

Daily Report 296/2019

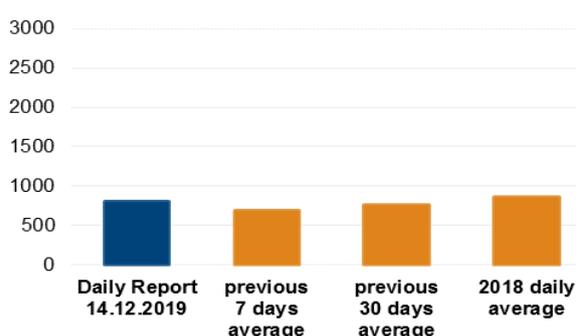
14 December 2019¹

Summary

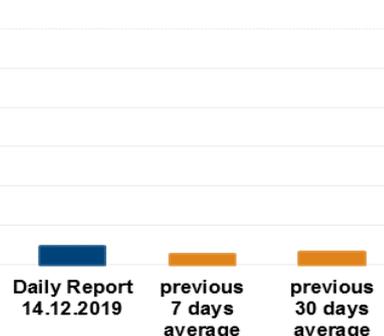
- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. It recorded an explosion in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued to monitor the situation in the disengagement areas near Petrivske, Zolote and Stanytsia Luhanska.
- It saw a tank in violation of withdrawal lines in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region.
- The SMM saw for the first time six anti-tank mines near a road leading from non-government-controlled Verkhnohyrokiivske to government-controlled Pyshchevyk.
- 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.
- Freedom of movement for the SMM continued to be restricted, including near Korsun, Staropetrivske and at a checkpoint close to Verkhnohyrokiivske, all in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk region.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³



Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 13 December 2019. All times are in Eastern European Time. During the reporting period, fog limited the observation capabilities of some SMM cameras.

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

³ Including explosions.

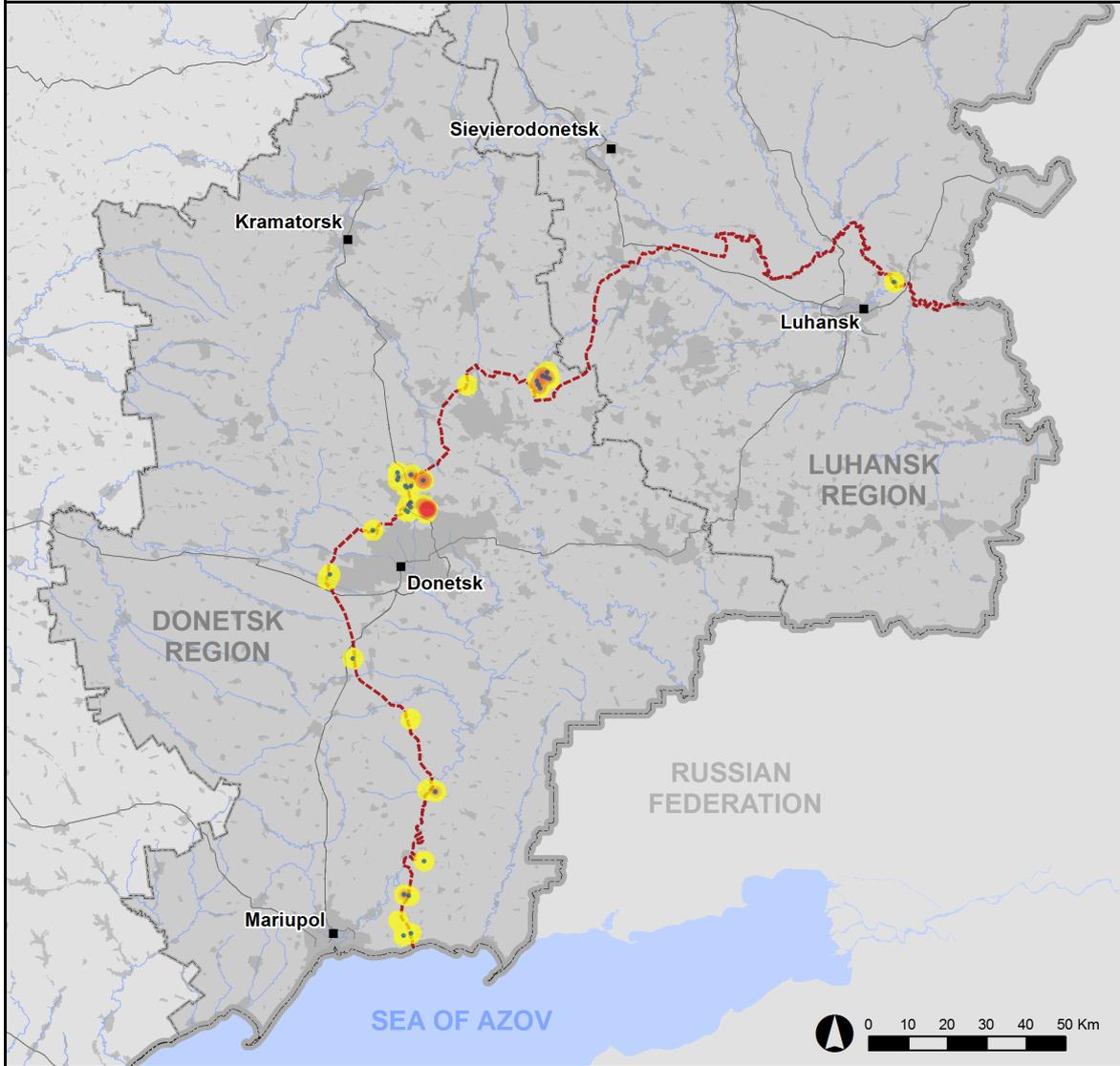
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

