

Daily Report 18/2020

23 January 2020¹

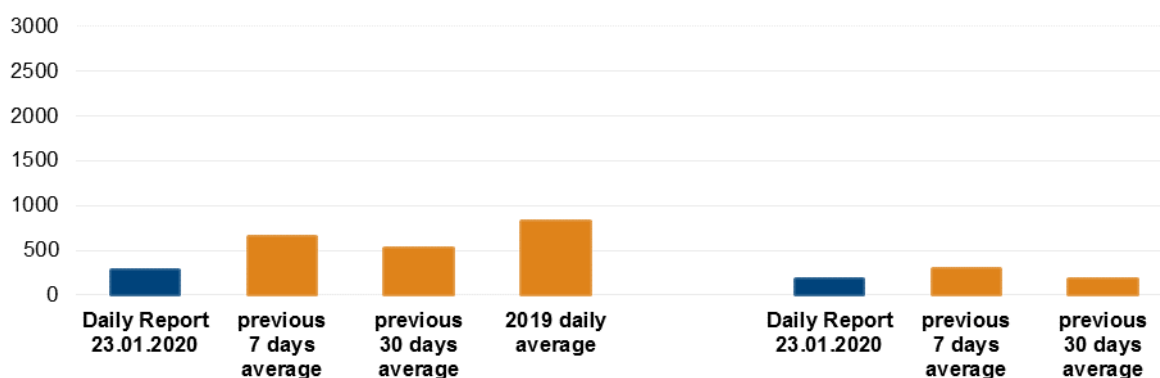
Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded a similar number of ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and fewer in Luhansk region.
- A man was injured by an explosive device in non-government-controlled Pankivka.
- The Mission continued monitoring the security situation at the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. Members of the armed formations again restricted the Mission's access near the latter area, including to the SMM camera.
- It monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the drilling of water wells and repairs to a water supply network.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at three checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region, as well as at a border crossing point not under government control.*
- The SMM monitored public events in Kyiv and Odessa, and near government-controlled Seleznivka, Donetsk region.

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



Map of recorded ceasefire violations

¹Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 22 January 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table.

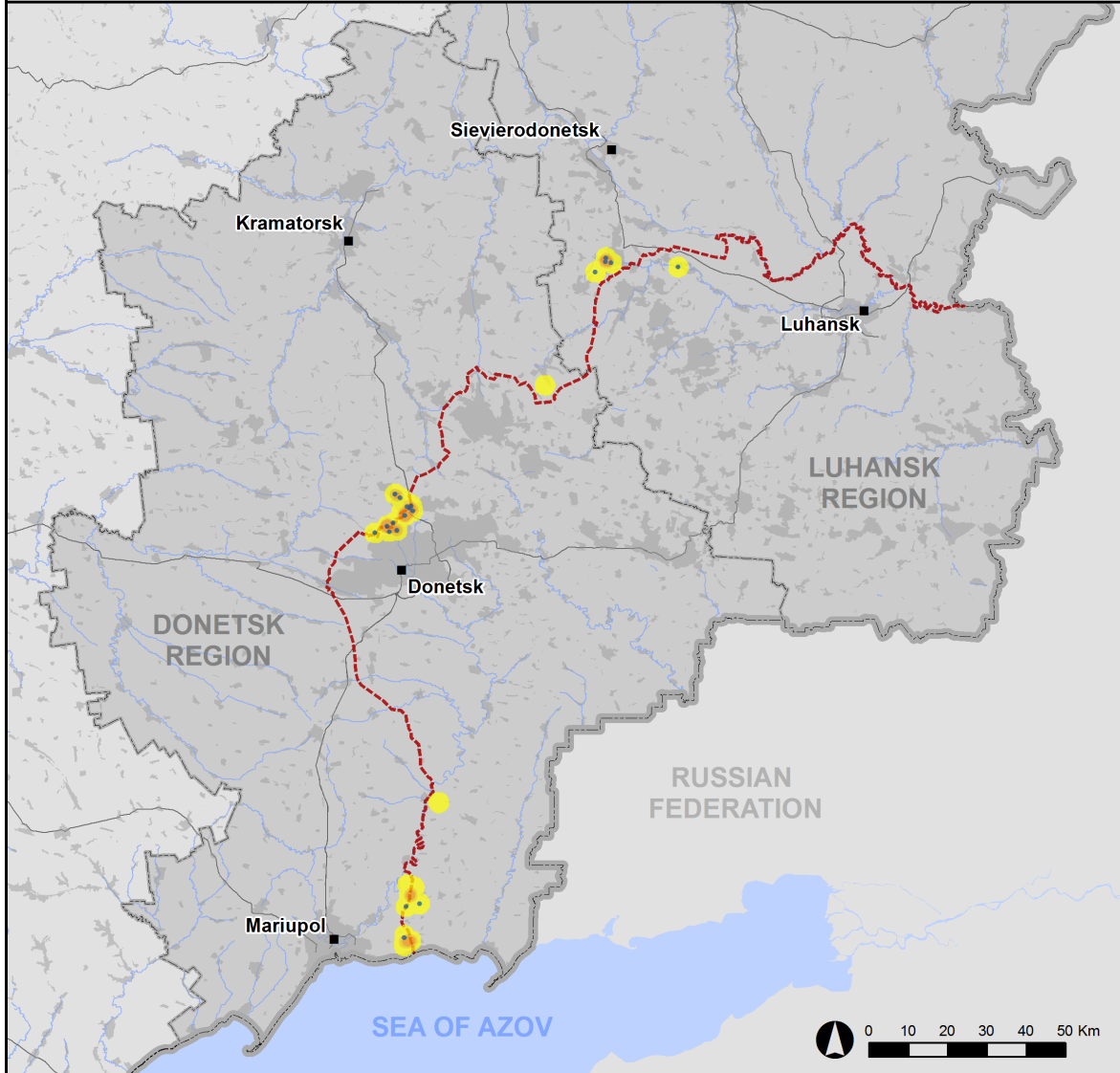
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

