

Daily Report 300/2019

19 December 2019¹

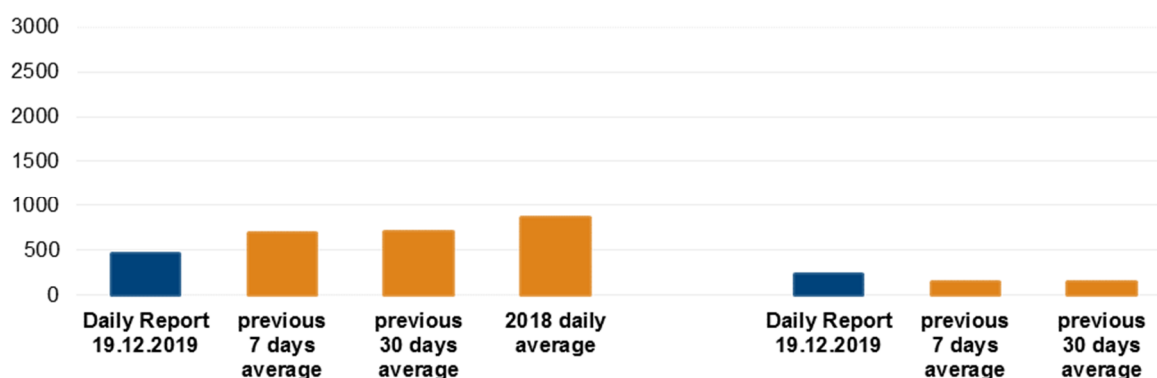
Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission saw personnel of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine driving inside the disengagement area near Zolote and de-miners from non-government-controlled areas exiting it.
- The SMM saw four multiple launch rocket systems in violation of withdrawal lines in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region.
- The Mission saw long queues of civilians at checkpoints along the contact line.
- It facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to facilitate repairs to power lines near Luhanske, a water pipeline near Zaitseve and the drilling of water wells near Pankivka,
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at checkpoints of the armed formations near Oleksandrivske and Novoazovsk in southern 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, 18 December 2019. All times are in Eastern European Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera at the Prince Ihor Monument south-east of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge was not operational.

