

# Daily Report 37/2020

14 February 2020<sup>1</sup>

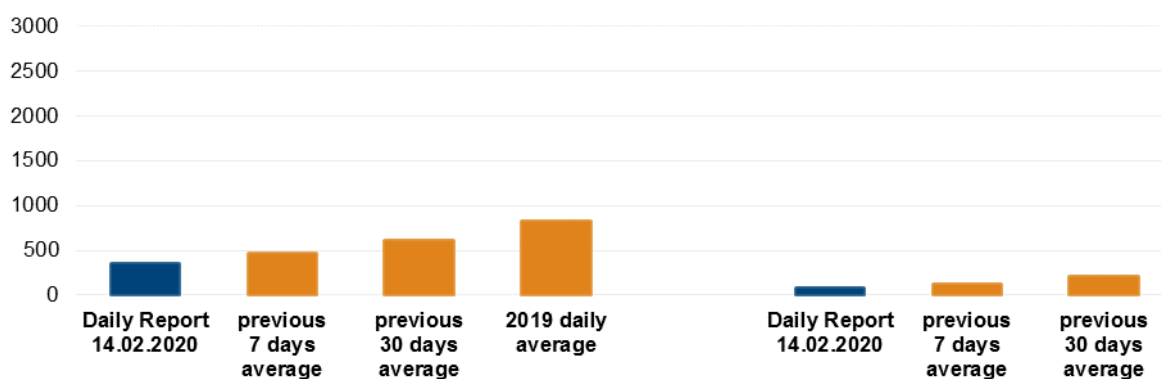
## Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission continued monitoring the security situation at the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission saw weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region.
- Aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed armoured combat vehicles in the area of the border crossing point near non-government-controlled Novoazovsk.
- The SMM continued to observe hardships faced by civilians at checkpoints along the contact line related to inclement weather and long waiting times.
- Members of the armed formations restricted the SMM's freedom of movement again at a checkpoint near non-government-controlled Verkhnoшыrokivske in southern Donetsk region and at a border crossing point in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region.\*

## Ceasefire violations<sup>2</sup>

Number of recorded ceasefire violations<sup>3</sup>

Number of recorded explosions<sup>4</sup>



## Map of recorded ceasefire violations

<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 13 February 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

<sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. The SMM cameras near Bohdanivka and Hnutove were not operational during the reporting period.

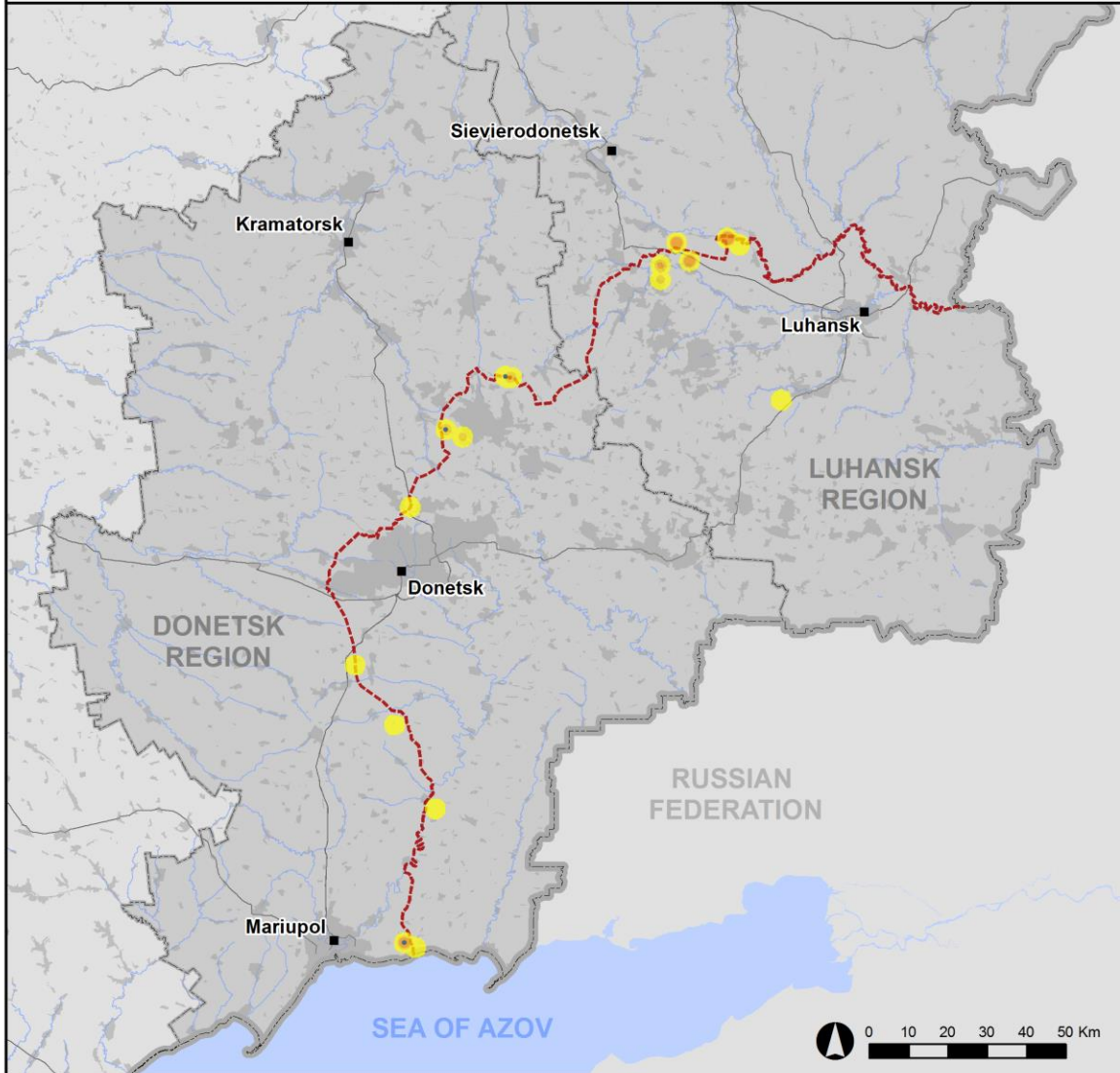
<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

