

Daily Report 211/2021

9 September 2021¹

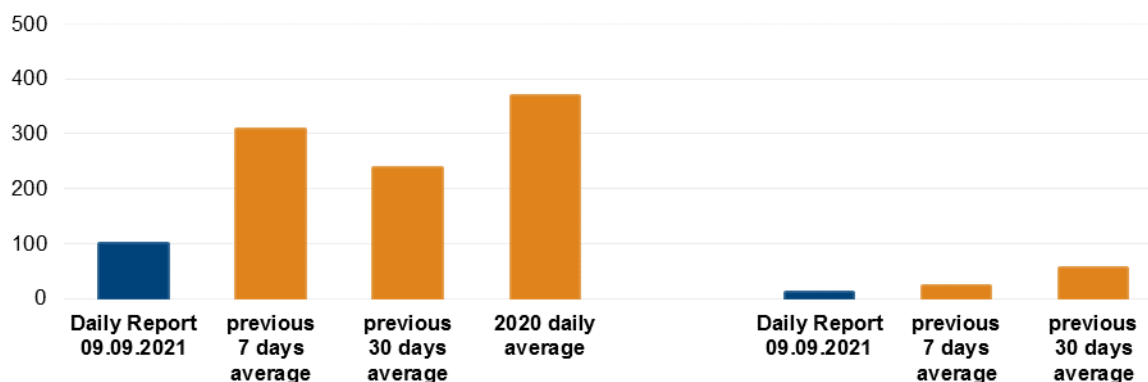
Summary

- In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 94 ceasefire violations, including six explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 1,090 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded six ceasefire violations, including four explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 476 ceasefire violation in the region.
- The Mission followed up on reports of a man injured due to shelling in non-government-controlled Donetsk city.
- Small-arms fire was assessed as directed at SMM's mini-unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) near non-government-controlled Petrivske, Holmivskyi and in Horlivka, Donetsk region.*
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske and recorded ceasefire violations inside and close to the disengagement area near Petrivske and Zolote.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation and repair 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. Its UAVs again experienced multiple instances of GPS signal interference. *

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 8 September 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.

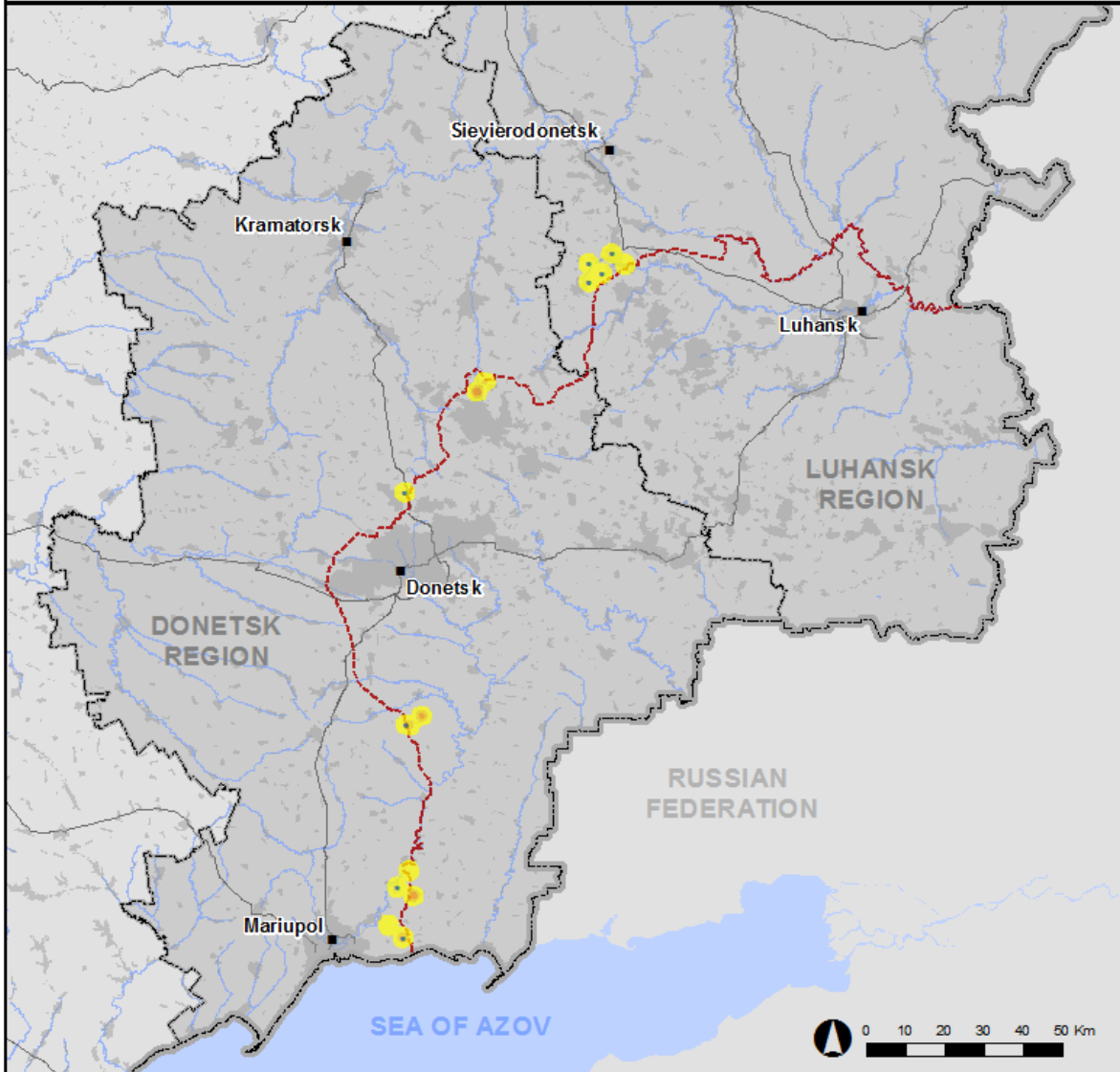
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

