

Daily Report 36/2022

16 February 2022¹

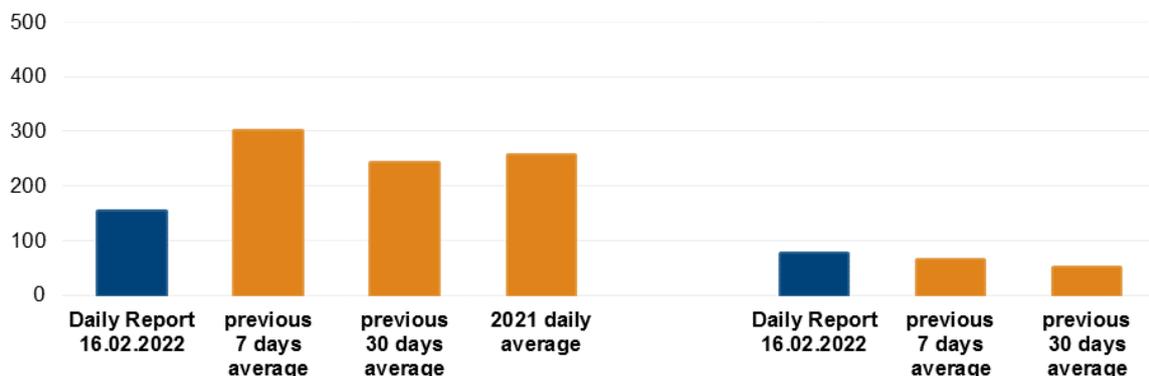
Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 24 ceasefire violations, including five explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 17 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 129 ceasefire violations, including 71 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 157 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission monitored the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued to follow up on the situation of civilians, including at three entry-exit checkpoints and two corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The Mission monitored a border crossing point in Luhansk region. It also visited two border crossing points outside government control and monitored areas near the border outside government control in Donetsk region.
- The SMM visited areas near the border with Belarus in Chernihiv region. It also monitored the security situation in east and south-east Kherson region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region and in Luhansk region. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again encountered multiple instances of GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by jamming and 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, 15 February 2022. All times are in Eastern European Time.

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

³ Including explosions.

