



Daily Report 242/2021

15 October 2021¹

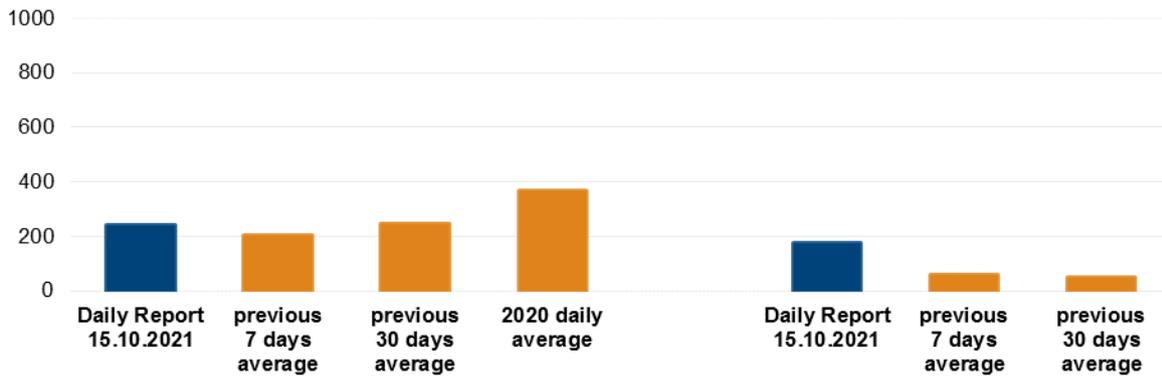
Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 32 ceasefire violations, including 20 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 230 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 207 ceasefire violations, including 157 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 95 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM corroborated reports of a boy injured due to an explosion in non-government-controlled Luhansk city.
- The Mission followed up on reports of damage to a residential house in non-government-controlled Pikuzy, Donetsk region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM 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.
- The Mission monitored four border crossing points outside government control in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as areas near the border with the Russian Federation in Donetsk region.
- The SMM observed convoys of cargo trucks in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission monitored gatherings in Lviv and Kyiv.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at checkpoints of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge, on the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote, and at a border crossing point near Izvaryne, all in Luhansk region.*

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 14 October 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³ Number of recorded explosions⁴



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

³ Including explosions.

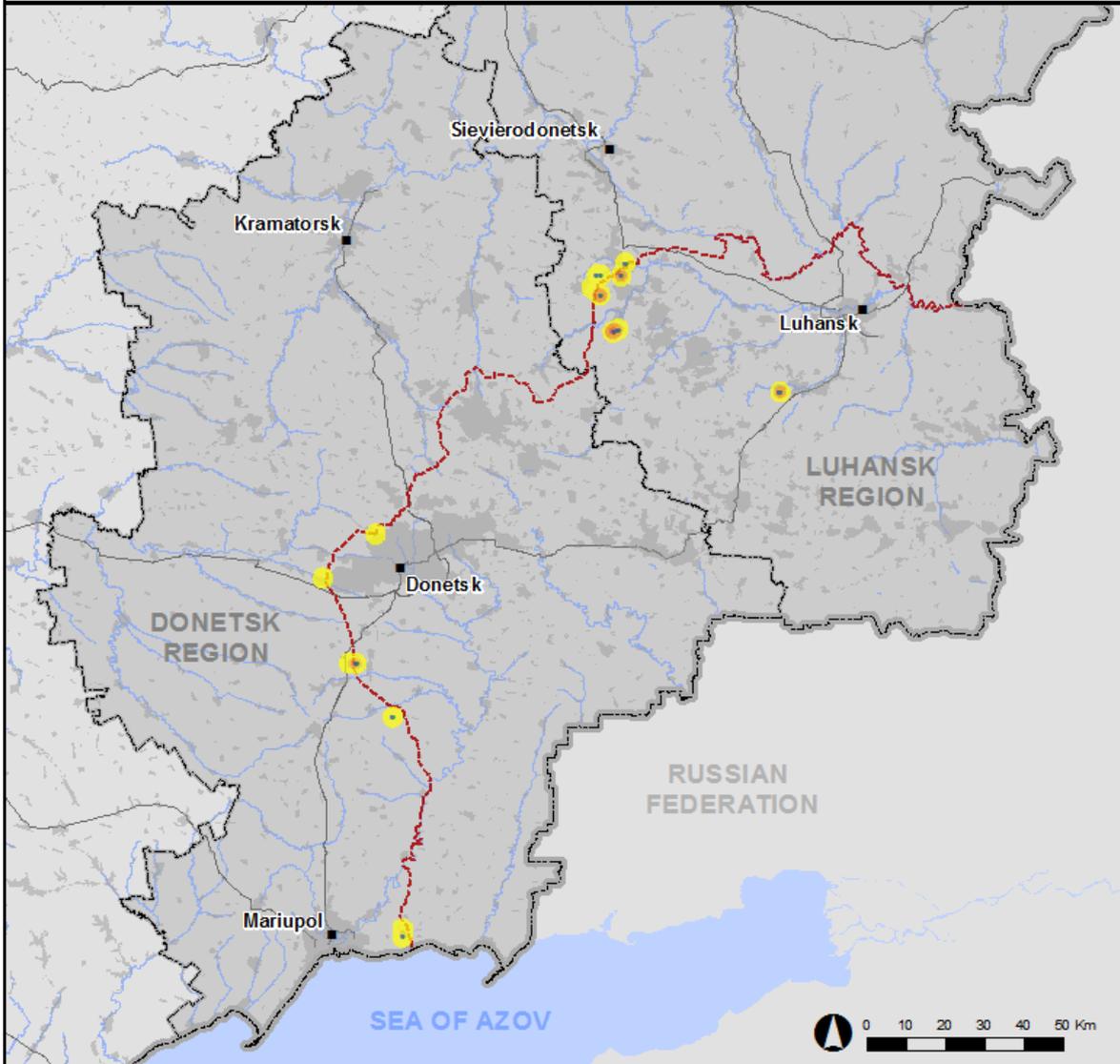
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

