

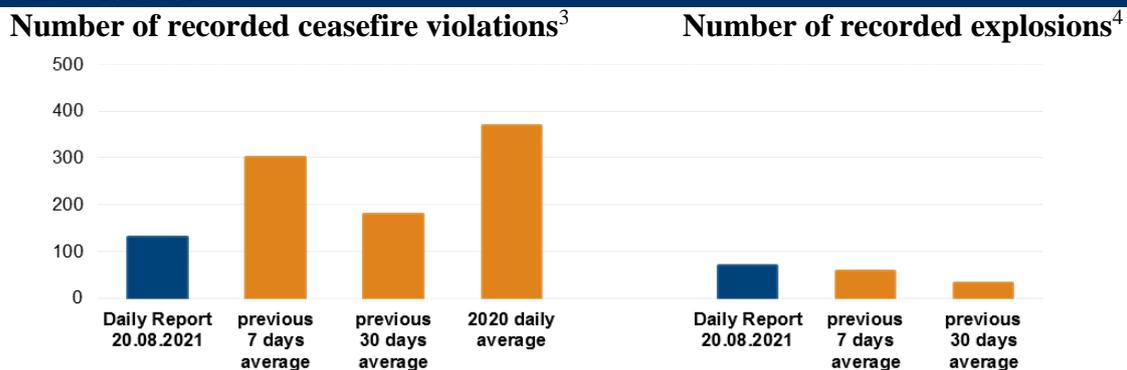
Daily Report 194/2021

20 August 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 117 ceasefire violations, including 62 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 160 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 12 ceasefire violations, including seven explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 475 ceasefire violations.
- Woman injured due to small-arms fire in government-controlled Chermalyk, Donetsk region.
- The Mission followed up on damage to two residential buildings in non-government-controlled Zolote-5/Mykhailivka, Luhansk region.
- Explosions assessed as outgoing tank rounds close to an SMM patrol in government-controlled Krasnohorivka, Donetsk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It recorded ceasefire violations close to the disengagement area near Zolote and inside the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation of and repairs to 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.
- SMM monitored gatherings in Kyiv demanding the release of people allegedly held in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at two checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced instances of GPS signal interference.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 19 August 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, weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some of the SMM cameras.

³ Including explosions.