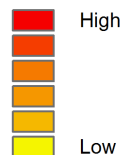


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 22 January 2020



Ceasefire violation concentration



- Explosion
- Settlement

Estimated line of contact

Sources: Administrative Boundaries - OCHA; Roads, Rivers - OpenStreetMap; Sea - VLIZ (2005). IHO Sea Areas; Other - OSCE.

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 37N

This map is provided for illustrative purposes only. Its content is not warranted to be error-free and does not imply endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE SMM.

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Created: 23/01/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded a similar number of ceasefire violations, including more explosions (about 130), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 80 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations, including the majority of explosions, were recorded in areas south-south-east of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), north-north-west of Donetsk city centre (non-government-controlled) and at northerly directions of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded fewer ceasefire violations, all of which were explosions (45), compared with the [previous reporting period \(35 explosions\)](#). Almost all ceasefire violations were recorded in areas north-north-east of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk) and in the vicinity of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below).

Man injured by explosive device in non-government-controlled Pankivka

On 21 January, the SMM followed up on reports that a man had been injured due to the detonation of an explosive device on 18 January in Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk). Staff at a hospital in Luhansk city (non-government-controlled) told the Mission that a man (in his fifties) had been admitted on 18 January with injuries due to the detonation of an explosive device. At the same hospital, on 21 January, a 55-year-old woman who introduced herself as the man's spouse told the SMM that her husband had called her on 18 January to tell her that he had stepped on an explosive device while fishing on the banks of the Siverskyi Donets river and had crawled approximately 150m back to their summer house to call for help. She said that the doctors had amputated the man's left leg.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw seven members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) between the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk) and their checkpoint south of it. Outside the disengagement area, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [again](#) spotted an anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm) about 150m south-south-east of the area's south-eastern edge.

On the morning of 22 January, positioned on the south-western edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 58km west of Luhansk), the SMM heard 22 undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 6-10km west and west-north-west, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote**. At the checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces on the northern edge of the disengagement area, the SMM saw four new anti-tank obstacles.

At a checkpoint about 3km north of the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage southwards towards the settlement, hindering the Mission's monitoring of the area and access to its camera.*

Withdrawal of weapons

⁵ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

The SMM continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum. It saw seven multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS) (BM-21 *Grad*, 122mm) in violation of withdrawal lines near Dibrova (government-controlled, 85km north of Donetsk).

