

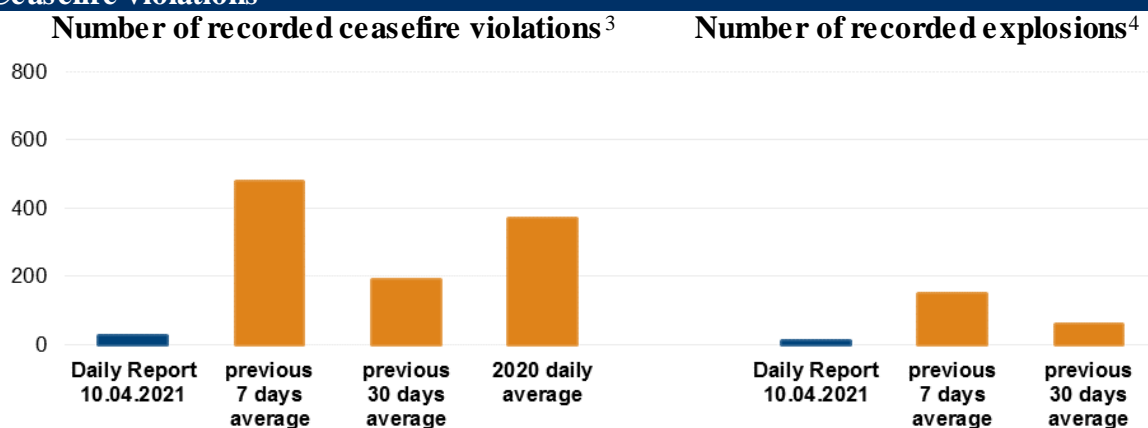
Daily Report 82/2021

10 April 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 20 ceasefire violations. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 378 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded six ceasefire violations. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 229 ceasefire violations in the region.
- Forced emergency landing of a long-range unmanned aerial vehicle near its base in government-controlled Stepanivka, due to dual GPS signal interference.*
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure, and a transfer of funds from non-government to government-controlled areas. It heard nine ceasefire violations close to the Donetsk Filtration Station.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at five entry-exit checkpoints and four corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

Ceasefire violations²



Map of recorded ceasefire violations

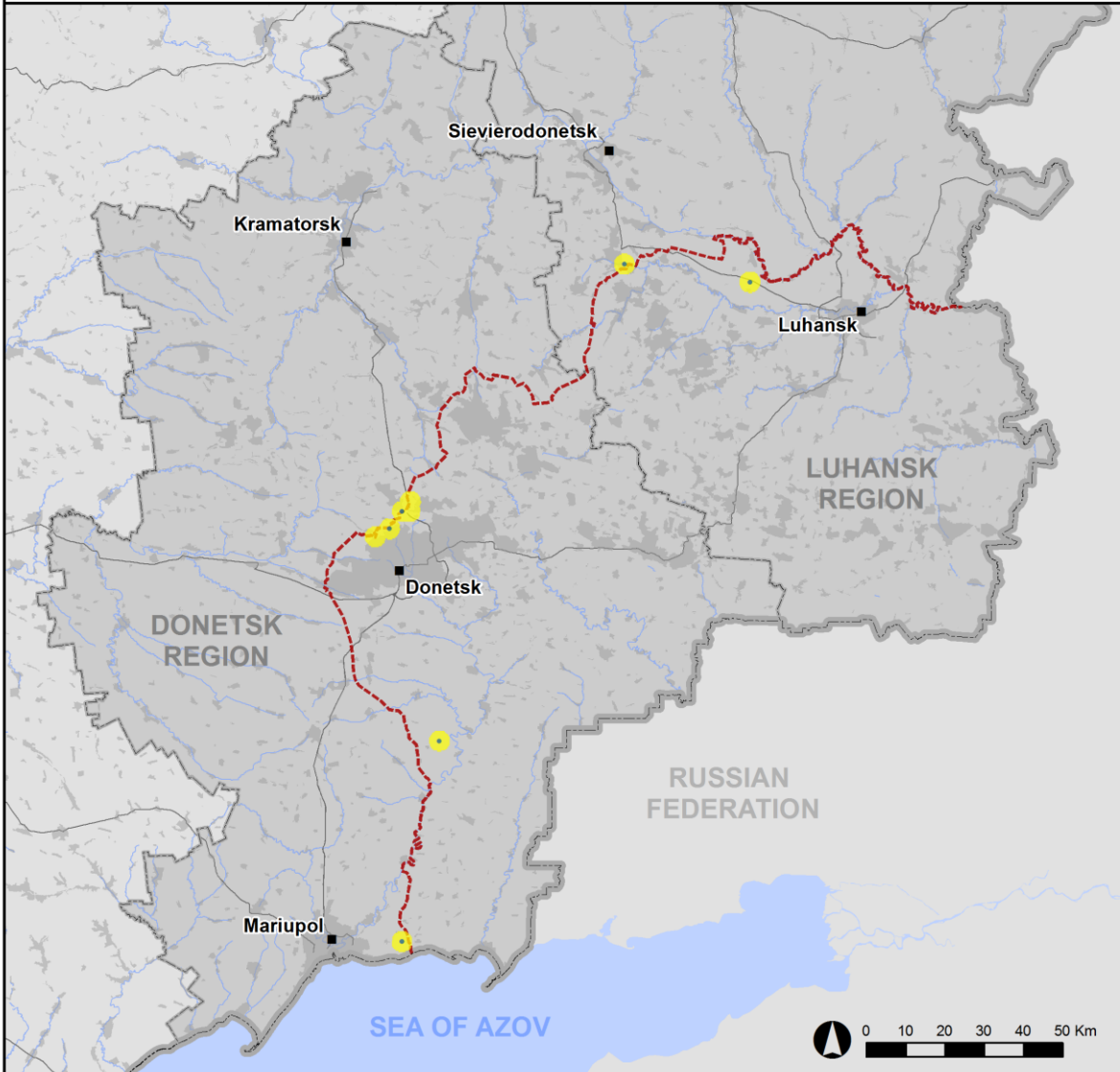
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 9 April 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

