

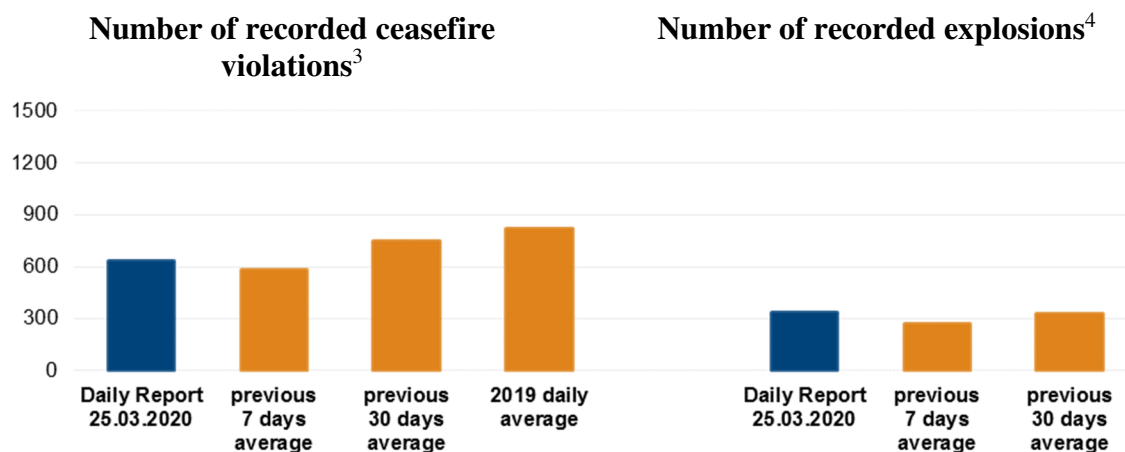
Daily Report 71/2020

25 March 2020¹

Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM saw that the entry-exit checkpoint near Maiorsk and three checkpoints of the armed formations along the contact line in both Donetsk and Luhansk region remained closed.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable demining activities near Krasnyi Yar and Vyskryva, as well as repairs to power lines near Maiorsk.
- Restrictions of the SMM's freedom of movement continued, including at checkpoints of the armed formations near Stanytsia Luhanska, where members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage towards government-controlled areas of Luhansk region.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 24 March 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time. During the reporting period, the SMM cameras at the Oktiabr mine were not operational.

