

Daily Report 295/2019

13 December 2019¹

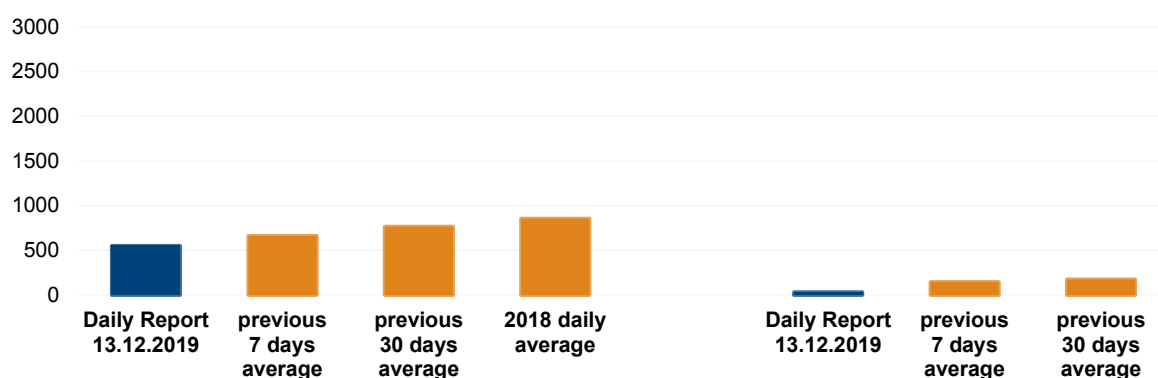
Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and none in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the situation in the disengagement areas near Petrivske, Zolote and Stanytsia Luhanska.
- The SMM monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to facilitate the drilling of water wells in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region. It continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station.
- The SMM saw two convoys of trucks with Russian Federation licence plates in non-government-controlled Donetsk and Luhansk cities.
- The Mission monitored border crossing points in non-government-controlled areas.
- Freedom of movement for the SMM continued to be restricted, including delays at checkpoints of the armed formations near Verkhnoшыrokiwske and the disengagement area near Petrivske.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 12 December 2019. All times are in Eastern European Time. During the reporting period, fog limited the observation capabilities of most of the SMM cameras.

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

³ Including explosions.

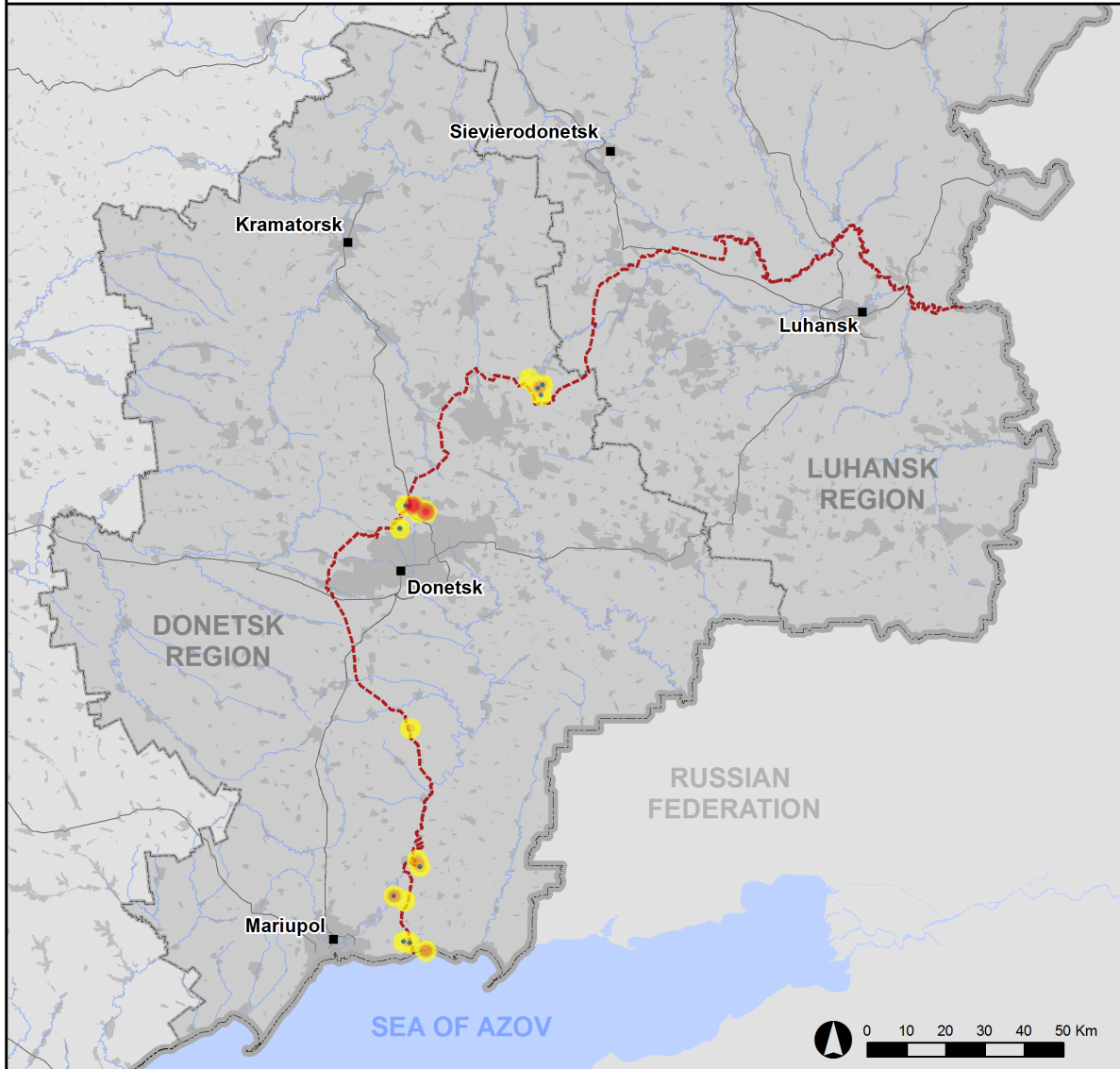
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