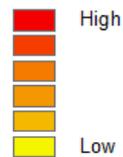


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 14 October 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: 15/10/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 32 ceasefire violations, including 20 explosions (seven impacts and 13 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas south-east of Berezove (government-controlled, 31km south-west of Donetsk) and north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 230 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 207 ceasefire violations, including 157 explosions (29 outgoing, one airburst, and 127 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred near the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). The Mission also heard and saw 29 ceasefire violations in an area south-west of Yasne (non-government-controlled, 25km south-west of Luhansk), assessed as a live-fire exercise outside the security zone. In the [previous reporting period](#), the SMM recorded 95 ceasefire violations in the region.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group (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 64,414 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 17,774 explosions, 12,993 projectiles in flight, 285 muzzle flashes, 261 illumination flares and at least 33,101 bursts and shots).

Civilian casualty corroborated in non-government-controlled Luhansk city

The Mission followed up on reports of a 14-year-old boy injured in non-government-controlled Luhansk city on 16 September.

On 13 October, a woman (age unknown), who introduced herself as the mother of the boy, told the SMM over the phone that on the morning of 16 September, while at home, she had seen her son holding an unidentified object. Subsequently, she saw and heard an explosion and observed blood and burns on the hands of her son, who was later taken to a hospital in Luhansk city. She added that her son had told her that he had found the object at a nearby cemetery.

On 27 September, medical staff at a hospital in Luhansk city told the Mission that on the morning of 16 September a 14-year-old boy had been admitted with injuries to his hands, consistent with those caused by an explosion.

On 13 October, a woman (age unknown), who introduced herself as a neighbour of the boy, told the SMM over the phone that on the morning of 16 September, while at home, she had heard an explosion followed by the voice of the boy calling for help.

Damage to a residential property in non-government-controlled Pikuzy, Donetsk region

On 13 October, the Mission followed up on reports of damage in Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk).

At 15 Akhmatovoi Street, on the western edge of Pikuzy and within 100m of positions of the armed formations, the SMM saw two holes in the inner and outer south-west-facing double entrance doors of an inhabited single-storey house, as well as a hole in the south-west-facing side of the house's asbestos roof. About 10m west of the house, the Mission saw a hole in the north-east-facing side of an outbuilding's asbestos roof.

