The SMM's daily reports are available in three languages (English, Ukrainian and Russian).

The Mission continued to facilitate and monitor adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to and maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure on both sides of the contact line, including maintenance of the phenol sludge reservoir near Zaitseve (50km north-east of Donetsk). The Mission’s UAVs experienced signal interference assessed as caused by probable jamming or jamming on 146 occasions, including 10 instances when long-range UAVs were affected (forcing one cancelled flight and one emergency landing (see Spot Report 11/2021)).

The SMM continued to monitor the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske, observing people in the latter two areas and recording one ceasefire violation inside the disengagement area near Zolote and 12 inside the one near Petrivske.

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 Stanytsia Luhanska (opened daily) and Novotroitske/Olenivka (twice a week, as the armed formations’ checkpoint there is only open on Mondays and Fridays).

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In an address to the OSCE Permanent Council on 22 April, the SMM Chief Monitor stated that the Mission had over the previous few months observed intensification and “a broadening of kinetic activities along the contact line,” and increased numbers of civilian casualties and damaged or destroyed civilian infrastructure. As these developments unfold, the Mission is facing near-unprecedented restrictions and impediments to its ability to operate, many of which appear both deliberate and targeted.

Over the past two weeks, the SMM corroborated seven civilian casualties, including three fatalities due to the detonation of hand grenades in Donetsk region. This brings the total number of civilian casualties that occurred since the beginning of 2021 to 16 (seven fatalities and nine injuries).

The Mission’s freedom of movement on the ground was restricted 14 times, 11 in non-government-controlled areas, including once when members of the armed formations again conditioned passage through their checkpoints on the contact line on visual inspection of SMM vehicles (see Spot Report 12/2021).

SMM unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) were targeted 12 times by small-arms fire, seven times in government-controlled areas, four times in non-government-controlled areas and once over a contested area near Zaitseve (50km north-east of Donetsk). The Mission’s UAVs again experienced signal interference assessed as caused by probable jamming or jamming on 146 occasions, including 10 instances when long-range UAVs were affected (forcing one cancelled flight and one emergency landing (see Spot Report 11/2021)).

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**Facts Matter**
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