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.

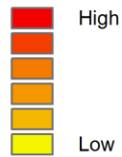
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 9 April 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: 10/04/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 20 ceasefire violations, including six undetermined explosions. Almost all the ceasefire violations occurred at northerly and southerly directions of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below), and in an area north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 378 ceasefire violations, some of which occurred at northerly directions of Shyrokyne.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded six ceasefire violations, all undetermined explosions. All ceasefire violations occurred at southerly directions of Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km north-west of Luhansk) and in an area north of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 229 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 17,460 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 5,942 explosions, 1,843 projectiles in flight, 181 muzzle flashes, 72 illumination flares and at least 9,422 bursts and shots).

Forced emergency landing of long-range unmanned aerial vehicle due to dual GPS signal interference*

At 20:00 on 8 April, upon take-off from its base in Stepanivka (government-controlled, 54km north of Donetsk), an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming. At 20:16, the aircraft experienced dual GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by jamming, after which the SMM continued with its planned flight over areas on both sides of the contact line.⁵

At 01:30 on 9 April, having registered persistent dual GPS signal interference – assessed as caused by jamming – throughout the flight, the SMM commanded the UAV to return to base in Stepanivka, and initiated an orbit manoeuvre in an effort to regain a GPS signal before landing. It was unable to do so.

At 02:31 on 9 April, due to the risk of a loss of spatial control, the Mission completed an emergency landing of the aircraft in a field about 100m from its designated landing spot at Stepanivka. (See [SMM Spot Report 8/2021](#).)

This is the second time this week that the SMM's long-range UAVs have experienced serious levels of GPS signal interference on take-off and landing, effecting both GPS receivers, in areas near their base in Stepanivka (see also [SMM Spot Report 6/2021](#)). This interference has been increasing since 21 March.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁶

During the day on 9 April, while positioned inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw four members

⁵ The Mission notes that, in each case, the source of GPS signal interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of tens of kilometres from the UAV's position.

⁶ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) south of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

While positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the Mission saw five 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, accompanied by an ambulance with a driver, a man and two women in medical protective gear.

The Mission also saw four people in civilian clothing with a cement mixer inside the fenced perimeter south of the area’s southern edge, and two wooden moulds (assessed as for pouring concrete into) in place of previously observed metal posts, on the eastern and western edges of road T-1316 leading southward towards Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km west of Luhansk). About 40m west of the junction of road T-1316 and the road leading westward towards Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km north-west of Luhansk), the SMM observed that both metal parts of a previously observed barrier had been freshly encased in concrete, and about 70m east of the aforementioned junction and the road leading eastwards to Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw two people in civilian clothing encasing with concrete both metal parts of another previously observed barrier.

The Mission again saw the eight previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge, on its edge and inside the area.

On the evening of 8 April, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded one undetermined explosion, at an assessed range of 2-4km east, assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 7 April, inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV again spotted 47 anti-tank mines about 250m north-west of its south-eastern corner, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. (For previous observations in the area see [SMM Daily Report of 11 November 2020](#).)

