56,879 ceasefire violations including 1,378 explosions attributable to fire from MLRS, artillery, mortars and tanks

311 freedom of movement restrictions including 198 related to COVID-19

519 weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Civilian casualties in Apr-Jun 2020:
3 fatalities
20 injured

Main trends:

In the second quarter of 2020, the number of ceasefire violations recorded along the contact line decreased by 5 per cent, compared with the previous quarter. Moreover, the Mission observed a 16 per cent decrease, compared to the previous quarter, of observed explosions attributable to weapons that should have been withdrawn according to the Minsk agreements.

Most of the armed violence recorded in the second quarter of 2020 was concentrated in four hotspots along the contact line, which accounted for about 30 per cent of all recorded ceasefire violations:

1. Avdiivka-Yasynuvata-Donetsk airport area.
3. Areas west and south-west of Mariupol.
4. Areas south-west, south and south-east of Sloviansk.

Ceasefire violations recorded outside the security zone were largely assessed as related to air-launched attacks. In the second quarter of 2020, the SMM recorded 390 such ceasefire violations, about 35 per cent of all ceasefire violations observed by the SMM, about 95 per cent of which were recorded in non-government-controlled areas.

The location of observations were SMM cameras and monitoring officers stationed in Forward Patrol Bases (FPBs) and patrols present on the ground.

In the second quarter of 2020, the SMM observed 500 weapons in violation of the agreed withdrawal lines—20 per cent more when compared with the previous quarter. About 85 per cent of these weapons were observed in non-government-controlled areas, and about 15 per cent in government-controlled areas. About 60 per cent of these observations were made by unmanned aerial vehicles or revealed through aerial imagery made available to the SMM, while 31 per cent were made by patrols.

During the second quarter of 2020, the SMM faced freedom of movement restrictions not related to mines or unexploded ordnance on over 300 occasions, an approximate 22 per cent increase compared with the previous quarter. About 87 per cent of these restrictions took place in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. In addition to these, as of 21 March, the SMM started to encounter densities of movement across the contact line as checkposts of the armed formations along official crossing routes in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions. During the reporting period, the Mission faced such restrictions related to COVID-19 on almost 210 occasions.