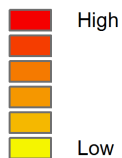


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 12 December 2019



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: 13/12/2019

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including, however, fewer explosions (30), compared with [the previous reporting period](#) (about 170 explosions). The majority of the ceasefire violations were recorded in areas south of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the Mission did not record ceasefire violations.

Disengagement areas near Petrivske, Zolote and Stanytsia Luhanska ⁵

On the night of 6 December, the SMM camera near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) recorded ten projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1-3km south-south-west. These projectiles were assessed as inside the **Petrivske disengagement area**; however, the Mission could not assess whether they originated from inside the area.

On 12 December, positioned on the southern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw nine workers with chainsaws and five de-miners from non-government-controlled areas and a vehicle enter the area on road T-1316. Throughout the day, the Mission saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) at the southern edge of the area.

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw workers from non-government-controlled areas painting railings on the road leading to and on the metal span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk). The Mission saw two people wearing paramedic uniforms moving a person on a stretcher from the parking lot south of checkpoint of the armed formations to the northern end of the new section of the bridge, and subsequently handing the person over to staff of an international organization.

The Mission saw nine members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) between the checkpoint of the armed formations and the new section of the bridge.

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.

It saw five anti-tank guns beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage areas in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region (for further details, see the table below).

Weapons that the SMM could not verify as withdrawn⁶

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

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

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. The SMM noted that two storage sites continued to be abandoned.

12 December

The SMM noted that 11 towed howitzers (2A36 *Giatsint-B*, 152mm), four anti-tank guns (MT-12 *Rapira*, 100mm) and four anti-tank guided missile systems (9P149 *Shturm-S*, 130mm) were present, and that nine self-propelled howitzers (2S19 *Msta-S*, 152mm), three anti-tank guns (MT-12) and two anti-tank guided missile systems (9P149) were missing.

Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁷

The SMM observed military presence in residential areas of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) and Kyrylivka (government-controlled, 76km south of Donetsk) (for further details, see the table below).

SMM facilitation of repairs and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to facilitate the drilling of water wells near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk). The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) and monitor the security situation around the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point near Izvaryne (52km south-east of Luhansk) for about 35 minutes, the SMM saw ten cars and 20 pedestrians (16 men and four women, mixed ages) exiting Ukraine and no vehicular or pedestrian traffic entering Ukraine.

While at a pedestrian border crossing point near Sievernyi (50km south-east of Luhansk) for about 30 minutes, the Mission saw four men (mixed ages) entering Ukraine and seven people (five men, two women, all in their twenties and thirties) exiting Ukraine.

While at a border crossing point near Marynivka (78km east of Donetsk) for about an hour, the SMM saw 11 cars (five with Ukrainian and three with Russian Federation licence plates, and three with “DPR” plates), one bus with “DPR” plates and a covered cargo truck with Ukrainian licence plates entering Ukraine. During the same time, it saw 25 cars (eight with Ukrainian and nine with Russian Federation licence plates, and eight with “DPR” plates), two covered cargo trucks (one with Ukrainian licence plates and one with “DPR” plates) and a woman (in her sixties) exiting Ukraine.

