

# Daily Report 38/2020

15 February 2020<sup>1</sup>

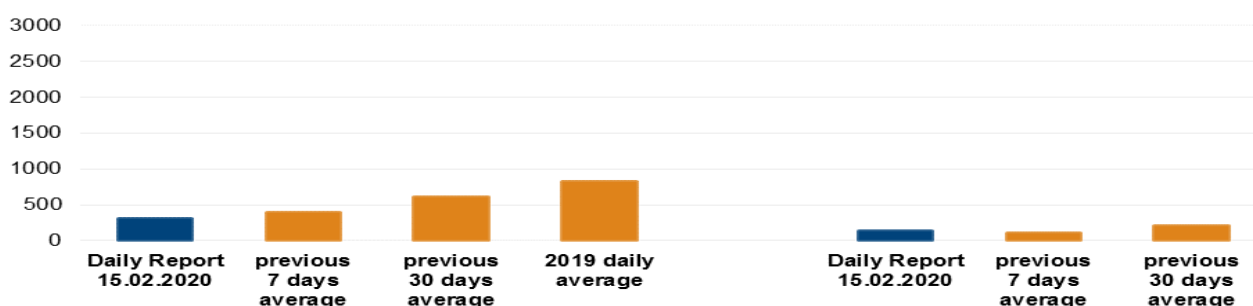
## Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more 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.
- The SMM continued to observe hardships faced by civilians at checkpoints along the contact line related to inclement weather and long waiting times.
- In Donetsk region, the SMM facilitated the repairs and operation of critical civilian infrastructure on both sides of the contact line, including to the phenol sludge reservoir near Zalizne and to power lines near Yasynuvata.
- Members of the armed formations restricted the SMM's freedom of movement at checkpoints in Verkhnoшыrokiwske and Samiilove, in southern Donetsk.\*

## Ceasefire violations<sup>2</sup>

### Number of recorded ceasefire violations<sup>3</sup>

### Number of recorded explosions<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 14 February 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

<sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. The SMM cameras near Bohdanivka and Hnutove were not operational during the reporting period.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

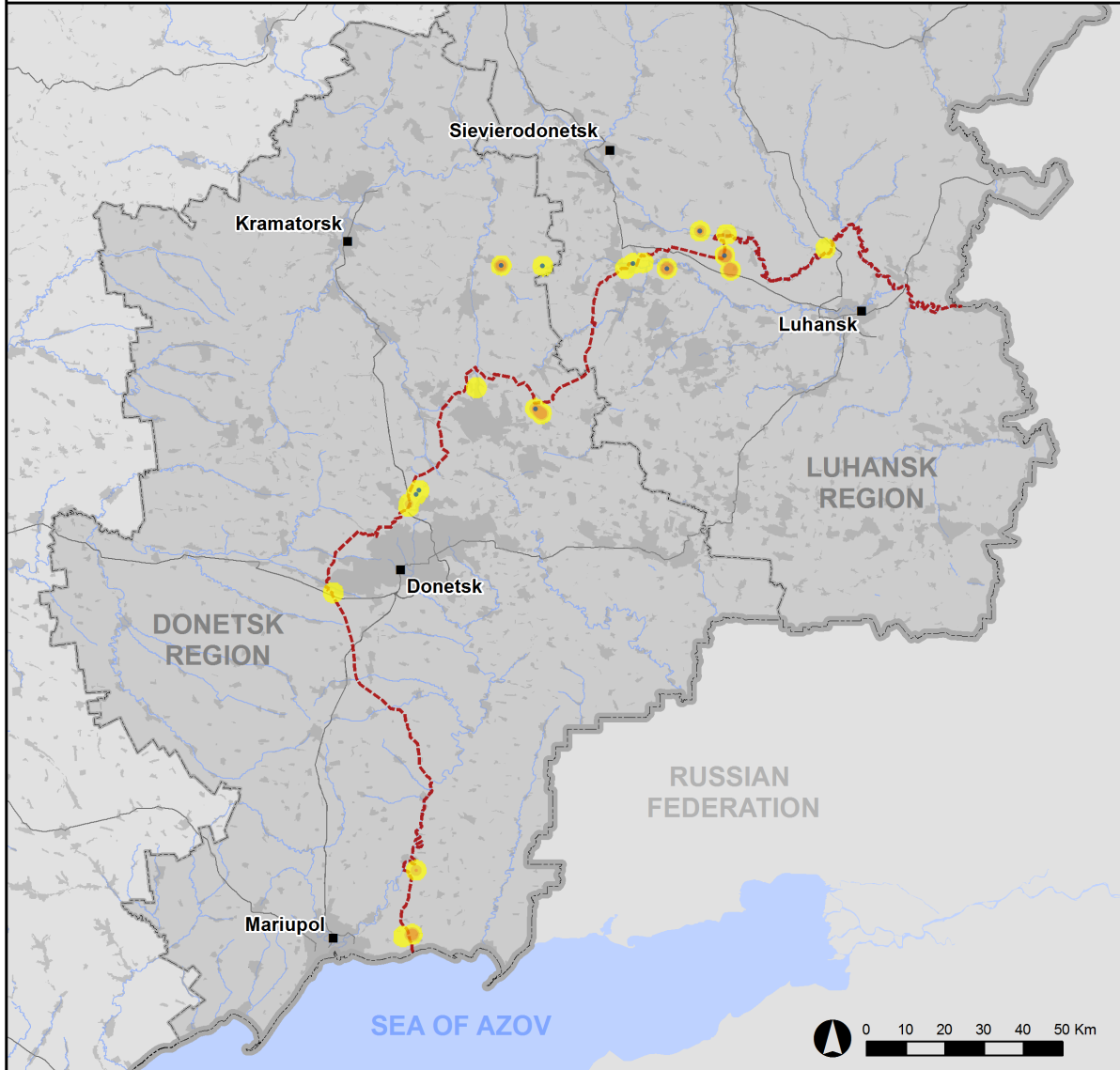
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

