

Daily Report 5/2020

8 January 2020¹

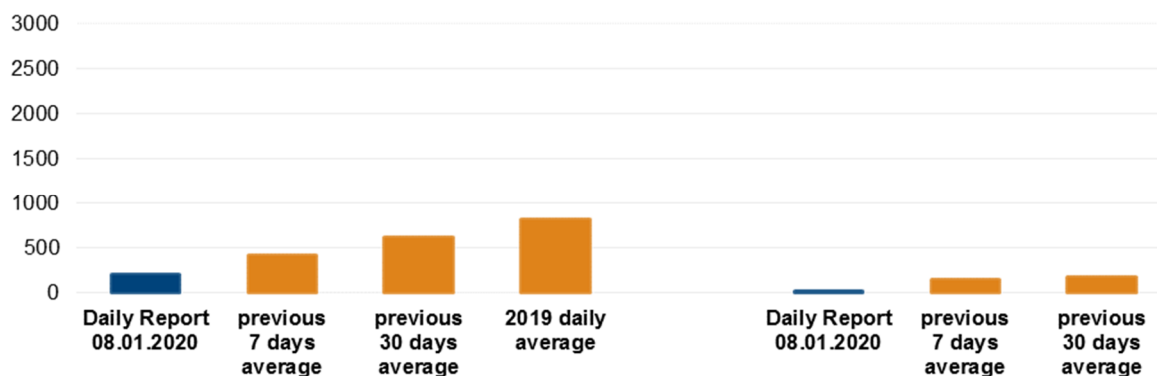
Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. It recorded no ceasefire violations in Luhansk region.
- The Mission recorded ceasefire violations inside and near the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- The SMM continued monitoring the security situation at the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska and Zolote.
- The Mission visited border crossing points in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Verkhnohshyrovskivske 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, 7 January 2020. 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 in Shyrokyne was not operational and winter weather conditions limited the observation capabilities of most of the other SMM cameras.

³ Including explosions.

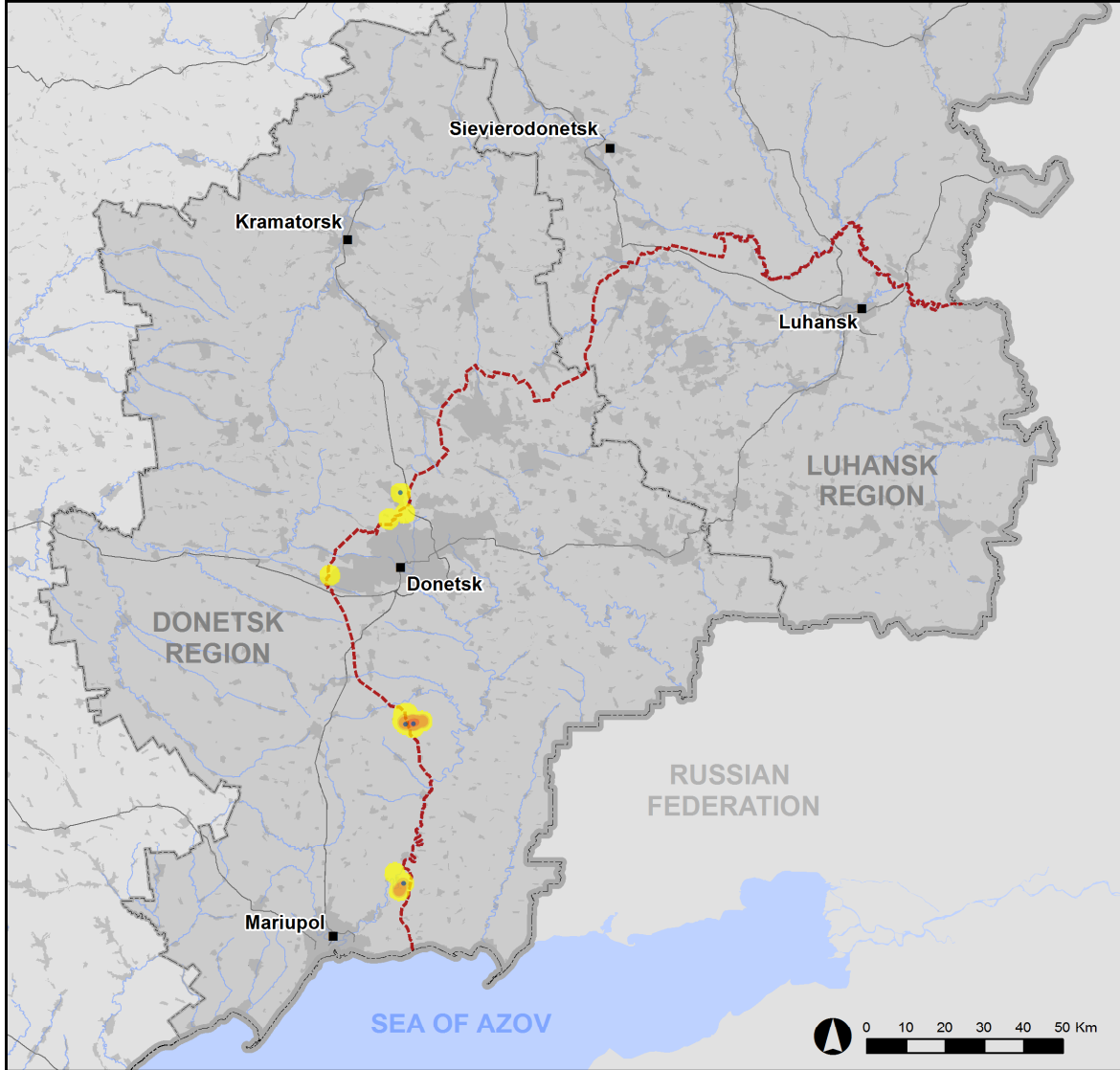
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