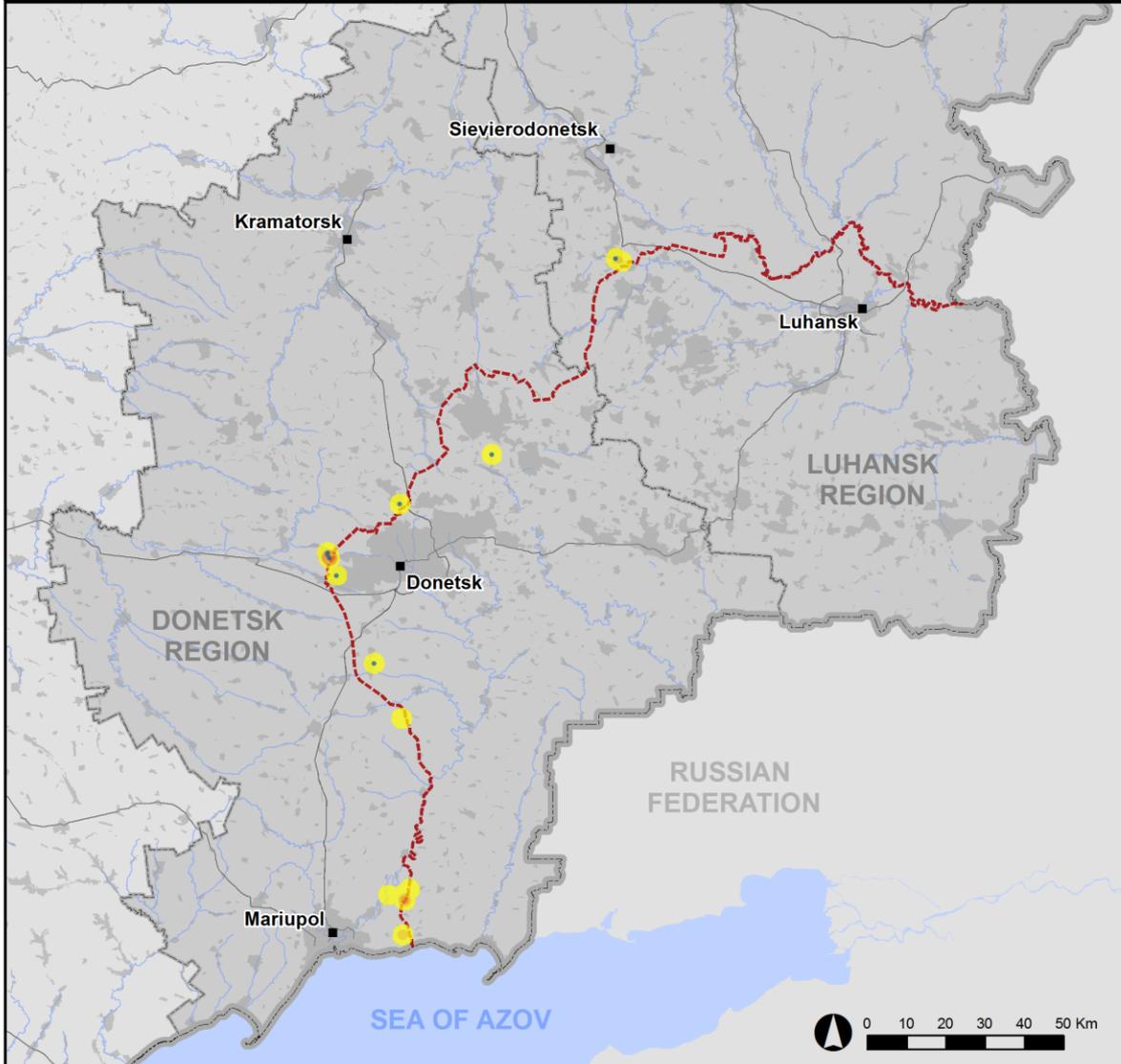
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

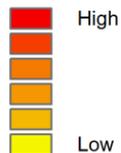


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 19 August 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: 20/08/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 117 ceasefire violations, including 62 explosions (19 undetermined and 43 outgoing, including three of tank rounds, see below). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas south-east of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km west of Donetsk). Six of the undetermined explosions occurred in an area north of Korsun (non-government-controlled, 31km north-east of Donetsk), and were assessed as a live-fire training exercise inside the security zone in violation of the decision of the Trilateral Contact Group (TCG) of 3 March 2016 that prohibits the conduct of live-fire training in the security zone. In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 160 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 12 ceasefire violations, including seven explosions (all impacts of mortar rounds). All ceasefire violations occurred at northerly directions of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). (See below.) In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 475 ceasefire violations, all of which also occurred near the aforementioned disengagement area.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the TCG 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 51,315 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 14,493 explosions, 9,974 projectiles in flight, 266 muzzle flashes, 197 illumination flares and at least 26,385 bursts and shots).

Woman injured due to small-arms fire in Chermalyk, Donetsk region

The Mission followed up on reports of a 19-year old woman injured due to small-arms fire in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk), within a 500m radius of the closest position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, on 1 August.

On 17 August, a 19-year-old woman told the SMM over the phone that, on the night of 1-2 August, she had seen several people in a quarrel on a street in Chermalyk, and had subsequently heard a shot and seen several flashes. She said that she had suddenly felt pain in her left leg and that an ambulance had taken her to a hospital in Mariupol (government-controlled, 102km south of Donetsk).

On 6 August, medical staff at a hospital in Mariupol told the SMM that, on the night of 1-2 August, a 19-year-old woman had been brought to the hospital with a gunshot wound.

Damage to two residential buildings in non-government-controlled Zolote-5/Mykhailivka, Luhansk region

The Mission followed up on reports of damage to two five-storey residential buildings on the southern edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk).

