

Daily Report 18/2022

26 January 2022¹

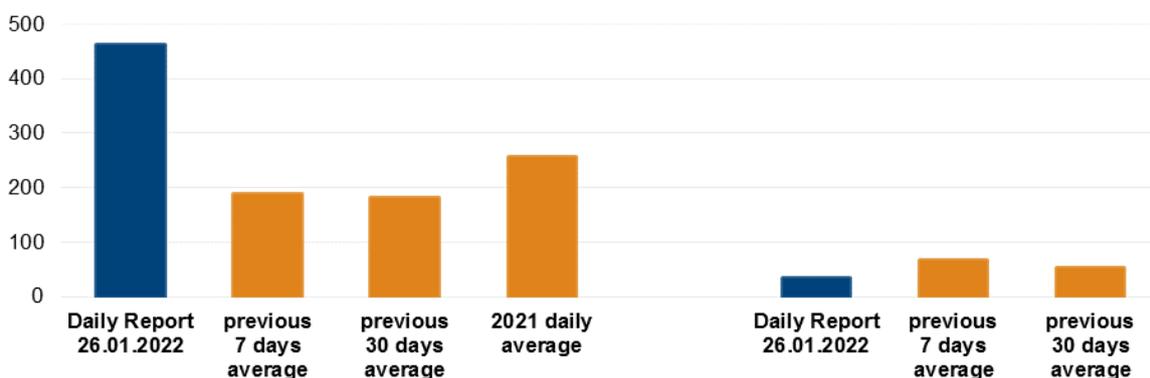
Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 403 ceasefire violations, including 26 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 39 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 57 ceasefire violations, including seven explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 163 ceasefire violations in the region.
- Small-arms fire was assessed as directed at an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) near government-controlled Pyshechyk, Donetsk region.*
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote, and Petrivske.
- The SMM monitored 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 the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The SMM visited a border crossing point outside government control in Donetsk region.
- The Mission monitored the security situation in east Kherson region.
- The SMM monitored a gathering in Kyiv.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted. Its UAVs again encountered multiple instances of GPS signal interference assessed as caused by probable jamming.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 25 January 2022. All times are in Eastern European 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 SMM cameras.

³ Including explosions.

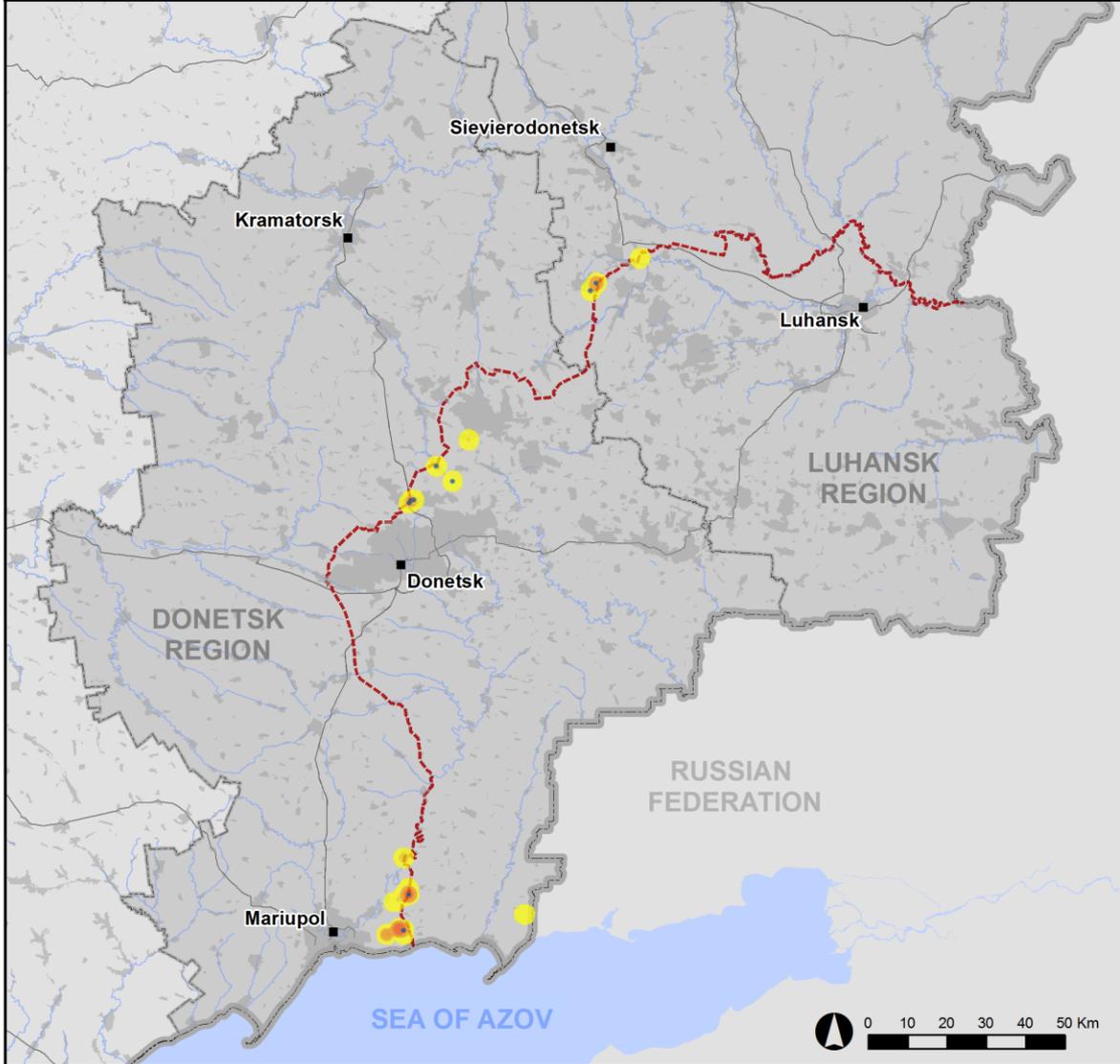
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

