

Daily Report 23/2020

29 January 2020¹

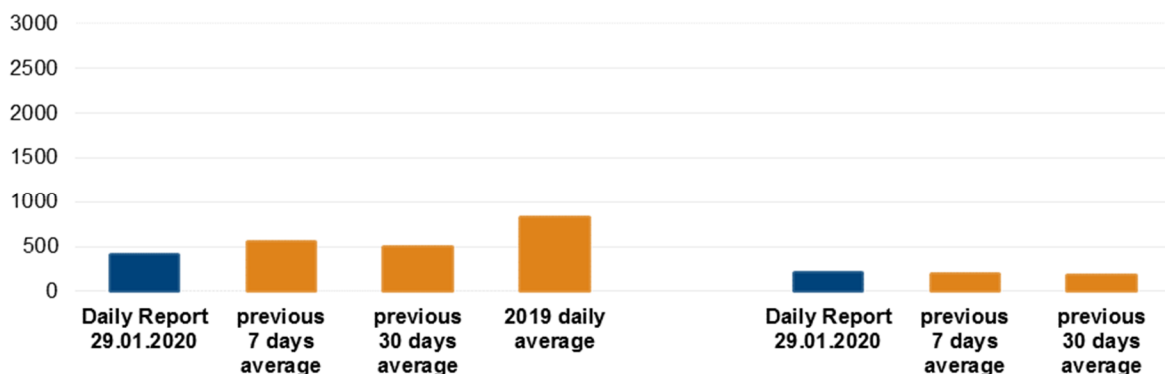
Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission continued monitoring the security situation at the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote, and Petrivske. It recorded ceasefire violations inside the Petrivske disengagement area.
- The SMM saw weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in non-government-controlled areas of both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable repair work to power lines in government-controlled Zolote-4/Rodina.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at four checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region and at border areas in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



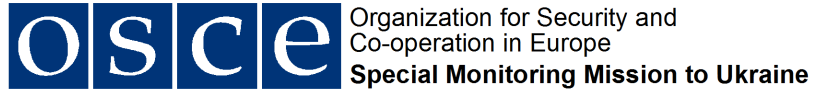
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 28 January 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time. The SMM camera near Bohdanivka was not operational during the reporting period and fog limited the observation capabilities of the majority of other SMM cameras.

