Summary

- During the evening of 28 February and during the morning on 1 March, the SMM continued to hear multiple explosions and heavy machine-gun fire in and around the cities of Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Kherson.
- On 1 March, the Monitoring Teams from Donetsk and Luhansk Patrol Hubs in non-government controlled areas were evacuated, while the Kharkiv Monitoring Team was withdrawn to Dnipro, pending onward movement out of the country. The SMM Monitoring Team in Kherson remains sheltered in place. The Chief Monitor and senior management will remain in Ukraine until the evacuation process is complete.
- The Mission continued evacuation activities as per the 25 February decision to temporarily evacuate all international mission members.

Kherson region

On the morning and afternoon of 1 March, the Mission heard at least 40 undetermined explosions, two gun shots (including one over the SMM’s office building) and numerous bursts of heavy machine-gun fire in areas north and north-east of Kherson city.

Kharkiv region

On the morning of 1 March, the SMM heard heavy shelling near the Mission’s premises in Kharkiv city centre.

Donetsk region

On the evening of 28 February, the Mission heard 20 undetermined explosions about 15km south and south-west.

SMM evacuation

On 1 March, the Monitoring Teams from Donetsk and Luhansk Patrol Hubs in non-government controlled areas were evacuated, while the Kharkiv Monitoring Team was withdrawn to Dnipro, pending onward movement out of the country.

---

1 Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 17:00, 28 February 2022. All times are in Eastern European Time. 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.
Due to ongoing kinetic activity, including continued shelling and reports of fighting as well as the dynamic movement of front lines, the Monitoring Team located in Kherson city continues to shelter in place. The Team is conducting dynamic security risk assessment to establish a window to allow them to move safely.

The Chief Monitor and senior management will remain in Ukraine until the rest of the evacuation process is complete.

The Mission continued evacuation activities as per the 25 February decision to temporarily evacuate all international mission members.