

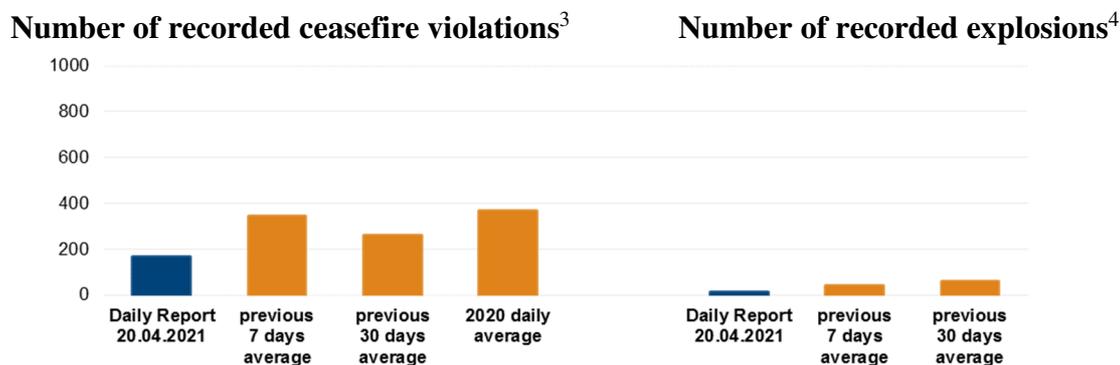
# Daily Report 90/2021

20 April 2021<sup>1</sup>

## Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 138 ceasefire violations. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 93 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 27 ceasefire violations. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 59 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM was unable to access its camera site at Oktiabr mine near non-government-controlled Donetsk city.
- SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) were assessed as targeted by small-arms fire near government-controlled Krasnohorivka and non-government-controlled Yasne, Syhnalne, and Petrivske in Donetsk region.
- The Mission followed up on reports of the death of a girl due to the explosion of a hand grenade in non-government-controlled Snizhne, Donetsk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted. Its UAVs again experienced multiple instances of GPS signal interference.\*

## Ceasefire violations<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 19 April 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

<sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Petrivske was not operational, and its camera at the Oktiabr mine was partially operational.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

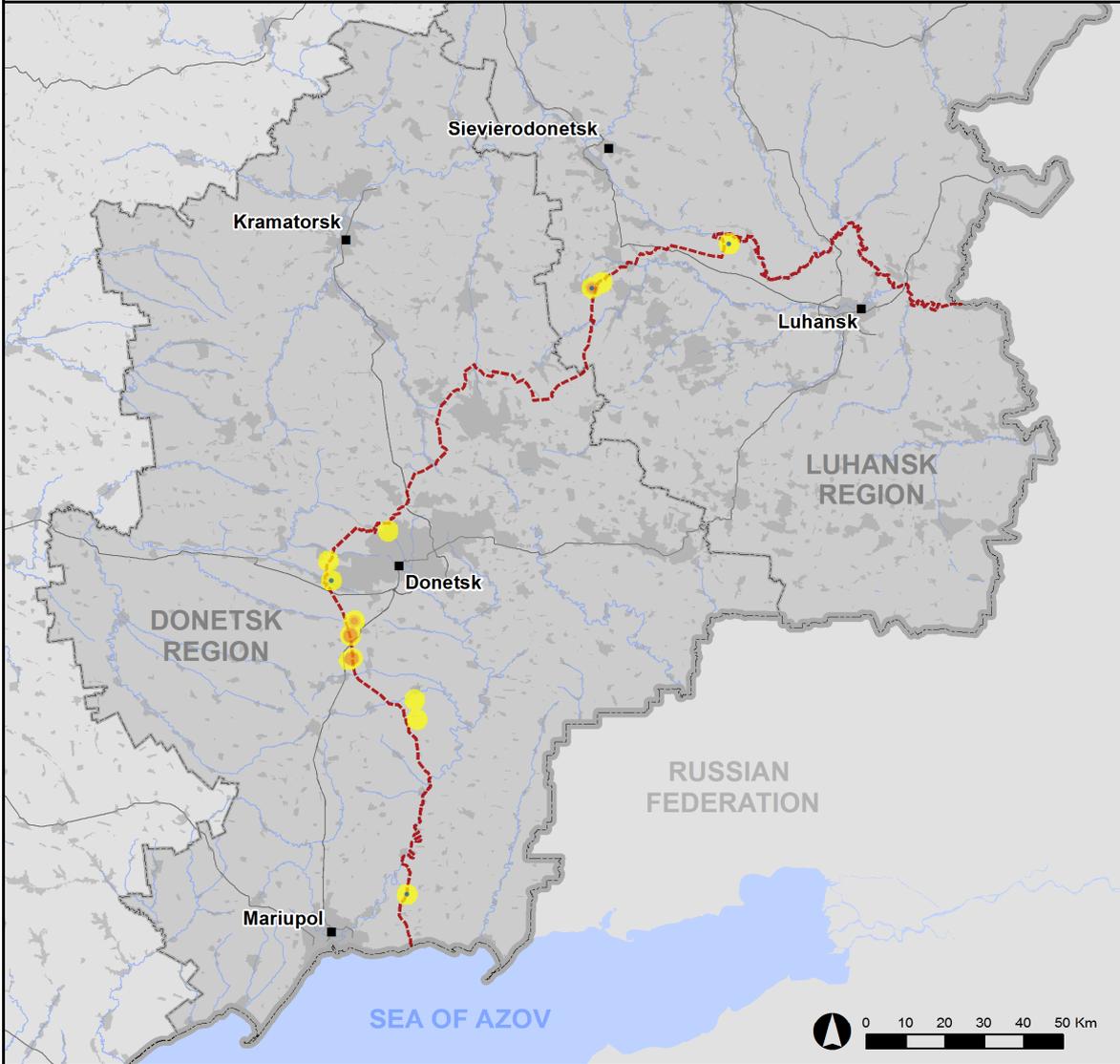
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