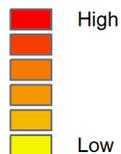


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 13 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.

© OSCE SMM 2019 Use, copy, reproduction, transmission, broadcasting, sale, license, or exploitation not permitted without OSCE prior written authorization.

Created: 14/12/2019

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including, more explosions (about 230), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (30 explosions). The majority of explosions were recorded at south-easterly directions of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk) while the majority of shots and bursts were recorded at south-easterly and south-westerly directions of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded an undetermined explosion in an area south-west of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations in Luhansk region.

Disengagement areas near Petrivske, Zolote and Stanytsia Luhanska ⁵

During the day on 13 December, positioned near the **disengagement area close to Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM observed a calm situation.

On 13 December, positioned on the southern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw 17 workers with chainsaws and five de-miners from non-government-controlled areas, as well as two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) enter the area. Throughout the day, the Mission saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) at the southern edge of the area.

On 13 December, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska**, the SMM saw three workers from non-government-controlled areas welding new railings on the western side of the metal span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk). Approximately 200m south, the SMM saw two workers drilling holes to install reportedly a new fence on the eastern side on the road leading to the metal span of the bridge. Throughout the day, the Mission saw five 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.

The same day, positioned on the north-eastern edge of Stanytsia Luhanska, the SMM heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 3-5km 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.

It saw a tank in violation of withdrawal lines in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region. The SMM also saw two towed howitzers beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage areas in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region (for further details, see the table below).

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

Indications of military and military-type presence inside the security zone⁶

The SMM saw infantry fighting vehicles, armoured personnel carriers, armoured reconnaissance vehicles and an anti-aircraft gun inside the security zone on both sides of the contact line (for further details, see the table below). Additionally, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted military-type positions (two concrete bunkers under construction) within a residential area of Sosnivske (non-government-controlled, 78km south of Donetsk).

Presence of anti-tank mines near a checkpoint in Verkhnohyrokiivske

The SMM saw for the first time six anti-tank mines north of a road leading from Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk) to Pyshevyk (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk). The mines were about 1km from the checkpoint of the armed formations and about 3.5km from the entry-exit checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. One of the aforementioned mines was as close as 2.5m from the side of the road.

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) and 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 four cars (one with Georgian licence plates and three with “DPR” plates) and three covered cargo trucks (two with Ukrainian licence plates and one with “DPR” plates) entering Ukraine. It also saw three cars (two with Ukrainian and one with Russian Federation licence plates) exiting Ukraine.

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

⁶ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

[the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb](#); these restrictions continued to limit the Mission's observations.

Denials of access:

- About 1.5km north-east of Korsun (non-government-controlled, 31km north-east of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations stopped the SMM and denied it passage towards Debaltseve (non-government-controlled, 58km north-east of Donetsk), citing “ongoing training in the area”.
- About 1.5km north of Staropetrivske (non-government-controlled, 35km north-east of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations stopped the SMM and denied it passage towards non-government-controlled Donetsk city, citing “ongoing training in the area”.
- At a checkpoint about 600m west of Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), three armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage eastwards, citing “ongoing demining activities in the area”. The SMM saw several vehicles driving through in both directions.

