

OSCCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

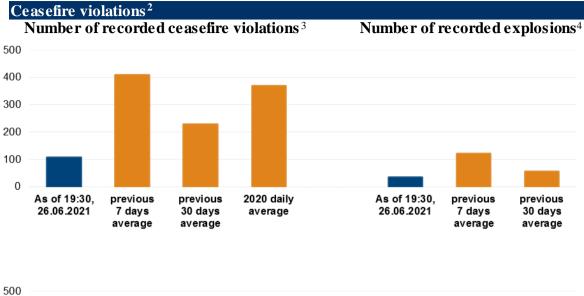
Daily Report 148/2021

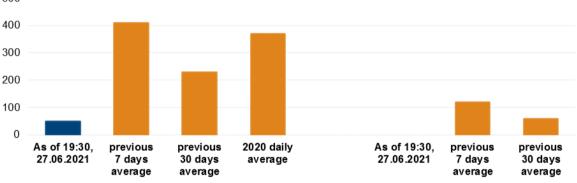
28 June 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, between the evening of 25 and 27 June, the SMM recorded 73 ceasefire violations, including 26 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 83 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, between the evening of 25 and 27 June, the Mission recorded 81 ceasefire violations, including nine explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 17 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entryexit checkpoints and four corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission observed no change in the security situation in east and south-east Kherson region. It monitored a gathering at a checkpoint near Chonhar.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region and in a border area outside government control in Luhansk region. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced multiple instances of GPS signal interference.*

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 27 June 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 and weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some of the other SMM cameras between the evenings of 26 and 27 June.

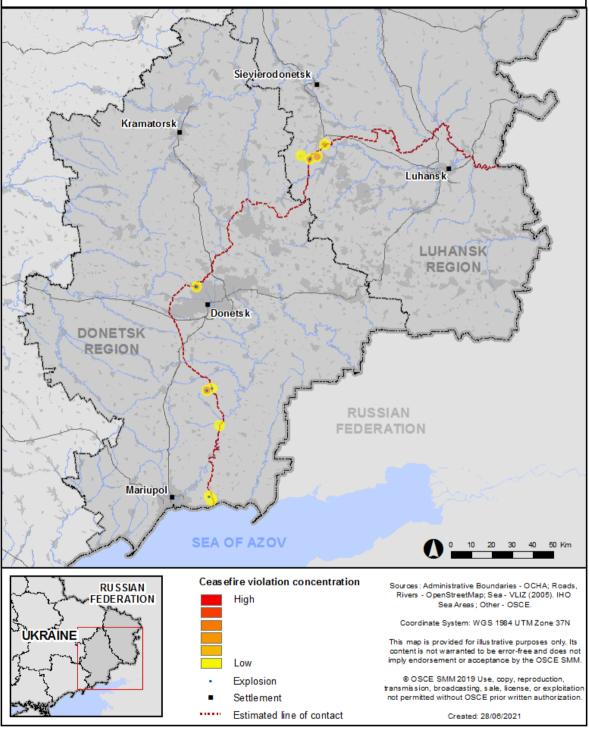
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 26-27 June 2021



In Donetsk region, between the evening of 25 and 27 June, the SMM recorded 73 ceasefire violations, including 26 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred at southerly directions of the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) during the day on 26 June (see below) and in an area west of the Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km north-west of Donetsk city centre) on the early morning of 26 June. In the previous reporting period, the Mission recorded 83 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, between the evening of 25 and 27 June, the SMM recorded 81 ceasefire violations, including nine undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas north and south-west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) on the nights of 25-26 and 26-27 June, as well as during the day on 27 June (see below). In the previous reporting period, the Mission recorded 17 ceasefire violations, all of which were also recorded near the same disengagement area.

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 recorded at least 38,852 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 12,063 explosions, 6,277 projectiles in flight, 235 muzzle flashes, 125 illumination flares and at least 20,152 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 26 and 27 June, while positioned inside the **disengagement areanear Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw members 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).

On the night of 25-26 and 26-27 June, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded in total 17 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km east. During the day on 27 June, while positioned on the southern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the Mission heard 32 bursts of heavy-machine-gun fire at an assessed range of 3-5km south-west. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 26 and 27 June, while positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them). The SMM again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area's southern edge and inside the area.