³ Including explosions

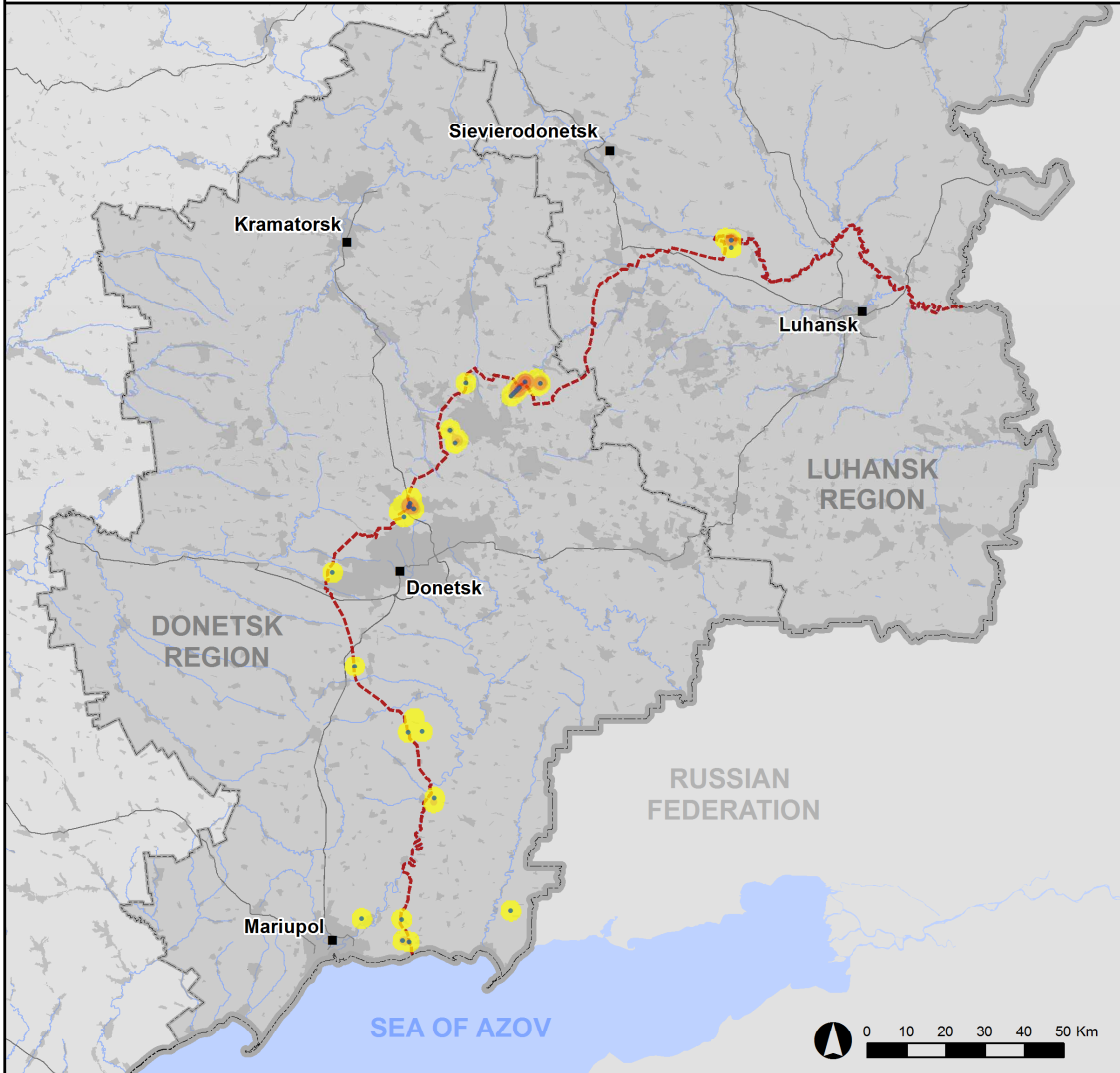
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

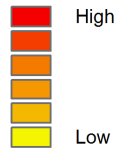


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 18 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: 19/12/2019

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including more explosions (about 190), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 105 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations, including explosions, were recorded at southerly directions of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk) and the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk). On the evening and night of 17-18 December, the SMM camera at the DFS recorded 48 ceasefire violations in areas 100-500m south and south-south-west.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including more explosions (34), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (two explosions). All of the ceasefire violations were recorded in areas south and south-south-west of Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km north-west of Luhansk).

Disengagement areas near Petrivske, Zolote and Stanytsia Luhanska⁵

Positioned about 1.8km north of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM heard two undetermined explosions at a range of 4-5km south-south-west and two shots of small-arms fire about 700m south-west, all assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** but within its 5km periphery.

Inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the Mission saw five State Emergency Service (SES) of Ukraine de-miners and one vehicle drive towards Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk). It also saw 17 workers and two de-miners from non-government-controlled areas exit the area with two vehicles. Throughout the day, the SMM saw up to six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) on the southern edge of the disengagement area.

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw that seven metal poles had been placed on the western side of the road around 200m south of the metal span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge. It also saw nine members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) between the new section of the bridge and the checkpoint of the armed formations south of it.

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 observed four weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk 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 in the security zone⁶

The SMM observed military presence inside the security zone in government-controlled areas, including infantry fighting vehicles in a residential area (for further details, see the table below).

Mine hazard signs in Verkhnotoretske

On 17 December, about 150m north-west of a checkpoint in Verkhnotoretske (government-controlled, 23km north-east of Donetsk), the SMM saw for the first time three red mine hazard signs with “Mines” written on them in Cyrillic letters in a field about 3m west of the road. On the side of the road, the SMM also saw three boards with mine hazard information written on them.