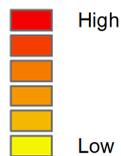


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 19 April 2021



#### 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.

© OSCE SMM 2019 Use, copy, reproduction, transmission, broadcasting, sale, license, or exploitation not permitted without OSCE prior written authorization.

Created: 20/04/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 138 ceasefire violations, including five explosions (one airburst and four undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas south-west and north-west of Syhnalne (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) and south-west of Yasne (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 93 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 27 ceasefire violations, including six undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas east and south-east of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), including some near the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 59 ceasefire violations.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July 2020 regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, from 00:01 on 27 July 2020 until the end of the reporting period, the SMM has so far recorded at least 20,616 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 6,388 explosions, 2,149 projectiles in flight, 190 muzzle flashes, 76 illumination flares and at least 11,813 bursts and shots).

#### **SMM unable to access its camera site at the Oktiabr mine, Donetsk region**

On 14 April, a senior member of the armed formations asked the Mission whether the armed formations could install a camera on the SMM's mast at the Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km north-west of Donetsk city). The SMM rejected the request.

On the evening of 17 April, an SMM daylight camera on top of a concrete tower at the Oktiabr mine recorded two men in military-type clothing, one at the base of its camera mast and another one on the mast itself fixing an item, assessed as a camera dome with an attached wire, to the mast's side. On 19 April, the SMM saw that a ladder from the tower's top floor to the roof had been cut off and that another item, assessed as another camera, had been attached to the tower's west-facing wall. Subsequently, the Mission remotely disabled its camera system on the afternoon of 19 April to avoid interference with its monitoring and will follow up in order to make a full site assessment.

The SMM's technical assets are an inseparable part of the Mission's operational infrastructure; as such they are included in the specification of OSCE Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 that the SMM shall have safe and secure access throughout Ukraine. (See also [SMM Spot Report of 19 April 2021](#).)

#### **Small-arms fire assessed as directed at SMM mini-UAVs near Krasnohorivka, Yasne, Syhnalne, and Petrivske, Donetsk region**

While positioned on the south-south-eastern edge of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km west of Donetsk) to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard three shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 1.4-1.6km east, assessed as aimed at the UAV, which was flying over positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, about 1.5km east of the SMM's position.

While positioned on the eastern edge of Yasne to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard two bursts and 21 shots of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of about 2.3km south-west, assessed as aimed at the UAV, which was flying over positions of the Ukrainian

Armed Forces, about 2.3km south-west of the SMM's position. During the same flight, the UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming.

