

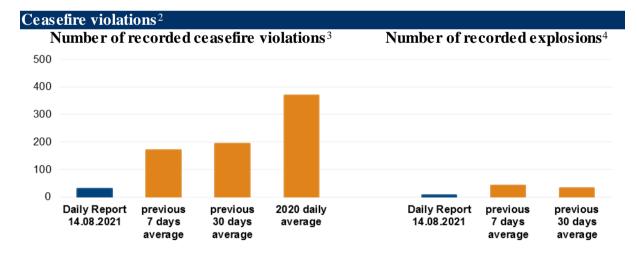
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Daily Report 189/2021

14 August 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 13 ceasefire violations, including three explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 155 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 17 ceasefire violations, including three explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 17 ceasefire violations.
- The SMM followed up on damage due to small-arms fire at an inhabited apartment in nongovernment-controlled Zolote-5/Mykhailivka, Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It recorded ceasefire violations inside the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire 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 the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint of the armed formations in Donetsk region.*



Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 13 August 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table.

³ Including explosions.

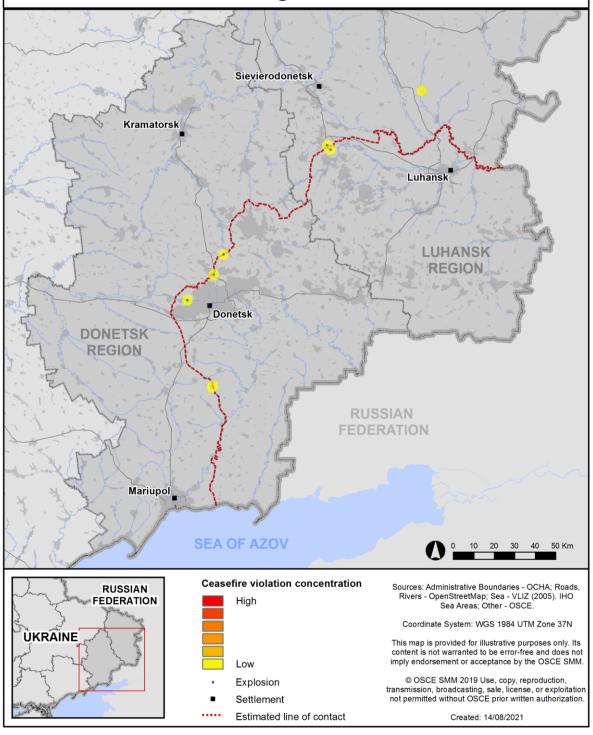
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



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

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 13 August 2021



In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 13 ceasefire violations, including three undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred inside the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below). In the <u>previous</u> reporting period, the Mission recorded 155 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 17 ceasefire violations, including three undetermined explosions. Almost all ceasefire violations occurred in a training area near Dmytrivka (government-controlled, 43km north of Luhansk) and were assessed as a live-fire exercise outside the security zone. In the <u>previous reporting period</u>, the Mission recorded 17 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 recorded at least 49,285 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 14,093 explosions, 9,418 projectiles in flight, 265 muzzle flashes, 188 illumination flares and at least 25,321 bursts and shots).

Damage due to small-arms fire at an inhabited apartment in non-government-controlled Zolote-5/Mykhailivka, Luhansk region

On 12 August, the SMM followed up on reports of damage at an inhabited five-storey apartment building on the southern edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). At a fourth-floor apartment at 14 Voikova Street, the Mission saw two holes (1cm and 9cm in diameter, respectively) in the inner and outer layers of the plastic frame of a north-facing balcony door. The SMM assessed the damage as recent and caused by small-arms fire. A man (in his forties), who introduced himself as the apartment's owner, told the SMM that on the evening of 11 August he had been standing on the balcony when he had heard an object hitting the door.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw three 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).

Inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), in Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk), the SMM observed a truck with two soldiers of the Ukrainian Army Forces. (For previous observations in the area, see SMM Daily Reports of <u>12 August 2021</u> and <u>13 August 2021</u>.)

On the night of 12-13 August, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded two undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 4-6km east-south-east. During the day on 13 August, while positioned about 2km south-west of Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km north-west of Luhansk), the SMM heard one undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 7-10km north-east. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area 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.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them).