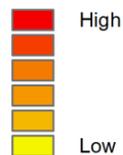


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 25 January 2022



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: 26/01/2022

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 403 ceasefire violations, including 26 explosions (two airbursts and 24 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas north-east of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk) and south-east and south of Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 39 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 57 ceasefire violations, including seven undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas north-east 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 163 ceasefire violations in the region, the majority of which also occurred in areas close to the disengagement area near Zolote.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group 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 103,610 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 28,415 explosions, 24,819 projectiles in flight, 448 muzzle flashes, 475 illumination flares and at least 49,453 bursts and shots).

Small-arms fire assessed as directed at an SMM mini-UAV near government-controlled Pyshchevyk, Donetsk region

While positioned about 2km south-west of Pyshchevyk to conduct an announced mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) flight, the SMM heard eight bursts of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 3-4km east of its position, assessed as targeting the UAV, which was flying about 3.5km east-south-east of the SMM's position. The SMM landed the UAV and left the area. The UAV also experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during the same and one subsequent flight. *

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 five 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).

During the reporting period, SMM patrols heard six undetermined explosions and 42 bursts and shots of heavy-machine-gun fire, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote**, but within 5km of its periphery. (For details, see the table below.)

In Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk), inside the disengagement area, the Mission observed a military jeep with three unarmed persons inside wearing Ukrainian military uniforms traveling north-east.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw one member of the armed formations (wearing an armband with "JCCC" written on it). The SMM again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the area's southern

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

edge and inside the disengagement area. It also observed that the previously reported road barriers across road T-1316, on the area's southern edge, continued to be closed.

While positioned at two locations near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM observed a calm situation.

Weapons that the SMM could not verify as withdrawn⁶

At two heavy weapons holding areas in government-controlled areas of Luhansk region

25 January

The SMM noted that all weapons observed at these sites were present, compared with previous visits on 20 December 2021.

At one heavy weapons holding area in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region

25 January

The SMM noted that ten self-propelled howitzers (2S5 *Giatsint-S*, 152mm) were present. It last visited the site on 24 August 2021.

Withdrawal of weapons

The Mission 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 Mission saw two armoured personnel carriers and an anti-aircraft gun in government-controlled areas of Luhansk region, including in a residential area. (For further information, see the table below.)

At two locations in the eastern part of Makiiivka (non-government-controlled, 12km north-east of Donetsk), the SMM observed a convoy of three utility trucks (Ural-type) with "chemical protection" written in white letters in Russian language on their sides and two utility trucks (one KamAZ-type and one Ural-type) loaded with green wooden objects, assessed as ammunition boxes.

