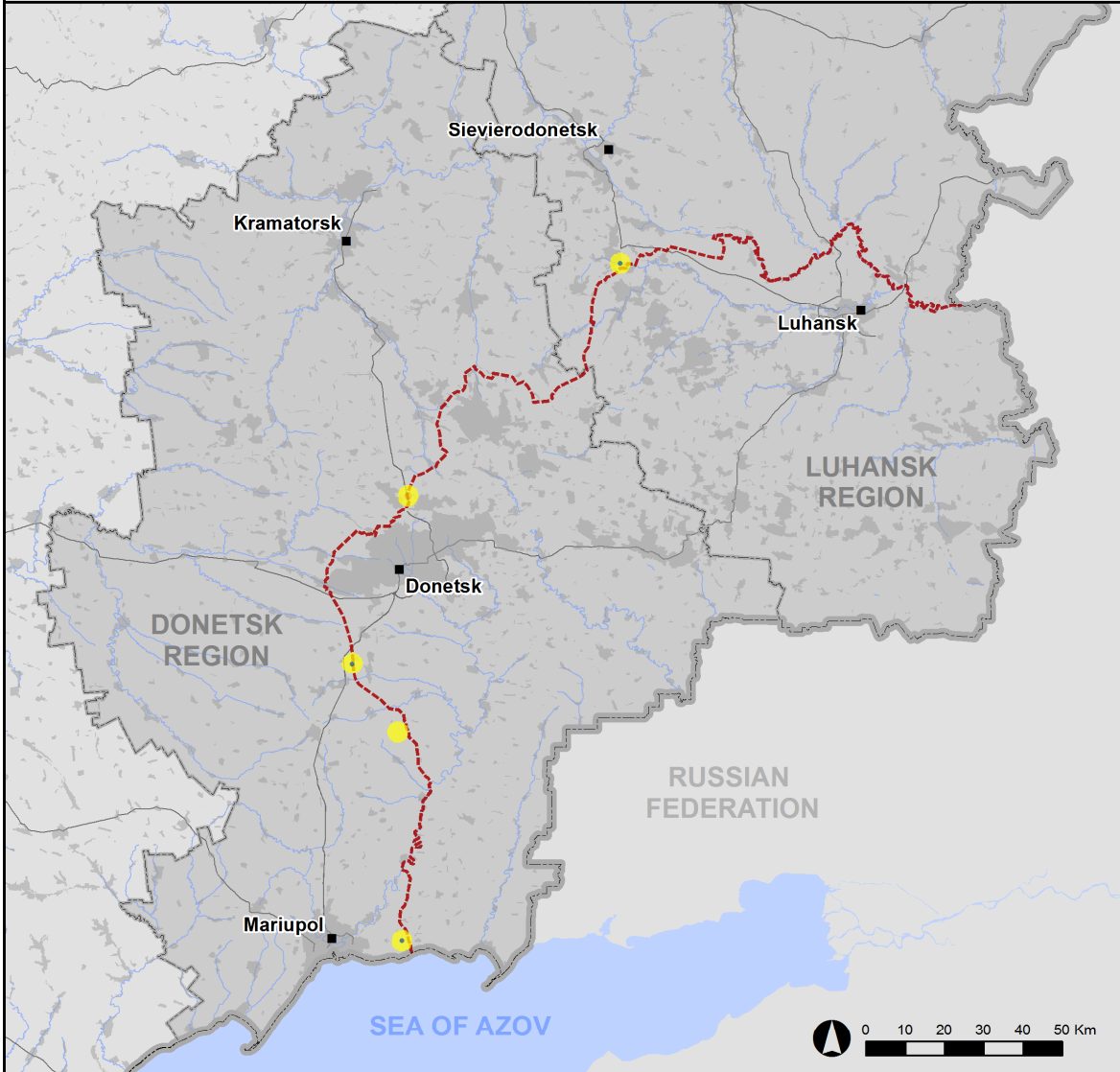
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

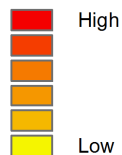


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 18 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: 19/01/2021

In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 18 ceasefire violations, including three undetermined explosions. Almost all ceasefire violations occurred in areas north of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) and south-south-west of the disengagement near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the SMM recorded 38 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation, the impact of an undetermined weapon which occurred in an area north of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), it recorded eight ceasefire violations.