On 18 August, at 14 Voikova Street, in the staircase on the third floor of a residential building, the SMM observed the shattered inner and outer panes of a north-north-east facing double-pane window (with shards of glass underneath it), as well as a hole in the north-west facing plaster wall next to the window. The Mission assessed the damage as recent and caused by small-arms fire.

A woman (in her forties), who introduced herself as a resident on the third floor of the same building, told the SMM that, on the evening of 17 August, while at home, she had heard a loud

bang from the staircase. (For information on recent damage to the same building, see the [SMM Daily Report of 14 August 2021](#).)

On the same day, at 13 Voikova Street, in the staircase on the fourth floor of a residential building, the Mission observed a hole in the inner and outer panes of a north-north-west facing double-pane window (with shards of glass underneath it), as well as a chip in the interior window sill. It also saw a 7.62mm bullet on the floor below the window. The SMM assessed the damage as recent and caused by small-arms fire.

A man (in his fifties), who introduced himself as a resident on the fourth floor of the same building, told the Mission that, on the evening of 17 August, while on his north-west facing balcony, he had seen a flash and had heard a very loud bang.

Explosions assessed as outgoing tank rounds near SMM patrol in Krasnohorivka, Donetsk region

An SMM patrol comprising four members and two vehicles was positioned in the eastern part of Krasnohorivka to monitor the security situation in the area.

At 11:57, all the patrol members were outside the vehicles and heard three explosions, assessed as outgoing tank rounds (type undetermined) at an assessed range of 200-300m south-south-east of their position. The patrol immediately left the area and subsequently returned safely to its base in Pokrovsk (formerly Krasnoarmiisk, government-controlled, 55km north-west of Donetsk).

Between 10:52 and 11:57, while positioned at the abovementioned location, the same SMM patrol heard 61 other ceasefire violations, including 40 outgoing explosions at an assessed range of 500m-3km south-south-east of its position.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

While positioned inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission observed a calm situation.

On the night of 18-19 August, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded five projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1-3km east. During the day on 19 August, while on the northern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), the Mission heard seven explosions (impacts of mortar rounds) at an assessed range of 9-11km east-north-east. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

On 19 August, while positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them).

During the day on 19 August, while positioned about 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the Mission heard one burst of small-arms fire at an

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

assessed distance of 1km south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk).

On the same day, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over the disengagement area.*

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

In government-controlled areas in Donetsk region, the Mission saw five armoured combat vehicles. In a non-government-controlled area in Luhansk region, the SMM saw one armoured combat vehicle in a residential area. (For further information, see the table below.)

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). While positioned about 2km south-east of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk), the SMM heard one undetermined explosion, assessed as within a 5km radius of the station.

The Mission also monitored the adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to water pipelines near Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk) and Kamianka, as well as repairs to railway tracks near Yasne (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the SMM observed that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) was open and that the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Kremynets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) was closed.

In Luhansk region, the Mission observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was open, with large numbers of people queueing to travel in both directions.

The SMM 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.

About 200m south of the EECP near Zolote, the Mission observed two cranes, two trucks and ten workers removing concrete slabs and stacks of bricks on the eastern edge of road T-1316.

While positioned at the EECP near Shchastia, the SMM saw 11 trucks, bearing the logos of an international humanitarian organization, travel towards government-controlled areas.

Border areas outside government control

On 16 August, in Novoazovsk (102km south-east of Donetsk), about 10km west of the border with the Russian Federation, aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed the presence of two military-type trucks, one in a compound and one near a residential area, as well as four military-type trucks on the south-western edge of the settlement, about 14km west of the border.

SMM monitored gatherings in Kyiv demanding release of people allegedly held in non-government-controlled areas

In Kyiv, in front of the building of the Office of the President of Ukraine on 17 August, the British Embassy on 18 August, the German and Russian Embassies on 19 August, the SMM saw groups of people (ranging from three to ten, mixed genders and ages) demanding the release of people allegedly being held in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including some placing banners on the fence of the Russian Embassy. The SMM observed a calm situation at each gathering and law enforcement officers at most of them.