The Mission assessed all the aforementioned damage as recent. It assessed the damage to the entrance doors as caused by shrapnel or small-arms fire and the holes in both roofs as caused by small-arms fire. A woman (in her sixties), who introduced herself as the owner of the house, told the SMM that on the evening of 11 October she had been inside the house when she heard shelling and shooting nearby.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 14 October, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (including two 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 13 October, while in Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km west of Luhansk), the Mission heard 26 undetermined explosions and three bursts of unidentified weapons at an assessed range of 12-15km north-west, unable to be assessed as either inside or outside the **disengagement area near Zolote**. On the same evening, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded two explosions (one airburst and one undetermined) and a projectile in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km east. On the same evening, while on the northern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), the SMM heard one undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 4-5km east. On the morning of 14 October, while positioned on the southern edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM heard three undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 6-8km west. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 14 October, inside the disengagement area, about 350m north of its southern edge, the Mission saw two members of the armed formations (of whom one was wearing an armband with “JCCC” written on it). Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote, the Mission saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them).

On the same day, 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 the previously reported underground structure inside the area. The Mission also saw that road barriers across road T-1316, on the area’s southern edge and about 20m north of it, were closed.

On the evening of 13 October, the SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) recorded three undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 4-6km west, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**, but within 5km of its periphery.

During the day on 14 October, while positioned at three locations near the area, the Mission 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.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the SMM observed a howitzer near a residential area in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and 24 howitzers or mortars and ten tanks in a training area near Miusynsk (non-government-controlled, 62km south-west of Luhansk). (For further information, see the table below.)

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

The Mission observed two infantry fighting vehicles and four armoured personnel carriers in government-controlled areas of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

Presence of mines near government-controlled Novotoshkovske and Popasna, Luhansk region

On 13 October, about 2.5km east-south-east of Novotoshkovske (government-controlled, 53km west of Luhansk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted eight previously reported anti-tank mines laid across a local road, assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 19 August 2021](#).)

On the same day, about 2km east of the eastern edge of Popasna, an SMM mini-UAV spotted 11 previously reported mines, including one anti-personnel mine (MON-90) on the northern edge of road T-0504, six anti-tank mines attached to a wooden board laid across the aforementioned road, and four anti-tank mines in the grass near the same road's southern edge. All these mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. (For previous observations in the area, see SMM Daily Reports of [14 August 2021](#), [9 September 2021](#), and [29 September 2021](#).)

SMM facilitation - the operation and repairs of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) and monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable repairs to the roofs of its buildings.

The Mission also monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable repairs to water pipelines in Zaitseve (50km north-east of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the SMM observed that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) was open, but did not observe any traffic passing through.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECPs near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote, and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were open, but that the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge,

south of the disengagement area near Zolote, and 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia were closed.

Border areas outside government control⁶

While at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk), for about 70 minutes, the Mission observed 13 cars (including ten with “DPR” plates), one covered cargo truck (with “DPR” plates), one bus (with “DPR” plates, carrying people of mixed genders and ages) and 51 people (23 women, 24 men, mixed ages, and four children) entering Ukraine. During the same time, the SMM observed 18 cars (including six with “DPR” plates), 32 covered cargo trucks (including 12 with “DPR” plates), one bus (with “DPR” plates), one mini-bus (with “DPR” plates, carrying passengers of mixed genders and ages), and 58 people (27 women, 28 men, mixed ages, and three children) exiting Ukraine.

While at a border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk), for about an hour, the SMM observed no traffic.

While at a border crossing point near Izvaryne (52km south-east of Luhansk), the Mission observed two people (a woman and a man, in their sixties) entering Ukraine. After about four minutes, a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.*

While at a border crossing point near Verkhnoharasymivka (57km south-east of Luhansk), for about 45 minutes, the SMM observed 25 people (mixed genders and ages, including two children) walking in the direction of the border crossing point, and six people (two women and four men, including one in military-style clothing) walking from the direction of the border crossing point.

The SMM also monitored areas near the border with the Russian Federation close to Kosharne (61km south-east of Donetsk), Vasylivka (65km south-east of Donetsk), Petropavlivka (68km south-east of Donetsk) and Stepne (72km south-east of Donetsk), and observed no change in the security situation.

Convoys observed in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions

On 14 October, in Donetsk city’s Leninskyi district (non-government-controlled, 4km south of Donetsk city centre), the Mission saw 12 covered cargo trucks with Russian Federation licence plates park at a warehouse, where the SMM observed men unloading boxes from several of the trucks. The Mission subsequently observed the same convoy travel south on road T-0507, towards Ilovaik (non-government-controlled, 30km south-east of Donetsk).

On the same day, in Molodohvardiisk (non-government-controlled, 35km south-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw a convoy of ten covered cargo trucks (license plates not visible) marked with Russian Federation flags and one minibus (licence plates not visible), escorted by two cars (with “LPR” plates and with “police” written on their sides), moving north on road M-04.