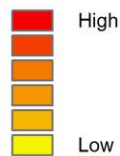


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 13 February 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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In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including 19 explosions, compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 25 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded in areas north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk) and south-west and west of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including fewer explosions (85), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 205 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded in areas south-south-west of Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km north-west of Luhansk) and north-east of Holubivske (non-government-controlled, 51km west of Luhansk).

### Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske<sup>5</sup>

On the early morning of 13 February, the SMM camera in Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) recorded a truck from non-government-controlled areas clearing snow in the parking lot near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk) and another truck from government-controlled areas clearing snow between the new span of the bridge and the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP). On the same day, the Mission saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) between the new span of the bridge and their checkpoint south of it.

On 13 February, the SMM saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) on the southern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). On the same day, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) experienced GPS signal interference assessed as probable jamming while attempting to fly over areas on the northern edge of the disengagement area.

On 13 February, while positioned in Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM heard four bursts of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 500m south, outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) but within 5km of its periphery.<sup>6</sup>

### Withdrawal of weapons

The SMM continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum.

The Mission saw three weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and tanks beyond withdrawal lines in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and in a non-government-controlled training area in Luhansk region (for further details, see table below).

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

<sup>6</sup> Due to weather conditions, the SMM was not able to reach its camera in Petrivske.

## **Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>7</sup>**

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (for further details, see the table below).

## **Situation of civilians at checkpoints along the contact line**

While at the EECP of the Ukrainian Armed Forces near Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), a group of about 50 elderly people told the SMM that they had been waiting for hours in the cold for transport between the EECP and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Kreminets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk). They added that the number of buses was insufficient due to the weather and heavy snowfall (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 13 February 2020](#)).

While near the EECP near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM saw 180 vehicles and at least 300 people (mixed ages and genders) queuing to enter government-controlled areas. The Mission saw 80 cars, eight buses, six mini-buses, as well as at least 50 people queuing to travel to government-controlled areas through the most forward Ukrainian Armed Forces checkpoint 3.5km north-east of Berezove (government-controlled, 31km south-west of Donetsk). About 30 vehicles were travelling in the opposite direction.

## **SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure**

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to facilitate repairs to the sewage system near Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km north-east of Donetsk). The Mission also continued to facilitate the maintenance and 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).

## **Border areas outside government control**

On the morning of 31 January, aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed the presence of four armoured combat vehicles (ACVs) at a border crossing point near Novoazovsk (102km south-east of Donetsk) heading a queue of trucks going west, as well as two ACVs about 1km further west and five ACVs moving east to west along the road.

