

Daily Report 154/2021

5 July 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 2 and 4 July, the SMM recorded 261 ceasefire violations, including 58 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 164 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 2 and 4 July, the Mission recorded 78 ceasefire violations, including 37 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 52 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 the 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.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced instances of GPS signal interference.*

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 4 July 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 3 and 4 July.

³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.



Map of recorded ceasefire violations

In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 2 and 4 July, the SMM recorded 261 ceasefire violations, including 58 explosions (two impacts, 25 airbursts and 31 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred at westerly and southerly directions of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) during the night of 2-3 July and during the day on 4 July (see below), at north-easterly directions of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk) during the night of 2-3 July, as well as in an area north-west of Maiak (non-government-controlled, 19km east of Donetsk) during the day on 4 July. In the previous reporting period, the Mission recorded 164 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 2 and 4 July, the SMM recorded 78 ceasefire violations, including 37 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 mornings of 3 and 4 July (see below). In the <u>previous</u> reporting period, the Mission recorded 52 ceasefire violations, some 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 41,274 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 12,495 explosions, 6,508 projectiles in flight, 238 muzzle flashes, 127 illumination flares and at least 21,906 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 3 and 4 July, while positioned inside the **disengagement area near 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 evening of 2 July, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 3-5km east-north-east. On the morning of 3 July, while positioned at two locations close to the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the Mission heard 20 undetermined explosions and 39 shots of heavy-machine-gun fire. On the night of 3-4 July, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded two projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km east. On the morning of 4 July, while positioned on the southern edge of the disengagement area, the Mission heard one undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 4-6km west. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 3 and 4 July, 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.

On 3 and 4 July, while positioned at three locations near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM observed a calm situation.

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

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.

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

The SMM saw an armoured combat vehicle and an anti-aircraft gun in and near residential areas of government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as two armoured combat vehicles in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

Presence of mine hazard signs near Kruta Balka, Donetsk region

On 3 July, about 300m east of the eastern edge of Kruta Balka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Donetsk), just west of a road leading from road M-04 towards the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk), the SMM observed for the first time a mine hazard sign (a red square with a white skull and crossbones and "Mines" written on it in Cyrillic) (not seen on 2 June 2021). (For previous observations in the area see <u>SMM Daily Report of 2 June 2021</u>.)

SMM facilitation of maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

On 3 and 4 July, the Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. On 4 July, while positioned at two locations near the station, the Mission heard 15 bursts and shots of heavy-machine-gun and small-arms fire, all assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

On 3 July, the SMM also monitored the security situation around the pumping station near Vasylivka.

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, on 4 July, 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 3 and 4 July, the SMM observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were open, with people queueing to travel in both directions.

On both days, the SMM also noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (governmentcontrolled, 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.

Security situation in east and south-east Kherson region

Between 2 and 4 July, the SMM monitored areas of east and south-east Kherson region at checkpoints near Chonhar (163km south-east of Kherson) and 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 Prymorskyi (279km south-east of Kherson). The Mission observed no change in the security situation.

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 <u>SMM Daily Report of 30 June 2021</u>). The SMM's operations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions remain restricted following <u>the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb</u>; 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 impediments⁶:

- On 3 July, three SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming during: one flight each over areas near Novohryhorivka (non-government-controlled, 61km north-east of Donetsk), Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk) and Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km north-west of Luhansk).
- On 4 July, an SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk).
- On the same day, four SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming during: one flight each over areas near Yakovlivka (non-government-controlled, 10km north of Donetsk), Maiak (non-government-controlled,

⁶ 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.

19km east of Donetsk), Donetsk city's Leninskyi district (non-government-controlled) and Lebedynske; and during two flights over areas near Makiivka (non-government-controlled, 12km north-east of Donetsk).

Date	No.	Туре	Location	Source of observation				
Government-controlled areas								
2/7/2021	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	In a residential area of Hnutove (90km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV				
4/7/2021	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	Near a residential area of Zolote (60km west of Luhansk)	Patrol				
	Non-government-controlled areas							
2/7/2021	2	Armoured personnel carrier (MT -LB)	Near Lobacheve (13km east of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV				

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

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

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N	3-4km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	3-Jul, 02:04
of Donetsk)	3-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	3-Jul, 02:04
	3-5km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Jul, 22:40
	3-5km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	2-Jul, 23:10
	3-5km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	2-Jul, 23:14
	3-5km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	2-Jul, 23:19
	3-5km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	2-Jul, 23:20
	3-5km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	2-Jul, 23:21
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of	4-6km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)		3-Jul, 02:03
Donetsk)	4-6km SSW	Recorded	12	Explosion	Undetermined (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	3-Jul, 02:03
	4-6km SSW	Recorded	8	Explosion	Undetermined (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	3-Jul, 02:04
	4-6km SSW	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jul, 02:22
	4-6km SSE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:22
	4-6km SSE	Recorded	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jul, 02:23
	4-6km SSE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:24
	2-4km SE	Recorded	5	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:22
	2-4km SE	Recorded	3	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:23
	2-4km SE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:24
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government- controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:25
controlled, 90km 3 of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:27
	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:29
	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	3-Jul, 02:31
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	3-5km ENE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	2-Jul, 21:37
NE edge of Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km W	5-7km SW	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	3-Jul, 08:20-08:25
of Luhansk)	5-6km SW	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	3-Jul, 08:45-08:50
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4km WNW	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jul, 08:48-08:51
SW edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4-6km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jul, 09:33
E edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	6-7km NW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jul, 10:00-10:03
About 3km N of Pervomaisk_(non-government-controlled,	3-5km NNE	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	3-Jul, 09:24-09:35
58km W of Luhansk)	3-5km NNE	Heard	39	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	HMG	3-Jul, 09:24-09:35
About 1.5km SW of Molodizhne (non-government- controlled, 63km NW of Luhansk)	3-4km W	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Jul, 10:01-10:08

⁸ 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 at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	1-3km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	3-Jul, 23:01
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	5	Projectile	N to S	N/K	3-Jul, 21:40
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	6	Projectile	S to N	N/K	3-Jul, 21:40
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	15	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	3-Jul, 21:43
(government-controlled, 90km S of Dolletsk)	2-4km ENE	Recorded	20	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	3-Jul, 21:47
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	2	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	3-Jul, 21:50
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	4-Jul, 01:12
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government- controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	4-Jul, 01:12
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non- government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	5-7km W	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	4-Jul, 09:00
About 500m WNW of Mineralne (non-government- controlled, 10km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	11	Shot		Small arms	4-Jul, 11:38-11:47
About 5km WNW of Maiak (non-government-controlled,	1-3km E	Heard	45	Shot		Small arms	4-Jul, 11:28-11:30
19km E of Donetsk)	1-3km E	Heard	94	Shot		Small arms	4-Jul, 11:41-11:50
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	3-Jul, 22:53
Luhansk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	3-Jul, 23:04
About 3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	4-6km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	4-Jul, 09:07



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).