Anti-tank mines near Kruta Balka, and mine hazard signs near Yasynuvata, Donetsk region

On 23 January, about 150m north of residential houses on the northern edge of Kruta Balka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted six previously observed anti-tank mines (probable TM-62), assessed as belonging to the armed formations, laid across a local road. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 20 July 2021](#).)

On 25 January, on the north-western edge of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), the Mission saw two recently erected mine hazard signs (red rectangles,

⁶ The SMM observed weapons that could not be verified as withdrawn, as their storage did not comply with the criteria set out in the 16 October 2015 notification from the SMM to the signatories of the Package of Measures on effective monitoring and verification of the withdrawal of heavy weapons.

with the words “Danger, Mines” written on them in Russian, not previously reported) on the eastern edge of road M-04.

SMM facilitation of the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk). While positioned on the western edge of Yasynuvata, the SMM heard three undetermined explosions and three bursts of small-arms fire, assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

The SMM also monitored repair works to power lines near Verkhnotoretske (government-controlled, 23km north-east of Donetsk), and to water pipeline in Sakhanka (non-government-controlled, 97km south of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Luhansk region, the Mission observed that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were open, with 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.

At the EECP near Zolote, the SMM observed three workers (men in their thirties and forties) nearby, conducting works, assessed as improvement of crossing infrastructure.

Areas near the border outside government control⁷

While at a border crossing point near Novoazovsk (102km south-east of Donetsk) for about 45 minutes, the Mission observed two cars (with “DPR” plates), three covered cargo trucks (including two with “DPR” plates), and three men (in their forties) entering Ukraine. At the same time, the SMM observed four cars (including two with “DPR” plates) exiting Ukraine.

Security situation in east Kherson region

On 24 January, the Mission monitored areas in east Kherson region near Henichesk (176km east of Kherson), Novooleksiivka (162km east of Kherson), and Novotroitske (135km east of Kherson), as well as areas along the North Crimean Canal. While monitoring these areas, the SMM observed no change in the security situation.

SMM monitored a gathering in Kyiv

On the afternoon of 25 January, in front of the Verkhovna Rada in Kyiv, the SMM observed a gathering of about 5,000 people (mixed genders and ages), some of whom were holding flags

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.

with #SaveFOP written on them as well as flags of Ukraine and expressing support for the easing of certain tax and accounting regulations for small businesses. Throughout the gathering, the Mission saw about 3,000 law enforcement officers nearby. At one point, the Mission noticed that law enforcement officers were pushing back on participants who tried to move towards the steps of the Verkhovna Rada. At 16:30, the participants dispersed.

The SMM continued monitoring in Odessa, Lviv, Kharkiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, 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 [SMM Daily Report of 4 January 2022](#)). 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:⁸

- An SMM mini-UAV was assessed as targeted by small-arms fire while flying over areas near Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk). (See above and below.)
- An SMM long-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Varvarivka (government-controlled, 81km north-west of Donetsk).
- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during ten flights: twice each while flying over areas near Novohryhorivka (non-government-controlled, 61km north-east of Donetsk), Pyshchevyk and Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km north-west of Luhansk), as well as once each while flying over areas near Debaltseve (non-government-controlled, 58km north-east of Donetsk), Vuhlehirsk (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk), Fedorivka (government-controlled, 87km north of Donetsk) and Orikhove-Donetske (government-controlled, 44km north-west of Luhansk).

⁸ 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

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

| Date | No. | Type | Location | Source of observation |
|------------------------------------|-----|--|---|-----------------------|
| Government-controlled areas | | | | |
| 25/1/2022 | 2 | Armoured personnel carrier (BTR variant) | Near Makarove (19km north-east of Luhansk) | Patrol |
| | 1 | Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm) towed by a truck in a northern direction | In a residential area of Popasna (69km west of Luhansk) | |