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 SMM saw seven tanks in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission saw six anti-tank guns and 16 self-propelled howitzers at a railway station in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the tables below.)

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

The SMM saw armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of both Donetsk and Luhansk regions, a self-propelled anti-aircraft system in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, and armoured combat vehicles in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

Anti-tank mines at destroyed Donetsk international airport and mine hazard sign near Zaichenko

On 8 April, about 2.5km north-east of the north-eastern edge of Pisky (government-controlled, 11km north-west of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted three anti-tank mines, assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces, laid on the edge of a service road about 100m north of the former runway of the destroyed Donetsk international airport (8km north-west of Donetsk). About 900m further east, the UAV also spotted 13 anti-tank mines, assessed as belonging to the armed formations, laid in three rows across the same road. All these mines were spotted for the first time and were assessed as not recently laid.

About 300m south of the previous anti-tank mines, the UAV again spotted 73 anti-tank mines assessed as belonging to the armed formations, laid across two former taxiways. (For previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report of 26 March 2021](#).)

Also on 8 April, the Mission observed for the first time five mine hazard signs (red squares with white skull and “Danger, Mines” written on them in Russian), near the checkpoint of the armed formations near Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk).

SMM facilitation of maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at three locations near the station, the Mission heard nine ceasefire violations (including one undetermined explosion) assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

The Mission monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable regular railway track inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance in Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk) and maintenance of power lines in Opytne (government-controlled, 12km north-west of Donetsk).

The SMM also monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire in order to enable a transfer of funds from non-government- to government-controlled areas across the bridge in Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

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 open, with traffic passing through in both directions.

⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons. The SMM noted that one such site continued to be abandoned.

It also noted that the EECP near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) was open but did not observe any people passing through.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the repaired span of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were open, with people queuing to travel in both directions.

The SMM also noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia were open, 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 were 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 8 April 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:⁸

- On 8 April, the SMM completed an emergency landing of a long-range UAV near its base in Stepanivka (government-controlled, 54km north of Donetsk), due to persistent dual GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by jamming. (See above and [SMM Spot Report 8/2021](#).)
- On the same day, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk).

⁸ For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interferences could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

- On 9 April, medical staff at a hospital in Snizhne (non-government-controlled, 72km east of Donetsk) refused to provide information to SMM about an alleged civilian casualty, citing lack of permission from superiors.

Tables of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
8/4/2021	7	Tank (type undetermined)	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				
9/4/2021	6	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	At a railway station in Zachativka (74km south-west of Donetsk), where 17 armoured combat vehicles were also spotted ⁹	Patrol
	16	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone¹⁰

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
8/4/2021	3	Armoured combat vehicle (BTR-variant)	Near Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
	3	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	Near Nyzhnie (56km north-west of Luhansk)	
	1	Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (ZSU-23-4 <i>Shilka</i> , 23mm)	On the northern outskirts of Chernenko (86km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured combat vehicle (MT-LB variant)		
	8	Infantry fighting vehicle (five BMP-2 and three BMP-1)	Near Krymske (47km north of Donetsk)	
9/4/2021	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BTR-4)	On the southern edge of Zolote (60km west of Luhansk)	Patrol
Non-government-controlled areas				
8/4/2021	3	Armoured personnel carrier (two MT-LB) and armoured combat vehicle (MT-LB variant)	Near Rozivka (37km north-east of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	3	Armoured combat vehicle	In a training area near Novoselivka (37km north-east of Donetsk)	
	3	Armoured combat vehicle (one probable MT-LB and two type undetermined)	Near Vesele (9km north-west of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
8/4/2021	1	Trench digger (type undetermined)	Near Novovyboivka (89km south of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Combat engineering vehicle (IMR-2)	Near Zaichenko (93km south of Donetsk)	

⁹ The armoured combat vehicles mentioned in this section are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