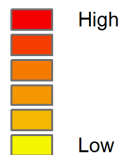


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 7 January 2020



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: 08/01/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including, however, fewer explosions (17), compared with [the previous reporting period](#) (31 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded in areas near the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk). The majority of explosions were recorded at north-easterly directions of Pyshevyk (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM did not record ceasefire violations. During [the previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded about 290 ceasefire violations, including 95 explosions.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 7 January, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw volunteers of an international organization shovelling snow at the northern edge of the new section of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north of Luhansk). It later noted that the entire new section of the bridge had been cleared of snow. The Mission also saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) between the new span of the bridge and their checkpoint south of the bridge.

On 5 January, outside the disengagement area, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [again](#) spotted an anti-aircraft-gun (ZU-23, 23mm) about 150m south of the area’s south-eastern edge.

On 7 January, the SMM saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) on the southern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk).

On the same day, positioned 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM heard two undetermined explosions and 30 shots and bursts of heavy-machine-gun and small-arms fire, all at an assessed range of 1-2.5km south-east and assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**. Positioned on the western edge and north of Petrivske, the Mission heard an undetermined explosion and about 120 shots and bursts of heavy-machine-gun and small-arms fire, all assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

Inside the area, the SMM also saw a person in military-style clothing with two dogs walking near and then entering a trench close to the area’s north-eastern corner (for previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report 3 January 2020](#)).

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 that the SMM could not verify as withdrawn⁶

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 visited an area previously holding 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.

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

7 January

The SMM noted that three mortars (2B9 Vasilek, 82mm) were missing for the first time.

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

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions and in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region (for details, see the table below).

SMM facilitation of operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM 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 Izvaryne (52km south-east of Luhansk) for about 20 minutes, the SMM saw three cars with Ukrainian licence plates and two buses, one with Ukrainian licence plates and one with “LPR” plates, entering Ukraine.

While at a pedestrian border crossing point near Verkhnoharasymivka (57km south-east of Luhansk) for about 20 minutes, the SMM saw two men (mixed ages) entering Ukraine.

The SMM 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 Co-ordination 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 [Daily Report 4 January 2020](#)). 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 Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage, citing “ongoing demining” in the area.

Regular restrictions related to disengagement areas and mines/UXO:

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

- 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:

- On two occasions, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk).⁸

⁸ The interference could have occurred within a radius of several kilometres from the UAV's position.

Table of indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁹

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
07/01/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	In Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-60)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
04/01/2020	2	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	Near Khoroshe (36km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB M) with an anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)		
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (probable BTR-70)		
	2	Trench digger (MDK-3 and TMK-2)		
06/01/2020	3	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near and in Kalynove (60km west of Luhansk)	