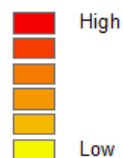


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 8 September 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: 09/09/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 94 ceasefire violations, including six explosions (one impact and five undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred at northerly directions of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk) and inside and near the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk). (See below.). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 1,090 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded six ceasefire violations, including four undetermined explosions. All ceasefire violations occurred at northerly and westerly directions of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). (See below.) In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 476 ceasefire violations, all of which also occurred near the same disengagement area.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the TCG on 22 July 2020 regarding 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 55,935 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 15,664 explosions, 10,849 projectiles in flight, 270 muzzle flashes, 223 illumination flares and at least 28,929 bursts and shots).

Man injured due to shelling in non-government-controlled Donetsk city

The Mission followed up on reports of a man injured in the Trudivski area of Donetsk city's Petrovskiy District (non-government-controlled, 15km south-west of Donetsk city centre).

On 7 September, a man (in his fifties) told the SMM that, on the afternoon of 29 August, he heard shooting and explosions while in the backyard of his house. He saw an object strike the wall of his house, after which he felt pain in his back, shoulder and elbow and saw that he had been injured. He said that his wife, who was in the house at the time, helped him get to a hospital in Donetsk city.

On the same day, a woman (in her fifties), who introduced herself as the wife of the injured man, told the Mission that, on the afternoon of 29 August, she had been in their house when she had heard shooting and explosions nearby and then saw that her husband had sustained injuries.

On 7 September, the SMM saw a medical certificate from a hospital in Donetsk city, according to which a man (in his fifties) had sustained shrapnel wounds to his torso, shoulder and arm consistent with an explosion.

Small-arms fire assessed as directed at SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicles near Petrivske, Holmivskiyi and in Horlivka, Donetsk region*

While positioned about 2km north of Petrivske to conduct an announced mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) flight, the SMM heard 12 bursts and four shots of small-arms fire, all at an assessed distance of 1.5km east of the SMM's position, assessed as targeting the UAV, which was flying about 1.5km south-south-east of the SMM's position.

While positioned on the western edge of Holmivskiyi (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk) to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard eight shots of small-arms fire, at an assessed distance of about 1.4km north-west of the SMM's position,

assessed as targeting the UAV, which was flying near positions of the armed formations about 1.4km north-west of SMM's position.

While positioned in Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk), to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard 20 shots of small-arms fire, at an assessed range of 100-200m east of the SMM's position, assessed as targeting the UAV, which was flying about 40m north-west of the SMM's position.

During all three flights, the Mission experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming. The SMM landed the UAVs and left the area. (See below.)*

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 four 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 7 September, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded two projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km east. On 8 September, while positioned at two locations near the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the SMM heard two undetermined explosions. Both of these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote but within 5km of its periphery.

The SMM again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area's southern edge and inside the area, as well as a previously reported underground structure inside the area.