On 13 February, while at a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, 65km south-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw four cars (three with Russian Federation licence plates, as well as one with “LPR” plates) entering Ukraine. After about five minutes, a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.\*

On the same day, while at the Chervona Mohyla railway station near Voznesenivka for about 20 minutes, the SMM saw about 40 stationary railway wagons.

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

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

## **\*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.*

### Denials of access:

- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards non-government-controlled areas, citing “ongoing demining” in the area. While present, the SMM saw civilian traffic proceeding in both directions.
- At a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations [again](#) told the SMM to leave the area (see above).

### *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:

- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying near the Zolote disengagement area (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see above).<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' position.

## Table of weapons

### Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
13/02/2020	1	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	Near Bakhmut (formerly Artemivsk, 67km north of Donetsk), traveling in a south-westerly direction on road T-0504	Patrol
	1	Towed howitzer (D-20, 152mm)		
	1	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		

### Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
13/02/2020	1	Tank (T-62)	Near Bakhmut, traveling in a north-easterly direction on road T-0504	Patrol
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
13/02/2020	21	Tank (T-64)	In a training area near Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	10	Tank (T-72)		

## Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>9</sup>

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
13/02/2020	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (one 1RL127 SNAR-10 and one BRDM-2)	Near Troitske (69km west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured combat vehicle (BTR variant)	Near Lisna Poliana (107km north of Luhansk)	
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (probable BMP variant)	In Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk)	
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	In Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-60)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	In Kremenivka (78km south of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	In Hnutove (90km south of Donetsk)	

<sup>9</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.