⁹ 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 7 January 2020¹⁰

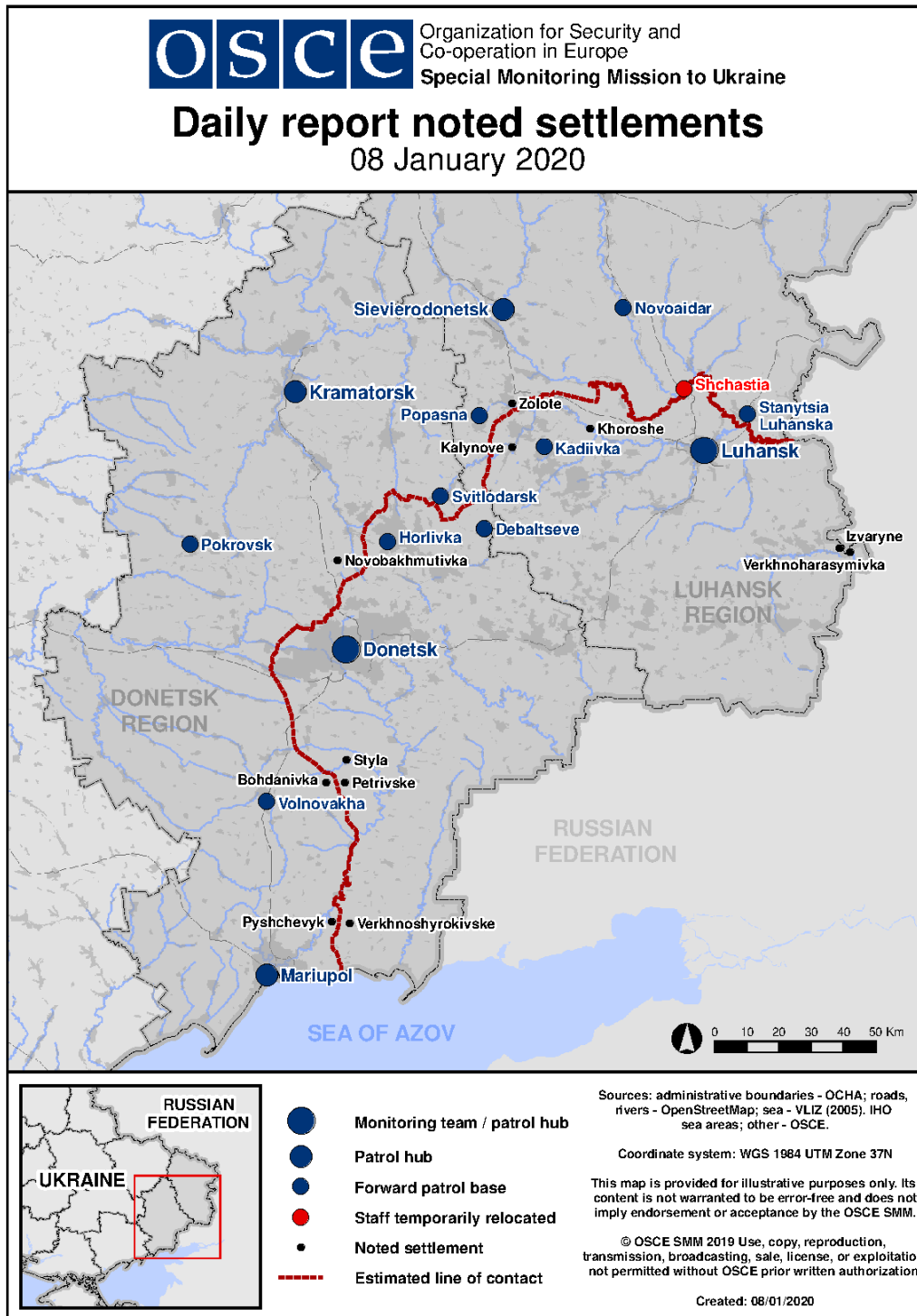
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	2-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	6-Jan, 18:43
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	7-Jan, 02:21
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	7-Jan, 18:11
SW part of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-4km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Jan, 10:57
	3-4km NE	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	7-Jan, 10:58
W edge of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	500-900m S	Heard	14	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area		7-Jan, 08:54
	500-900m S	Heard	3	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 08:56
	500-900m S	Heard	21	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 08:58-09:01
	500-900m S	Heard	16	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 09:01-09:02
	0.7-1km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Jan, 09:02
	2-3km S	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 09:04
	500-900m S	Heard	3	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 09:04-09:05
	500-900m S	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 09:05

¹⁰ 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.

	500-900m S	Heard	1	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 09:06
	500-900m S	Heard	14	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 09:07-09:08
	500-900m S	Heard	12	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 09:11-09:12
1.3km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	2km W	Heard	2	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 11:30
	2km W	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 11:30
	2-3km SE	Heard	15	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 11:43
	2-3km SE	Heard	8	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 11:45
	2-4km W	Heard	2	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	HMG	7-Jan, 11:51
	2-3km SE	Heard	3	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 11:53
	2-3km SE	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 11:53
	2-3km SE	Heard	2	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 12:09
	2-3km SE	Heard	2	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Jan, 12:16
About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	1-1.5km SE	Heard	9	Burst	Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	7-Jan, 08:55-09:00
	1-1.5km SE	Heard	3	Burst	Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske	HMG	7-Jan, 08:55-09:00
	2-2.5km SE	Heard	6	Burst	Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske	HMG	7-Jan, 09:01-09:10
	2-2.5km SE	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as inside the disengagement	N/K	7-Jan, 09:01-09:10

					area near Petrivske		
	2-2.5km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	7-Jan, 09:16-09:18
	2-2.5km SE	Heard	2	Shot	Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske	HMG	7-Jan, 09:16-09:18
	2-2.5km SE	Heard	9	Burst	Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske	HMG	7-Jan, 09:16-09:18
Orlivske (government-controlled, 82km S of Donetsk)	3-4km NE	Heard	5	Burst		Small arms	7-Jan, 10:51
2km SW of Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	2-3km NE	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	7-Jan, 12:12
	3-4km NE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Jan, 12:25-12:30
	3-4km NE	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Jan, 12:35-12:37
	1-2km ENE	Heard	24	Burst		HMG	7-Jan, 12:42-12:45
	1-2km ENE	Heard	5	Shot		Small arms	7-Jan, 12:42-12:45

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹¹



¹¹ 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).