On 8 September, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, on the western edge of road T-1316, the SMM saw four not previously reported mine hazard signs (red squares with "Stop, Mines" in Russian).

On the evening of 7 September, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded one undetermined explosion and four projectiles in flight, all at an assessed range of 1-3km east-south-east and assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**.

On 8 September, while positioned about 2km east of Bohdanivka, the Mission heard eight bursts of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 3km east-south-east, assessed as inside the disengagement area. On the same day, while positioned about 2km north of Petrivske, the SMM heard 16 bursts and shots of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 1.5km east, assessed as outside the disengagement area, but within 5km of its periphery. (See above.)*

On the same day, an SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during a flight over the disengagement area.*

Withdrawal of weapons

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

The SMM continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum

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

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

While positioned near the Prince Ihor Monument, about 1km south-east of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge, the Mission saw two non-SMM UAVs flying over its position: one in a north-easterly direction and the other in a north-westerly direction, despite the ban on the operation of any aerial vehicles included in the 22 July 2020 TCG agreement on Measures to strengthen the ceasefire.

Presence of mines near government-controlled Popasna, Luhansk region

On 7 September, about 2km east of the eastern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), near a checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, an SMM mini-UAV spotted seven previously reported mines: one anti-personnel mine (MON-90) on the southern edge of road T-0504 as well as in total six anti-tank mines, in fields north and south of the road. All these mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

SMM facilitation - the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) (DFS). While positioned in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), the SMM heard one undetermined explosion assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

The SMM also monitored the security situation near the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk) and adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable repairs and maintenance at the phenol sludge reservoir near Nelipivka (government-controlled, 40km north of Donetsk)

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the Mission 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 SMM observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations were open, with people queuing to travel in both directions.

While at the EECP, the SMM [again](#) observed seven workers (men, in their twenties to fifties) assembling prefabricated metal structures, assessed as to be used by the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine.

The Mission 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.

The Mission 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 [SMM Daily Report of 1 September 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:⁶

- On 8 September, while positioned near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard 16 bursts and shots of small-arms fire. During the same flight, the UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming. The SMM landed the UAV and left the area. (See above.)
- On the same day, while positioned on the western edge of Holmivskyi (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk), to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard eight shots of small-arms fire, assessed as targeting the UAV. During the same flight, the UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming. The SMM landed the UAV and left the area. (See above.)
- On the same day, while positioned in Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk), to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard 20 shots of small-arms fire, assessed as targeting the UAV. During the same flight, the UAV experienced GPS

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.

signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming. The Mission landed the UAV and left the area. (See above.)

- On the same day, SMM mid-range UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, on three occasions during the same flight: over areas near Trudivske (government-controlled, 47km south of Donetsk), Novolaspa (non-government-controlled, 50km south of Donetsk) and over the disengagement area near Petrivske, respectively.
- On the same day, SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during 12 flights: six times over areas near Holmivskyi, twice over areas near government-controlled Bobrove (56km north-west of Luhansk), and Muratove (51km north-west of Luhansk), respectively; and once over areas near Borivske (government-controlled, 65km north-west of Luhansk) and Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), respectively.
- On the same day, the Mission cancelled two mid-range UAV flights near Holmivskyi due to GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming.

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
8/9/2021	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70)	Near Voitove (33km north-west of Luhansk)	

