

OSCCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

# **Daily Report 293/2019**

11 December 2019<sup>1</sup>

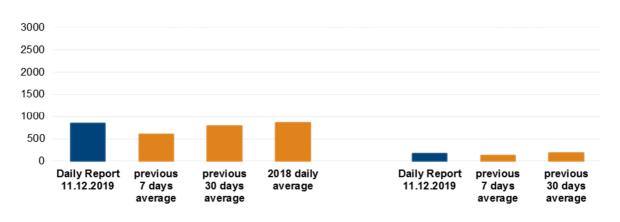
#### Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and fewer in Luhansk region.
- The Mission recorded ceasefire violations inside the disengagement area near ٠ Petrivske.
- The SMM continued monitoring the situation in the disengagement areas near Zolote • and Stanytsia Luhanska.
- It monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to facilitate the drilling of water wells • and repairs to water pipelines in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including again at a • checkpoint of the armed formations near Bezimenne and at a border crossing point near non-government-controlled Voznesenivka.\*

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

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

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



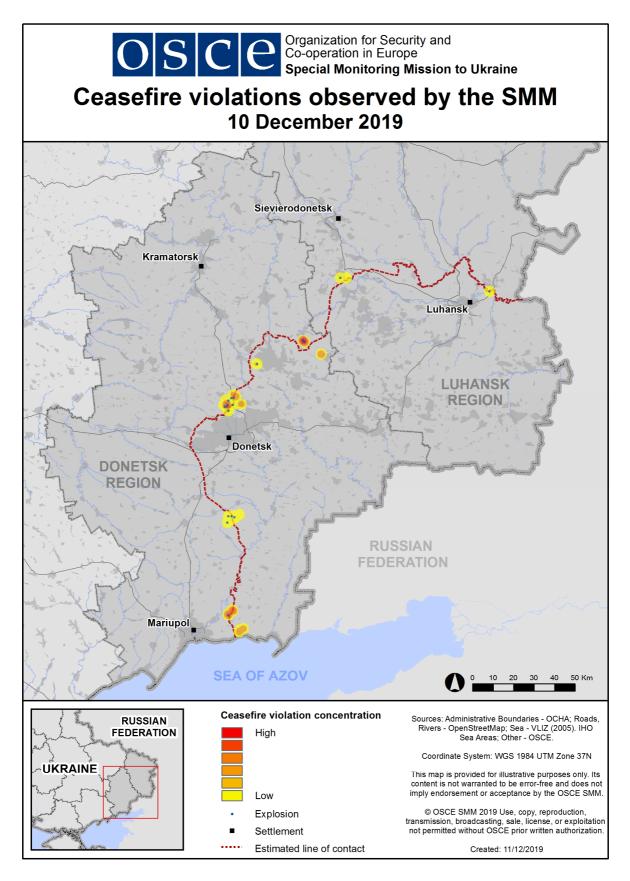
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 10 December 2019. All times are in Eastern European Time.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, fog limited the observation capabilities of some of the SMM cameras.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

#### Map of recorded ceasefire violations



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In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including more explosions (about 165), compared with the <u>previous reporting period</u> (about 125 explosions). More than half of the ceasefire violations and the majority of explosions, were recorded in areas southeast of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk), as well as at easterly and southerly directions of Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including fewer explosions (eight), compared with the <u>previous reporting period</u> (15 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations, including the majority of explosions, were recorded in areas south-west of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) (see below).

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

On 10 December, the SMM saw four men in military-type clothing with a metal detector and other equipment in the area around the SMM camera mast on the western edge of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), about 300m from the north-eastern corner of the **disengagement area near Petrivske**. At the same location, the SMM heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 700-800m south-west. Positioned about 1km east-north-east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM heard three shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 2-3km south-east. All the above ceasefire violations were assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske.

Positioned at two other locations near the disengagement area, the Mission heard an undetermined explosion and three bursts of small-arms fire (unable to be assessed whether inside or outside the disengagement area), as well as two undetermined explosions and a burst of small-arms fire, assessed as outside the disengagement but within its 5km periphery.

On 10 December, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw a van and a truck with six workers from government-controlled areas drive towards Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk) to conduct reportedly repair works to power lines.

On the same day, the Mission saw 15 workers and four deminers from non-governmentcontrolled areas and a vehicle enter the Zolote disengagement area. The Mission saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) at the southern edge of the disengagement area and further south of blue container with "JCCC" written on it. At the same location, the Mission heard an explosion inside the disengagement area at an assessed range of 500-700m north-north-west, assessed as controlled detonation of unexploded ordnance (UXO) (also recorded by the SMM camera located on road T-1316). Outside the disengagement area, about 1.5km west of its southern edge, the SMM saw five members of the armed formations digging trenches.