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

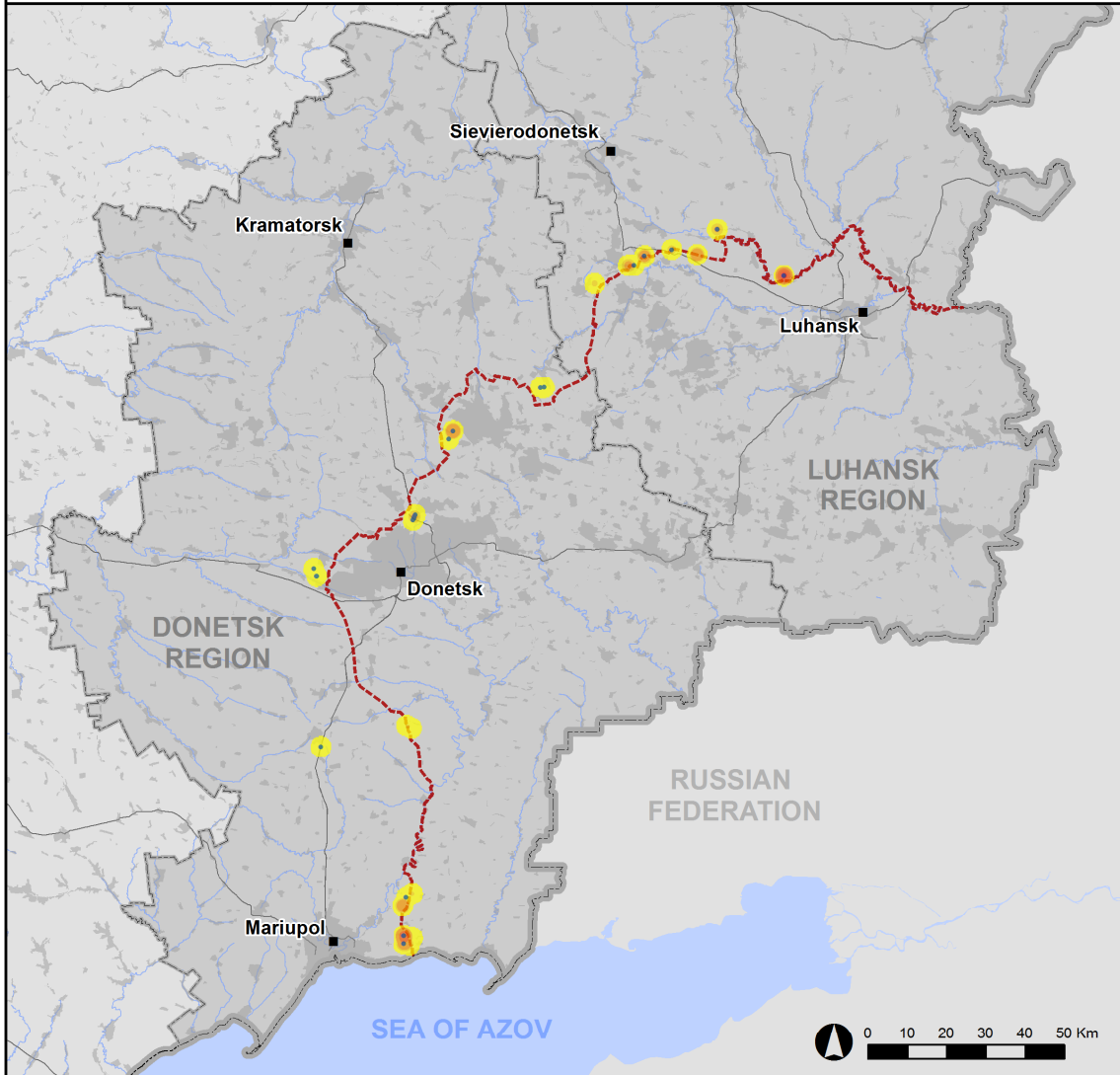
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

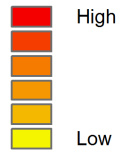
Map of recorded ceasefire violations

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

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 24 March 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: 25/03/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including more explosions (42), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (17 explosions). The majority of the ceasefire violations were recorded at westerly directions of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk) and at northerly directions of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including more explosions (about 290), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 60 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded in areas south-west of Staryi Aidar (government-controlled, 20km north-west of Luhansk), including about 240 explosions.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 24 March, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission 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.

On the evening of 23 March, the SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) recorded two undetermined explosions, 18 projectiles in flight and an illumination flare, all at an assessed range of 3-6km east and assessed as **outside the disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery. Throughout the day, the SMM saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) on the southern edge of the disengagement area.

On the evening and night of 23 March, the SMM cameras in Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) and in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) recorded a total of eight projectiles in flight, assessed as **inside the disengagement area near Petrivske**. On 24 March, positioned at two locations near the disengagement area, the SMM observed a calm situation.*

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 (for further details, see the table below).

The Mission saw tanks beyond their withdrawal line but outside designated storage areas in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region.

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

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas (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.

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

Preventive measures against COVID-19 outbreak

On 24 March, the Mission saw that the entry-exit checkpoint near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Horlivka, as well as a checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) remained closed with no traffic in either direction. Additionally, at the checkpoint near Horlivka, the SMM saw for the first time a wire barrier with a mine hazard sign on it (a red square with “Stop, Mines” written on it in Cyrillic) blocking the road and preventing further passage. At the checkpoint near Olenivka, the SMM saw barriers across both lanes of road H-20 and preventing further passage.

On two occasions, on the morning on 24 March at a checkpoint of the armed formations 200m south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge, members of the armed formations denied an SMM foot patrol passage towards government-controlled areas of Luhansk region.*

SMM facilitation of repairs to critical civilian infrastructure and demining activities

The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to power lines near Maiorsk, as well as demining activities near Krasnyi Yar (non-government-controlled, 12km north-east of Luhansk) and Vyskryva (government-controlled, 76km west of Luhansk).

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk).

The Mission continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro and 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 24 March 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 200m south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage towards government-controlled areas on two occasions, citing, respectively, “new instructions from superiors” and “that instructions must be issued from another agency”.