During the day on 26 June, while positioned about 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the Mission heard four undetermined explosions (three of which it also saw) and 40 shots of small-arms fire, all at an assessed range of 3-4km south and south-east and assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** but within 5km of its periphery.

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

During the day on 27 June, while positioned at three locations near the disengagement area, the Mission observed a calm situation.

Withdrawal of weapons

The SMM 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 saw four multiple launch rocket systems in a nongovernment-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

Indication of military and military-type presence in the security zone

The SMM saw eight armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including near residential areas, and two armoured combat vehicles in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including in a residential area. (For further information, see the table below.)

Presence of anti-tank mines near Veselohorivka, Luhansk region and mine hazard signs near Styla, Donetsk region

On 25 June, in two fields about 2km and 3km north-west near Veselohorivka (non-governmentcontrolled, 64km west of Luhansk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) again spotted in total about 100 probable anti-tank mines, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. (For previous observations in the area, see the SMM Daily Reports of <u>9 July 2019</u> and <u>21 March 2020</u>.)

On the same day, at the checkpoint of the armed formations on the north-eastern edge of Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk), the SMM observed for the first time six recent mine hazard signs (red squares with white skull and cross bones, as well as "Danger! Mines!" written on them in Russian) in fields on the north-western and the south-eastern edges of road T-0509.

On 26 June, at a checkpoint of the armed formations on Artemivska Street in Donetsk city's Kyivskyi district (non-government-controlled, 5km north of Donetsk city centre), the Mission saw that previously observed 32 anti-tank mines were no longer present. (For previous observations in the area, see <u>SMM Daily Report of 31 May 2021</u>.)

SMM facilitation of maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

On 26 and 27 June, the Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) and also monitored the security situation around the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, on 27 June, the Mission noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) was open while the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Kreminets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) was closed.

In Luhansk region, on 26 June, while at the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska at 9:00 a.m., the Mission saw 60 people (30 women and 30 men, mixed ages) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and 1,100 people (770 women and 330 men, mixed ages) queuing in the opposite direction. While at the EECP at 11:00 a.m., it saw 120 people (72 women and 48 men, mixed ages) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and 1,200 people (720 women and 480 men, mixed ages) queuing in the opposite direction. While at the EECP at 11:00 a.m., it saw 120 people (72 women and 480 men, mixed ages) queuing in the opposite direction. While at the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge at 11:00 a.m., the SMM observed 25 people (mixed genders and ages) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and 60-80 people (mixed genders and ages) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and 60-80 people (mixed genders and ages, including one girl) queuing in the opposite direction.

On 27 June, while at the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska at 9:00 a.m., the Mission saw 80 people (40 women and 40 men, mixed ages) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and 1,000 people (500 women and 500 men, mixed ages) queuing in the opposite direction. In two other instances (one at the EECP and another at the corresponding checkpoint) during the same day, the SMM saw people queueing to travel towards government-controlled areas and in the opposite direction.

On 26 and 27, the SMM also noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) 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.

Border areas outside government control

On 26 June, while at the Chervona Mohyla railway station in Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, 65km south-east of Luhansk), the SMM observed about 50-70 stationary railway cargo cars. After about five minutes, two armed members of the armed formations told the Mission to leave the area.*

On the same day, while at a border crossing point⁶ near Marynivka (78km east of Donetsk) for about forty minutes, the SMM observed four cars (including two with "DPR" plates) and six people (three women, two men and one child, mixed ages) entering Ukraine. During the same time, it observed 24 cars (including 11 with "DPR" plates), five covered cargo trucks (including two with "DPR" plates), two buses (carrying passengers of mixed genders and ages) and five people (two women and three men, mixed ages) exiting Ukraine.

Security situation in east and south-east Kherson region

Between 25 and 27 June, the SMM monitored areas of east and south-east Kherson region at checkpoints near Kalanchak (67km south-east of Kherson), as well as areas along the coast of the Azov Sea near Henichesk (176km east of Kherson) and areas near Novotroitske (154km east of Kherson). While monitoring these areas, the Mission observed no change in the security situation.