On the night of 12-13 August, the SMM camera about 2km east of Bohdanivka (governmentcontrolled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded ten projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1-3km east-south-east and south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**.

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.

Beyond withdrawal lines, but outside designated storage sites, the SMM saw two self-propelled anti-aircraft systems at a railway station in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, as well as 15 howitzers and 27 tanks in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region, at three compounds and in a training area. (For further information, see the table below.)

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

The SMM saw eight armoured personnel carriers in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, as well as an armoured reconnaissance vehicle in a residential area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

Presence of anti-tank mines near Popasna, Luhansk region and of mine hazard signs in Spartak, Donetsk region and near Dmytrivka, Luhansk region

On 13 August, near a checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces on the eastern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), the Mission <u>again</u> spotted six previously reported anti-tank mines attached to a board lying on the southern edge of road T-0504, assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On the same day, in a residential area of Spartak (non-government-controlled, 9km north of Donetsk), on the western edge of Aerodromna Street, the Mission saw a mine hazard sign that had not previously been reported (a triangular road traffic sign with a sheet of paper in a plastic sleeve attached to it with "Stop. Mines! (mined)" written on it in Russian), assessed as recent.

Near a residential area on the western edge of Dmytrivka, the SMM observed three mine warning signs that had not previously been reported (red squares with white skulls and crossbones) on the northern side of a local road, assessed as recent.

SMM facilitation of the operation and repairs of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk).⁶

⁶ In this paragraph in the <u>SMM Daily Report of 13 August 2021</u> the sentence "While positioned at two locations near the DFS (government-controlled, 15km north of Donetsk), the SMM heard ten undetermined explosions" should have read "While positioned at two locations near the DFS, the SMM heard ten undetermined explosions".

The SMM also monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable maintenance of the phenol reservoir pipeline near Nelipivka (government-controlled, 40km north of Donetsk), inspection and repairs to a water pipeline near Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk), as well as to power lines in Novomykhailivka (government-controlled, 28km south-west of Donetsk) and in and near Vodiane (government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the SMM observed 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 people queuing to travel in both directions.

In Luhansk region, 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 12 August, at a parking lot adjacent to the EECP, the Mission observed a crane lifting containers onto a truck. On 13 August, at the same location, the SMM observed a crane moving containers, reportedly for use as toilets.

While near the checkpoint of the armed formations 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia, the Mission observed 20 trucks of an international organization exiting non-government-controlled areas. At the EECP near Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk), the SMM observed 20 trucks of the same international organization entering government-controlled areas. (For previous observations in the area, see <u>SMM Daily Report of 12 August.</u>)

The SMM noted that the EECP near Zolote was open, but that the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote was 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 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 13 August 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.

Denial:

- On a road south of Staromykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 15km west of Donetsk), three members of the armed formations, two of them visibly armed, denied the Mission passage north towards the settlement, citing "military activities in the area" and "the need to coordinate visits with those in control in Donetsk region".

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.

Delay:

- At a checkpoint near Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), an officer of the Ukrainian Armed Forces allowed the Mission to proceed east towards non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region only after about 20 minutes of waiting.

Other impediments:7

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over areas near Rozivka (government-controlled, 32km north 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 kilometres from the UAV's position.

Table of weapons

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites⁸

| Date | No. of we apons | Type of weapon Location | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---|--|-------------------|--|--|
| Government-controlled areas | | | | | | |
| 12/8/2021 | 1 | Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (2K22 Tunguska) | At a railway station in Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk), where the imagery also revealed 39 armoured combat vehicles. ⁹ | Mini-UAV | | |
| 13/8/2021 | 1 | Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (2K22 Tunguska) | At a railway station in Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk), where the Mission also spotted an anti-aircraft gun and 42 armoured combat vehicles. | Patrol | | |
| Non-government-controlled are as | | | | | | |
| 7/8/2021 | 25 | Tank (type undetermined) | In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk), where the imagery also revealed 56 armoured combat vehicles and two engineering vehicles. | Aerial imagery | | |
| | 14 | Towed howitzer (four 2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i>) and ten 2A65 <i>Msta-B</i>) | In three compounds near Khrustalnyi (56km south-west | Mini-UAV | | |
| 12/8/2021 | 2 | Tank (T-64) | of Luhansk) | | | |
| | 1 | Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 Gvozdika, 122mm) | | | | |