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:

- Two SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicles experienced signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near and inside the disengagement area close to Petrivske.⁷

⁷ The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Table of weapons

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapons	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
24/03/2020	28	Tank (T-64)	At the railway station in Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk)	Patrol

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
24/03/2020	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Muratove (51km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	Near Klynove (68km north-east of Donetsk)	
	3	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Valentynivka (35km north of Donetsk)	
	4	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	In Orlivka (22km north-west of Donetsk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
24/03/2020	1	Trench digger (PZM-2)	In Yasynuvata (16km 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 24 March 2020⁹

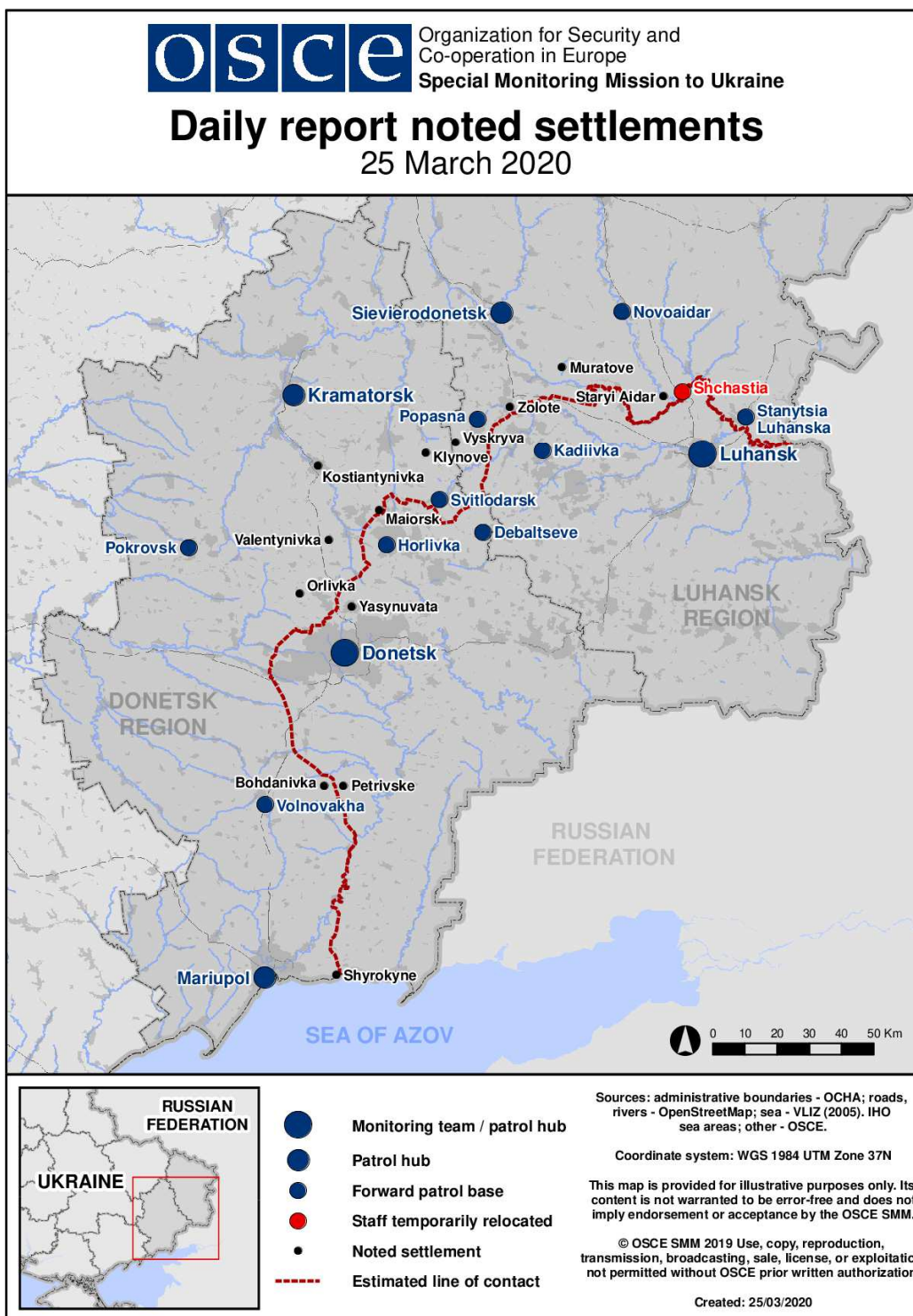
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	1-3km ESE	Recorded	3	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as inside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	23-Mar, 23:17
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	7	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	24-Mar, 00:41
	2-4km SE	Recorded	5	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	24-Mar, 00:53
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 02:26
	2-4km SE	Recorded	17	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	24-Mar, 02:32
	2-4km SE	Recorded	4	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	24-Mar, 02:33
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Hnutove (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N	N/K	23-Mar, 22:24
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N	N/K	23-Mar, 23:30
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	5	Projectile	S to N	N/K	24-Mar, 01:26
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	4-6km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 00:01
	4-6km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 00:13
	4-6km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 00:19
	6-8km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 00:23
	4-6km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 00:27
	4-6km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 00:28
	4-6km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 00:33
SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1-3km WSW	Recorded	3	Projectile	NNW to SSE (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	23-Mar, 21:28
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	2	Projectile	ENE to WSW (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	23-Mar, 22:12
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	23-Mar, 22:04
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	23-Mar, 23:40
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSE to NNW	N/K	23-Mar, 23:49
	5-7km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	24-Mar, 00:22
	5-7km N	Recorded	9	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 00:22
	5-7km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 00:23
	5-7km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 00:27
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 00:30
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSE to NNW	N/K	24-Mar, 00:31
	5-7km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 00:40
	5-7km N	Recorded	15	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 00:42
	5-7km N	Recorded	5	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	24-Mar, 00:55