Long queues at checkpoints along the contact line

At a checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM [again](#) observed at least 200 vehicles queuing to travel to government-controlled areas. At checkpoints of the armed formations near Kreminets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) and Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), the SMM also saw at least 150 and 200 vehicles, respectively, queuing to travel to government-controlled areas.

Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) for 50 minutes, the SMM saw 23 cars (two with Ukrainian and five with Russian Federation licence plates, as well as 16 with “DPR” plates), two covered cargo trucks with “DPR” plates, two buses (one with Russian Federation licence plates and one with “DPR” plates), and 19 pedestrians (mixed ages and genders) entering Ukraine. It also saw nine cars (four with Ukrainian and three with Russian Federation licence plates, as well as two with “DPR” plates), two covered cargo trucks with Russian Federation licence plates, four buses with “DPR” plates, and seven pedestrians (mixed ages and genders) exiting Ukraine.

While at a pedestrian border crossing point near Ulianiivske (61km south-east of Donetsk) for 20 minutes, the SMM did not see any pedestrians entering or exiting Ukraine.

SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure and demining activities

The SMM monitored and facilitated adherence to localized ceasefires to facilitate the drilling of water wells near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), repairs to power lines near Luhanske (government-controlled, 59km north-east of Donetsk) and repairs to a water pipeline in a non-government-controlled part of Zaitseve (50km north-east of Donetsk). The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS.

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

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 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 on the eastern edge of Oleksandrivske (formerly Rozy Liuksemburh, non-government-controlled, 90km south-east of Donetsk), four armed members of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards Markyne (non-government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk) and a border crossing point outside government control.
- At a checkpoint north of Novoazovsk (non-government-controlled, 102km south-east of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards a border crossing point outside government control.

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 unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk).⁷

⁷ The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAV's position.

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				
16/12/2019	4	Multiple launch rocket system (type undetermined)	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk) (for previous observations, see SMM Daily Report 24 October 2019). At the same training area, aerial imagery revealed the presence of about 70 infantry fighting vehicles. ⁸	Aerial imagery

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
16/12/2019	20	Tank	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk) (see above)	Aerial imagery
17/12/2019	31	Tank (21 T-64 and ten T-72)	In a training area near Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV

Other weapons⁹

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
16/12/2019	18	Towed artillery	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk) (see above)	Aerial imagery

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone¹⁰

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
17/12/2019	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	In a residential area of Slavne (26km south-west of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (one BRDM-2 and one probable BRDM-2)	Near Svitlodarsk (57km north-east of Donetsk)	

⁸ Infantry fighting vehicles mentioned in this section are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

⁹ The SMM was unable to assess whether these weapons were in violation of withdrawal lines in the absence of information on their calibre.

¹⁰ 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 18 December 2019¹¹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 18:08
SMM camera in Berezove (government-controlled, 31km SW of Donetsk)	3-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 22:12
	3-4km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	17-Dec, 22:13
	3-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	17-Dec, 22:14
	3-4km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	17-Dec, 22:14
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	200-500m S	Recorded	3	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	17-Dec, 20:01
	200-500m S	Recorded	7	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:05
	200-500m S	Recorded	5	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:19
	200-500m S	Recorded	8	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:21
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	3	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:21
	300-500m SSW	Recorded	7	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:21
	100-500m S	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:24
	100-500m S	Recorded	3	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:27
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	3	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:28
	300-500m SSW	Recorded	2	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:28
	300-500m SSW	Recorded	4	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:29
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	5	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:30
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 02:30
	100-500m S	Recorded	7	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:39
	100-500m S	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:40
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	1	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 02:48
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	18-Dec, 03:12
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	18-Dec, 03:12
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	18-Dec, 03:13
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	18-Dec, 03:13
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	3	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 03:13
	0.7-1km S	Recorded	2	Explosion	Impact	N/K	18-Dec, 03:13
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	18-Dec, 04:41
	0.7-1km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	18-Dec, 04:41
	0.7-1km SSW	Recorded	2	Burst	WNW to ESE	N/K	18-Dec, 04:41
	N/K	Recorded	1	Explosion	Explosion occurred behind the camera	N/K	18-Dec, 18:07