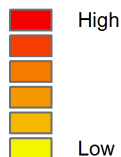


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 14 February 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: 15/02/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including, however, a similar number of explosions (20) compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (19 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded in areas north and north-north-west of Vuhlehirsk (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk) and north and north-north-east of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including more explosions (about 120), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (85 explosions). About two thirds of the ceasefire violations, including the majority of explosions, were recorded in areas south-west, west and north-west of Smile (non-government-controlled, 31km north-west of Luhansk).

### **Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske<sup>5</sup>**

On 14 February, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), near the container of an international humanitarian organization, south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw two women (aged 65-70) in an ambulance with bandages around one of their arms. Medical personnel told the SMM that the two women had broken their arms after falling due to ice on the road. The same day, the SMM 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 it.

On the evening of 13 February, the SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) recorded an undetermined explosion and a projectile in flight at an assessed range of 2.5-6km east and east-south-east, both assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery. On 14 February, positioned in Berezhivske (non-government-controlled, 53km north-west of Luhansk), the SMM heard three bursts and a shot of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 2-3km north-north-west, all assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 14 February, inside the disengagement area near Zolote, the SMM saw fresh vehicle tracks heading towards Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk), near a railway bridge, about 900m south of the northern edge of the disengagement area. On the same day, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) experienced GPS signal interference assessed as probable jamming while attempting to fly over areas on the northern edge of the disengagement area (see below).<sup>6</sup>

The same day, positioned at the southern edge of the disengagement area, the SMM saw a member of the armed formations (wearing an armband with “JCCC” written on it) as well as a white non-SMM mini-UAV at an approximate altitude of 300m, about 1.5km north of the SMM’s position, flying in a southerly direction inside the disengagement area.

On 14 February, positioned in Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk), the SMM observed a calm situation near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk).<sup>7</sup>

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

<sup>6</sup> The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs’ position.<sup>7</sup> Due to weather conditions, the SMM was not able to reach its camera in Petrivske.

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### **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 SMM saw weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites on both sides of the contact line, predominantly in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region.

### **Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>8</sup>**

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

### **Presence of mine hazard signs in non-government-controlled Raivka**

On the eastern outskirts of Raivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north-west of Luhansk), the SMM observed for the first time two mine hazard signs (red wooden squares) with “Stop, Mines” written on them in Russian near a road used by civilians.

### **Situation of civilians at checkpoints along the contact line**

In Donetsk region, at a checkpoint near Kremynets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM saw over 200 vehicles and about 150 pedestrians (mainly elderly people of mixed genders) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas. The SMM also saw elderly people disembark several buses at end of the same queue and walk on the icy road towards the checkpoint, about one kilometer away. The Mission saw 13 vehicles queuing in the opposite direction (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 13 February 2020](#)).

At the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), the Mission observed several minibuses and cars and 150 people queuing towards non-government-controlled areas and about 100 people queuing in the opposite direction (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 14 February 2020](#)).