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

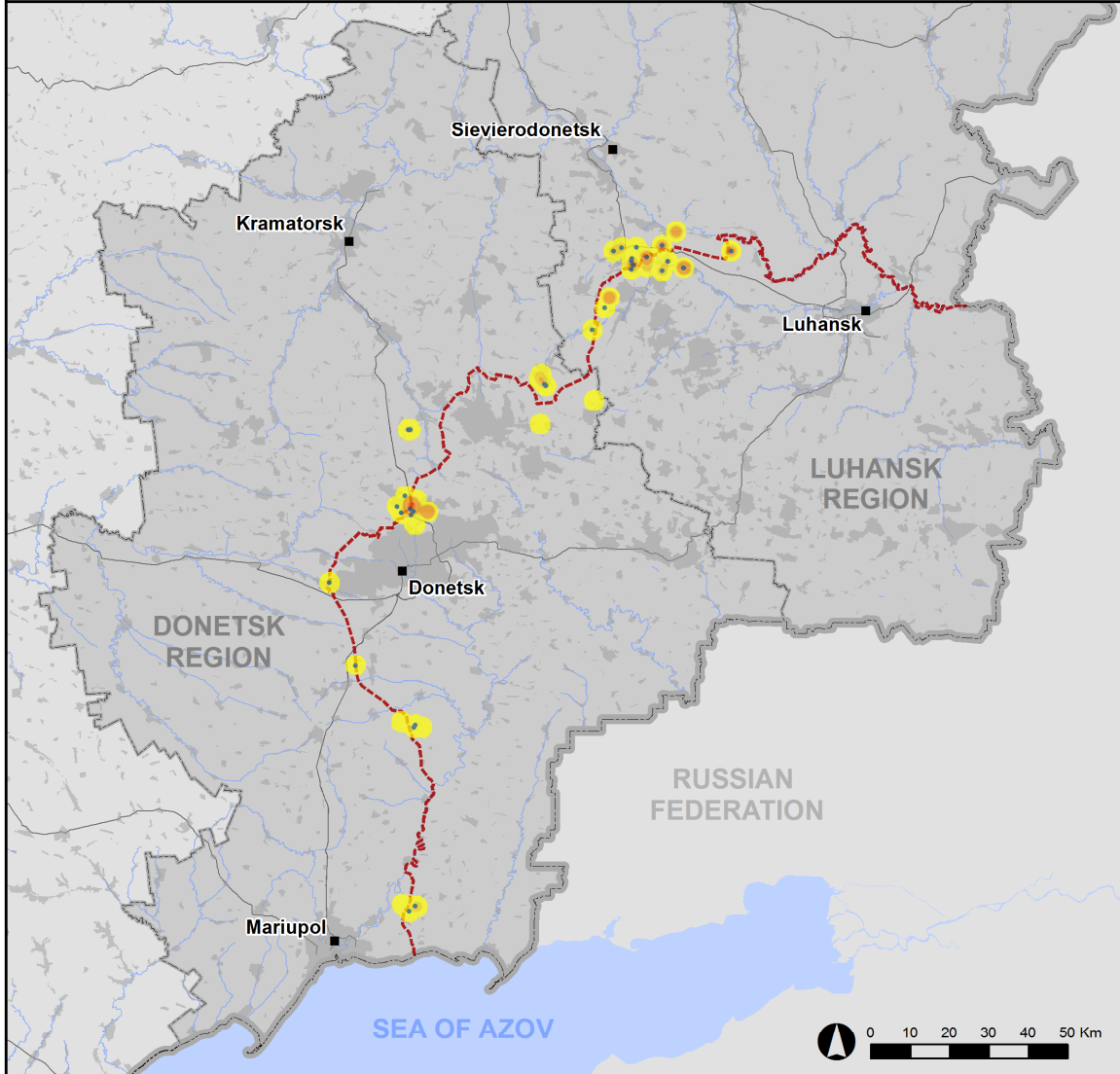
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

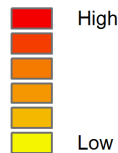
Map of recorded ceasefire violations



Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 28 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.

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

Created: 29/01/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including fewer explosions (about 40), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 70 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded in areas south-east, south-west, and west of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), east and south-east of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk), and south-east of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including, however, more explosions (165), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (56 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded in areas south-west of Muratove (government-controlled, 51km north-west of Luhansk), north and north-west of Berezivske (non-government-controlled, 53km north-west of Luhansk), and west of Smile (non-government-controlled, 31km north-west of Luhansk).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 27 January, outside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [again](#) spotted an anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm) near Prince Ihor Monument, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. On 28 January, inside the disengagement area, the SMM saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) between the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk) and their checkpoint south of it.

Outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), aerial imagery made available to the SMM revealed the presence on 24 January of an armoured combat vehicle about 200m north of the area, as well as a new trench extension (approximately 100m in length) less than 1km from the area’s north-western corner. On 28 January, the SMM saw a member of the armed formations digging a trench about 300m east of the disengagement area. Throughout the day, the SMM saw three members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) near the area’s southern edge.

The same day, while positioned at two locations close to the disengagement area, the SMM heard 35 undetermined explosions and about ten bursts of heavy-machine-gun fire, all assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

Outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted on 27 January a probable armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2) and an armoured combat vehicle about 800m south of the area, assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On 28 January, positioned about 2km east-north-east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM heard four undetermined explosions and a burst of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 3-4km east-south-east (assessed as inside the disengagement area). The same day, while positioned at two other locations close to the disengagement area, the SMM heard one undetermined explosion and two bursts of heavy-machine-gun fire, all assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

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

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 seven weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk and Donetsk regions (for further details, see the table below).

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

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles inside the security zone in government-controlled areas of both Luhansk and Donetsk regions (for further details, see the table below).