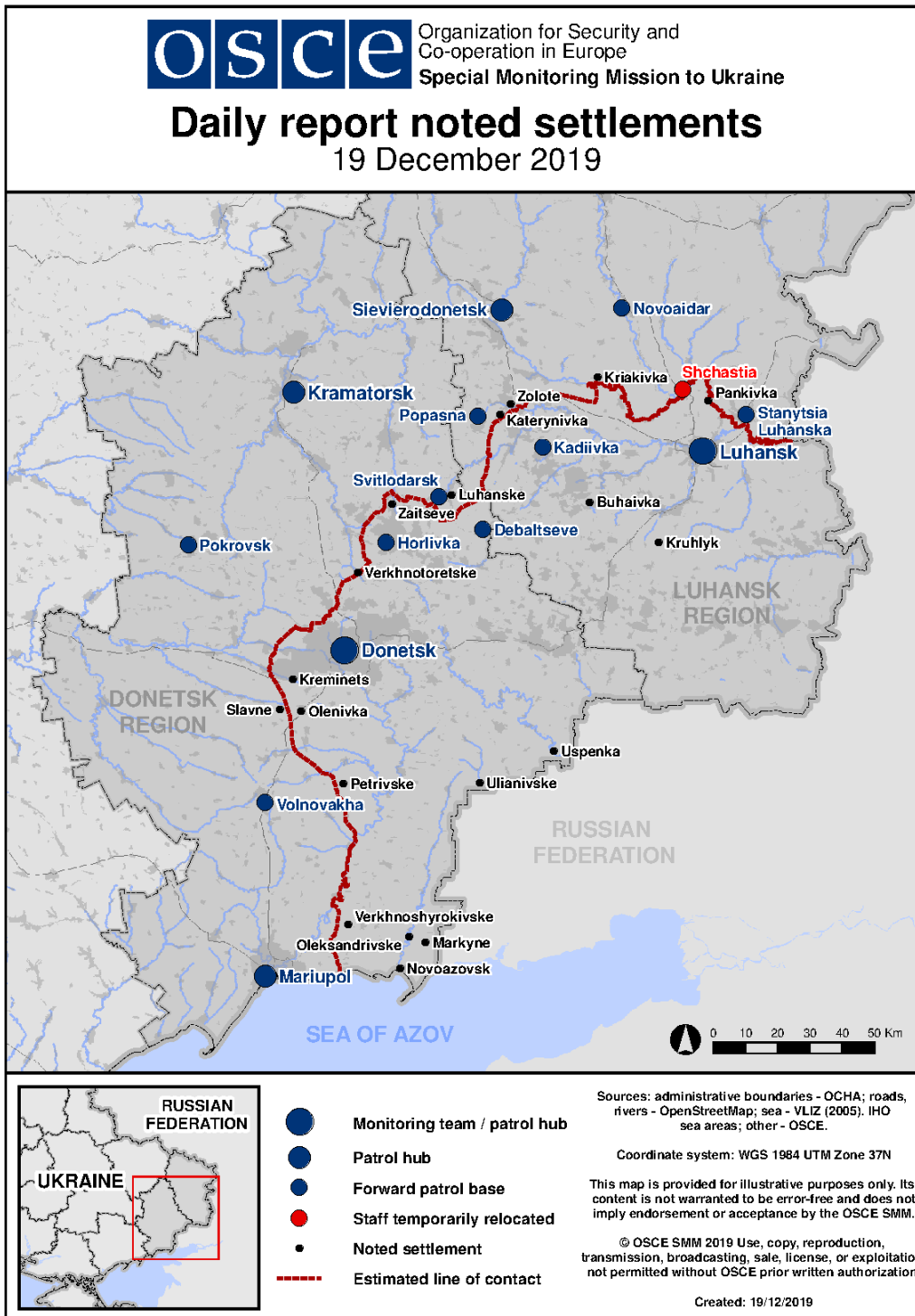
¹¹ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments provided by monitors on the ground, 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.