Also, on 19 August, in front of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, the Ombudsperson Office and the Office of the President of Ukraine, the SMM saw the same group of about 80 people (mostly men, mixed ages), including some carrying flags of the *Svoboda* party, the *National Corps* and the *Right Sector*, demanding that their members allegedly being held in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the Crimean Peninsula and in the Russian Federation be in the list of prisoners to be exchanged in a future exchange of prisoners. The Mission saw a total of 90 law enforcement personnel near the three locations.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro and Chernivtsi.

***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 [SMM Daily Report of 13 August 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.

Denial:

- At a checkpoint near Bessarabka (non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage south towards Novoazovsk (non-government-controlled, 102km south-east of Donetsk), citing “training exercises in the area”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing

through.

- At a checkpoint near Novoazovsk, two armed members of the armed formations denied the Mission passage south into the settlement, citing “ongoing exercises in the area”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing through.

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:⁶

- SMM mid-range UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during two flights over government-controlled areas: once near Rozivka (32km north of Donetsk) and once near Volnovakha (53km south of Donetsk).
- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during three flights: once over the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see above) and twice over areas near Rozivka.

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.

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

| Date | No. | Type | Location | Source of observation |
|--|------------|---|--|------------------------------|
| Government-controlled areas | | | | |
| 18/8/2021 | 1 | Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant) | Near Novohnativka (40km south of Donetsk) | Mid-range UAV |
| | 3 | Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined) | | |
| 19/8/2021 | 1 | Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-60) | Near Novotroitske (36km south-west of Donetsk) | Patrol |
| Non-government-controlled areas | | | | |
| 19/8/2021 | 1 | Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1) | In a residential area of Katerynivka (formerly Yuvileine, 8km west of Luhansk) | Patrol |

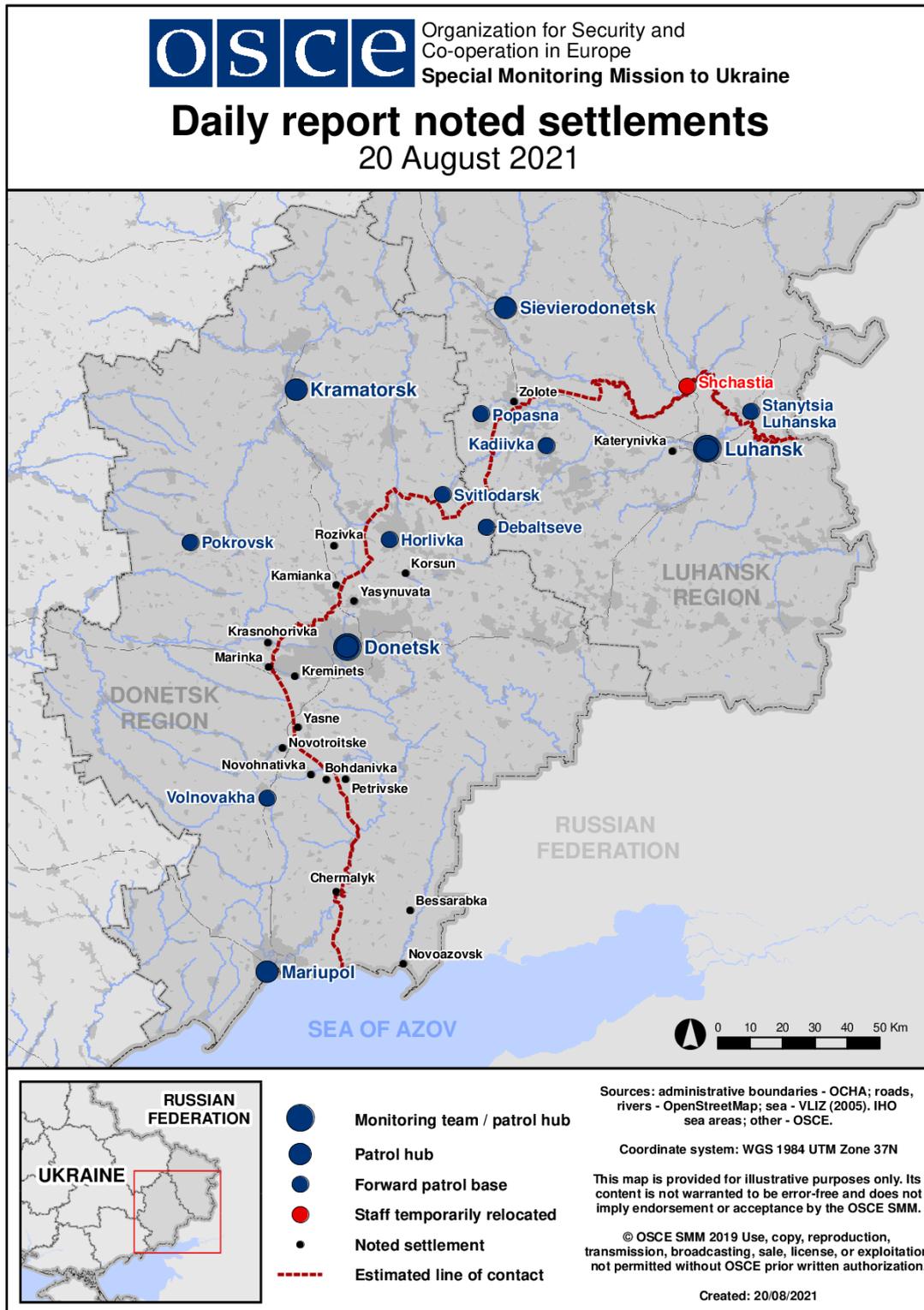
⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 19 August 2021⁸