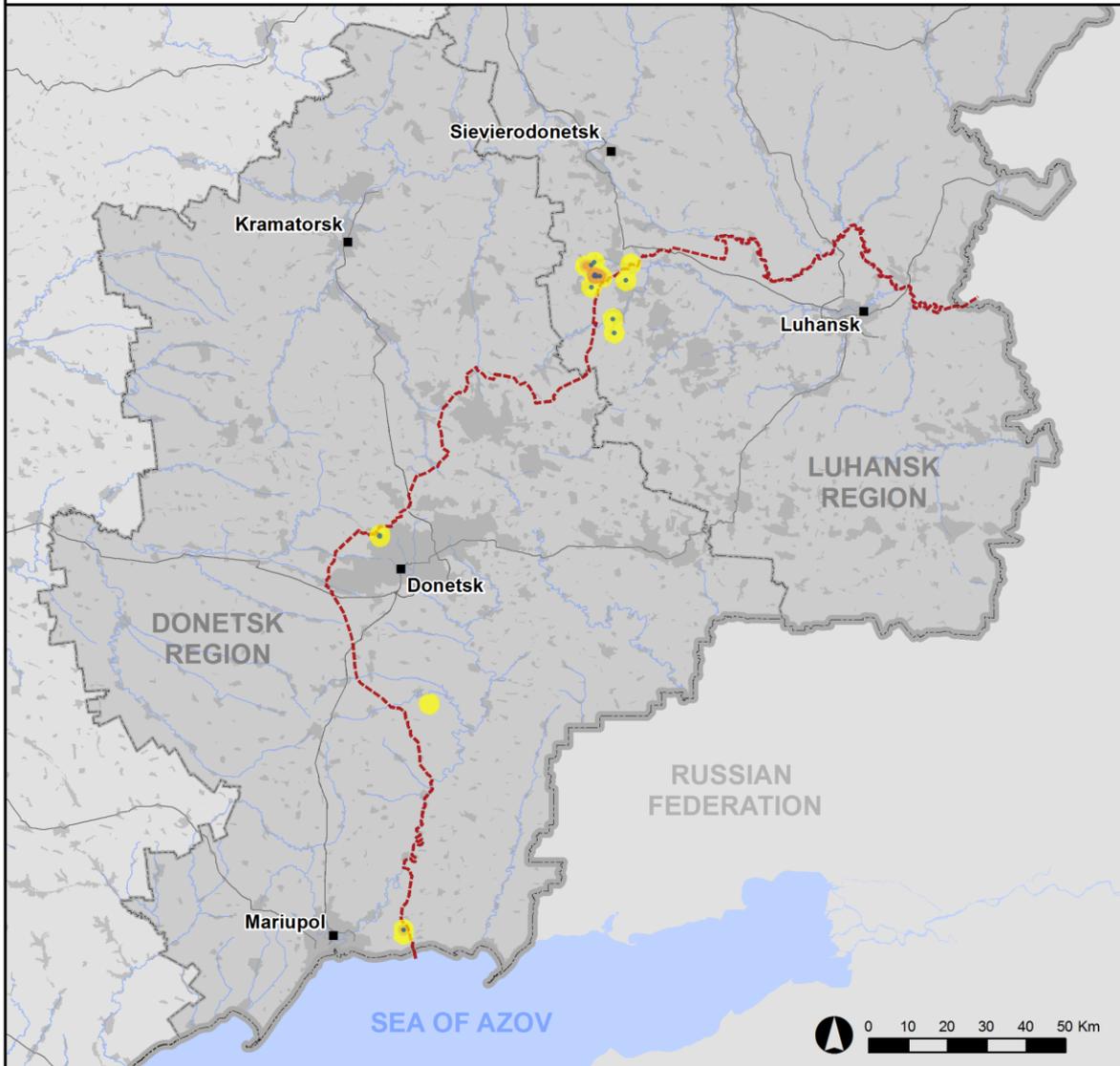
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

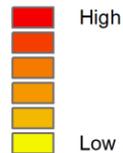


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 15 February 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: 16/02/2022

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 24 ceasefire violations, including five explosions (two airbursts and three undetermined). Most ceasefire violations were recorded in areas north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 17 ceasefire violations in the region, some of which also occurred near Shyrokyne.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 129 ceasefire violations, including 71 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas close to the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 157 ceasefire violations in the region, some of which also occurred near 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 108,741 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 29,376 explosions, 25,917 projectiles in flight, 471 muzzle flashes, 491 illumination flares, and at least 52,486 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), the Mission observed 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).

During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded four projectiles in flight, while Mission patrols heard 61 undetermined explosions and 37 bursts 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.)

On 15 February, while positioned inside the disengagement area in a residential area in the northern part of Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk), the SMM observed a police patrol vehicle with two law enforcement officers inside and one pickup truck with military plates with a single occupant driving south and later returning toward the area’s northern edge. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 15 February 2022](#).)

During the day on 13 February, inside the disengagement area, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a person inside a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 500m west of the area’s north-eastern corner.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the area, the Mission observed one member of the armed formations (wearing an armband with “JCCC” written on it). The SMM again observed 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.

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

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

Weapons storage sites

At a permanent storage site in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region

15 February

The SMM noted that all weapons observed at this site were present, as compared with the previous visit to this site on 5 January.

Weapons that the SMM could not verify as withdrawn⁶

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

15 February

The SMM noted that all weapons observed at this area were present, as compared with the previous visit on 5 January.

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, in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, the Mission spotted two probable towed howitzers at a compound near a residential area and, in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region, two tanks in a training area near Boikivske (formerly Telmanove, 67km south-east of Donetsk), in a zone within which deployment of heavy armaments and military equipment is further proscribed according to Point 5 of the Memorandum of 19 September 2014.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the SMM saw 82 tanks, 38 pieces of artillery and ten self-propelled howitzers in five training areas near Pokrovka (36km east of Donetsk), Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk), Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk), Shymshynivka (27km south-west of Luhansk) and Miusynsk (62km south-west of Luhansk). (For further information, see the tables below.)