	0.5-1km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 18:09
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	17-Dec, 18:39
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	8	Projectile	N to S	N/K	18-Dec, 04:29
SMM camera in Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km W of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	17-Dec, 19:10
SMM camera E of Lomakyne (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	4-7km WNW	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	18-Dec, 16:39
	4-7km WNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact	N/K	18-Dec, 16:39
	4-7km ENE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 16:40
SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	2-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	N/K	12-Dec, 06:07
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	2-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 16:39
	2-7km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 16:45
	2-7km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	W to E	N/K	18-Dec, 17:24
	2-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	18-Dec, 17:29
	2-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	18-Dec, 17:31
	2-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	18-Dec, 17:32
	2-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 17:35
	2-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 17:48
	2-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion		N/K	18-Dec, 17:48
	2-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	18-Dec, 17:48
	2-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	18-Dec, 17:54
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	18-Dec, 11:10
	1-2km SW	Heard	2	Shot		Small arms	18-Dec, 13:35
	1-2km SW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 13:36
	1-2km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 13:40
	1-2km SW	Heard	12	Burst		Small arms	18-Dec, 13:46
	1-2km SW	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	18-Dec, 13:46
	1-2km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 13:46
About 1.8km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	4-5km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	18-Dec, 08:52
	4-5km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	18-Dec, 12:54
	0.7km SSW	Heard	2	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	18-Dec, 13:36
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	1km E	Heard	2	Shot		Small arms	18-Dec, 10:08
	1.5km S	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	18-Dec, 10:17
About 1km SE of Oleksandrivske	2-4km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 12:05

(formerly Rozy Liuksemburh, non-government-controlled, 90km SE of Donetsk)							
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	4-5km W	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 19:20-19:25
	3-4km SW	Heard	11	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 19:29-19:33
	4-5km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 19:37
	4-5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 22:30
	4-5km SW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 15:09-15:11
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	5-7km SW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 19:25-19:26
	5-7km SW	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 19:26-00:00
	2-4km SSE	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 19:32-00:00
	2-4km SW	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 19:39-00:00
	2-4km SSE	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 19:40-00:00
	2-4km SE	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 19:55-00:00
	2-4km SE	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 19:57-00:00
	2-4km SE	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 19:59-00:00
	5-7km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 20:00-00:00
	2-4km SE	Heard	7	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 20:21-20:25
	2-4km SE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 20:31-00:00
	2-4km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 20:39-20:40
	2-4km SW	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 20:40-00:00
	2-4km SE	Heard	9	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 20:44-20:45
	6-7km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 20:57
	4-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 21:03
	6-7km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 22:09
	7-8km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 22:16
	2-3km SE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 22:17
	1-2km SE	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	17-Dec, 22:27
	2-3km SE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 22:43
	4-5km SW	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 22:54-22:55
	2-3km SW	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 22:55
	2-3km SW	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 22:58
	2-3km SW	Heard	27	Burst		HMG	17-Dec, 23:03-23:07
	2-3km SW	Heard	52	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 06:54-07:02
	2-3km SW	Heard	60	Burst		HMG	18-Dec, 06:54-07:02
	6-8km SW	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 15:10
	4-6km SW	Heard	20	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 15:35-15:36

	4-6km SW	Heard	25	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 15:48-15:50
	4-6km SW	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	18-Dec, 15:51
	4-6km SW	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 15:52
	4-6km SW	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 15:59
	5-6km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 18:22
Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	2km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 10:40
	2km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	18-Dec, 10:48
SMM camera in Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	3-5km S	Recorded	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 20:05
	3-5km S	Recorded	19	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 20:06
	3-5km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	17-Dec, 20:06
	3-5km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact	N/K	17-Dec, 20:06
	3-5km S	Recorded	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 20:07
	5-7km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Dec, 20:09
	3-5km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	17-Dec, 20:14

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹²



¹² 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).