

Daily Report 212/2021

10 September 2021¹

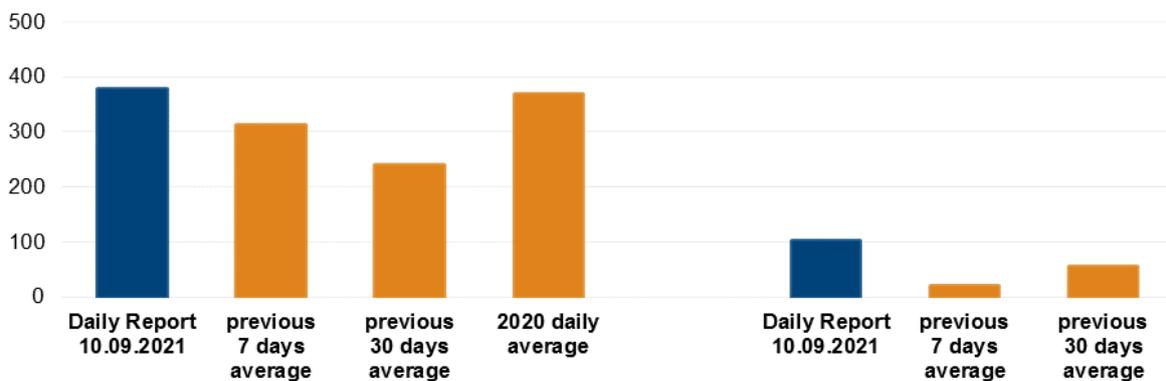
Summary

- In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 176 ceasefire violations, including 66 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 94 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 348 ceasefire violations, including 37 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded six ceasefire violation in the region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske and recorded ceasefire violations inside the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- 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 three entry-exit checkpoints and two corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk. Its UAVs again experienced 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, 9 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.

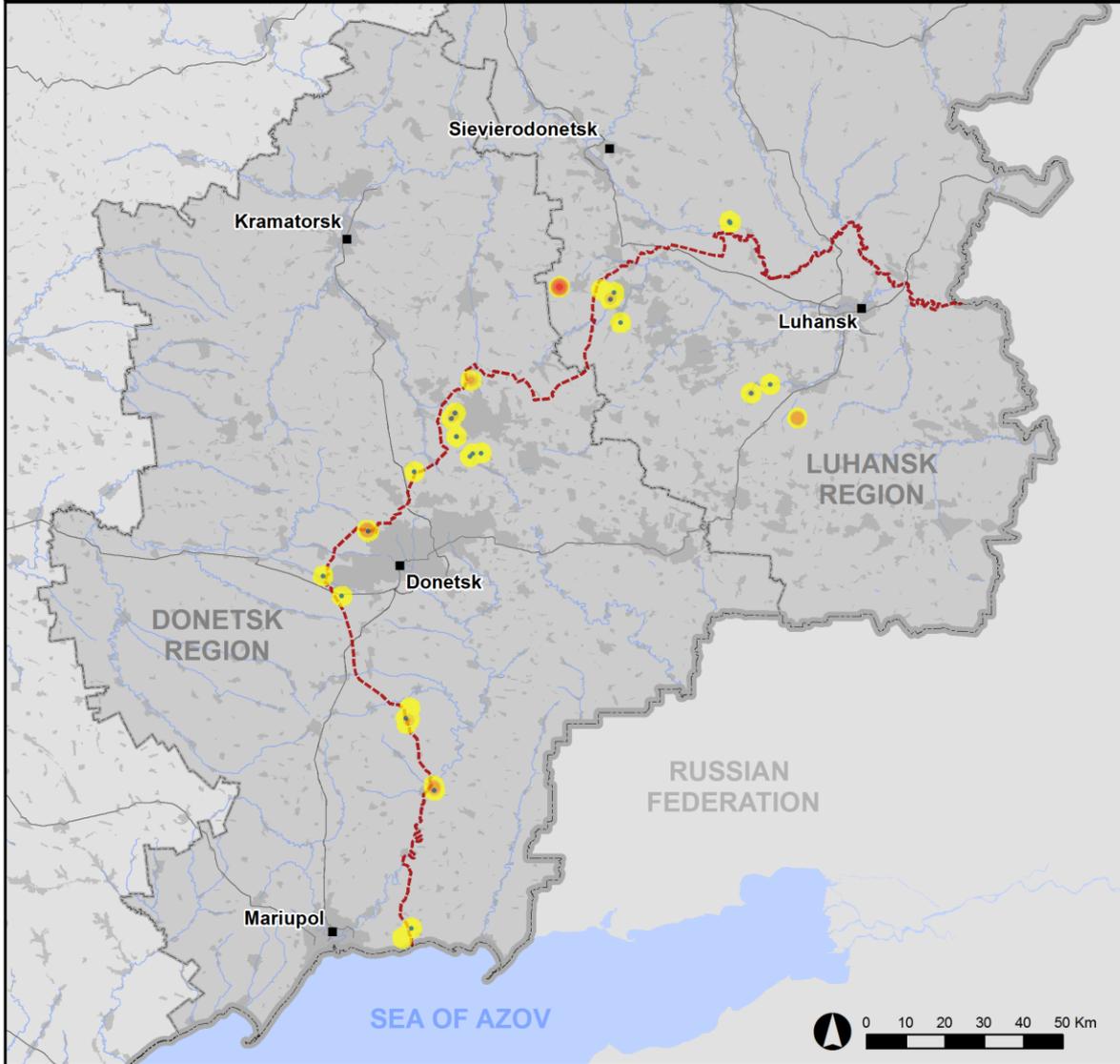
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