Weapons that the SMM could not verify as withdrawn⁶

At two heavy weapons holding areas in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region
22 January

The SMM noted that eight self-propelled howitzers (2S1 *Gvozdika*, 122mm) were present. It also noted that 20 MLRS (BM-21), 50 self-propelled howitzers (30 2S1, and 20 2S3 *Akatsiya*, 152mm), an anti-tank gun (MT-12 *Rapira*, 100mm), 30 mortars (2B11 *Sani*, 120mm), four surface-to-air missile systems (9K35 *Strela-10*) and three towed howitzers (D-44, 85mm) continued to be missing, and 11 anti-tank guns (MT-12) were missing for the first time.

Indications of military presence in the security zone⁷

The SMM observed three infantry fighting vehicles in the vicinity of the site of the SMM camera near Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk).

Remnant of exploded rocket seen for the first time near non-government-controlled Nikishyne

In a field about 3m west of a local road leading to the checkpoint of the armed formations near Nikishyne (non-government-controlled, 60km north-east of Donetsk), the SMM saw for the first time a remnant of an exploded rocket from an MLRS (BM-27 *Uragan*, 220mm) (which the SMM could not assess as recent or not). It observed that the ground near the remnant appeared to have been recently ploughed. A local resident (woman, in her thirties) told the Mission that her husband and two other men had been ploughing the field in the past weeks.

SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to facilitate the drilling of water wells near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk) and the inspection of and repairs to a water supply network near Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) and to monitor the security situation around the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

⁶ The SMM observed weapons that could not be verified as withdrawn, as their storage did not comply with the criteria set out in the 16 October 2015 notification from the SMM to the signatories of the Package of Measures on effective monitoring and verification of the withdrawal of heavy weapons.

⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Border areas outside government control

About ten minutes after arriving at a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.* During its presence, the Mission saw a car and a covered cargo truck (both with Ukrainian licence plates), as well as a bus with “LPR” plates waiting to exit Ukraine.

SMM monitored public events in Kyiv and Odessa, and near government-controlled Seleznivka

In Kyiv, the SMM saw about 100 people (mixed gender and ages) marching from Maidan Square to the Parliament in commemoration of Maidan activists who had reportedly been killed on 22 January 2014. The march was monitored by about ten national police officers.

It also observed several peaceful gatherings on the occasion of the Day of the Unity of Ukraine. In Kyiv, it saw about 300 people (mixed gender and ages) at Paton Bridge, some of whom were carrying Ukrainian flags, as well as six police officers and three dialogue police officers. In Odessa, the Mission saw about 100 people (mixed gender and ages) in front of a monument to Taras Shevchenko, as well as a police patrol car and two dialogue police officers nearby.

At a road junction about 2km south of Seleznivka (government-controlled, 97km north of Donetsk), the SMM saw about 50 people (mixed genders and ages) gathered and carrying Ukrainian flags.

The Mission continued monitoring in Kherson, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro and Chernivtsi.

***Restrictions of the SMM’s freedom of movement or other impediments to fulfilment of its mandate**

The SMM’s monitoring and freedom of movement are restricted by security hazards and threats, including risks posed by mines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other impediments – which vary from day to day. The SMM’s mandate provides for safe and secure access throughout Ukraine. All signatories of the Package of Measures have agreed on the need for this safe and secure access, that restriction of the SMM’s freedom of movement constitutes a violation, and on the need for rapid response to these violations. They have also agreed that the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) should contribute to such response and co-ordinate mine clearance. Nonetheless, the armed formations in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions frequently deny the SMM access to areas adjacent to Ukraine’s border outside control of the Government (for example, see below). The SMM’s operations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions remain restricted following [the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb](#); these restrictions continued to limit the Mission’s observations.

Denial of access:

- At a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.
- At a checkpoint of the armed formations about 3km north of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage south towards the settlement, citing “orders from

superiors” and “ongoing special operations”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission saw civilian cars crossing in both directions.

- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnohyrokiyske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage, citing “an anti-subversion operation in the area”, thus preventing the Mission from monitoring areas near the border not under government control. While at the checkpoint, the Mission saw civilian cars passing through the checkpoint in both directions.
- At a checkpoint 2.5km west of Bezimenne (non-government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage westwards.