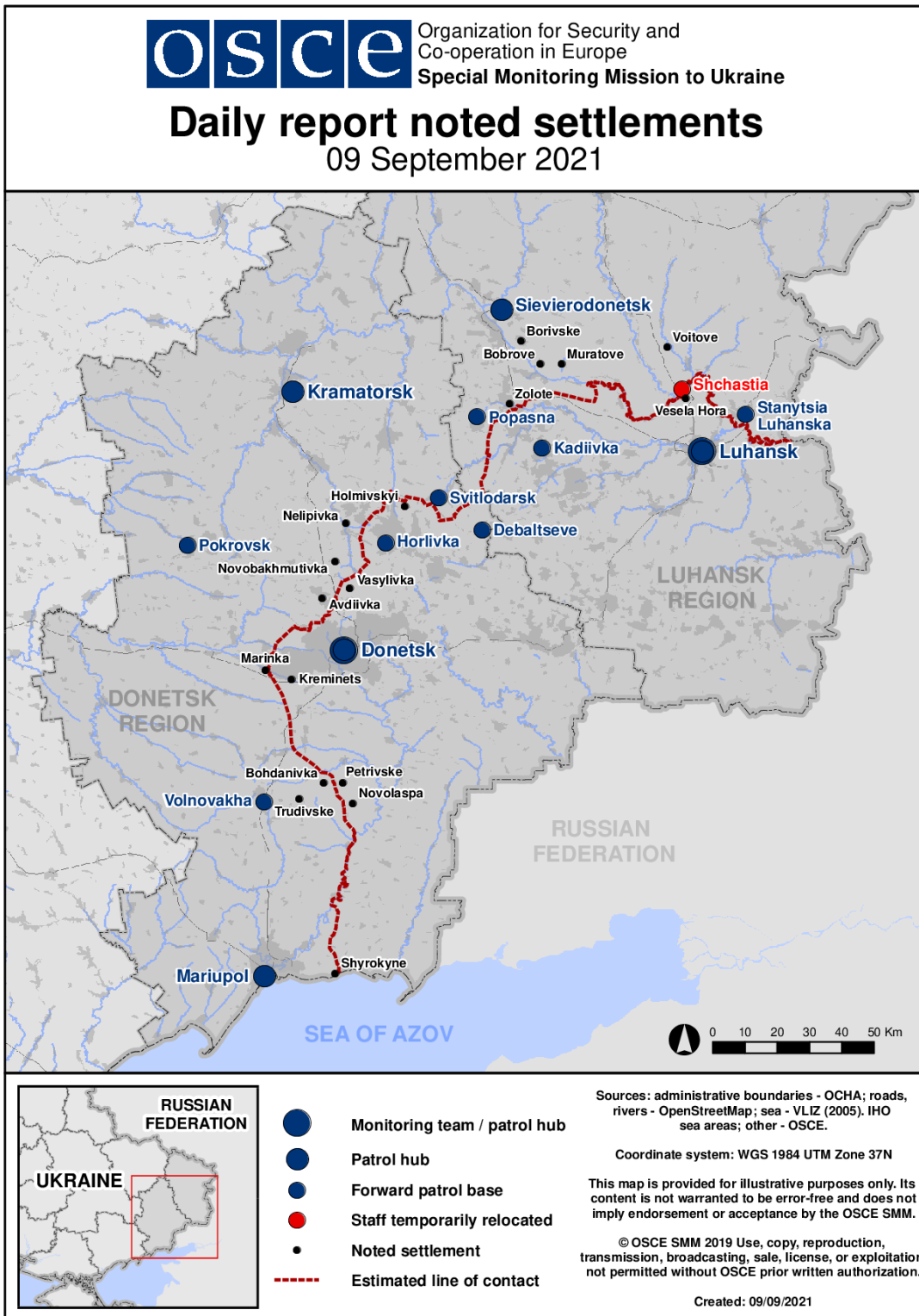
⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 8 September 2021⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	1-3km ESE	Recorded	4	Projectile	NNW to SSE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	7-Sep, 21:15
	1-3km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	7-Sep, 22:17
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	7-Sep, 22:53
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	4-6km E	Recorded	8	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	8-Sep, 00:48
	4-6km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	8-Sep, 00:52
	4-6km E	Recorded	7	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	8-Sep, 00:52
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	7-Sep, 20:18
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	7-Sep, 20:18
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	7-Sep, 20:18
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	7-Sep, 20:18
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	ESE to WNW (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	7-Sep, 20:18
	4-6km N	Recorded	7	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	7-Sep, 20:21
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	7-Sep, 23:54
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1.5km E	Heard	4	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	8-Sep, 10:41
	1.5km E	Heard	12	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	8-Sep, 10:41
W edge Holmivskiyi (non-government-controlled, 49km NE of Donetsk)	1.4km NW	Heard	8	Shot		Small arms	8-Sep, 12:30
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	100-200m E	Heard	20	Shot		Small arms	8-Sep, 13:09
About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	3km ESE	Heard	8	Burst	Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	8-Sep, 10:41
About 2km NE of Chemenko (government-controlled, 86km S of Donetsk)	2-3km NNE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 12:01-12:06
About 2.5km SSE of Lomakyne (government-controlled, 93km S of Donetsk)	2-3km NE	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	8-Sep, 12:44-12:45
About 2km S of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	5km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Aug, 12:39
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-4km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Sep, 21:36
About 3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	5-8km NNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	8-Sep, 10:42
	8-10km WNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 13:32
About 1.5km SW of Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km NW of Luhansk)	2-5km N	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	8-Sep, 11:25
	2-5km WNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 11:37

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).