⁶ According to decisions in 2014 by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, operations are officially designated as suspended at these and other border crossing points located outside government control.

On 26 June, at a checkpoint near Chonhar (163km south-east of Kherson), the SMM monitored a peaceful gathering of about 75 people (mixed gender and ages), some of whom were holding flags of Ukraine and of Crimean-Tatars. The Mission then saw about a half of the group enter the area of the checkpoint where some of them hoisted flags of Ukraine and of Crimean-Tatars while the national anthem of Ukraine was being played.

The SMM continued monitoring in Lviv, Odessa, 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 Coordination (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 restricted following the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb; these restrictions continued to limit the Mission's observations.

Denials:

- On 26 June, at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Zaichenko (non-governmentcontrolled, 93km south of Donetsk), one visibly armed member of the armed formations denied the Mission passage westwards towards Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, nongovernment-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk) and southwards towards Sakhanka (nongovernment-controlled, 97km south of Donetsk), citing "the SMM's safety".
- On the same day, at the Chervona Mohyla railway station in Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), two visibly armed members of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area, citing "lack of permission from superiors".

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:⁷

- On 25 June, an SMM long-range UAV flight was cancelled due to dual GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by jamming, near its base in Stepanivka (government-controlled, 54km north of Donetsk).
- On 26 June, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during three flights over areas near Romanivka (government-controlled, 41km north of Donetsk).
- On 27 June, two SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during two flights over areas near Spartak (non-government-controlled, 9km north of Donetsk), one flight over areas in Donetsk city (non-government-controlled) and two flights over areas near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk).

⁷ For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interferences could have originated from anywhere within the radius of tens of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Tables of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	te No. of weapons Type of weapon		Location	Source of observation			
Non-government-controlled areas							
26/6/2021	4 Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)		Near Novoamvrosiivske (56km east of Donetsk)	Patrol			

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁸

Date	No.	Туре	Location	Source of observation				
	Government-controlled areas							
25/6/2021	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	Near Luhanske (59km north-east of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV				
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)		Mini-UAV				
	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	Near Troitske (69km west of Luhansk)					
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)		Patrol				
26/6/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB variant)	Near a residential area in Troitske (69km west of Luhansk)					
20/0/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (type undetermined)						
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near a residential area in Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)					
		Non-government	-controlled areas					
25/6/2021	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	Near Veselohorivka (64km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV				
26/6/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR variant)	In a residential area in Horlivka (39km north-east of Donetsk)	Patrol				

 $^{^{8}}$ 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 27 June 20219

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
•	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:10
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:12
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:14
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:16
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:19
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:20
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:22
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:24
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:25
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled,	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:26
0km NW of Donetsk city centre)	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:27
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:28
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:29
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:30
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:31
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:33
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:35
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:36
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jun, 04:37
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	25-Jun, 21:52
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Jun, 21:52
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Jun, 21:56
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government- controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	25-Jun, 22:26
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	26-Jun, 00:43
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	26-Jun, 00:44
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSE to NNW	N/K	26-Jun, 01:48
About 2km SW of Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	1-2km E	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	26-Jun, 10:15
	3-4km S	Heard	25	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	26-Jun, 10:17
	3-4km S	Heard	15	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	26-Jun, 10:26
About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	3-4km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Jun, 11:20- 11:23
	3-4km SE	Heard and saw	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Jun, 11:20- 11:23
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W o	2-4km E	Recorded	3	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	25-Jun, 23:46
Luhansk)	2-4km E	Recorded	7	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	25-Jun, 23:49
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of	5-7km SE	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Jun, 21:45- 22:45
uhansk)	5-7km SE	Heard	16	Burst		HMG	25-Jun, 21:45- 22:45
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government- controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	26-Jun, 21:41

⁹ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras, and it may include those also as sessed 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.

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-3km E	Recorded	7	Projectile	N to S (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	27-Jun, 00:23
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk)	2-4km S	Heard	7	Burst		HMG	27-Jun, 17:55- 17:58
About 3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	3-5km SW	Heard	32	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	HMG	27-Jun, 10:29- 10:30



Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹⁰

¹⁰ 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).