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.

	5-7km N	Recorded	5	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 00:59
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	24-Mar, 00:59
	5-7km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 01:49
	5-7km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 01:53
	5-7km N	Recorded	8	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	24-Mar, 02:04
	5-7km N	Recorded	13	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	24-Mar, 02:11
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	2	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	24-Mar, 02:11
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 02:26
	5-7km N	Recorded	12	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	24-Mar, 02:32
	5-7km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	24-Mar, 02:33
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	24-Mar, 02:37
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	24-Mar, 02:37
	3-5km N	Recorded	7	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	24-Mar, 03:05
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	5	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	24-Mar, 03:10
	3-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	24-Mar, 03:24
	3-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	24-Mar, 03:25
	3-5km N	Recorded	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 03:39
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	24-Mar, 03:48
	3-5km N	Recorded	5	Projectile	SSE to NNW	N/K	24-Mar, 03:53
	5-7km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	E to W	N/K	24-Mar, 03:55
	3-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	24-Mar, 03:59
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSE to NNW	N/K	24-Mar, 04:01
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	SSE to NNW	N/K	24-Mar, 04:02
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 12:20
	3-4km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 12:42
	3-5km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 12:55
	2-4km SSW	Heard	14	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 13:22-13:24
About 3km SE of Volnovakha (government-controlled, 53km south of Donetsk)	N/K E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	23-Mar, 23:00
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km SSE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	23-Mar, 19:34-19:36
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km W	Heard	26	Burst		HMG	23-Mar, 23:40-23:50
	3-5km W	Heard	25	Burst		HMG	23-Mar, 23:50-00:00
	3-5km W	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 16:25-16:32
	5-6km WSW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 16:33
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	3-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	23-Mar, 20:26
	3-4km E	Recorded	7	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	23-Mar, 20:37
	4-6km E	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	23-Mar, 20:53

	3-4km E	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	23-Mar, 21:33
	3-4km E	Recorded	10	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	23-Mar, 21:55
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	3-5km ESE	Heard	8	Burst		HMG	24-Mar, 06:25-06:30
3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	7-9km NE	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	24-Mar, 10:00-10:22
	7-9km NE	Heard	26	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 10:00-10:22
NE edge of Sentianivka (formerly Frunze, non-government-controlled, 44km W of Luhansk)	6-8km NW	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 10:10-10:28
	3-5km NNE	Heard	36	Burst		HMG	24-Mar, 10:10-10:28
N edge of Trokhizbenka (government-controlled, 32km NW of Luhansk)	7-10km W	Heard	16	Explosion	Impact	Artillery (type N/K)	24-Mar, 12:24-12:50
Saryi Aidar (government-controlled, 20km NW of Luhansk)	8-12km SW	Heard	238	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	24-Mar, 12:40-13:00

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).