Summary

- On the morning of 3 March, the SMM continued to hear explosions around Kherson city.
- Following the instruction of 24 February to temporarily evacuate all SMM international mission members, the Kharkiv Monitoring Team continued its evacuation westwards through Ukraine, while the Kherson Monitoring Team remained sheltered in place awaiting a window to evacuate safely.
- The Chief Monitor and senior management will remain in Ukraine until the evacuation process is complete.

Kherson region

On the morning of 3 March, the Mission heard two undetermined explosions in areas north-north-west of Kherson city.

SMM evacuation

The Mission continued evacuation activities as per the 24 February instruction to temporarily evacuate all international mission members.

On 3 March, the evacuation westward through Ukraine of the Kharkiv Monitoring Team and relocation of national mission members formerly stationed in Kramatorsk and Dnipro continued. On the same day, the relocation of national mission members formerly stationed in Sievierodonetsk westwards through Ukraine started.

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 conducts 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.

1 Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 16:00, 3 March 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.