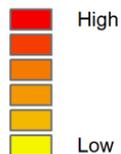


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 9 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.

© OSCE SMM 2019 Use, copy, reproduction, transmission, broadcasting, sale, license, or exploitation not permitted without OSCE prior written authorization.

Created: 10/09/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 176 ceasefire violations, including 66 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred at south-westerly directions of Pisky (government-controlled, 11km north-west of Donetsk), in areas north-east and east of Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km south of Donetsk), in areas west of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk) and in areas close to the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below.) In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 94 ceasefire violations, some of which also occurred in areas close to the disengagement area near Petrivske.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 348 ceasefire violations, including 37 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred south of Druzhba (government-controlled, 76km west of Luhansk), at northerly directions of Kruhlyk (non-government-controlled, 31km south-west of Luhansk), assessed as a live-fire exercise outside the security zone, and in areas south and south-west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded six ceasefire violations, all of which 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 56,459 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 15,767 explosions, 10,903 projectiles in flight, 270 muzzle flashes, 224 illumination flares and at least 29,295 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), near its northern edge, the Mission observed a visit of a delegation of representatives of international organizations.

While positioned at two locations near the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the SMM heard three undetermined explosions and four shots of small-arms fire, all assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

About 50m north of the northern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote, on the north-western side of the road leading to Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 62km west of Luhansk), the SMM observed four representatives of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine with heavy machinery conducting works at a structure made of reinforced concrete blocks, assessed as a shelter. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 6 September 2021](#)).⁶

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.

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

⁶ In the SMM Daily Report of 6 September 2021, this paragraph was placed under the section regarding activity around checkpoints instead of under the section regarding activity around disengagement areas. The works observed were conducted 50m north of the northern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote, not 50m north of the EECP near Zolote.

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

On the evening and night of 8-9 September, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded two undetermined explosions and 11 projectiles in flight, all at an assessed range of 1-4km east-south-east and south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**, as well as three projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km south-east, unable to be assessed as inside or outside the area. During the same night, the SMM camera in Petrivske recorded two projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1-3km north-north-west, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

During the day on 9 September, 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 SMM saw six howitzers in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission saw 12 tanks and 21 howitzers in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including at a railway station, and ten tanks in two training areas in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the tables below.)

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

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

Presence of mines near Starohnativka, Travneve and Holmivskiyi, Donetsk region

On 8 September, about 4km east of Starohnativka (government-controlled, 51km south of Donetsk), an SMM mid-range UAV spotted 14 previously reported anti-tank mines laid in three locations across a road leading north towards Bila Kamianka (non-government-controlled, 51km south of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 1 July 2021](#).)

About 2km further east, the same UAV spotted five previously reported anti-tank mines laid across the same road, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 2 July 2021](#).)

On the south-western edge of Travneve (government-controlled, 51km north-east of Donetsk), a mini-UAV spotted 26 [previously reported](#) anti-tank mines laid across a road leading south towards Holmivskiyi (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

About 1.5km east-south-east of Travneve, a mini-UAV spotted eight previously reported anti-tank mines laid across a road leading south-east towards Dolomitne (53km north-east of

Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 1 April 2021](#).)

About 1km north of Holmivskiyi, the same UAV spotted 12 previously reported anti-tank mines laid across the same road, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 11 May 2021](#).)

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) and monitored the security situation near the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Luhansk region, the SMM observed that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Stanytsia Luhanska was open, with people queueing to travel in both directions.

While at the EECP, the SMM again observed workers conducting works on replacing a fence and assembling metal structures. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 9 September 2021](#).)

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.

Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point near Novoazovsk (102km south-east of Donetsk), for about 35 minutes, the SMM saw five cars (including one with “DPR” plates) entering Ukraine, and five cars (including three with “DPR” plates), one covered cargo truck and one bus (carrying passengers of mixed genders and ages) exiting Ukraine.⁷

The SMM also monitored areas near the border with the Russian Federation near Shcherbak (92km south of Donetsk), Samiilove (89km south of Donetsk), Klynkyne (85km south-east of Donetsk) and Siedove (106km south of Donetsk) and observed no change in the security situation.