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.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
12/12/2019	1	Tank (probable T-64)	Inside a compound near Khoroshe (36km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
13/12/2019	2	Towed howitzer (D-20, 152mm)	In a field west of Khlivodarivka (65km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol

Table of indications of military and military-type presence inside the security zone⁷

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
12/12/2019	4	Infantry fighting vehicle (type undetermined)	Near Lebedynske (99km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
13/12/2019	2	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	In Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	On the southern outskirts of Trokhizbenka (32km north-west of Luhansk)	
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	Near Muratove (51km north-west of Luhansk)	
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)		
	5	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP1 and BMP-2)	In a residential area of Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)		
Non-government-controlled areas				
12/12/2019	1	Armoured combat vehicle	In a residential area of Sosnivske (78km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)		
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR variant)		
	2	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR variant)	Inside a compound near Khoroshe (36km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		
	2	Trench digger (MDK-3 and TMK-2)		

⁷ 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 December 2019⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Berezove (government-controlled, 31km SW of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	12-Dec, 19:57
	2-3km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	12-Dec, 19:58
	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	12-Dec, 19:59
	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	12-Dec, 20:00
	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 20:00
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	1.5-3km SSW	Recorded	2	Projectile	E to W	N/K	12-Dec, 19:32
	1-3km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	12-Dec, 21:00
	1-3km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 21:00
	1-3km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	12-Dec, 21:01
	0.5-1km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 21:10
	0.5-1km S	Recorded	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 21:16
	1-3km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 21:17
	1-3km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	12-Dec, 21:17
	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 03:49
1-2km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 16:56	
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 18:10
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	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	1	Projectile	S to N	N/K	12-Dec, 17:51
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 19:33
	1km ENE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	13-Dec, 04:59
	1km ENE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	13-Dec, 04:59
SMM camera E of Lomakyne (government-controlled, 93km S of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	12-Dec, 19:23
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	13-Dec, 00:42
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled,	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	13-Dec, 00:12
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 00:12
	2-3km NNE	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E	N/K	13-Dec, 02:38

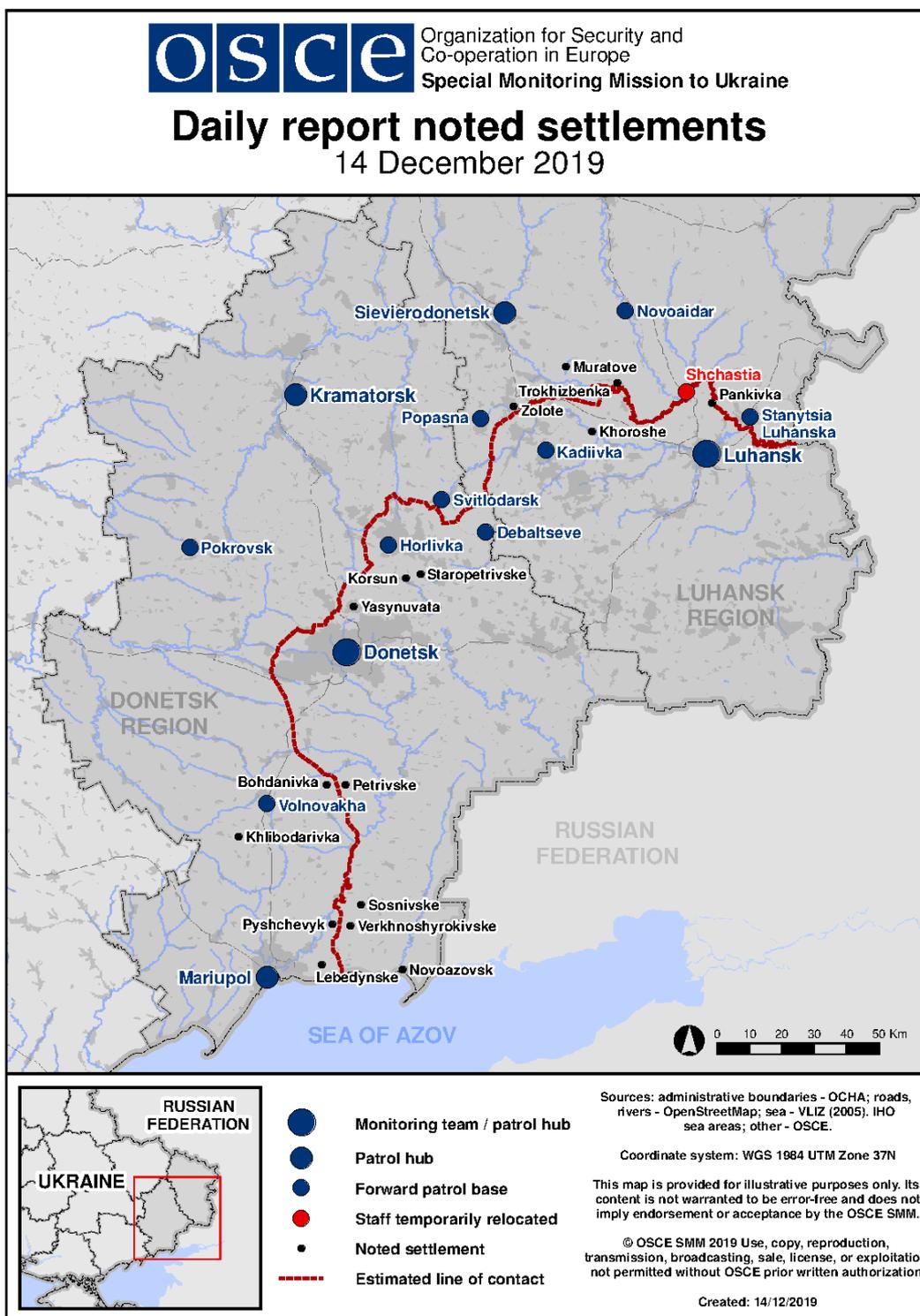
⁸ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments provided by monitors on the ground, 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.

