

OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

# **Daily Report 20/2022**

28 January 2022<sup>1</sup>

#### **Summary**

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 173 ceasefire violations, including six explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 510 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 93 ceasefire violations, including 13 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded six ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission monitored 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 visited one border crossing point and monitored areas near the border outside government control in Donetsk region.
- The SMM monitored three crossing points on the border with Belarus and saw that they were open, with traffic entering and exiting Ukraine at two of them.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.\*



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 27 January 2022. All times are in Eastern European Time.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. The SMM camera at the entryexit checkpoint in Hnutove was non-operational during part of the reporting period and weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some SMM cameras.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

#### Map of recorded ceasefire violations



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In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 173 ceasefire violations, including six undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas north and north-north-east of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk) and in areas north of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk). In the <u>previous reporting</u> period, the Mission recorded 510 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 93 ceasefire violations, including 13 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas close to Yuzhna-Lomuvatka (non-government controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). In the <u>previous reporting period</u>, the Mission recorded six 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 104,392 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 28,454 explosions, 24,954 projectiles in flight, 448 muzzle flashes, 476 illumination flares and at least 50,060 bursts and shots).

#### Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske<sup>5</sup>

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

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (60km west of Luhansk), the Mission saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them). The SMM again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the area's southern 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 three locations near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (nongovernment-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM observed a calm situation.

#### Weapons storage sites

*At one permanent storage site in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region* 27 January

The SMM noted that all weapons observed at this site were present, compared with the previous visit on 13 November 2021.

#### Weapons that the SMM could not verify as withdrawn<sup>6</sup>

At one heavy weapons holding area in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region 27 January

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 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.

The Mission noted that all weapons observed at this site were present, compared with the previous visit on 13 November 2021.

# At one heavy weapons holding area in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region 27 January

The SMM noted that two multiple launch rocket systems (BM-21 *Grad*, 122mm) were present, compared with the previous visit on 21 February 2019

#### 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.

In violation of withdrawal lines, the SMM saw eight howitzers in a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk) in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region.

Beyond withdrawal lines, but outside designated storages sites, the Mission spotted one howitzer at a compound near Rozdolivka (87km north of Donetsk) in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, and saw seven tanks and three mortars in the aforementioned training area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the tables below.)

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

The Mission saw an anti-aircraft gun and an armoured combat vehicle in governmentcontrolled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. It also saw an armoured combat vehicle in a residential area in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

While positioned about 2.5km south-east of Lomakyne (government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk), the Mission saw a non-SMM unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) flying in a southerly 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.

In the north-eastern part of Makiivka (non-government-controlled, 12km north-east of Donetsk), the SMM observed a convoy of six utility trucks (four Ural-type and two Kamaz-type, all with "DPR" plates), moving in a westerly direction. (For a previous similar observation see the <u>SMM Daily Report of 26 January 2022</u>.)

#### SMM facilitation of the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk).

The SMM also monitored repair works to phenol sludge reservoirs in the area of Nelipivka (government-controlled, 40km north of Donetsk).

#### Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

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

In Luhansk region, the Mission observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was open, with 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.

#### Areas near the border outside government control<sup>7</sup>

While at a border crossing point near Marynivka (78km east of Donetsk), for about 70 minutes, the Mission observed 17 cars (including 14 with "DPR" plates), five covered cargo trucks (including four with "DPR" plates), one bus (with "DPR" plates, carrying people of mixed genders and ages), and seven people (three women and four men, mixed ages) entering Ukraine. At the same time, the SMM observed 12 cars (including ten with "DPR" plates), three covered cargo trucks (with "DPR" plates), one bus (with "DPR" plates, carrying people of mixed genders and ages), and three people (two women and one man in their thirties) exiting Ukraine.

The SMM also monitored areas close to the border with the Russian Federation near Amvrosiivka (56km south-east of Donetsk) and Snizhne (non-government-controlled, 72km east of Donetsk).

The SMM monitored three crossing points on the border with Belarus

On 25 and 26 January, while at border crossing points in Vilcha (128km north-west of Kyiv), Kyiv region, Vystupovychi (160km north-west of Kyiv) and Maidan Kopyshchenskyi (223km north-west of Kyiv), Zhytomyr region, the Mission saw that they were open and observed a calm situation, with traffic entering and exiting Ukraine at the first two border crossing points.

The Mission continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Chernivtsi, and Kyiv and observed no change in the security situation.

# \*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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 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.

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 <u>SMM Daily Report of 27</u> 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

- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during three flights over areas near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 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 in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No.	Туре	Location	Source of observation		
Non-government-controlled areas						
27/1/2022	3	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 Gvozdika, 122mm)	$\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{r}}$	Patrol		
	5	Towed howitzer (D-30 Lyagushka, 122mm)	In a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)			

### Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No.	Туре	Location	Source of observation		
Government-controlled areas						
25/1/2022	1	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 Gvozdika, 122mm)	At a compound near Rozdolivka (87km north of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV		
Non-government-controlled areas						
27/1/2022	7	Tank (T-72)	In a training and new Terrary (571m cost of Denstell)	Patrol		
	3	Mortar (type undetermined)	In a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)	Patrol		

## Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>9</sup>

Date	No.	Туре	Location	Source of observation		
Government-controlled areas <sup>10</sup>						
27/1/2022	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	Near Chermalyk (77km south of Donetsk)	Patrol		
27/1/2022	1	Combat engineering vehicle (BAT-2)	Near Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	Patrol		
Non-government-controlled areas						
27/1/2022	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	In a residential area of Smile (31km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> In the SMM Daily report of 27 January 2022, it was reported that the SMM had seen one armoured recovery vehicle (type undetermined) near Popasna (69km west of Luhansk). This should have read one "mine layer (GMZ-3)" instead.

SMM position	<b>Event location</b>	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-	3-5km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jan, 23:29
government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	2-4km W	Recorded	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jan, 23:30
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne	4-6km N	Recorded	15	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	26-Jan, 18:47
(government-controlled, 100km S of	4-6km N	Recorded	30	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	26-Jan, 18:49
Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	26-Jan, 18:52
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	20	Projectile	E to W	N/K	26-Jan, 18:59
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	26-Jan, 18:59
	5-7km N	Recorded	5	Projectile	W to E	N/K	27-Jan, 02:47
	5-7km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	E to W	N/K	27-Jan, 02:47
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jan, 18:10
Betmanove (formerly Krasnyi Partyzan, non-government-controlled, 23km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	22	Shot		Small arms	27-Jan, 11:00-11:02
About 600m NE of Lebedynske	3-4km N	Heard	20	Burst		Small arms	27-Jan, 12:18-12:24
(government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	3-4km N	Heard	50	Shot		Small arms	27-Jan, 12:18-12:24
Yuzhna-Lomuvatka (non-government-	2-4km NNE	Heard	65	Shot		Small arms	27-Jan, 11:35-11:45
controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-4km WNW	Heard	12	Shot		Small arms	27-Jan, 11:35-11:45
	2-4km WNW	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	27-Jan, 11:35-11:45
Kalynove (non-government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	5-8km N	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jan, 09:37-09:43
Brianka (non-government-controlled, 46km SW of Luhansk)	6-8km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jan, 12:15
Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non- government-controlled, 50km W of Luhansk)	10-13km W	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jan, 14:55-15:05

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 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 regions<sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 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).