On the south-western edge of Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km west of Luhansk), about 250m north of disengagement area's northern edge, the SMM saw three Ukrainian Armed Forces personnel with an excavator digging the ground. A Ukrainian Armed Forces officer to the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) told the SMM that they were building a new military position in the area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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.

During the same day, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded a projectile in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km east (assessed as outside the disengagement area, but within its 5km periphery).

On 10 December, outside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (governmentcontrolled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), about 1.5km south-south-east of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM observed for the first time a metal object, assessed as ammunition scrap of a recoilless rifle, embedded in the soil in an area with thick vegetation immediately next to the parking lot near Prince Ihor monument.

On the afternoon of the same day, while at the eastern edge of Stanytsia Luhanska, the SMM heard six undetermined explosions and a burst of heavy-machine-gun fire at an assessed range of 5-6km south-south-west, assessed as outside the disengagement area, but within its 5km periphery.

#### 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.

#### Weapons permanent storage site

At a permanent storage site in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region 10 December

The SMM noted that all weapons declared as withdrawn there were present.

#### Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>6</sup>

The SMM observed military and military-type presence in the security zone, on both sides of the contact line (for further details, see the table below).

In Pervomaiske (government-controlled, 17km north-west of Donetsk), the Mission saw an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) landing on road M-04.

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

The SMM monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to facilitate the drilling of water wells near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk) and repairs to water pipelines in Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 58km west of Luhansk). The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk).

#### Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point near Novoazovsk (102km south-east of Donetsk) for about 30 minutes, the SMM saw 12 cars (five with Ukrainian and four with Russian Federation licence plates, and three with "DPR" plates), a covered cargo truck with Ukrainian licence plates and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

a pedestrian (a woman) entering Ukraine. It also saw 23 cars (eight with Ukrainian and ten with Russian Federation licence plates, as well as five with "DPR" plates) and 19 covered cargo trucks (six with Ukrainian licence plates and 13 with "DPR" plates) exiting Ukraine.

While at a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, 65km south-east of Luhansk) for about 15 minutes, the Mission saw a bus with Russian Federation licence plates entering Ukraine, as well as a covered cargo truck with Ukrainian licence plates exiting Ukraine. Thereafter, a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.\*

After about ten minutes at the railway station in Voznesenivka, a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.\*

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

## \*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, 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 Coordination 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 checkpoint west of Bezimenne (non-government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations <u>again</u> denied the SMM passage.
- At a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, nongovernment-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.
- At a railway station in Voznesenivka, a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.

#### Delay:

- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnoshyrokivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-governmentcontrolled, 85km south of Donetsk), on two occasions, an armed member of the armed formations <u>again</u> allowed the SMM to proceed only after about 90 minutes and 18 minutes of waiting respectively.

#### *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, on two occasions, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk).<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAV's position.

Date	No.	Туре	Location	Source of observation					
Government-controlled areas									
10/12/2019	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	On eastern edge of Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	Patrol					
Non-government-controlled areas									
10/12/2019	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	Under camouflage net in a residential area of Sosnivske (78km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV					

### Table of indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

SMM position	<b>Event location</b>	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government- controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	10-Dec, 01:54
	3-5km SSE	Recorded	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 01:54
SMM camera in Petrivske (non- government- controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	300-500m N	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	3-Dec, 05:14
SE edge of Avdiivka	2-3km WSW	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	10-Dec, 09:14
(government- controlled, 17km	2km NW	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 09:53
N of Donetsk)	1-1.5km N	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 10:09
	2-3km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 13:15
	1-2km ESE	Heard	100	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 10:15- 10:24
	2km ESE	Heard	26	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 10:25- 10:45
	2km ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 10:25- 10:45
	2km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 10:25- 10:45
About 1km NW	2-4km WSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 10:20
of the railway	2-4km WSW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 10:29
station in Yasynuvata (non- government- controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km ESE	Heard	26	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 12:09- 12:12
About 2km N of Petrivske (non- government- controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	2-3km SSW	Heard	2	Burst	Unable to be assessed inside or outside the disengagement area	Small arms	10-Dec, 11:25
	2-3km SSW	Heard	1	Burst	Unable to be assessed inside or outside the disengagement area	Small arms	10-Dec, 11:29
	1-1.5km ESE	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	10-Dec, 12:14
	5-8km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	10-Dec, 12:55
Petrivske (non- government-	700-800m SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as inside the	N/K	10-Dec, 13:40

