Trends and observations
JAN-MAR 2020

Ceasefire violations (CFVs)

Comparison by month

Jan 16,766
Feb 23,382
Mar 22,786

by control
by source of observation

by control
by type
GGCA 19%
565 7%
%
%

Freedom of movement (FoM) restrictions*

Jan 114
Feb 191
Mar 123

by control
by type
GGCA 19%

Number per week

0 2000 4000 6000 8000 10000 12000
30.12.20-01.01 6.01-12.01 13.01-19.01 20.01-26.01 27.01-02.02 3.02-08.02 09.02-15.02 16.02-22.02 23.02-01.03 02.03-08.03 09.03-15.03 16.03-22.03 23.03-29.03

60,188 ceasefire violations

including 1,632 explosions attributable to fire from MLRS, artillery, mortars and tanks

424 weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

344 freedom of movement restrictions* in Jan-Mar 2020:

Civilian casualties
4 fatalities
23 injured

4 by age and gender

1 1 2 1
Jan 1 1 2 1
Feb 1 1 2 1
Mar 1 1 2 1

4 by cause

1 Minigun 1 Shelling 1 Small area fire 1 Unreported

Main trends:
In the first quarter of 2020, the number of ceasefire violations recorded on the contact line decreased by 25 per cent, compared with the previous quarter. At the same time, the Mission observed a seven-fold increase, compared to the previous quarter, of observed explosions attributable to weapons that should have been withdrawn according to the Minsk agreements. The majority of these were observed in the Pipsisnvaya-Zolote-Holubivske-Krynka area.

Most of the armed violence recorded in the first quarter of 2020 was concentrated in five hotspots along the contact line, which accounted for about 90 per cent of all recorded ceasefire violations:

1) Pipsisnvaya-Zolote-Holubivske-Krynka area
2) Areas south-west, south and south-east of Vuhlehirsk
3) Areas east and east-north of Mariupol
4) Avdiivka 'Raynovets' Donetsk airport area
5) Western and northern outskirts of Horlivka.

Ceasefire violations recorded outside the security zone were largely assessed as related to live-fire exercises. In the first quarter of 2020, the SMM recorded some 850 such ceasefire violations, about 1.3 per cent of all ceasefire violations observed by the SMM, about 89 per cent of which were recorded in non-government-controlled areas.

About 42 per cent of all ceasefire violations were recorded at night. The primary sources of these observations were SMM cameras and monitoring officers stationed in Forward Patrol Bases (FPBs). During the day, most ceasefire violations were recorded by patrols present on the ground.

In the first quarter of 2020, the SMM observed over 400 weapons in violation of the agreed withdrawal lines — 30 per cent fewer when compared with the previous quarter. About 80 per cent of these weapons were observed in non-government-controlled areas, and about 20 per cent in government-controlled areas. About 64 per cent of these observations were made by unannounced aerial vehicles or revealed through similar imagery available to the SMM, while 36 per cent were made by patrols.

During the first quarter of 2020, the SMM facedlimited freedom of movement restrictions not related to mines or unexploded ordnance on almost 360 occasions, an approximate 28 per cent decrease compared with the previous quarter. About 77 per cent of these restrictions took place in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Furthermore, as of 21 March, the SMM started to encounter denial of movement across the contact line at checkpoints of the armed formations on official crossing routes in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.