Gathering in Kyiv

On 9 September, in front of the Verkhovna Rada at 5 Mykhaila Hrushevskoho Street, the SMM observed a gathering of about 2,000 people (mixed gender and ages) expressing messages in support of a parliamentarian of an opposition party and critical of the Ukrainian government’s actions in relation to freedom of the media. The Mission saw some participants were holding flags of the Opposition Platform - For Life party. It observed about 150 law enforcement officers and a calm situation.

⁷ 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.

The Mission 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 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.

Denial:

- About 3km north-east of Novoazovsk (non-government-controlled, 102km south-east of Donetsk), three members of the armed formations, two visibly armed, denied the SMM passage south towards Siedove (non-government-controlled, 106km south of Donetsk).
- At a checkpoint near Markyne (non-government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk), two members of the armed formations, one visibly armed, denied the Mission passage west towards Oleksandrivske (formerly Rozy Liuksemburh, non-government-controlled, 90km south-east of Donetsk), saying that “the road was closed for all traffic”.

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:⁸

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming once over areas near Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk).
- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during four flights: twice over areas near Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk), once over areas near Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) and once over areas near Dmytrivka (government-controlled, 43km north of Luhansk).

⁸ 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 weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
9/9/2021	2	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	Near Bile (22km west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	4	Towed howitzer (D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
9/9/2021	9	Towed howitzer (2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i> , 152mm)	Near Khlivodarivka (65km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
	12	Tank (T-64)	At a railway station in Zachativka (74km south-west of Donetsk)	
	12	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		
Non-government-controlled areas				
9/9/2021	3	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	7	Tank (T-72)	In a training area near Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk)	

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁹

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
8/9/2021	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	In a compound near a residential area of Starohnativka (51km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
9/9/2021	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	In a residential area of Trokhizbenka (32km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

⁹ 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 9 September 2021¹⁰

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	3	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	8-Sep, 21:35
	2-4km SE	Recorded	3	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if outside or inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	8-Sep, 22:41
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	5	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	8-Sep, 22:44
	1-3km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	8-Sep, 23:34
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	3	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	9-Sep, 03:28
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 22:31
	2-4km E	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 22:32
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	8-Sep, 22:34
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	6	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	8-Sep, 22:35
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	8-Sep, 22:36
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	4	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	8-Sep, 22:37
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	8-Sep, 22:41
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 22:41
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	8-Sep, 22:42
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	8-Sep, 22:43
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km ENE	Recorded	9	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	8-Sep, 20:21
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	5	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	8-Sep, 20:24
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	4	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	8-Sep, 20:25
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 21:48
SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1-3km NNW	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	9-Sep, 02:10
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	5-7km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 23:34
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	9-Sep, 02:39
Oleksandrivka (non-government-controlled, 20km SW of Donetsk)	1.5km S	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 10:17
About 2km WSW of Vesele (government-controlled, 21km N of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 08:33-08:38
Khersones (government-controlled, 87km S of Donetsk)	1-2km SW	Heard		Burst	Uncountable	Small arms	9-Sep, 13:00-13:30
About 2km E of Ozerianivka (non-government-controlled, 35km NE of Donetsk)	4-6km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 10:47-10:52
Panteleimonivka (non-government-controlled, 26km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km NE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 12:28-12:30
	4-6km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 12:48
About 2km WNW of Pisky (government-controlled, 11km NW of Donetsk)	1-2km SE	Heard	55	Burst		Small arms	9-Sep, 13:43-13:53
	2km SE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 13:50
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	4-5km WNW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 01:50
	4-5km WNW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 02:30
	4-5km WNW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 02:45
	4-5km NW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 03:20
	4-5km NW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 03:45
	4-5km NW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 04:00
	4-5km WNW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 04:30

¹⁰ 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.

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
	3-5km SW	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 08:32-08:34
SMM camera in Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	200-500m SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 18:26
	200-500m SW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 18:26
	200-500m W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 18:26
	200-500m SW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	8-Sep, 18:28
About 1.5km SE of Druzhba (government-controlled, 76km W of Luhansk)	1-2km SSW	Heard	265	Shot		Small arms	9-Sep, 10:10-10:40
Malomykolaivka (non-government-controlled, 36km SW of Luhansk)	8-10km NNW	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 12:02-12:13
W edge of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	3-5km S	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 12:12-12:27
	2-3km SSE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	9-Sep, 12:30-12:45
S edge of Zolote disengagement area (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	10-15km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 13:15
About 2.5km N of Kruhlyk (non-government-controlled, 31km SW of Luhansk)	10-12km NW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Sep, 13:03-13:12
	1-1.5km SW	Heard	42	Burst		HMG	9-Sep, 13:03-13:12
About 2km SW of Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km NW of Luhansk)	1-2km S	Heard	4	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	9-Sep, 14:13

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹¹



¹¹ 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).