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 6,313 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 2,664 explosions, 911 projectiles in flight, 90 muzzle flashes, 54 illumination flares and at least 2,594 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

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), on the southern edge of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

On the evening of 17 January, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded the impact of an undetermined weapon at an assessed range of 1-3km east, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

On the morning of 16 January, inside the area, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted two people near former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces: one about 500m and the other about 1km west-south-west of the area’s north-eastern corner. The UAV also spotted a person near a former position of the armed formations near the area’s eastern edge, about 1.4km north of its south-eastern corner.

On the morning of 17 January, an SMM long-range UAV spotted a person inside a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 500m west-south-west of the area’s north-eastern corner.

On 18 January, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the area, the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), all of whom walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

While positioned about 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM heard six shots of heavy-machine-gun fire at an assessed range of 2-4km

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

south, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** but within 5km of its periphery.

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, an SMM long-range UAV spotted 11 tanks in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission saw four towed howitzers at a railway station in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region (for further information, see the table below).

Mine hazard sign near Hlafirivka, Luhansk region

About 1.5km south of Hlafirivka (non-government-controlled, 19km south of Luhansk), on the southern edge of a local road, the SMM saw for the first time a mine hazard sign (rectangular yellow sign with “Stop! Dangerous! Mines!” written on it in Russian).

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

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to water infrastructure near Pivdenne (formerly Leninske, government-controlled, 40km north-east of Donetsk) and railway inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned about 1.5km east of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), the SMM heard nine bursts and shots of small-arms fire, assessed as within a 5km radius of the station.

On 18 January, the SMM followed up on reports about damage to a gas pipeline near Hlafirivka, reportedly due to an explosion that occurred on 15 January. The SMM visited non-government-controlled Hlafirivka, Heorhiivka (15km south of Luhansk), Lutuhyne (20km south-west of Luhansk), Uspenka (23km south-west of Luhansk), Mariia (formerly Lenina, 19km south-west of Luhansk) and Bilorichenskyi (22km south-west of Luhansk), and spoke to 11 residents (seven women in their forties to sixties and four men in their fifties and sixties) who told the Mission that in all the abovementioned settlements, there had been a disruption in the gas supply starting on 15 January but that it had been restored on the morning of 17 January.

On 18 January, the SMM launched two mini-UAV flights over an area about 650m south of Hlafirivka, where the explosion was reported to have occurred. The UAV spotted fresh snow surrounding and covering an overhead pipeline.

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 people queuing to travel in both directions. It also observed a golf cart operating between the repaired span of the bridge and the EECP.

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 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.

Other impediments:

- On 16 January, an SMM long-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over Pavlopil (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk).

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
16/1/2021	11	Tank (type undetermined, two probable)	In a training area near Novoselivka (37km north-east of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

