Over the past two weeks, the SMM corroborated eight civilian casualties, including two fatalities. This brings the total number of civilian casualties that occurred since the beginning of 2021 to 24 (nine fatalities and 15 injuries).

The Mission saw damage to 14 private properties and civilian infrastructure sites on both sides of the contact line, including to a functional hospital in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and a functional school in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region. Since the beginning of the year, the Mission confirmed damage to 30 private properties and civilian infrastructure sites.

On both sides of the contact line in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, SMM unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) continued spotting mines, including 4,165 anti-tank mines, about 100 probable anti-personnel mines and three pieces of unexploded ordnance.

The Mission’s freedom of movement was restricted 13 times, all in non-government-controlled areas. SMM UAVs were targeted six times by small-arms fire on both sides of the contact line. The Mission’s UAVs experienced signal interference assessed as caused by probable jamming or jamming on 105 occasions, including 34 instances when long-range UAVs were affected (forcing one emergency landing, see Spot Report 13/2021).

The SMM continued to observe civilians while crossing, or attempting to cross, the contact line and their challenges. It again noted that the only crossing points civilians were able to use were near Stanitsia Luhanska (opened daily) and Novotroitske/Olenivka (twice a week, as the armed formations’ checkpoint there is only open on Mondays and Fridays).

The Mission continued to facilitate and monitor adherence to localized ceasefires to enable maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure on both sides of the contact line, including maintenance of water infrastructure near Novotoshkiivske and near Holmivskyi, altogether providing water to around 9,000 civilians.

The Mission’s daily reports are available in three languages (English, Ukrainian and Russian) on the OSCE website: www.osce.org/ukraine-ssm/reports.