Regular restrictions related to disengagement areas and mines/UXO:

- The sides continued to deny the SMM full access, as well as the ability to travel certain roads previously identified as important for effective monitoring by the Mission and for civilians’ movement, through failure to conduct comprehensive clearance of mines, UXO and other obstacles.

Other impediments:

- On three occasions, SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Shymshynivka (non-government-controlled, 27km south-west of Luhansk) and Perevalsk (non-government-controlled, 38km west of Luhansk).

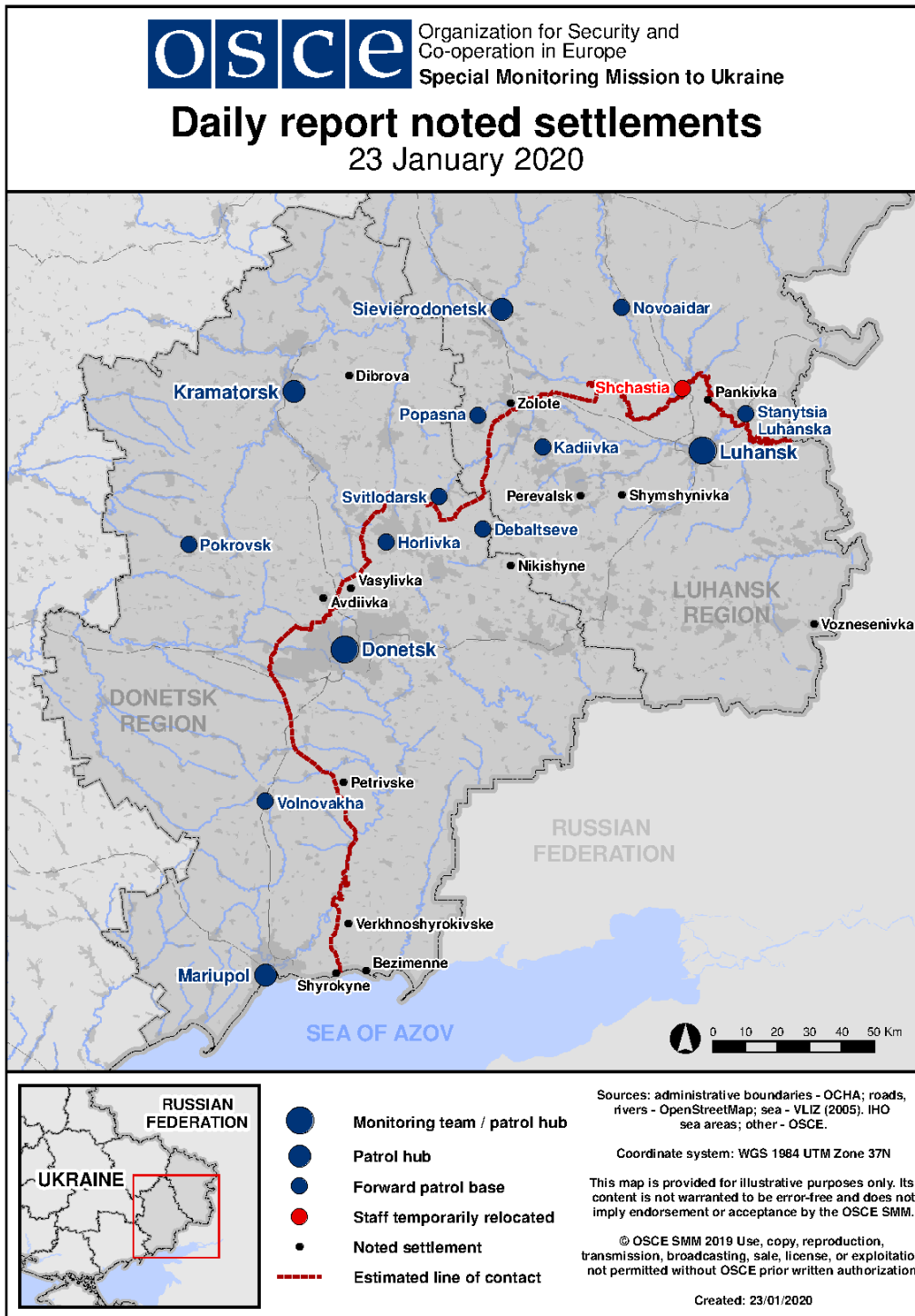
Table of ceasefire violations as of 22 January 2020⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	1-4km SE	Recorded	4	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	22-Jan, 05:32
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	1-2km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 18:47
	500-800m SW	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	22-Jan, 02:56
	1-2km SW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 05:36
	0.8-1.2km SSW	Recorded	8	Projectile	W to E	N/K	22-Jan, 05:56
	0.8-1.2km SSW	Recorded	3	Projectile	N to S	N/K	22-Jan, 05:56
	0.8-1km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact	N/K	22-Jan, 17:10
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Recorded	3	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	21-Jan, 23:00
	3-5km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	21-Jan, 23:01
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 23:21
	3-5km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	22-Jan, 00:47
	3-5km E	Recorded	3	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	22-Jan, 01:05
	3-4km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	22-Jan, 01:06
	3-5km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	22-Jan, 01:07
	3-5km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	22-Jan, 01:08
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Hnutove (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	1-2km ENE	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	21-Jan, 22:19
	2-4km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	N to S	N/K	22-Jan, 01:17
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	3	Projectile	S to N	N/K	21-Jan, 19:08
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	21-Jan, 19:08
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-Jan, 19:52
	2-7km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle Flash		N/K	21-Jan, 20:40
	2-7km NNE	Recorded	15	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-Jan, 21:22
	2-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-Jan, 21:34
	2-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-Jan, 21:37
	2-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	21-Jan, 21:41
	2-7km NNE	Recorded	6	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-Jan, 22:28
	2-4km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	21-Jan, 23:29
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 00:13
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 01:30
	4-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	22-Jan, 02:05
2-4km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	22-Jan, 02:30	
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:17
	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:21
	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:24
	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:28
	2-3km SW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:29-09:30