While at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) for about two hours, the Mission saw 25 cars (five with Ukrainian, eight with Russian Federation and two with Lithuanian licence plates, and ten with “DPR” plates), seven covered cargo trucks (four with Ukrainian and three with Russian Federation licence plates), two buses (one with Russian Federation licence plates and one with “DPR” plates) and 17 pedestrians (mixed ages and genders) entering Ukraine. During the same time, it saw 39 cars (11 with Ukrainian and ten with Russian Federation licence plates, and 18 with “DPR” plates), 27 covered cargo trucks (six with Ukrainian, ten with Russian Federation and eight with Belarusian licence plates, and three with “DPR” plates), four buses (one with Russian Federation licence plates and three with

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

“DPR” plates) and seven pedestrians (three men and two women, mixed ages, and two children) exiting Ukraine.

While at a pedestrian border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk) for about 30 minutes, the Mission saw no cross-border traffic.

Convoys of trucks with Russian Federation licence plates in non-government-controlled areas

On 12 December, the SMM observed a convoy of 16 trucks with Russian Federation licence plates (one truck had “Humanitarian Aid from the Russian Federation” written in Russian on its side) enter a compound in the Budonivskyi District of Donetsk city. Subsequently, the Mission saw the trucks being unloaded.

On the same day in Luhansk city, the SMM saw a convoy of ten trucks with Russian Federation licence plates (one truck had “Humanitarian Aid from the Russian Federation” written in Russian on its side) enter the same compound in Luhansk city, where the Mission had previously observed convoys of trucks with Russian Federation licence plates. (For previous observations, see the SMM Daily Reports of [6 December 2019](#) and [29 November 2019](#).)

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, 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 Coordination (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 [SMM Daily Report of 11 December 2019](#)). 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.

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.

Delays:

- At a checkpoint about 2.5km north of the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), two members of the armed formations allowed the SMM to proceed only after 20 minutes of waiting.
- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnoшыrokivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations [again](#) allowed the SMM to proceed only after about an hour of waiting.

Table of weapons

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
11/12/2019	5	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	Loaded on a train at the railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk) (for similar observations in the area, see the SMM Daily Report 12 December 2019)	Mini-UAV

Table of indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁸

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
12/12/2019	5	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1 and BMP-2)	In Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)		
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70)	In Kyrylivka (76km south of Donetsk)	
	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)		

