

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

## **Trends and observations JAN-MAR 2020**







including

60,188

ceasefire violations

21 22 22

## Freedom of movement (FoM) restrictions\*





explosions attributable to fire from

MLRS, artillery, mortars and tanks

Mines/ Shelling Smal Main trends:

In the first quarter of 2020, the number of ceasefire violations recorded along the contact line decreased by 25 per cent compared with the previous quarter. At the same time, the Mission observed a seven-fold increase, compared to the previous quarter, of observed explosions attributable to weapons that should have been withdrawn according to the Minsk agreements. The majority of these were observed in the Popasna-Zolote-Holubivske-Krymske area.

Most of the armed violence recorded in the first quarter of 2020 was concentrated in five hotspots along the contact line, which accounted for about 90 per cent of all recorded ceasefire violations

1) Popasna-Zolote-Holubivske-Krymske area. 2) Areas south-west, south and south-east of Svitlodarsk Areas east and north-east of Mariupol Avdiivka-Yasynuvata-Donetsk airport area. 5) Western and northern outskirts of Horlivka

Ceasefire violations recorded outside the security zone were largely assessed as related to live-fire exercises. In the first guarter of 2020, the SMM recorded some 800 such ceasefire violations (about 1.3 per cent of all ceasefire violations observed by the SMM), about 89 per cent of which were recorded in non-government-controlled areas.

About 42 per cent of all ceasefire violations were recorded at night. The primary sources of these observations were SMM cameras and monitoring officers stationed in Forward Patrol Bases (FPBs). During the day, most ceasefire violations wer ecorded by patrols present on the ground.

In the first quarter of 2020, the SMM observed over 400 weapons in violation of the agreed withdrawal lines - 30 per cent fewer when compared with the previous quarter. About 80 per of these weapons were observed in non-government-controlled areas, and about 20 per cent in government-controlled areas. About 64 per cent of these observations were made by unmanned aerial vehicles or revealed through other aerial imagery made available to the SMM, while 36 per cent were made by patrols

During the first guarter of 2020, the SMM faced freedom c ent restrictions not related to mines or unexploded ce on almost 350 occasions, an approximate 28 per cer ase compared with the previous guarter. About 97 per cer of these restrictions took place in non-government-controlle areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Furthermore, as of 21 March, the SMM started to encounter denials of movement across the contact line at checkpoints of the armed formations along official crossing routes in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

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