⁸ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments provided by monitors on the ground, and are not always necessarily precise. When information is not known (indicated with an “N/K”), the SMM was unable to ascertain such information due to distance, weather conditions and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol and assessed to be the same are entered only once.

NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:33
	2-3km SW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:40
Donetsk central railway station (non-government-controlled, 6km NW of Donetsk city centre)	2-3km NNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:18
	3-6km N	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:19
	3-5km NNW	Heard	32	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:20-09:36
	3-5km NNW	Heard	6	Shot		N/K	22-Jan, 09:25
Donetsk city centre (non-government-controlled)	4-6km WNW	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 10:42
	7-10km NNW	Heard	17	Explosion	Outgoing	Artillery (type N/K)	22-Jan, 09:22-09:38
SE part of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3km SSE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:20-09:22
	3km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:23
	3km SSE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:26
	3km SSE	Heard	11	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:28-09:31
	3km SSE	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:32-09:34
	3km SSE	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:35-09:36
	3km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 11:49
Verkhnohyrovivske (non-government controlled, 85km S of Donetsk)	2-3km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 10:09
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	21-Jan, 23:17-23:22
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	3-5km SSW	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:28-09:32
	3-5km SW	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:33-09:36
	3-5km SW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:37-09:39
SW edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	8-10km W	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	22-Jan, 08:30-08:35
	6-8km WNW	Heard	18	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	22-Jan, 09:17-09:24
E edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	6-8km NNE	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:10-09:13
	6-8km NNE	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 09:17-09:24
Sentianivka (formerly Frunze, non-government-controlled, 44km W of Luhansk)	3-4km W	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Jan, 11:32-11:36

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions⁹



⁹ The SMM is deployed to ten locations throughout Ukraine – Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnipro, Chernivtsi, Luhansk and Kyiv – as per Permanent Council Decision 1117 of 21 March 2014. This map of eastern Ukraine is meant for illustrative purposes and indicates locations mentioned in the report, as well as those where the SMM has offices (monitoring teams, patrol hubs, and forward patrol bases) in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. (In red: a forward patrol base from which SMM staff has temporarily relocated based on recommendations of security experts from participating States as well as SMM security considerations. The SMM uses the premises during daylight hours and patrols in this settlement during daylight hours, as well).