⁸ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

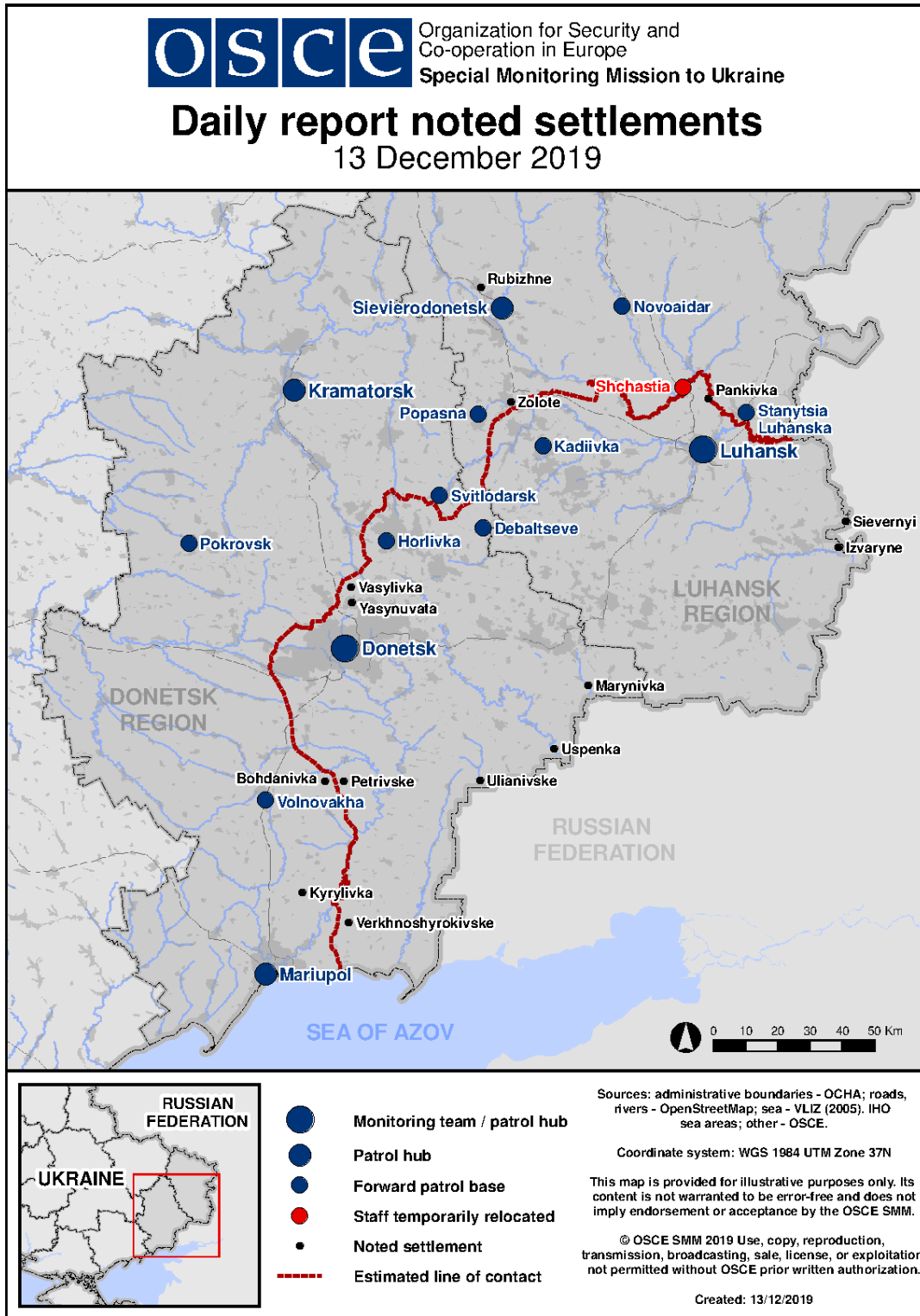
Table of ceasefire violations as of 12 December 2019⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	12-Dec, 16:19
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	4	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	12-Dec, 16:19
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	12-Dec, 16:19
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	10	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	12-Dec, 16:20
	2-4km E	Recorded	6	Projectile	S to N	N/K	12-Dec, 17:36
	2-4km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	S to N	N/K	12-Dec, 17:37
	2-4km E	Recorded	6	Projectile	S to N	N/K	12-Dec, 17:38
	2-4km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	S to N	N/K	12-Dec, 17:51
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	6-8km SSW	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 23:27
	6-8km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 23:28
	6-8km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 23:30
	6-8km SSW	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 00:20
	6-8km SSW	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 05:27
	0.5-1km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	12-Dec, 16:31
SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1-3km SSW	Recorded	10	Projectile	ESE to WNW (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	6-Dec, 00:38
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 21:04
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	11-Dec, 21:04
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 21:13
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 21:14
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 21:15
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	11-Dec, 21:28
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	11-Dec, 21:28
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 21:34
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	11-Dec, 21:34
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 21:35
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 21:36
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	11-Dec, 21:37
	About 1km E of Kruta Balka (non-government-controlled, 16km N of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Heard	399	Shot	Overlapping	Small arms and HMG
2-3km SE		Heard	54	Burst	Overlapping	Small arms and HMG	12-Dec, 10:32-11:00
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km SE	Heard		Shot and bursts	Uncountable, overlapping	Small arms and HMG	12-Dec, 11:18-11:20
	1-2km SE	Heard	56	Shot		Small arms	12-Dec, 11:21-11:35
	1-2km SE	Heard	32	Burst		Small arms	12-Dec, 11:21-11:35
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata	2-3km SE	Heard	77	Shot		HMG	12-Dec, 12:53-12:57
	2-3km SE	Heard	15	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 12:53-12:57

⁹ 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.

(non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Heard	20	Shot		HMG	12-Dec, 13:10
	2km SE	Heard	54	Shot		Small arms	12-Dec, 13:16-13:30
	2km S	Heard	2	Shot		Small arms	12-Dec, 13:52
	2km S	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	12-Dec, 13:52
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	1-2km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 09:58
	1-2km E	Heard	2	Shot		Small arms	12-Dec, 10:01
	1-2km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 10:02
About 2km SW of Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	N/K ESE	Heard	16	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 11:55-12:03
	N/K ESE	Heard	6	Burst		Small arms	12-Dec, 11:55-10:03
	N/K ESE	Heard	7	Shot		Small arms	12-Dec, 11:55-12:03
	N/K ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 11:55-12:03
	2-4km ESE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 12:04
	2-4km ESE	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	12-Dec, 12:04
About 2km SSE of Sakhanka (non-government-controlled, 97km S of Donetsk)	1-1.5km ESE	Heard	30	Shot		Small arms	12-Dec, 13:18-13:20
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km SSE	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 21:23-21:24
	3-4km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 21:25
	3-4km SSE	Heard	5	Shot		SA	11-Dec, 22:29
	5-6km SSE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 22:31
	3-4km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Dec, 22:54
	3-4km SSE	Heard	9	Burst		HMG	11-Dec, 22:54-22:55
	3-4km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 15:57
	3-4km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 16:09
	3-4km SE	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 16:26
	3-4km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 16:28
	3-4km SE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 16:31
	1-2km SW	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	12-Dec, 16:59

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹⁰



¹⁰ 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).