

# OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine 2015 IN REVIEW

## Who we are

- Unarmed civilian mission
- More than 650 monitors across Ukraine, with over 500 of them in the east



- Monitors come from more than 40 countries

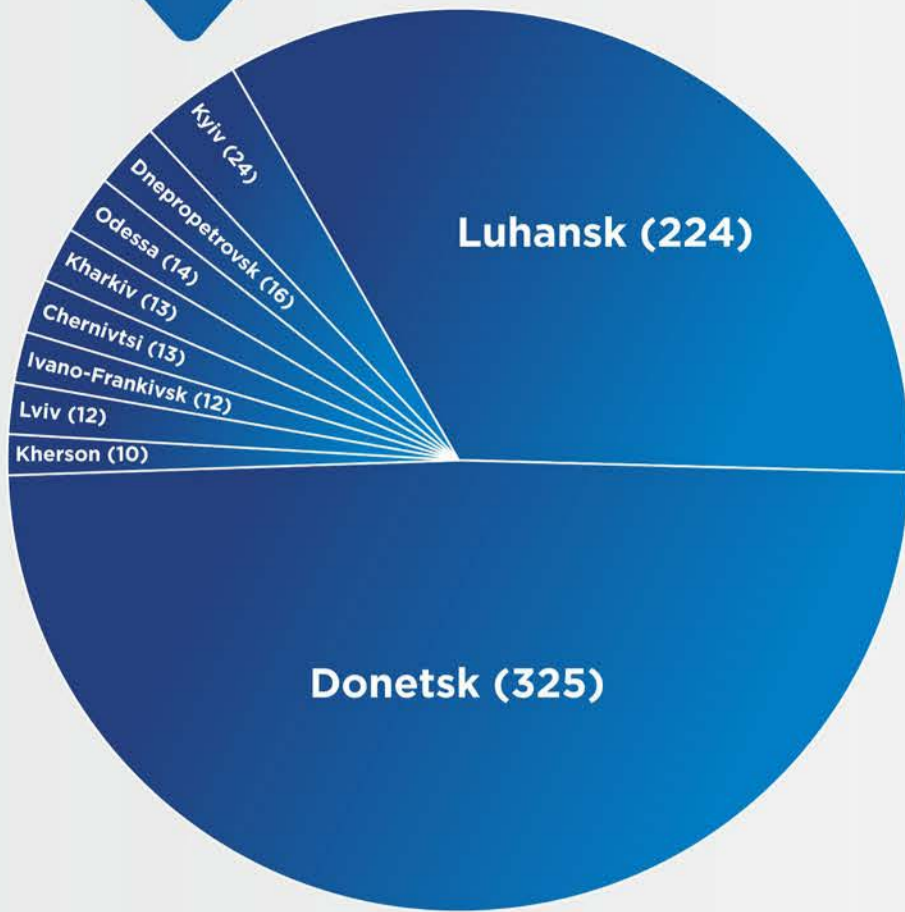
## What we do

The SMM works towards normalization and stabilization of the situation in Ukraine through:

- Monitoring - Reporting
- Dialogue facilitation

The SMM gathers information and provides impartial fact-based reports on the security situation on the ground (including specific incidents)

- Monitors and supports respect for human rights commitments and works to establish contacts and facilitate dialogue, including local ceasefires with the aim of reducing tensions
- Facilitating the implementation of the Minsk agreement is a major part of its work



SMM presence throughout Ukraine, number of monitors by region as of 31 December 2015

## SMM in numbers

- 307 Daily reports
- 32 Spot reports
- 8 Thematic reports
- 4 briefings to the UN Security Council



Over 18,000 monitor patrols, averaging at 75 patrols a day

More than 4 million kilometres of patrolling



Over 16,000 followers on our @OSCE\_SMM Twitter account



More than 5,600 likes on Facebook

## Highlights of 2015



### January

- Numbers: 350 monitors
- Locations: 10 Offices + 3 Hubs

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- Chief Monitor condemns surging violence in eastern Ukraine, especially the shelling of densely populated civilian areas

#### REPORTS

- Twelve civilians killed and 17 wounded when a rocket exploded close to a civilian bus near Volnovakha

- Shelling Incident on Olimpiiska Street in Mariupol

- Shelling incident in Donetsk city

### February

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- Package of Measures for the implementation of the Minsk Agreement (Package of Measures) was signed by the Trilateral Contact Group (TCG), SMM starts monitoring the withdrawal of heavy weapons

- SMM sends letter to the signatories of the Package of Measures requesting inventories, routes and locations for withdrawal of heavy weapons

#### REPORTS

- Civilians killed and wounded in strike with cluster munitions in Izvestkova Street in Luhansk city

- Shelling in the Kirovskiy district of Donetsk city

- Shelling in Kramatorsk

- SMM facilitates dialogue on ceasefire and access to Debaltseve

- Explosion in Kharkiv at a march commemorating February 2014 pro-Maidan events

- Thematic report on civil society and the crisis in Ukraine

### March

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- Mission's Mandate extended to 31 March 2016