#### Table of ceasefire violations as of 10 December 2019<sup>9</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 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.

controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)					disengagement area)		
1km ENE of Bohdanivka (government- controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Heard	3	Shot	Assessed as inside the Petrivske disengagement area	Small arms	10-Dec, 11:30
2km ENE of Bohdanivka (government- controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	N/K E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (unable to be assessed inside or outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	10-Dec, 12:56
	1.5-2km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	10-Dec, 13:40
Debaltseve (non- government- controlled, 58km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km SE	Heard	50	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 13:45
About 2km SW of Pyshchevyk	3-5km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 09:46- 10:00
(government- controlled, 84km	3-5km SSE	Heard	20	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 09:46- 10:00
S of Donetsk)	3-5km SSE	Heard	7	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 09:46- 10:00
	3-5km SSE	Heard	14	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 10:30- 10:45
	3-5km SSE	Heard	9	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 10:30- 10:45
	3-4km SSE	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 10:47- 11:00
	3-4km SSE	Heard	20	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 10:47- 11:00
	3-5km SSE	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 11:00- 11:15
	3-5km SSE	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 11:00- 11:15
	3-5km ESE	Heard	96	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 13:55- 14:06
	3-5km ESE	Heard	20	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 13:55- 14:06
	3-4km SSE	Heard	40	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 14:12- 14:20
	3-4km ESE	Heard	28	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 14:30- 14:35
2.5km NW of Bezimenne (non-	3-4km NW	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 13:26
government- controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-4km WNW	Heard	24	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 14:04- 14:06
	3-4km WNW	Heard	5	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 14:04- 14:06
	3-4km WNW	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	10-Dec, 14:04- 14:06
	3km NNW	Heard	30	Burst		Small arms	10-Dec, 14:14- 14:17
Svitlodarsk	3-4km SE	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 19:42
(government-	4-5km SE	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 19:47
	4-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 20:09

controlled, 57km	4-5km SE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 20:16
NE of Donetsk)	4-5km SE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 20:37
	3-4km SE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 20:45
	3-4km SE	Heard	50	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 20:45- 20:47
	3-4km SE	Heard	10	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 21:40
	3-4km SE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 21:40
	3-4km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 21:44
	3-4km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 21:48
	4-5km SE	Heard	20	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 21:50
	3-4km SE	Heard	15	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 22:05
	3-4km SE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 22:05
	3-4km SE	Heard	20	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 22:20
	3-4km SE	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 22:20
	3-4km SE	Heard	25	Shot		Small arms	9-Dec, 22:31
	4-5km SE	Heard	15	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 22:31
	4-5km SE	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 22:31
	3-4km SE	Heard	10	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 22:43
	3-4km SE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 22:43
	4-5km SE	Heard	7	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 23:00
	4-5km SE	Heard	10	Shot		Small arms	9-Dec, 23:00
	3-4km SE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 23:00
	4-5km SE	Heard	15	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 23:20
	4-5km SE	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 23:20- 23:23
	4-5km SE	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 23:30- 23:32
	3-4km SE	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 23:35- 23:37
	3-4km SE	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 23:50- 23:53
	3-4km SE	Heard	18	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 23:57- 23:59
	3-4km SE	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 08:27- 08:35
	4-5km SE	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 10:53 10:56
	4-5km SE	Heard	53	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 12:16 12:22
	4-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 12:23
	3-4km SE	Heard	27	Burst		HMG	10-Dec, 18:16 18:25
	3-4km SE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 18:16 18:25
	3-4km SE	Heard	7	Burst			10-Dec, 18:27 18:28
Horlivka (non- government- controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km W	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 18:33- 18:34
	3-5km W	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	9-Dec, 19:25
	2-5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Dec, 19:38
	3-5km W	Heard	3	burst		HMG	9-Dec, 20:26- 20:28
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government- controlled, 20km	1-2km SE	Heard	11	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 09:08
	1-2km SE	Heard	13	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 09:24
N of Donetsk)	2-4km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 11:10
	2-4km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	10-Dec, 11:33

	2-4km SE	Heard	12	Burst		Small arms	10-Dec, 11:47
	2-4km SE	Heard	36	Shot		Small arms	10-Dec, 11:50- 11:53
SMM camera in Zolote (government- controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	10-Dec, 16:30
	N/K E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Subsequent to the previous event (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	10-Dec, 16:30
E edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government- controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	5-6km SSW	Heard	6	Explosion	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	N/K	10-Dec, 16:18- 16:28
	5-6km SSW	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	HMG	10-Dec, 16:18- 16:28



#### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>10</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</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).