### **SMM facilitation of repairs and operation of critical civilian infrastructure**

The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to the phenol sludge reservoir near Zalizne (government-controlled, 42km north-east of Donetsk) and to power lines near Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk). It also continued to facilitate the maintenance and operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) and to monitor the security situation near the pumping station close to Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

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<sup>8</sup> 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 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 [SMM Daily Report 14 February 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 near Verkhnoшыrokivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage, citing “ongoing demining and engineering activities in the areas of Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk) and Sakhanka (non-government-controlled, 97km south of Donetsk)”. While at the checkpoint, the SMM saw civilian traffic proceeding in both directions.
- At a checkpoint in Samiilove (non-government-controlled, 89km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage, citing “ongoing technical activities in the area”. Subsequently, members of the armed formations escorted the SMM towards the southern exit of the village thus preventing it from reaching its planned mini-UAV launching spot from which to conduct a flight over 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:

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying near Pavlopil (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk). Two SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying near the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see above) and Krynychanske (formerly Chervonohvardiiske, non-government-controlled, 42km west of Luhansk).<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' position.

## Table of weapons

### Beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
14/02/2020	1	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	Near Kalynove (formerly Kalinine, 65km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
13/02/2020	9	Tank (T-64)	In a training area near Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk). At the same training area, the UAV also spotted about 40 armoured combat vehicles. <sup>10</sup>	Mini UAV
	11	Tank (T-72)		
	3	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		
	1	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1)		
	14	Towed howitzer (D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		
	10	Mortar (2B11 <i>Sani</i> , 120mm)		

## Table of military presence in the security zone<sup>11</sup>

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
14/02/2020	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	Near Halytsynivka (29km north-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM variant)	Near Pervomaiske (17km north-west of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM variant )	Near Karlivka (25km north-west of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured combat vehicle (BTR variant)	In the yard of a house near Kodema (57km north-east of Donetsk)	
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP )		
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM variant)		
	1	Armoured recovery vehicle (BREM)	Near Buhas (44km south-west of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured recovery vehicle (BREM-2)	Near Oleksandropillia (71km west of Luhansk)	

<sup>10</sup> The armoured combat vehicles mentioned in this section are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

<sup>11</sup> 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 14 February 2020<sup>12</sup>**