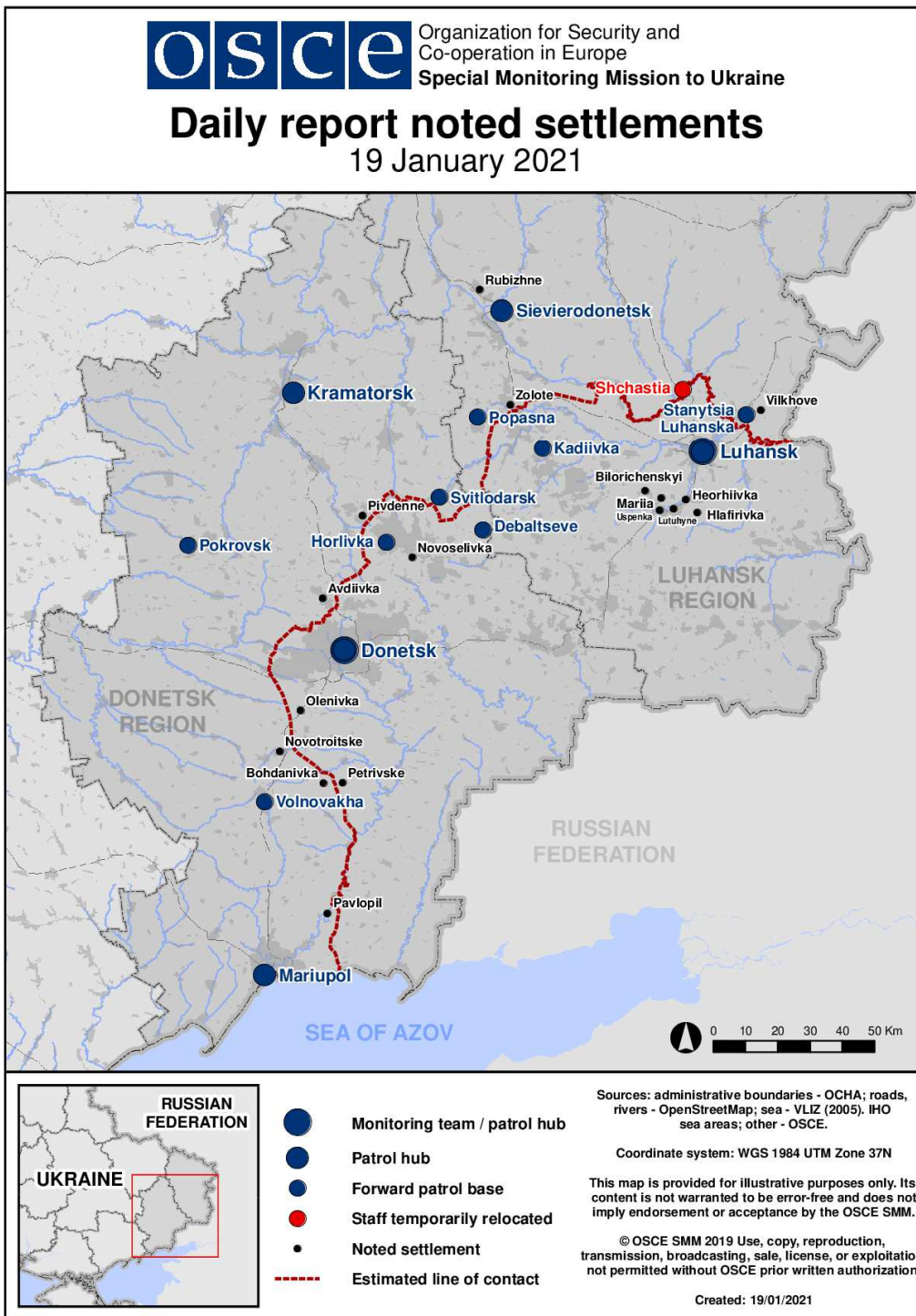
Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
18/1/2021	4	Towed howitzers (2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i> , 152mm)	At a railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

Table of ceasefire violations as of 18 January 2021⁶

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Jan, 20:56
About 1.5km E of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-3km E	Heard	5	Burst		Small arms	18-Jan, 11:56
	2-3km E	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	18-Jan, 12:07
	2-3km E	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	18-Jan, 12:07
Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled 30km SW of Donetsk)	4-5km WNW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Jan, 12:02
About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km S	Heard	6	Shot	Assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area	HMG	18-Jan, 12:25
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	1-3km E	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	N/K	17-Jan, 20:29
	1-3km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S (subsequent to previous event, assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	17-Jan, 20:29
	1-3km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event, assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	17-Jan, 20:29

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).