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

The Mission observed one probable armoured combat vehicle in a residential area in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and one probable radio relay station and three armoured combat vehicles at two compounds in residential areas in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

While driving between Luhanske (non-government-controlled, 15km south-west of Donetsk), Syhnalne (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk), and Petrivske, the SMM observed that

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.

eight checkpoints along the route continued to be staffed with more visibly armed members of the armed formations than usual.

SMM facilitation of the operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km 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 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 Mission observed that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were open, but that the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote was closed.

The SMM monitored a crossing point on the border with the Russian Federation in Luhansk region

While at a border crossing point in Milove (108km north-east of Luhansk), Luhansk region, the Mission saw that it was open with traffic entering and exiting Ukraine, and observed that the three border guards (men, in their thirties and forties) were armed and wearing helmets and flak jackets. The commander told the SMM that security measures had been increased. Despite this, he added, no changes had been recorded to the level of traffic or to the overall security situation.

Areas near the border outside government control⁷

On 13 February, aerial imagery available to the Mission revealed the presence of a military-type truck at a compound near Samiilove (89km south of Donetsk) west of the international border with the Russian Federation. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 11 February 2022](#).)

On 15 February, while at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) for about 50 minutes, the SMM observed 15 cars (including ten with “DPR” plates), nine covered cargo trucks (including five with “DPR” plates), one bus (with “DPR” plates, carrying passengers of mixed genders and ages), and 11 people (four women and seven men of mixed ages) entering Ukraine. At the same time, the Mission observed seven cars (including three with “DPR” plates), six covered cargo trucks (including three with “DPR” plates), two buses (with “DPR” plates, carrying passengers of mixed genders and ages), and six people (one woman and five men of mixed ages) exiting Ukraine.

On the same day, while at a border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk) for about 30 minutes, the SMM observed one woman (in her sixties) and one man (in his forties) exiting Ukraine.

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.

On the same day, the Mission also monitored areas close to the border with the Russian Federation near Novoivanivka (57km south-east of Donetsk), Kosharne (61km south-east of Donetsk), Vasylivka (65km south-east of Donetsk), Petropavlivka (68km south-east of Donetsk), Stepne (72km south-east of Donetsk), Vyselky (72km south-east of Donetsk), and Manych (76km east of Donetsk). While monitoring these areas, the SMM observed no change in the security situation.

The SMM monitored areas near the border with Belarus in Chernihiv region

The Mission visited areas near the border with Belarus in Chernihiv region. About 2km north-west of Suvid (47km south of the border), it observed a convoy consisting of ten military-type trucks and at least eight armoured personnel carriers driving south on road P-69. It also observed military exercises at one training area, at about 40km distance from the border, involving about 150 soldiers of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, three surface-to-air missile systems (one 9K33 *Osa* and two 2K22 *Tunguska*, seven tanks (type undetermined), one armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB) and one self-propelled anti-aircraft system (ZSU-23-4 *Shilka*, 23mm).

Security situation in east and south-east Kherson region

On 15 February, the SMM monitored areas in east and south-east Kherson region at a checkpoint near Kalanchak (67km south-east of Kherson) and a Ukrainian State Border Guard Service security post near Chaplynka (77km south-east of Kherson), as well as in areas along the North Crimean Canal, and observed no change in the security situation.

The Mission continued monitoring in 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 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 12 February 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.

Denial:

- At a checkpoint near Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk), a visibly armed member of the armed formations denied the Mission passage west towards Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk) and

south towards Sakhanka (non-government-controlled, 97km south of Donetsk), citing “de-mining activities in the area”.