Presence of unexploded ordnance and mine hazard signs

On 27 January, the SMM saw for the first time that two areas in fields near Kryva Luka (government-controlled, 98km north of Donetsk), 2km south-east and 1km north of the settlement respectively, had been marked off with white and red poles and mine hazard signs. At both areas, the SMM also saw the logo of an international demining organization.

On 28 January, at the northern edge of Nikishyne (non-government-controlled, 60km north-east of Donetsk), the SMM saw for the first time unexploded ordnance (UXO), which was not marked or fenced off, assessed as the tailfin of a mortar round on the side of an asphalt road regularly used by civilians.

SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to facilitate repairs to power lines in Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km west of Luhansk). Positioned in Zolote-4/Rodina during the aforementioned repair work, the SMM recorded 20 undetermined explosions and bursts of heavy-machine-gun fire. The Mission also 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 Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) for about one hour, the SMM saw 20 cars, of which 13 had “DPR” plates, two covered cargo trucks (one with Ukrainian and one with Russian Federation licence plates), one bus, and six pedestrians entering Ukraine. The SMM also saw 25 car, of which 11 had “DPR” plates, five covered cargo trucks (four with Ukrainian licence plates and one with “DPR” plates), one bus, and eight pedestrians exiting Ukraine. While at a pedestrian border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk) for about 30 minutes, the SMM saw a woman entering Ukraine.

About two minutes after the SMM’s arrival at a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, 65km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.* During its presence, the Mission saw no traffic in either

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

direction. Upon its arrival at Chervona Mohyla railway station in Voznesenivka, two members of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.*

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, 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 (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 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.

Denials of access:

- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage, citing “ongoing engineering works in the area”.
- At a checkpoint near Prymorske (non-government-controlled, 76km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards Naberezhne (non-government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk), citing “orders from their superiors”.
- At a checkpoint on the southern edge of Nova Marivka (non-government-controlled, 64km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage, citing “ongoing engineering activities in the area”.
- At a checkpoint on the eastern edge of Sosnivske (non-government-controlled, 78km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage, citing “orders from his superiors”.
- At a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.
- At the Chervona Mohyla railway station in Voznesenivka, two members of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.

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:

- On 27 January, an SMM long-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas between Kholmyste (non-government-controlled, 23km east of Donetsk) and Oleksandro-Kalynove (government-controlled, 47km north of Donetsk). The same UAV also experienced dual GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by jamming, while flying over areas between non-government controlled Petrenky (44km south-east of Donetsk) and Dmytrivka (85km east of Donetsk), between non-government-controlled Dovzhansk (60km south-east of Luhansk) and Novooleksandrivka (40km south-east of Luhansk), as well as between Rodnykove (non-government-controlled, 36km south of Donetsk) and Keramik (government-controlled, 28km north-west of Donetsk).⁷

⁷ The interference could have occurred within a radius of several kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
27/01/2020	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)	Near Dokuchaievsk (30km south-west of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	2	Towed howitzer (probable D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)	In Novohryhorivka (33km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	4	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	Near Bohdanivka (44km west of Luhansk)	

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
27/01/2020	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Nevelske (18km north-west of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)		
	2	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Chernenko (86km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
28/01/2020	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-1)	Near the entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (45km north-east of Donetsk)	Patrol

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 28 January 2020⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	6-8km SE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight (also recorded by the SMM camera at Oktiabr mine)	N/K	27-Jan, 22:37
	2-4km SE	Recorded	4	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	28-Jan, 05:16
	300-700m SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 05:21
SMM camera in Berezove (government-controlled, 31km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	27-Jan, 21:31
	2-4km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	WNW to ESE (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	27-Jan, 21:31
	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	27-Jan, 21:31
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	28-Jan, 03:13
	0.7-1.5km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	28-Jan, 05:16
	SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K
SE part of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-3km NNE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 09:07
	2-3km SE	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	28-Jan, 10:07
	2km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 10:18
	2-3km ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:25-13:30
	2-3km ESE	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	28-Jan, 13:25-13:30
	2-3km ESE	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 13:25-13:30
	3-4km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:59
	2-3km SE	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 14:04
SW of Novohryhorivka (non-government-controlled, 61km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	28-Jan, 14:04
	1km NE	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	28-Jan, 09:00
About 400m NW of Petrivske (non-government-	0.6-1km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the	N/K	28-Jan, 09:48

