The SMM continued to facilitate and monitor adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs and operation of critical civilian infrastructure on both sides of the contact line, thus forcing the Mission to continue acting as separate operational entities. These restrictions and measures continue to directly limit the SMM’s ability to implement its mandate.

Overall during the two-week period, the Mission’s freedom of movement was restricted 35 times, including 31 instances in non-government-controlled areas. In particular, on 27 October, at Stanitsia Luhanska bridge, members of the armed formations delayed by 98 minutes SMM’s exit out of non-government controlled areas (see Spot Report 23/2021). SMM unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) were assessed as targeted by small-arms fire one time in non-government-controlled areas. Mission UAVs experienced signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming on 121 occasions, including 42 instances experienced by long non-government controlled areas, while flying on both sides line.

The Mission continued to monitor the disengagement areas near Stanitsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It again recorded ceasefire violations inside and close to the disengagement areas near Zolote and Petrivske as well as close to the disengagement area near Stanitsia Luhanska.

The SMM corroborated reports of three civilian casualties, all injuries – two due to the impact of shelling and one due to a gunshot wound. This brings the total number of confirmed civilian fatalities since the beginning of 2021 to 81 (15 fatalities and 66 injured).

The Mission followed up on reports of damage to 21 civilian properties and a working kindergarten, on both sides of the contact line, including in Hranitne and in Donetsk city’s Kuibyshevskyi district, Donetsk region as well as in Zolote-5/Mykhalivka in Luhansk region. Overall since the beginning of 2021, the SMM has confirmed damage to 142 civilian properties and infrastructure objects.

The SMM continued to facilitate and monitor adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs and operation of critical civilian infrastructure on both sides of the contact line, including repairs to power lines in Staromkyhalivka, as well as to enable the construction of a road near Vodiane.

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