- Chief Monitor urges the sides to cease fighting in Shyrokyne

#### REPORTS

- Local ceasefire holding in Kominternove enables de-mining

- On the escalation of the situation in Shyrokyne and SMM aggressively treated at "DPR" checkpoint at Shyrokyne

- Thematic reports on formerly state-financed institutions in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and the impact of the crisis in Ukraine on its western regions

### April

#### REPORTS

- Renewed intensive fighting around Donetsk city and Shyrokyne

- SMM spearheads efforts for the cessation of hostilities in Shyrokyne

- SMM overnight observation in Shyrokyne

- Intense fighting in Shyrokyne and amassing of forces

- "DPR" member opened fire towards an SMM patrol on the outskirts of Shyrokyne

### May

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- SMM starts co-ordinating the work of the Trilateral Contact Group's newly-created Working Group on Security Issues

#### REPORTS

- Four incidents involving the SMM within 36 hours: SMM not allowed access to its observation post near Shyrokyne; an SMM armoured vehicle sustained a direct hit from a single bullet near Shyrokyne; four 82mm mortar shells impacted 100m from the SMM's location in Pisky; SMM observed what it assessed to be shelling by 152mm artillery in Avdiivka.

- Thematic report on the protection of civilians and their freedom of movement in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions

### June

#### REPORTS

- Fighting around Marinka

- Thematic reports on the freedom of movement across the administrative boundary line with Crimea and the gender dimensions of SMM's monitoring

### July

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- Chief Monitor leads tributes to mark the first anniversary of the MH17 disaster
- SMM facilitates repair works to critical infrastructure damaged by shelling, such as water pipelines and electricity lines on both sides of the contact line

#### REPORTS

- SMM team caught in fire exchange in Shyrokyne, one member injured by debris

- SMM patrol caught in fire in Shchastia but comes out unharmed

- Monitoring events in the wake of deadly shooting in Mukacheve

### August

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- Violence escalates in the Donbas with hotspots around Donetsk airport, Horlivka, Marinka and Krasnohorivka

- SMM facilitates repair works on the water pipeline between Horlivka and Maiorsk in Donetsk region, and on water pumps in Raivka and Staryi Aidar in Luhansk region

#### REPORTS

- OSCE vehicles in Donetsk city damaged by fire

- Protest outside national Parliament in Kyiv turns violent

### September

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- Chief Monitor supports call by Trilateral Contact Group for ceasefire at the start of the school year

- Addendum to the Package of Measures for the implementation of the Minsk Agreements (Addendum) signed: Chief Monitor welcomes the agreement on the withdrawal of tanks and artillery pieces up to 100 mm and mortars with calibre up to 120 mm (inclusive)

- Launch of "Youth Contact Groups"

#### REPORTS

- Thematic report on access to water in conflict-affected areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions

### October

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- Chief Monitor notifies signatories to the Memorandum of 19 September 2014 and Package of Measures on stricter standards for monitoring and verifying the withdrawal of heavy weapons

- SMM commences monitoring and verifying the withdrawal of weapons under the Addendum

- SMM facilitates opening of a bridge in Stanytsia Luhanska

- SMM begins long-term awareness-raising campaign on dangers of unexploded ordnance

- Mission's use of mini- and mid-range unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) gets underway

- Forward Patrol Bases established in Volnovakha, Novoaidar and Stakhanov

#### REPORTS

- Shelling at and around Donetsk airport

### November

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- Start of implementation of new verification regime of heavy weapons withdrawal

- Chief Monitor urges sides to fully adhere to ceasefire following an increase in the number and gravity of ceasefire violations in eastern Ukraine

### December

#### DEVELOPMENTS

- SMM opens Patrol Bases in Horlivka and Debaltseve

- Trilateral Contact Group's Working Group on Security Issues co-ordinated by the Chief Monitor and Principal Deputy Chief Monitor identifies 12 priority areas for mine clearance

- Launch of "Youth Contact Groups" in Lviv, Kharkiv and Kramatorsk

#### REPORTS

- Armed individuals guarding heavy weapons in Yurivka fire into the air as SMM monitors tried to approach

- SMM visits Kominternove village

- Small-arms fire impacts near SMM in the vicinity of Kominternove, comes out unharmed

- Thematic report on access to justice and the conflict in Ukraine

- Numbers: 663 monitors as of 31 December, with more than 500 monitors in Donbas alone

- Locations: 10 Offices + 3 Hubs + 5 Forward Patrol Bases

Latest news, reports and stories relating to OSCE responses to the conflict in and around Ukraine can be found on our new web portal: [www.osce.org/ukraineecrisis](http://www.osce.org/ukraineecrisis)

SMM reports are available in three languages (English, Ukrainian and Russian) on the OSCE website: [www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports](http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports)

## LEARN MORE ABOUT OSCE SMM

The Mission provides daily reports on the security situation; spot reports in response to specific incidents; thematic reports on how the conflict affects different aspects of daily life; and fortnightly status reports summarizing the latest facts and figures on the Mission's work.

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

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