While positioned on the southern edge of Syhnalne to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard 11 bursts and 41 shots of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 3.3km south-west, assessed as aimed at the UAV, which was flying over positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, about 3.3km south-west of the SMM's position. During that and two previous flights over the area, the same UAV and two other mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming.

While positioned in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard five shots of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 1.4km south-east, assessed as aimed at the mini-UAV, which was flying over positions of the armed formations, about 1.4km south-east of the SMM's position. During the same flight, the UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, as two other mini-UAVs did during three previous flights over the area.

The Mission landed the aircrafts and left the areas on all occasions.\* (For previous observations in Syhnalne and Yasne, see [SMM Daily Report of 17 April 2021](#).)

#### **A girl died due to the explosion of a hand grenade in Snizhne, Donetsk region**

The Mission followed up on reports of the death of a two-year-old girl due to the explosion of a hand grenade in Snizhne (non-government-controlled, 72km east of Donetsk) on 8 February.

On 16 April, staff at the morgue in non-government-controlled Donetsk city said that the girl had died on 20 February after being admitted to a hospital in Donetsk city on 8 February due to injuries to her head consistent with a blast explosion.

On 9 April, the mother of the girl (in her twenties) told the SMM that she had woken up on the evening of 8 February and was about to enter the room where her two daughters were sleeping when she heard an explosion. According to the woman, her husband (in his thirties) triggered a hand grenade which exploded in their residence. She also said that her daughter underwent surgery at a hospital in Donetsk city and had subsequently passed away on 20 February.

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

While positioned inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw two 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).

While on the eastern edge of Popasna, the SMM heard three shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 2-3km east, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

---

<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.

An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over the disengagement area and during another flight about 3km north of its northern edge.\*

While positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), three of whom walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

The Mission again saw the eight previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge, on its edge and inside the area.

While positioned in Petrivske, the SMM heard five shots of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 1.4km south-east (see above). While positioned about 2km north of Petrivske, the Mission heard one shot of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 2-3km north. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**, but within 5km of its periphery.

### **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 non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region, the Mission saw 22 multiple launch rocket systems and 18 howitzers, including some at an airfield.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, it saw a self-propelled anti-aircraft system and 30 howitzers in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including near a railway station and a residential area, as well as 13 tanks at an airfield in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the tables below.)

### **Weapons storage sites**

*At a heavy weapons permanent storage site in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region*

19 April

The SMM noted that five towed howitzers (2A65 *Msta-B*, 152mm) and seven multiple launch rocket systems (BM-21 *Grad*, 122mm) were again missing.

### **Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>6</sup>**

The Mission saw two self-propelled anti-aircraft systems near a residential area in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

### **Anti-tank mines near Oleksandrivka and Olenivka, Donetsk region**

---

<sup>6</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

On 13 April, about 450m south of Oleksandrivka (non-government-controlled, 20km south-west of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV again spotted four probable mine hazard signs along a local road and in a field about 500m south-south-west, 80 anti-tank mines stretching southwards about 50m south of highway H-15 between Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) and Kreminets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the armed formations. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 9 April 2018](#).)

On the same day, on the north-western outskirts of Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV again spotted three anti-tank mines on the road leading west to Slavne (government-controlled, 26km south-west of Donetsk). Further 50m west, the same UAV spotted for the first time seven anti-tank mines on the same road, as well as 35 anti-tank mines in the adjacent field south of the road. About 200m east-north-east of the former group of mines, the same UAV spotted for the first time 29 anti-tank mines, assessed as not recently laid, in a field on the northern edge of the same road. All these mines were assessed as belonging to the armed formations. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 30 May 2019](#).)

On 16 April, near the abovementioned three anti-tank mines on the north-western outskirts of Olenivka, an SMM mini-UAV spotted for the first time 14 anti-tank mines laid in a field south of the road leading to Slavne, assessed as not recently laid and belonging to the armed formations.

On the same day, about 1.7km south-west of Olenivka, an SMM mini-UAV spotted for the first time 51 anti-tank mines in a field between the railway tracks, 56 anti-tank mines about 100m south-west in a field adjacent to these tracks, and 42 anti-tank mines about 450m east-south-east from this location, all assessed as not recently laid and belonging to the armed formations.