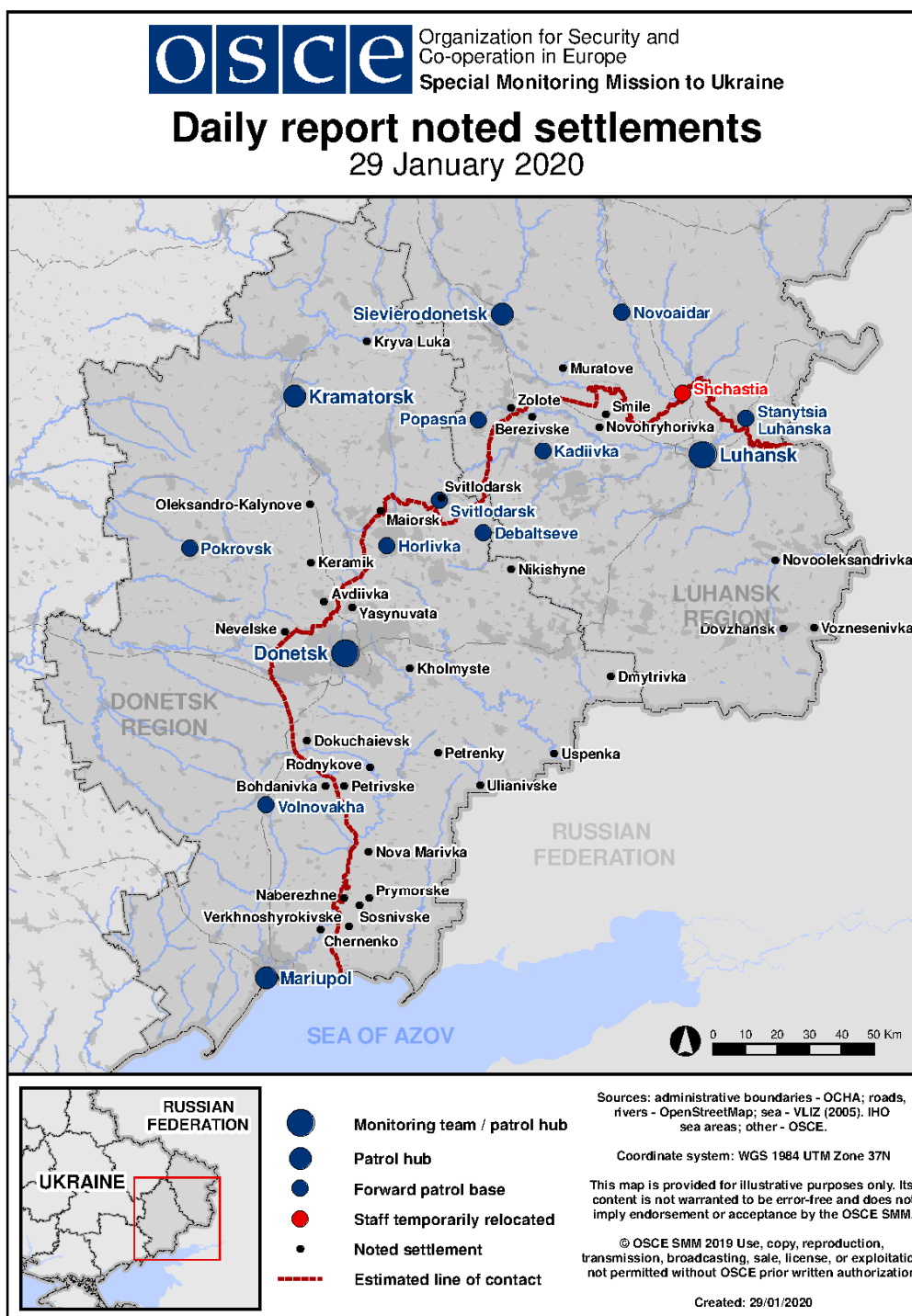
⁹ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments provided by monitors on the ground and technical monitoring officers, 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 technical limitations and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol/camera and assessed to be the same are entered only once.

controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)					disengagement area)		
About 1.5km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SSE	Heard	2	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	HMG	28-Jan, 11:49
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km SE	Heard	43	Shot		Small arms	28-Jan, 10:42
	2-3km NW	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	28-Jan, 10:51
	2-3km NW	Heard	3	Shot		HMG	28-Jan, 10:51
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	3km WSW	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	28-Jan, 10:08-10:12
	2km WSW	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	28-Jan, 10:08-10:12
	2km WSW	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	28-Jan, 10:08-10:12
	2-3km W	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 12:37
	2-3km W	Heard	60	Shot		Small arms	28-Jan, 12:51
	1-2km SW	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 13:42
	1-2km SW	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 13:50
	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 14:00
1-2km SW	Heard	15	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 14:07-14:08	
NW edge of Vuhlehirsk (non-government-controlled, 49km NE of Donetsk)	0.8-1km W	Heard	2	Shot		Small arms	28-Jan, 13:35
About 2km ENE of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	3-4km ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as inside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jan, 09:49
	3-4km ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jan, 10:32
	3-4km ESE	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as inside the disengagement area	Small arms	28-Jan, 10:32
	N/K SE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	28-Jan, 11:50
2km SW of Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	4-6km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 11:00-11:03
	2-3km SE	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	28-Jan, 11:13
	4-7km ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 11:42
	5-7km ESE	Heard	10	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 14:18
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jan, 20:25
	1-2km SE	Heard	9	Shot		Small arms	27-Jan, 20:52
	1-2km E	Heard	5	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 14:54
	4-5km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 11:44

About 2km SE of Yurivka (government-controlled, 35km N of Donetsk)	4-5km W	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 11:52-11:55
	4-5km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:01
	4-6km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:05
3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	4-6km NNE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jan, 10:34
	6-8km NNW	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jan, 11:02-11:18
	6-8km NNE	Heard	4	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	HMG	28-Jan, 11:02-11:18
Sentianivka (formerly Frunze, non-government-controlled, 44km W of Luhansk)	6-8km W	Heard	12	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 10:35-10:48
	6-8km NW	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 11:03-11:13
2km NW of Troitske (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4-6km E	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 10:55-11:00
NW edge of Trokhizbenka (government-controlled, 32km NW of Luhansk)	5-10km SW	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 11:47-12:02
	5-10km SW	Heard	12	Burst		HMG	28-Jan, 11:47-12:02
SW edge of Berezhivske (non-government-controlled, 53km NW of Luhansk)	1-2km N	Heard	9	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 12:18-13:00
	8-10km NW	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:18-12:35
	1-2km N	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	28-Jan, 12:42-13:00
	3-5km N	Heard	29	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:42-13:10
	6-8km NNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:00-13:10
Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km W of Luhansk)	1-2km SE	Heard	3	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	HMG	28-Jan, 12:41-12:57
	1-2km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jan, 12:41-12:57
	1-2km E	Heard	13	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jan, 12:41-12:57
	1-2km NE	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jan, 12:41-12:57
W edge of Smile (non-government-	10-15km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:40
	10-15km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:45

controlled, 31km NW of Luhansk)	10-15km W	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:47-12:51
	10-15km W	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:55
	10-15km W	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 12:57
	10-15km W	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:00-13:02
	10-15km W	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:05-13:06
	10-15km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:08
	10-15km W	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:10-13:16
	10-15km W	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:18-13:19
About 2km S of Muratove (government-controlled, 51km NW of Luhansk)	7-10km SW	Heard	20	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 13:45-13:55
	3-4km SW	Heard	25	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 13:45-13:55
1km N of Kalynove-Borshchuvate (non-government-controlled, 61km W of Luhansk)	2-3km SSW	Heard	30	Burst		Small arms	28-Jan, 14:03-14:16
	5-6km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jan, 14:03-14:16

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).