| SMM position | Event location | Means | No. | Observation | Description | Weapon | Date, time |
|--|----------------|----------|-----|-------------|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk) | 2-4km ESE | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | WSW to ENE | N/K | 18-Aug, 20:44 |
| | 3-5km SE | Recorded | 5 | Burst | In vertical flight | N/K | 18-Aug, 20:45 |
| | 3-5km SE | Recorded | 8 | Projectile | SW to NE | N/K | 18-Aug, 20:45 |
| | 3-5km SE | Recorded | 8 | Projectile | SW to NE | N/K | 18-Aug, 20:46 |
| | 3-5km E | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | WSW to ENE | N/K | 19-Aug, 00:36 |
| SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk) | 3-5km N | Recorded | 4 | Projectile | W to E | N/K | 18-Aug, 22:32 |
| | 3-5km N | Recorded | 4 | Projectile | W to E | N/K | 18-Aug, 22:33 |
| | 3-5km N | Recorded | 5 | Projectile | W to E | N/K | 18-Aug, 22:34 |
| About 1.5km NNE of Korsun (non-government-controlled, 31km NE of Donetsk) | 1.5-2km N | Heard | 6 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 19-Aug, 09:29 |
| About 2km SE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk) | 4-5km SSW | Heard | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 19-Aug, 11:13 |
| About 900m SE of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km W of Donetsk) | 500m E | Heard | 7 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 19-Aug, 11:49 |
| E part of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km W of Donetsk) | 6-7km SSE | Heard | 4 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 19-Aug, 10:52-10:54 |
| | 0.5-3km SSE | Heard | 40 | Explosion | Outgoing | N/K | 19-Aug, 11:48-11:57 |
| | 0.5-3km SSE | Heard | 17 | Burst | | HMG | 19-Aug, 11:48-11:57 |
| | 200-300m SSE | Heard | 3 | Explosion | Outgoing | Tank (type N/K) | 19-Aug, 11:57 |
| E edge of Talakivka (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk) | 3-5km NNE | Heard | 1 | Burst | | Small arms | 19-Aug, 10:06 |
| Berezove (government-controlled, 31km SW of Donetsk) | 8km ESE | Heard | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 19-Aug, 14:13 |
| About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk) | 1km SE | Heard | 1 | Burst | Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske | Small arms | 19-Aug, 17:02 |
| SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk) | 1-3km E | Recorded | 5 | Projectile | SSW to NNE (assessed as outside the disengagement area) | N/K | 19-Aug, 00:11 |
| N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk) | 9-11km ENE | Heard | 7 | Explosion | Impact (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote) | Mortar (type N/K) | 19-Aug, 07:30-07:55 |

⁸ 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 regions⁹



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).