¹⁰ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

9/4/2021	4	Armoured combat vehicle (three BTR-variant and one BRDM-variant)	Near Dubrivka (7km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
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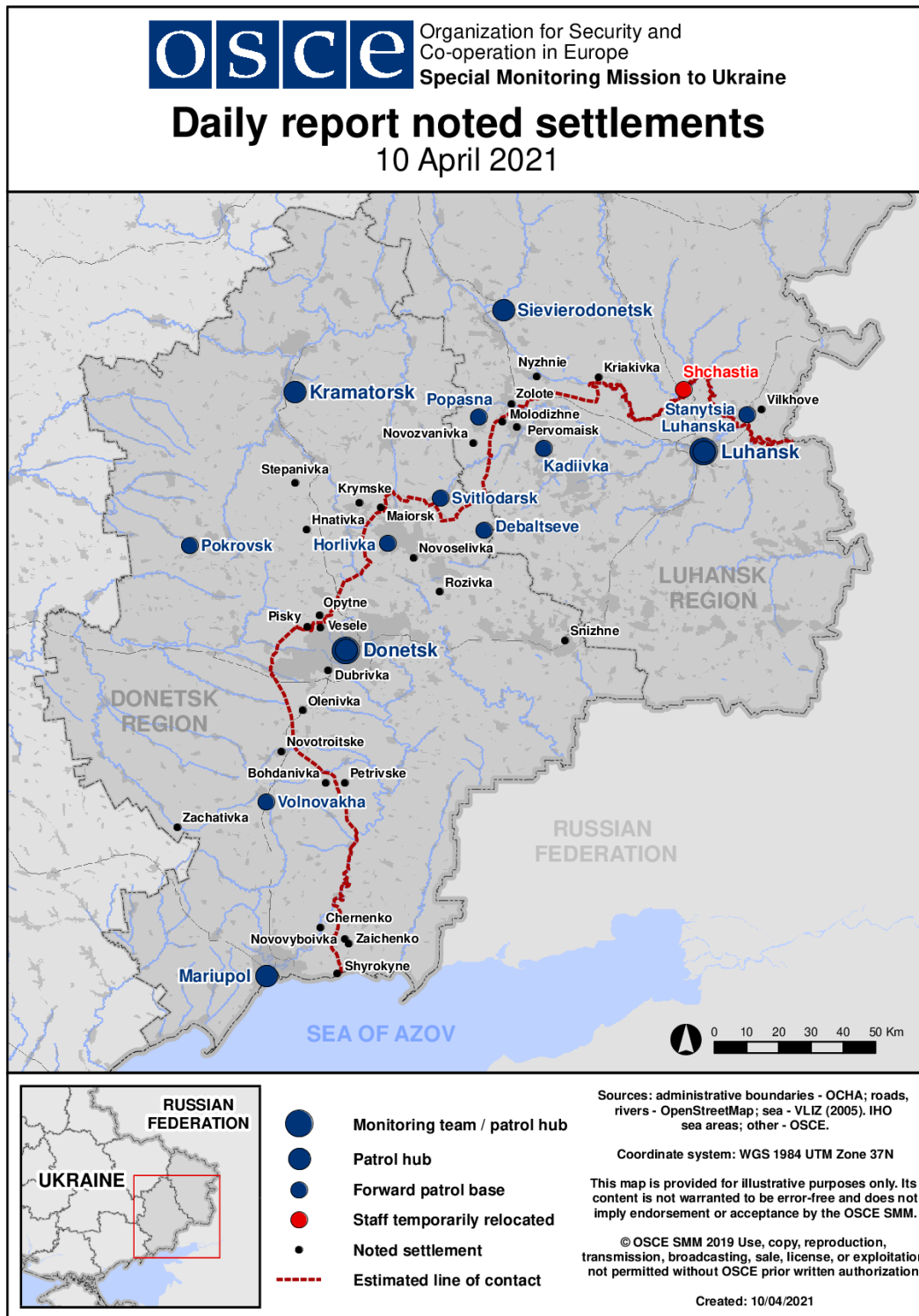
Table of ceasefire violations as of 9 April 2021¹¹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	1-2km W	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	8-Apr, 22:38
	1-2km W	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	8-Apr, 22:38
	1-2km W	Recorded	2	Projectile	SE to NW (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	8-Apr, 22:38
	2-4km NE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Apr, 00:52
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	8-Apr, 20:07
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	Subsequent to previous event, in vertical flight	N/K	8-Apr, 20:07
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Apr, 21:04
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	8-Apr, 21:04
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Apr, 23:19
About 500m WSW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2km WSW	Heard	2	Shot		Small arms	9-Apr, 10:30
About 1km NW of the Railway Station of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2km WNW	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	9-Apr, 14:10
About 2km S of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-4km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Apr, 10:47
	3-4km ESE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	9-Apr, 10:47
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	8-10km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Apr, 13:45
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined, assessed as outside the disengagement area	N/K	8-Apr, 22:48

¹¹ 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.

Kriakivka (government- controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	15km SSE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Apr, 12:55- 12:58
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Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹²



¹² 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).