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 seven flights: twice each over areas near government-controlled Volnovakha (53km south of Donetsk) and Svitlodarsk (57km north-east of Donetsk) and once each near government-controlled Myronivskiyi (62km north-east of Donetsk), Kozachyi (41km north-east of Luhansk), and Novoaidar (49km north-west of Luhansk).
- An SMM long-range UAV experienced dual GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by jamming, while flying between Zhelanne (government-controlled, 36km north-west of Donetsk) and Ulianivske (non-government-controlled, 61km south-east of Donetsk), between non-government-controlled Luhansk city and Mykhailivka (government-controlled, 91km north-west of Donetsk), and GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying between Novoandriivka (government-controlled, 75km north-west of Donetsk) and Zhelanne, between Ulianivske and Diakove (non-government-controlled, 70km south-west of Luhansk), and between Pavlivka (non-government-controlled, 51km south of Luhansk) and non-government-controlled Luhansk city.

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.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
14/2/2022	2	Probable towed howitzer (D-30A, <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)	At a compound near a residential area of Shevchenko (59km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
Non-government-controlled areas				
15/2/2022	2	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Boikivske (formerly Telmanove, 67km south-east of Donetsk), in a zone within which deployment of heavy armaments and military equipment is further proscribed according to Point 5 of the Memorandum of 19 September 2014.	Patrol

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/2/2022	18	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Pokrovka (36km east of Donetsk), where imagery also revealed the presence of 52 armoured combat vehicles ⁹	Aerial imagery
	12	Piece of towed artillery (type undetermined)		
	8	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Shymshynivka (27km south-west of Luhansk), where imagery also revealed the presence of 11 armoured combat vehicles	
	3	Piece of towed artillery (type undetermined)	In a training area near Miusynsk (62km south-west of Luhansk) where imagery also revealed the presence of 31 armoured combat vehicles	
	5	Piece of self-propelled artillery (type undetermined)		
	10	Tank (type undetermined)	Near Sadovyi (57km south-west of Luhansk)	
	28	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk)	
	10	Self-propelled howitzer (type undetermined)		
	18	Piece of towed artillery (type undetermined)	In a training area near Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk)	
	18	Tank (type undetermined)		

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
12/2/2022	1	Probable armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	In a residential area of Novotroitske (36km south-west of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/2/2022	1	Probable radio relay station (R-415)	At two compounds in residential areas of Kalmiuske (formerly Komsomolske, 42km south-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)		

⁹ The armoured combat vehicles mentioned in this table are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

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 15 February 2022¹¹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	0.5-1km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 22:29
	0.5-1km WSW	Recorded	2	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	14-Feb, 22:30
	0.5-1km W	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	14-Feb, 22:30
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	14-Feb, 19:08
	5-7km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	E to W	N/K	15-Feb, 17:46
	5-7km N	Recorded	6	Projectile	W to E	N/K	15-Feb, 17:46
	5-7km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	N to S	N/K	15-Feb, 17:46
Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km S of Donetsk)	5-7km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined		15-Feb, 18:56
	3-4km SE	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	15-Feb, 10:20
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	N/K	14-Feb, 22:06
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N (Subsequent to previous event)	N/K	14-Feb, 22:06
	3-5km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	14-Feb, 22:06
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	14-Feb, 22:07
Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km W of Luhansk)	10-15km WSW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 17:08-17:15
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	3-4km E	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	15-Feb, 08:17
	4-6km E	Heard	19	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	15-Feb, 08:51-08:55
	3-4km E	Heard	32	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	HMG	15-Feb, 09:05-09:10
	3-5km E	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	15-Feb, 09:33-09:42
SE edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	10km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Feb, 12:20-12:35
	5-8km N	Heard	17	Burst		HMG	15-Feb, 12:20-12:35
E edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	2-3km N	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	15-Feb, 12:50
	2-3km NE	Heard	5	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	HMG	15-Feb, 12:50
About 3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	1-1.5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the	N/K	15-Feb, 13:06

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
					disengagement area near Zolote)		
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4-6km NE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	15-Feb, 14:35
	3-5km E	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	15-Feb, 15:00-15:01
	3-5km NE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	15-Feb, 15:22
	3-5km SE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Feb, 15:28-15:29
	3-5km NE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	15-Feb, 15:52

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).