

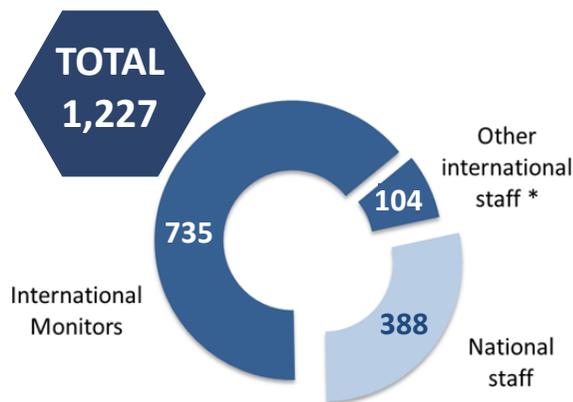


An OSCE SMM staff member (right) engages with a resident of Mineralne, Donetsk region, 19 February 2018.
Photo: OSCE/Evgeniy Maloletka

FACTS MATTER

- Between 5 and 18 February, the security situation in eastern Ukraine remained volatile. Periods of relative calm were interrupted by sudden violent flare-ups, in particular in the Svitlodarsk-Debaltseve area, in the west of Luhansk region and in areas east and north-east of Mariupol.
- On one particular day, 7 February, the Mission recorded 360 instances of the use of multiple launch rocket systems: the highest number observed on a single day since March 2017.
- Much of the violence occurred in rural areas, resulting in four injuries. There were three children among them, who were injured in an incident involving unexploded ordnance in Krasnohorivka on 6 February. The failure of the sides to remove mines and other explosive remnants of war remains a constant feature. It is an ever-present threat to civilians, particularly children, as well as to SMM monitors.
- In addition to the risk posed by mines and unexploded ordnance, the Mission – both its monitoring officers and its equipment – was targeted or endangered a number of times by small-arms fire. Armed “DPR” members fired shots close to SMM monitors, and SMM unmanned aerial vehicles were fired upon four times, twice on each side of the contact line.
- In addition to the presence of mines, the Mission’s freedom of movement was directly restricted by the sides: twice in areas controlled by the government and 37 times in areas outside government control.
- Between 5 and 18 February, the Mission facilitated and monitored 34 “windows of silence” – localized adherence to the ceasefire – which allowed for repairs and maintenance work on 12 critical civilian infrastructure facilities on both sides of the contact line. In two cases – at the water wells near non-government-controlled Krasnyi Lyman and at the Petrivske pumping station near government-controlled Artema – a quarter of a million people benefited from the repairs.
- Multiple public gatherings, demonstrations and protests took place on 17 and 18 February throughout Ukraine. One of them, involving approximately 70 participants, resulted in acts of vandalism against a number of buildings in Kyiv associated with the Russian Federation.
- SMM daily reports are available in three languages (English, Ukrainian and Russian) on the OSCE website: www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports

MISSION MEMBERS as of 21 FEBRUARY 2018



* Other international staff includes Chief Monitor, Principal Deputy Chief Monitor, Deputy Chief Monitor, advisors, analysts, etc.

SPECIAL MONITORING MISSION TO UKRAINE

Who we are?

- Unarmed civilian monitors
- Over 700 monitors across Ukraine
- Almost 600 based in the east
- From 44 OSCE participating States

What we do?

- Report the facts as we observe and establish them
- Gather information and report on the security situation
- Report on the humanitarian situation and people’s needs, and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid of other organizations
- Help to establish dialogue and local ceasefires

Important to understand:

- It is up to the sides to stop the fighting
- We do not conduct investigations, but report on facts
- We do not deliver but facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid

MISSION MONITORS

Albania	5	Kazakhstan	4
Armenia	1	Kyrgyzstan	22
Austria	13	Latvia	8
Azerbaijan	1	Lithuania	3
Belarus	7	Moldova	29
Belgium	1	Montenegro	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	41	Netherlands	3
Bulgaria	33	Norway	13
Canada	27	Poland	37
Croatia	10	Portugal	3
Czech Republic	17	Romania	29
Denmark	10	Russian Federation	40
Estonia	5	Serbia	11
Finland	19	Slovakia	12
France	16	Slovenia	1
FYR of Macedonia	25	Spain	14
Georgia	12	Sweden	13
Germany	25	Switzerland	8
Greece	22	Tajikistan	8
Hungary	27	Turkey	8
Ireland	8	UK	57
Italy	20	USA	64
		TOTAL	735
Male	614	Female	121