**Table of ceasefire violations as of 13 February 2020<sup>10</sup>**

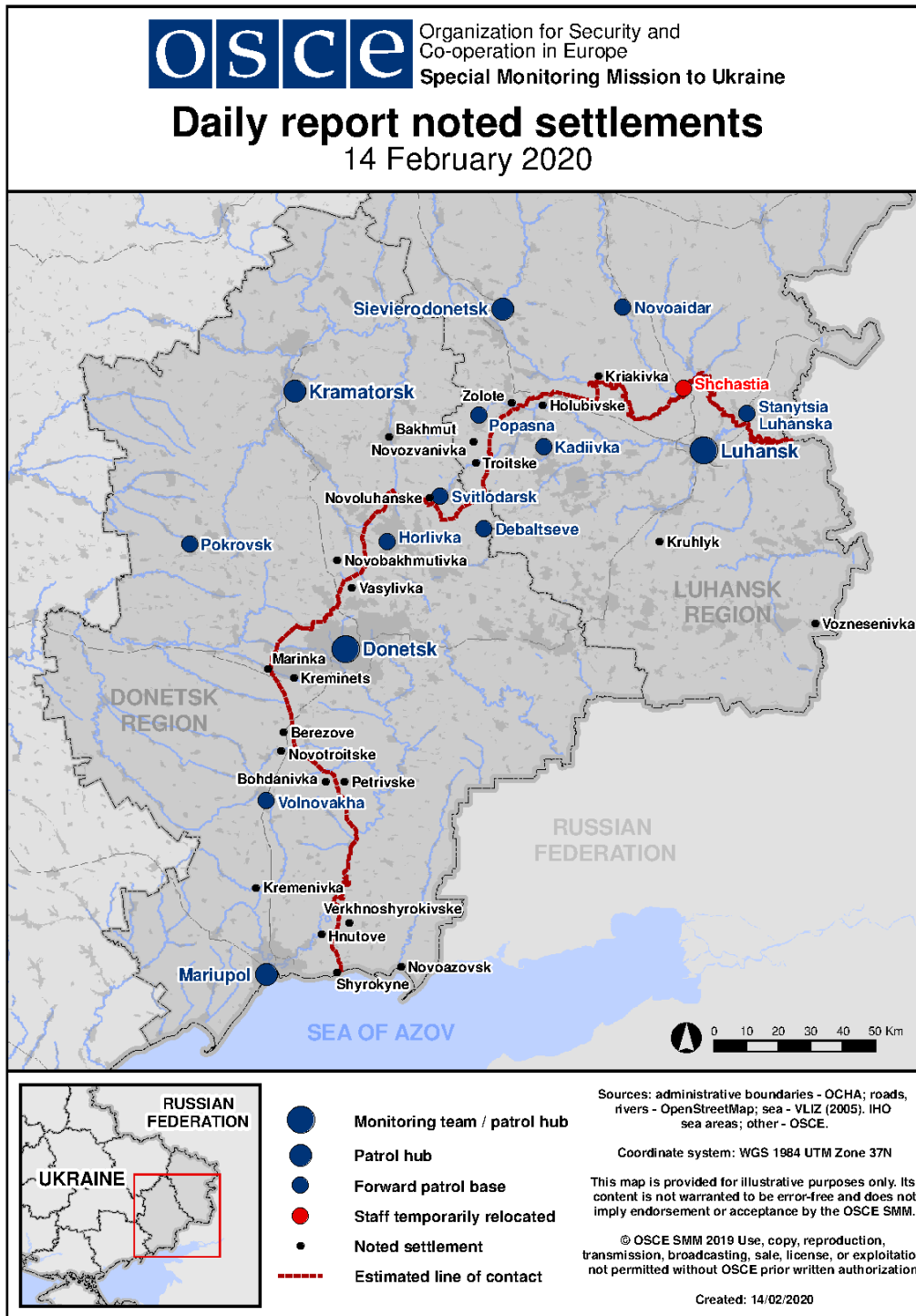
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Berezove (government-controlled, 31km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	12-Feb, 20:25
	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	12-Feb, 20:26
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	0.4-1.5km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	12-Feb, 18:32
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	12-Feb, 18:38
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	ENE to WSW	N/K	12-Feb, 20:20
	3-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	ENE to WSW	N/K	12-Feb, 20:59
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	ENE to WSW	N/K	12-Feb, 23:02
	3-5km N	Recorded	5	Projectile	ENE to WSW	N/K	13-Feb, 02:01
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	13-Feb, 02:53
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	13-Feb, 02:54
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	13-Feb, 02:57
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	13-Feb, 02:58
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Feb, 03:01
	3-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	W to E	N/K	13-Feb, 03:02
	3-5km NE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SSE to NNW	N/K	13-Feb, 03:17
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Feb, 05:05
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Feb, 05:12
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	13-Feb, 05:22
Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	500m S	Heard	4	Burst	Assessed as outside Petrivske disengagement area	Small arms	13-Feb, 13:03
Holmivskyyi (non-government-controlled, 49km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km W	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	13-Feb, 08:53
	1-2km W	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	13-Feb, 10:25
	1-2km W	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	13-Feb, 11:10
	2-3km W	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	13-Feb, 11:43
SW edge of Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Feb, 10:34
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	10	Burst		HMG	13-Feb, 10:58-10:59
	5-7km W	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Feb, 13:38-13:42
SMM camera in Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	3-5km SSW	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	12-Feb, 20:39
2km SW of Myrne (non-government-controlled, 28km SW of Luhansk)	1.5-2.5km NNW	Heard	6	Shot	Assessed as live-fire exercise	Tank (type N/K)	13-Feb, 10:42-10:44
	1-2km NW	Heard	Uncountable	Shot and burst	Assessed as live-fire exercise	Small arms	13-Feb, 10:42-11:00
	1-2km N	Heard	Uncountable	Shot and burst	Assessed as live-fire exercise	HMG	13-Feb, 10:42-11:00
	1.5-2km N	Heard	Uncountable	Shot and burst	Assessed as live-fire exercise	Small arms	13-Feb, 11:10-11:15
Holubivske (non-government controlled, 51km W of Luhansk)	6-8km NE	Heard	31	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Feb, 10:31-10:42
N edge of Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	3-5km SSW	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Feb, 10:50-10:53
	3-5km SSW	Heard	10	Burst		Small arms	13-Feb, 10:50-10:53

<sup>10</sup> The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras 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 technical monitoring officers, 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 technical limitations and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol/camera and assessed to be the same are entered only once.

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
	3-5km SSW	Heard	20	Shot		Small arms	13-Feb, 10:50-10:53
Trokhizbenka (government-controlled, 32km NW of Luhansk)	3-5km SW	Heard	6	Explosion		N/K	13-Feb, 11:24-11:30
Krynichanske (formerly Chervonohvardiiske, non-government-controlled, 42km W of Luhansk)	10-12km N	Heard	11	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Feb, 12:15-12:22
	10-12km N	Heard	17	Burst		Small arms	13-Feb, 12:15-12:22



### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>11</sup>



<sup>11</sup> 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).