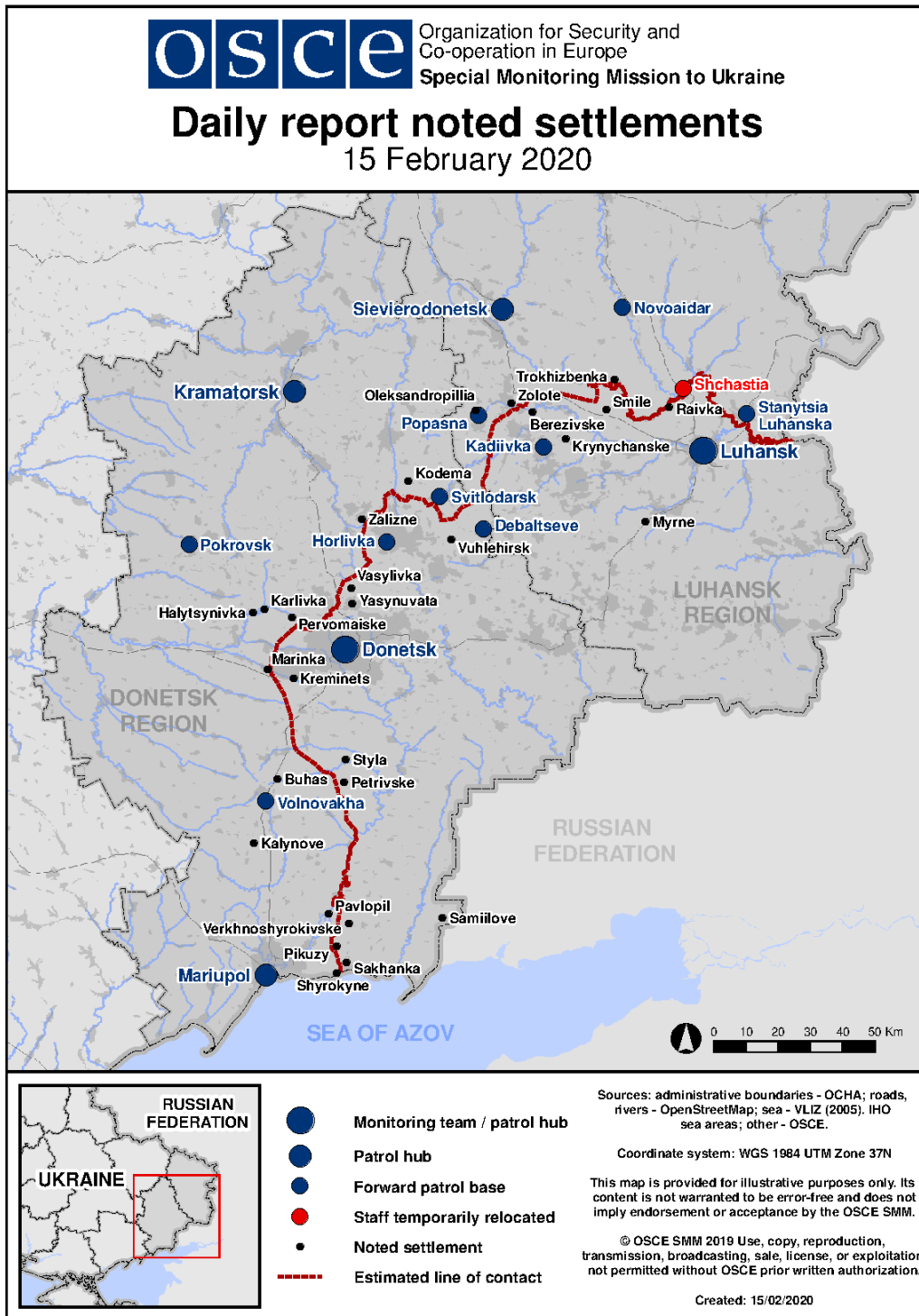
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Recorded	14	Projectile	ENE to WSW	N/K	13-Feb, 23:51
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	0.8-1.5km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	14-Feb, 00:15
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	14-Feb, 02:04
	4-6km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	E to W	N/K	14-Feb, 02:04
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	6	Projectile	W to E	N/K	14-Feb, 17:58
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	7	Projectile	W to E	N/K	14-Feb, 17:59
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	10	Projectile	W to E	N/K	14-Feb, 18:00
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	3	Muzzle flash	W to E	N/K	14-Feb, 18:00
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	3	Projectile	W to E	N/K	14-Feb, 18:01
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E	N/K	14-Feb, 18:04
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Recorded	5	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	14-Feb, 18:56
About 1km NW of railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km N	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 10:25-10:31
	2-3km W	Heard	9	Burst		Small arms	14-Feb, 13:18-13:23
Oleksandrivka (non-government-controlled, 20 km SW of Donetsk)	2km W	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	14-Feb, 10:25-10:40
NW edge of Vuhlehirsk (non-government-controlled, 49km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km N	Heard	19	Burst		HMG	14-Feb, 11:30
	2-3km N	Heard	10	Shot		Small arms	14-Feb, 11:30
	3-5km NNW	Heard	18	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 11:30-11:45
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 09:14

<sup>12</sup> 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, 20km N of Donetsk)							
SMM camera in Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	2-4km SSW	Recorded	11	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	13-Feb, 19:54
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	4-6km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Feb, 19:16
	2.5-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	14-Feb, 01:13
SE edge of Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km N of Luhansk)	2-3km NW	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	14-Feb, 09:27
N edge of Smile (non-government-controlled, 31km NW of Luhansk)	10-15km NW	Heard	18	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 10:22-11:06
	1-2km SW	Heard	48	Shot		Small arms	14-Feb, 10:22-11:06
	15-18km W	Heard	25	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 11:50-12:06
	15-18km W	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	14-Feb, 11:50-12:06
	15-18km W	Heard	6	Shot		HMG	14-Feb, 11:50-12:06
NE edge of Staryi Aidar (government-controlled, 20km NW of Luhansk)	5-10km SE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 11:30-12:05
	5-10km SW	Heard	28	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 11:35-12:05
NE edge of Trokhizbenka (government-controlled, 32km NW of Luhansk)	8-10km SW	Heard	45	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Feb, 11:45-12:25
Berezivske (non-government-controlled, 53km NW of Luhansk)	2-3km NNW	Heard	3	Burst	Assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	Small arms	14-Feb, 12:42
	2-3km NNW	Heard	1	Shot	Assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	Small arms	14-Feb, 12:42



### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>13</sup>



<sup>13</sup> 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).