Other weapons¹⁰

| Date No. of weapons | | Type of weapon | Location | Source of observation | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | Non-government-controlled are as | | | | | | | |
| 7/8/202121Howitzer/mortar (15 self-propelled and six towed) | | Howitzer/mortar (15 self-propelled and six towed) | In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk) | Aerial imagery | | | | |

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone¹¹

| Date | No. | Туре | Location | Source of observation | | |
|---------------------------------|---|------|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| Government-controlled areas | | | | | | |
| 13/8/2021 | Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB) Near Krasnohorivka (24km north of Donetsk) | | Near Krasnohorivka (24km north of Donetsk) | Patrol | | |
| Non-government-controlled areas | | | | | | |
| 13/8/2021 | 13/8/2021 Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDW variant) | | In a residential area of Sofiivka (formerly Karlo-Marksove, 40km north-east of Donetsk) | Patrol | | |

 ⁸ The armoured combat vehicles mentioned in this section are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.
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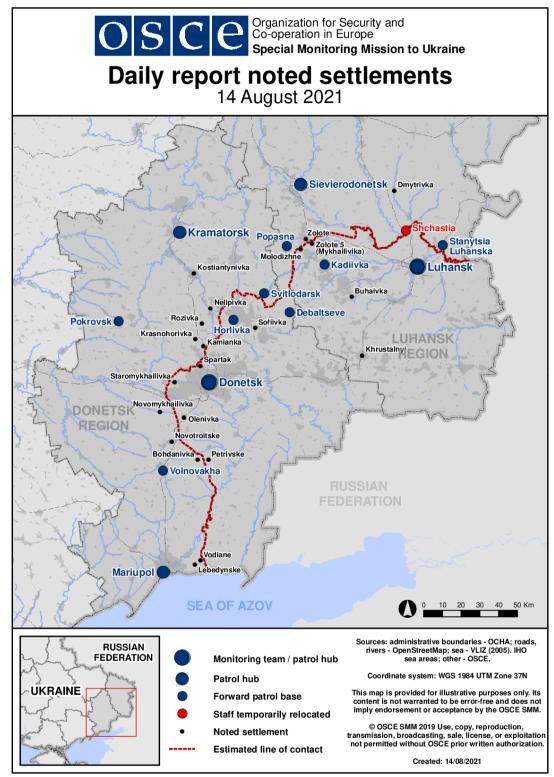
¹⁰ The SMM was unable to assess whether these weapons were in violation of withdrawal lines in the absence of information on their caliber.

¹¹ 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 of Donetsk) | 3-5km ESE | Recorded | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 13-Aug, 01:22 |
| | 1-3km ESE | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | NNW to SSE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske) | N/K | 12-Aug, 23:16 |
| SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk) | 1-3km SE | Recorded | 7 | Projectile | SW to NE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske) | N/K | 12-Aug, 23:32 |
| | 1-3km ESE | Recorded | 2 | Projectile | NNW to SSE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske) | N/K | 13-Aug, 00:40 |
| Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk) | 3-4km N | Heard | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 13-Aug, 11:07 |
| About 2.5km S of Staromykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 15km W of Donetsk) | 2km E | Heard | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 13-Aug, 15:06 |
| | 4-6km ESE | Recorded | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area) | N/K | 13-Aug, 02:31 |
| SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk) | 4-6km ESE | Recorded | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area) | N/K | 13-Aug, 03:00 |
| Description (communication states that (20mg N of Laboration) | 1km NNW | Heard | 9 | Burst | | Small arms | 13-Aug, 10:40- 10:55 |
| Dmytrivka (government-controlled, 43km N of Luhansk) | 1km NNW | Heard | 5 | Shot | | Cannon (30mm) | 13-Aug, 10:40- 10:55 |
| About 2km SW of Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km NW of Luhansk) | 7-10km NE | Heard | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote) | N/K | 13-Aug, 10:52 |

Table of ceasefire violations as of 13 August 2021¹²

¹² 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 regions¹³

¹³ 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).