



German Ambassador Dr. Ernst Reichel (l) handed over three thermal cameras to the OSCE SMM Chief Monitor Ertugrul Apakan (r) (OSCE)

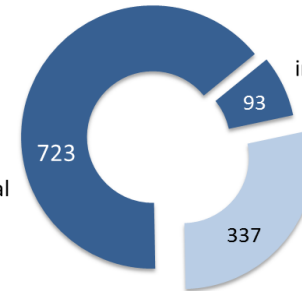
## LATEST NEWS

- The security situation in eastern Ukraine continued to be volatile and tense. Although the SMM recorded a relative decrease in the number of ceasefire violations over the two week period, the level of violence remained high.
- The vast majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas south-east and east of Svitlodarsk, areas east and north-east of Mariupol, the Avdiivka-Yasynuvata-Donetsk airport triangle, the western and northern outskirts of Horlivka and in western Luhansk region.
- The SMM continued to observe weapons missing from storage sites as well as the presence and use of proscribed weapons in violation of withdrawal lines. In the week from 13 to 19 March the use of mortars, tanks and artillery, including MLRS, - all proscribed by the Minsk agreements – increased by 75 per cent compared with the previous week. In particular, the use of artillery recorded during this period increased more than fourfold.
- The disengagement process remained stalled. The SMM's access to three agreed disengagement areas remained restricted due to mines and unexploded ordnance, though the SMM was able to partially monitor them, including through remote observation. The SMM observed ceasefire violations inside all three disengagement areas.
- During the last two weeks two incidents involving small-arms fire and mortar rounds explosions near SMM members and vehicles were registered in areas not controlled by the Government. See: [www.osce.org/special-monitoring-mission-to-ukraine/306056](http://www.osce.org/special-monitoring-mission-to-ukraine/306056), [www.osce.org/special-monitoring-mission-to-ukraine/304721](http://www.osce.org/special-monitoring-mission-to-ukraine/304721)
- On 16 March the OSCE Permanent Council renewed the SMM mandate for one year until 31 March 2018. See: [www.osce.org/chairmanship/305466](http://www.osce.org/chairmanship/305466)
- On 20 March the German government donated three thermal cameras to the Mission. See: [www.facebook.com/oscesmm/posts/786345418183832](https://www.facebook.com/oscesmm/posts/786345418183832)
- SMM daily reports are available in three languages (English, Russian and Ukrainian) on the OSCE website: [www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports](http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports).

## MISSION MEMBERS as of 23 MARCH 2017

**TOTAL**  
**1153**

International  
Monitors



Other  
international  
staff \*

National  
staff \*\*

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

\*\* National staff includes assistants, advisors and other administrative personnel.

## MISSION MONITORS

Albania	1	Kazakhstan	4
Armenia	2	Kyrgyzstan	16
Austria	16	Latvia	5
Azerbaijan	1	Lithuania	2
Belarus	9	Moldova	25
Belgium	4	Montenegro	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	34	Netherlands	5
Bulgaria	34	Norway	20
Canada	16	Poland	35
Croatia	11	Portugal	3
Czech Republic	17	Romania	35
Denmark	12	Russian Federation	39
Estonia	7	Serbia	9
Finland	30	Slovakia	10
France	13	Slovenia	1
former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	21	Spain	12
Georgia	7	Sweden	19
Germany	28	Switzerland	10
Greece	21	Tajikistan	6
Hungary	27	Turkey	10
Ireland	10	United Kingdom	50
Italy	20	United States	64
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>723</b>
Male	617	Female	106

## SPECIAL MONITORING MISSION TO UKRAINE

### Who we are

- Unarmed civilian monitors;
- More than 700 monitors across Ukraine;
- Over 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.