⁹ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

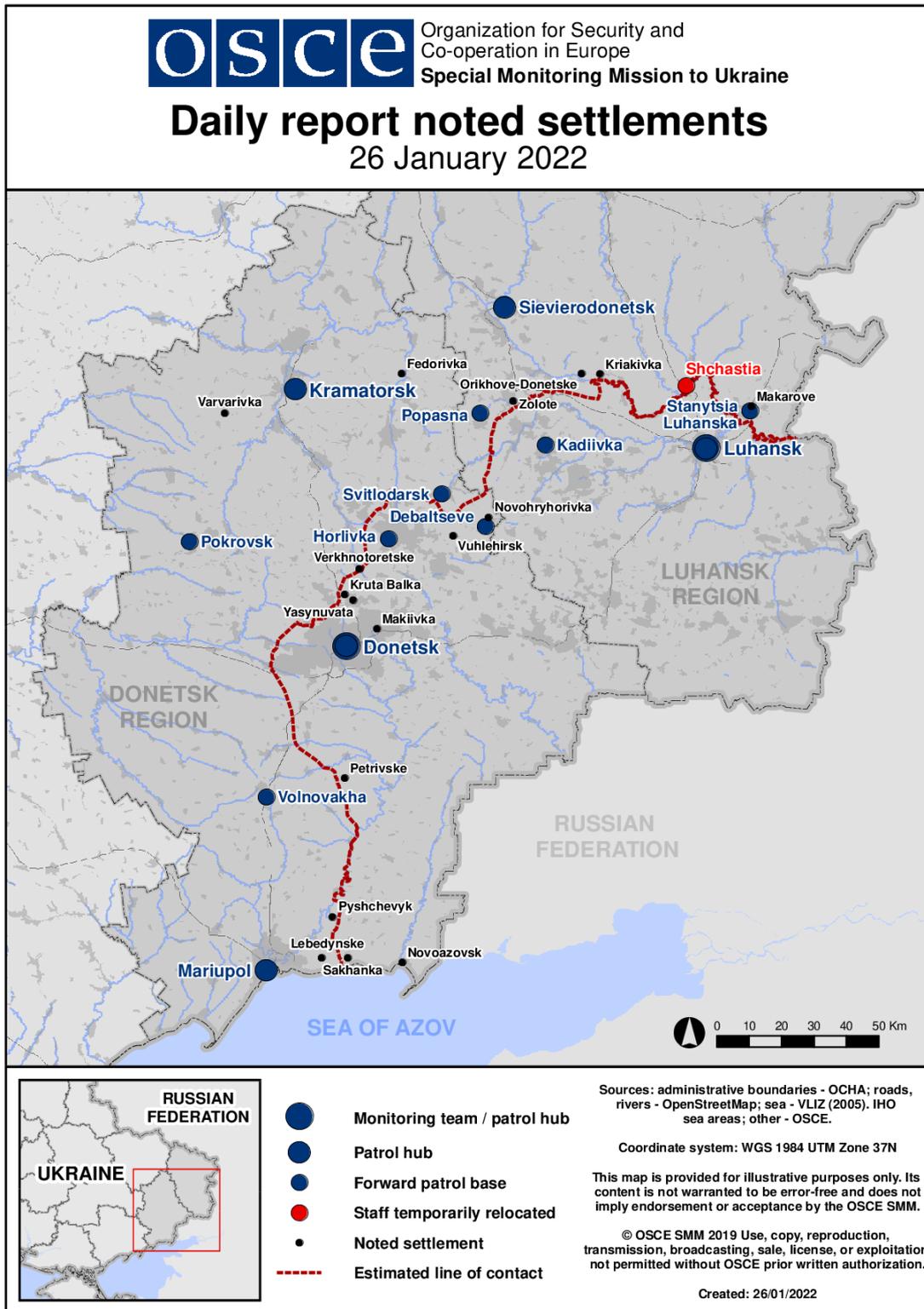
Table of ceasefire violations as of 25 January 2022¹⁰