### **SMM facilitation of maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure**

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

The Mission also monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable regular railway track inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance in Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk).

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

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk) and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka were open, with traffic passing through in both directions. While at the checkpoint of the armed formations, the Mission saw six trucks accompanied by two cars bearing logos of an international organization cross the contact line towards non-government-controlled areas.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were open, with people queueing to travel in both directions.

The SMM also noted that the EECs 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.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Chernivtsi and Kyiv.

### **\*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 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 15 April 2021](#).) 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:<sup>7</sup>

- While positioned on the south-south-eastern edge of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km west of Donetsk), the SMM heard three shots of small-arms fire, assessed as aimed at the UAV. (See above.)
- While positioned on the eastern edge of Yasne (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM heard two bursts and 21 shots of small-arms fire, assessed as aimed at the UAV. During the same flight, the mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming. (See above.)
- While positioned on the southern edge of Syhnalne (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM heard 11 bursts and 41 shots of small-arms fire, assessed as aimed at the UAV. During that and two previous flights over the area, the same UAV and two other mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming. (See above.)
- While positioned in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM heard five shots of small-arms fire, assessed as directed at the mini-UAV. During the

---

<sup>7</sup> For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interferences could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

same flight, the UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, as two other mini-UAVs did during three previous flights over the area. (See above.)

- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) and during another flight about 3km north of its northern edge. (See above.)
- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Hirske (government-controlled, 63km west of Luhansk).
- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Nyrkove (government-controlled, 77km west of Luhansk).
- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during two separate flights over areas near Vrubivka (government-controlled, 72km west of Luhansk).

## Tables of weapons

### Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
19/4/2021	15	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	Near Khrustalnyi (formerly Krasnyi Luch, 56km south-west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	8	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	At the airfield near Peremozhne (19km south of Luhansk)	
	7	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)		
	10	Towed howitzer (five 2A65 <i>Msta-B</i> , 152mm and five D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		

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

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
18/4/2021	1	Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (2K22 <i>Tunguska</i> , 152mm)	In a compound in Ocheretyne (31km north-west of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
19/4/2021	17	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	At a railway station in Zachativka (74km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
	11	Self-propelled howitzer (2S3 <i>Akatsiya</i> , 152mm)		
	2	Towed howitzer (2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i> , 152mm)	Near a residential area of Azovske (121km south of Donetsk)	
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
19/4/2021	13	Tank (seven T-72 and six T-64)	At the airfield near Peremozhne (19km south of Luhansk)	Patrol

### **Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>8</sup>**

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
18/4/2021	2	Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (ZSU-23-4 <i>Shilka</i> , 23mm)	Near a residential area of Chernenko (86km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV

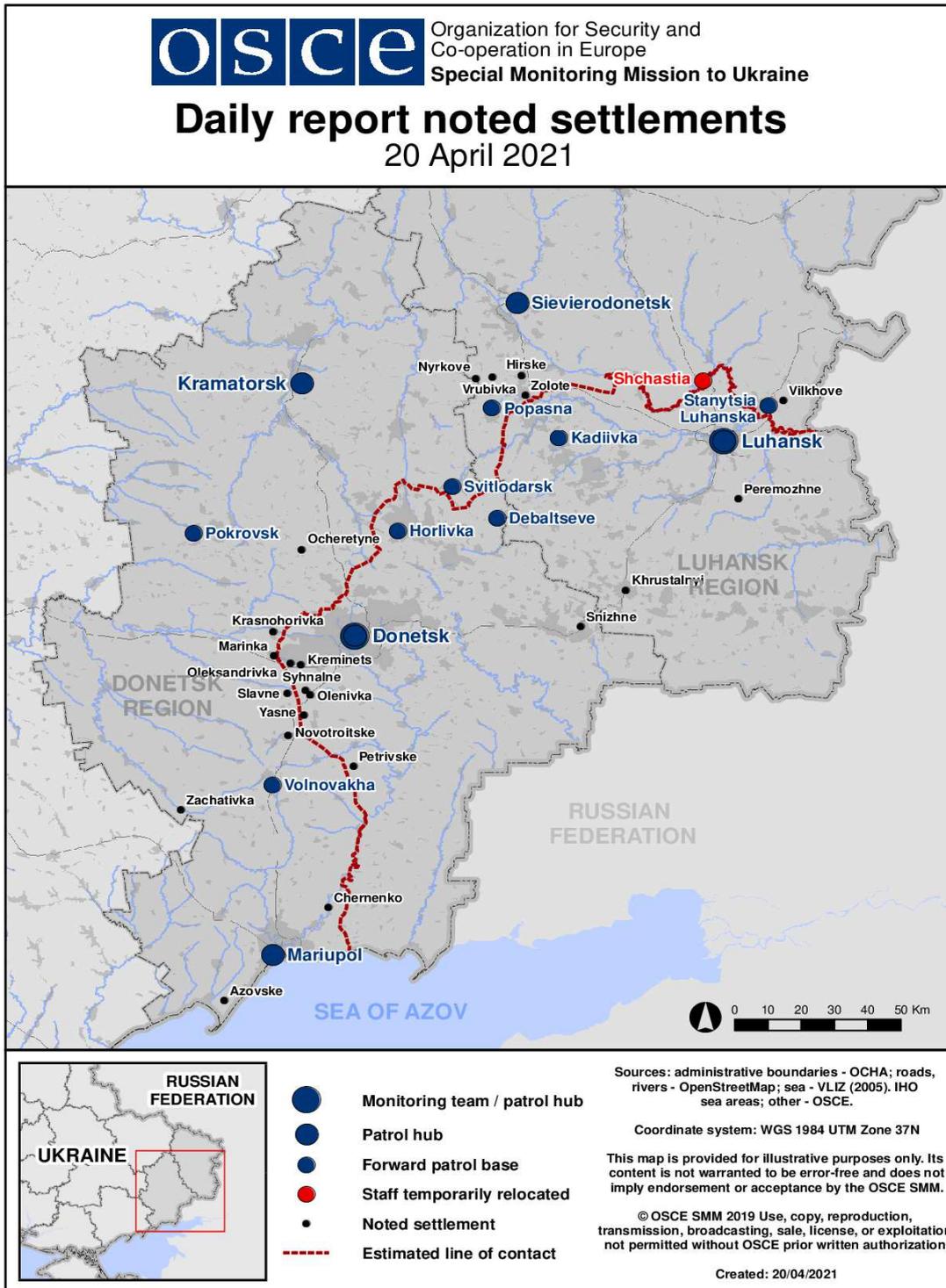
<sup>8</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

**Table of ceasefire violations as of 19 April 2021<sup>9</sup>**

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	18-Apr, 20:31
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	18-Apr, 20:31
Railway Station in Donetsk City (non-government-controlled, 6km NW of Donetsk city centre)	1-2km NNW	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	19-Apr, 09:45
Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Apr, 09:51
	2-4km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Apr, 10:00
SSE edge of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km west of Donetsk)	1.4-1.6km E	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	19-Apr, 11:08
	2.3km SW	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	19-Apr, 12:55
E edge of Yasne (non-government-controlled, 30km SW of Donetsk)	2.3km SW	Heard	21	Shot		Small arms	19-Apr, 12:55
	1-3km SW	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	19-Apr, 12:57-12:59
	1-3km SW	Heard	13	Burst		Small arms	19-Apr, 12:57-12:59
	3.3km SW	Heard	41	Shot		Small arms	19-Apr, 14:34
S edge of Syhnalne (non-government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	3.3km SW	Heard	11	Burst		Small arms	19-Apr, 14:34
	1-3km NW	Heard	17	Shot		Small arms	19-Apr, 14:38
	1-3km NW	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	19-Apr, 14:38
	2-3km N	Heard	1	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	19-Apr, 11:10
Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1.4km SE	Heard	5	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	19-Apr, 11:48
About 3.6km NNW of Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km SW of Donetsk)	3km NNE	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	19-Apr, 12:57
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4-6km SE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Apr, 21:50-22:25
	4-6km SE	Heard	6	Burst		HMG	18-Apr, 21:50-22:25
	4-6km SE	Heard	12	Burst		Small arms	18-Apr, 21:50-22:25
E edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	2-3km E	Heard	3	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	19-Apr, 14:18-14:25
Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	5-7km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Apr, 11:14

<sup>9</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>10</sup>



<sup>10</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).