23km SW of Donetsk)							
SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	0.7-1.5km SW	Recorded	3	Projectile	WNW to ESE (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Dec, 00:58
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	12-Dec, 19:02
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	12-Dec, 20:36
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE, subsequent to previous event	N/K	12-Dec, 20:36
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact, subsequent to previous event	N/K	12-Dec, 20:36
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 22:35
SMM camera in Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:02
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:03
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:04
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:05
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	3	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Dec, 17:05
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:13
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Dec, 17:14
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:14
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact	N/K	13-Dec, 17:15
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Dec, 17:15
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:18
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Dec, 17:21
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Dec, 17:21
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:24
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	13-Dec, 17:24
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact	N/K	13-Dec, 17:24
	2-5km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S	N/K	13-Dec, 17:29
	2-5km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:29
	2-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	13-Dec, 17:30
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S	N/K	13-Dec, 17:30
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	13-Dec, 17:33
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	8	Projectile	N to S	N/K	13-Dec, 17:35
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:35
2-5km ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S	N/K	13-Dec, 17:41	
2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	13-Dec, 17:42	
2-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	13-Dec, 17:43	
3-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:45	
3-6km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:51	
Pervomaiske (government-controlled, 17km NW of Donetsk)	2-3km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 10:15
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-3km NE	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 10:22
	2-3km NE	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 10:31
	2-3km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 10:31
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled,	2-3km SSE	Heard	25	Shot		Small arms	13-Dec, 11:13

16km NE of Donetsk)							
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Heard	51	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 12:20-12:29
	2-4km SE	Heard	165	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 12:30-12:45
	2-4km SE	Heard	571	Shot		Small arms	13-Dec, 12:30-12:45
	2-3km SE	Heard	23	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 12:46-13:02
	1-2km SE	Heard	40	Shot		Small arms	13-Dec, 12:46-13:02
	2-4km SE	Heard	56	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 13:02-13:15
	3-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 13:06
E part of Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 12:41
	3-5km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 12:46
About 1km NNW of Pyshevyk (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	3-4km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 11:09
	3-4km SSE	Heard	17	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 11:10-11:13
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SSE	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	12-Dec, 19:45
	2-3km SSE	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	12-Dec, 20:14
	2-3km SSE	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	12-Dec, 20:30
	2-3km SSE	Heard	9	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 20:33
	3-4km SSE	Heard	12	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 21:19-21:35
	3-4km SSE	Heard	11	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 21:37-21:45
	3-4km SSE	Heard	18	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 21:37-21:45
	4-5km SSE	Heard	7	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 22:15-22:20
	4-5km SSE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Dec, 22:31-22:35
	4-5km SSE	Heard	10	Burst		HMG	12-Dec, 22:45-22:49
	2-3km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 16:26
	2-3km SSE	Heard	6	Burst		Small arms	13-Dec, 16:30
	3-4km SSE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 16:36
	3-4km SSE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 16:46-16:49
	3-4km SSE	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	13-Dec, 16:46-16:49
	2-3km ESE	Heard	71	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 16:52-17:42
	2-3km ESE	Heard	20	Burst		Small arms	13-Dec, 16:52-17:42
	2-3km ESE	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 17:45-17:58
	2-3km ESE	Heard	19	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 18:00-18:20

About 2km E of Vesele (government-controlled, 21km N of Donetsk)	1-2km W	Heard	1	Explosion		N/K	13-Dec, 08:38
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	1-3km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 08:59
	1-3km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 09:10
	4-5km E	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 10:12-10:19
	4-5km E	Heard	21	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 10:19-10:34
	4-5km E	Heard	35	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 10:19-10:34
	4-5km E	Heard	Uncountable	Shots and bursts		Small arms	13-Dec, 10:19-10:34
	1-3km WNW	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 10:34-10:41
	1-3km WNW	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	13-Dec, 10:34-10:41
	1-3km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 10:46
	1-3km NE	Heard	15	Explosion	Outgoing	MLRS (type N/K)	13-Dec, 10:54-11:00
	1-3km NE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Dec, 11:15
1-2km S	Heard and saw	1	Explosion	Impact	N/K	13-Dec, 13:05	
NE edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	3-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Dec, 10:25

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).