| SMM position | Event location | Means | No. | Observation | Description | Weapon | Date, time |
|--|----------------|----------|-----|--------------------|--|------------|---------------------|
| SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk) | 4-6km E | Recorded | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 24-Jan, 19:30 |
| SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk) | 0.8-1km SSE | Recorded | 1 | Muzzle flash | | N/K | 24-Jan, 19:28 |
| | 0.8-1km S | Recorded | 1 | Explosion | Airburst (also recorded by the SMM camera near Avdiivka, subsequent to previous event) | N/K | 24-Jan, 19:29 |
| | 0.8-1km S | Recorded | 14 | Projectile | E to W (also recorded by the SMM camera near Avdiivka) | N/K | 24-Jan, 19:29 |
| | 0.6-1km S | Recorded | 1 | Explosion | Airburst (also recorded by the SMM camera near Avdiivka) | N/K | 24-Jan, 19:30 |
| | 0.8-1km S | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | E to W (also recorded by the SMM camera near Avdiivka) | N/K | 24-Jan, 19:30 |
| SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk) | 2-4km SE | Recorded | 8 | Projectile | SW to NE | N/K | 25-Jan, 01:39 |
| SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk) | 4-6km N | Recorded | 21 | Projectile | E to W | N/K | 24-Jan, 20:03 |
| | 4-6km N | Recorded | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 24-Jan, 20:05 |
| | 4-6km N | Recorded | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 24-Jan, 20:06 |
| | 4-6km N | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | SW to NE | N/K | 24-Jan, 20:09 |
| | 4-6km N | Recorded | 1 | Illumination flare | In vertical flight | N/K | 24-Jan, 20:47 |
| | 3-5km N | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | W to E | N/K | 25-Jan, 17:47 |
| About 2.5km SE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk) | 3-4km NNE | Heard | 14 | Burst | | HMG | 25-Jan, 10:05-10:07 |
| | 3-4km NNE | Heard | 9 | Shot | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:05-10:07 |
| | 3-4km NNE | Heard | 43 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:14-10:16 |
| | 3-4km NNE | Heard | 50 | Shot | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:20-10:31 |
| | 3-4km NNE | Heard | 47 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:20-10:31 |
| | 3-4km NNE | Heard | 4 | Shot | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 11:16 |
| | 2-3km NW | Heard | 30 | Shot | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 13:54-14:00 |
| About 2km SW of Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk) | 3-5km ESE | Heard | 60 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:35-10:37 |
| | 3-5km ESE | Heard | 11 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:47-10:50 |
| | 3-4km S | Heard | 6 | Shot | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:47-10:50 |
| | 3-5km ESE | Heard | 12 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:55-10:57 |
| | 3-5km ESE | Heard | 2 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 10:55-10:57 |
| | 3-5km ESE | Heard | 12 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 11:17-11:20 |
| | 3-5km ESE | Heard | 2 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 11:17-11:20 |
| | 3-4km E | Heard | 8 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 11:07 |

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 |
|---|----------------|-------|-----|-------------|---|------------|---------------------|
| About 300m SE of Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk) | 1-2km SSW | Heard | 12 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 10:10-10:35 |
| About 700m WSW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk) | 2-3km W | Heard | 3 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 11:11 |
| | 2-3km W | Heard | 3 | Burst | | Small arms | 25-Jan, 11:11 |
| About 5km NNE of Kholodne (non-government-controlled, 103km S of Donetsk) | 2-3km NW | Heard | 2 | Burst | | HMG | 25-Jan, 11:36 |
| About 1km NW of Verkhnotoretske (government-controlled, 23km NE of Donetsk) | 2-3km SE | Heard | 3 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 12:29-12:31 |
| | 2-3km SE | Heard | 6 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 12:50-12:54 |
| Betmanove (formerly Krasnyi Partyzan, non-government-controlled, 23km NE of Donetsk) | 3-5km SE | Heard | 2 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 12:44 |
| | 3-5km SE | Heard | 2 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 12:46 |
| | 3-5km SE | Heard | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 12:50 |
| Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk) | 3-5km S | Heard | 4 | Shot | | HMG | 25-Jan, 14:51-14:52 |
| | 3-5km S | Heard | 3 | Burst | | HMG | 25-Jan, 14:51-14:52 |
| On the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk) | 6-8km WSW | Heard | 36 | Burst | Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote | HMG | 25-Jan, 09:26-10:00 |
| | 6-8km WSW | Heard | 6 | Explosion | Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote) | N/K | 25-Jan, 09:26-10:00 |
| Popasna (government-controlled, 69 km W of Luhansk) | 2-4km S | Heard | 5 | Burst | | HMG | 25-Jan, 10:08 |
| | 2-4km S | Heard | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 25-Jan, 10:00 |
| | 2-4km S | Heard | 3 | Burst | | HMG | 25-Jan, 10:00 |
| Berezivske (non-government controlled, 53km NW of Luhansk) | 2-4km NNW | Heard | 6 | Shot | Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote | HMG | 25-Jan, 13:27-13:45 |

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).