⁶ 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 SMM monitored gatherings in Lviv and Kyiv

On 13 and 14 October, the SMM monitored peaceful gatherings on the occasion of the Day of the Defenders and Defendresses of Ukraine in Lviv and Kyiv. On both days, at several locations in Lviv, the Mission observed five commemorative events with in total about 700 participants (mixed genders and ages). On 14 October, at several locations in Kyiv, the SMM observed multiple gatherings with in total over 9,000 participants (mixed genders and ages). Also in Kyiv, in Tarasa Shevchenka park, the SMM saw a group of about 50 people (mostly men, in their twenties), some of whom were carrying large banners with racist and homophobic messages written on them.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, 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 Co-ordination (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 below). 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.

Denials:

- At a checkpoint south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), two members of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards the bridge, referring to a lack of prior coordination with those in control.
- At a checkpoint on the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) denied the Mission passage north, stating that the checkpoint was closed and referring to a lack of permission from those in control. (For a previous similar event, see [SMM Daily Report of 14 October 2021](#).)
- At a border crossing point near Izvaryne (non-government-controlled, 52km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the Mission to leave the area, referring to a lack of permission from those in control.

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:⁷

- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over areas near Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk).

⁷ For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of tens of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Tables of weapons

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
14/10/2021	1	Towed howitzer D-30A <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm	Near a residential area of Kramatorsk (83km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
Non-government-controlled areas				
10/10/2021	10	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Miusynsk (62km south-west of Luhansk), where imagery also revealed the presence of 18 armoured combat vehicles (for previous observations in the area see SMM Daily Report 16 September 2021). ⁸	Aerial imagery
	15	Towed howitzer/mortar (type undetermined)		
	9	Self-propelled howitzer/mortar (type undetermined)		

Other weapons⁹

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
10/10/2021	6	Multiple launch rocket system (type undetermined)	Near a training area near Miusynsk (62km south-west of Luhansk)	Aerial imagery

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone¹⁰

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
13/10/2021	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (one BMP-1 and one BMP-2)	Near Novotoshkivske (53km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
14/10/2021	3	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	Near Peredilske (24km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	1		Near Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk)	

⁸ The armoured combat vehicles mentioned here are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

⁹ The SMM was unable to assess whether these weapons were in violation of withdrawal lines in the absence of information on their calibre.

¹⁰ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

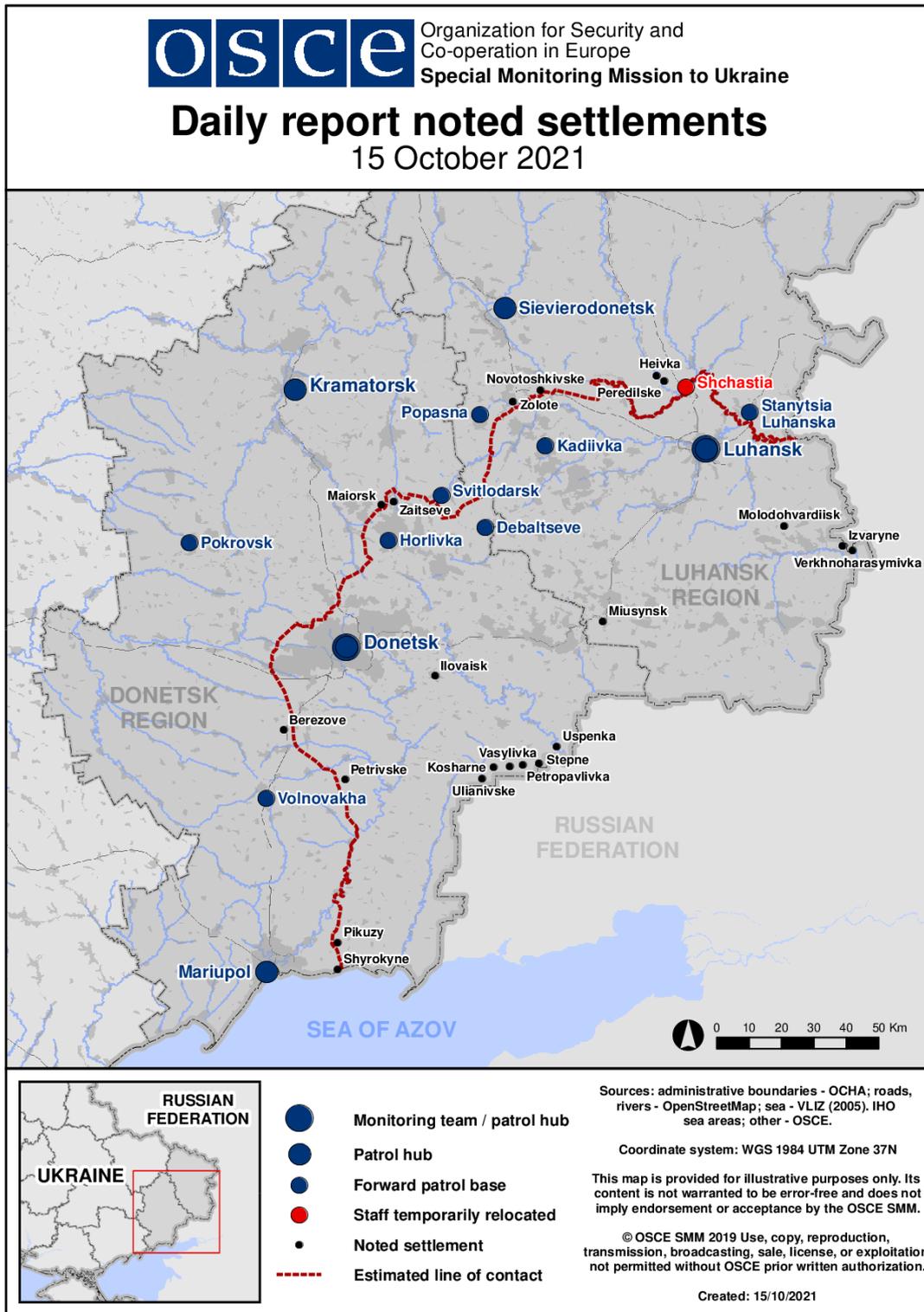
Table of ceasefire violations as of 14 October 2021¹¹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Berezove (government-controlled, 31km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	13-Oct, 20:40
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	13-Oct, 20:40
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	13-Oct, 20:40
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Oct, 20:40
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	5	Projectile	W to E	N/K	13-Oct, 20:41
	3-5km SE	Recorded	5	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	13-Oct, 20:41
	3-5km SE	Recorded	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Oct, 20:41
SMM camera at EECF in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	14-Oct, 02:01
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	1-2km W	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	13-Oct, 18:56
SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	4-6km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Oct, 19:04
	4-6km W	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Oct, 19:32
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Oct, 18:27
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	13-Oct, 18:34
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	13-Oct, 18:34
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	13-Oct, 19:47
	5-7km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	E to W	N/K	13-Oct, 19:50
	5-7km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E	N/K	13-Oct, 19:50
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Oct, 21:15
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Oct, 20:03
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Oct, 20:03
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Oct, 20:05
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst (subsequent to previous event, assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Oct, 20:05
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4-5km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	13-Oct, 19:27-19:30
	4-5km SE	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	13-Oct, 19:30-21:25
	5-10km SE	Heard	47	Explosion	Undetermined	Mortar (type N/K)	13-Oct, 19:30-21:45
Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km W of Luhansk)	10-12km WSW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Oct, 19:30-19:45
	10-12km WSW	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Oct, 19:45-20:30
	10-15km WSW	Heard	36	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Oct, 20:30-22:00

¹¹ 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
	10-15km WSW	Heard	45	Burst		N/K	13-Oct, 20:30-22:00
	12-15km NW	Heard	26	Explosion	Undetermined (unable to be assessed as either inside or outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	13-Oct, 20:30-22:00
	12-15km NW	Heard	3	Burst	Unable to be assessed as either inside or outside the disengagement area near Zolote	N/K	13-Oct, 20:30-22:00
S edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	6-8km W	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	14-Oct, 08:21
About 1km SW of Yasne (non-government-controlled, 25km SW of Luhansk)	0.6-1km S	Heard and saw	6	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	14-Oct, 10:45
	0.6-1km S	Heard and saw	7	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	14-Oct, 10:46
	0.6-1km S	Heard and saw	6	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	14-Oct, 10:49
	0.6-1km S	Heard and saw	8	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	14-Oct, 11:00-11:01
	0.6-1km S	Heard and saw	2	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	14-Oct, 11:02

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹²



¹² 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).