

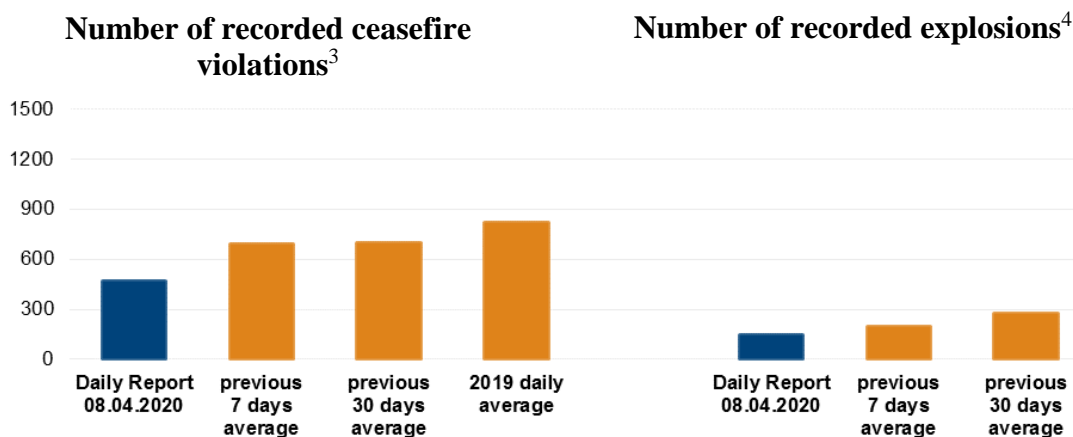
Daily Report 83/2020

8 April 2020¹

Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and more in Luhansk region.
- Members of the armed formations continued to deny the SMM passage towards non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk region at a checkpoint near Olenivka.*
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It continued to observe anti-tank mines inside the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- The SMM monitored and facilitated adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to and maintenance and construction of civilian infrastructure on both sides of the contact line, as well as to enable demining activities in Krasnyi Yar, Luhansk region.
- The Mission again saw that two entry-exit checkpoints and their corresponding checkpoints in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions remained closed amid the COVID-19 outbreak.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 7 April 2020. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM cameras at the Oktiabr mine and the SMM camera in Zolote-3/Stakhanovets were not operational.

³ Including explosions.

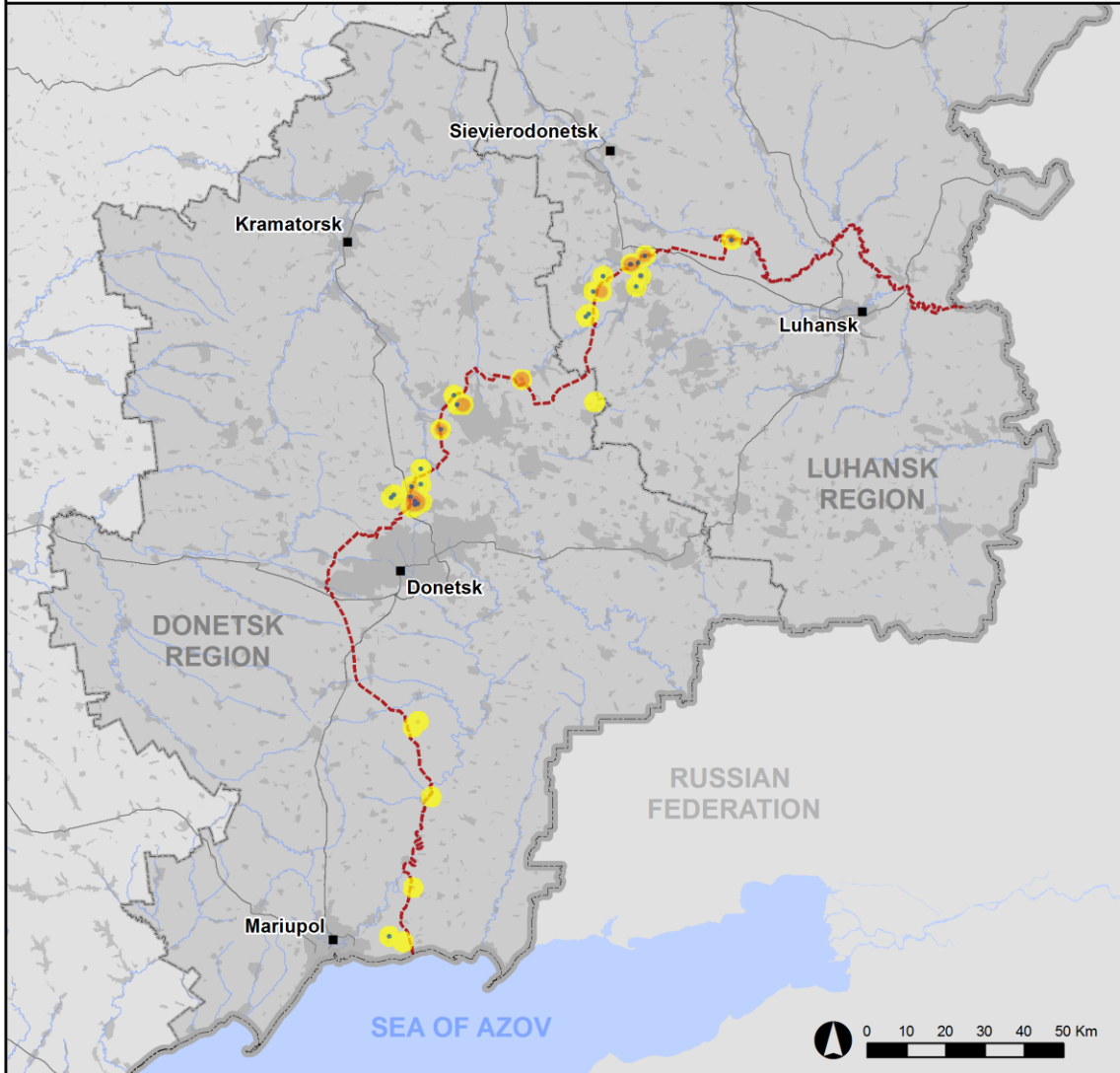
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

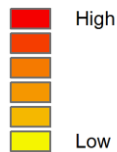


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 7 April 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: 08/04/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including, however, a similar number of explosions (about 65), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 60 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations, including about half of the explosions, were recorded within a 5km radius around the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) and at south-westerly directions of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded a five-fold increase in the number of ceasefire violations, including about 80 explosions, compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 30 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations were recorded in areas north-east, south-east and south-west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below).

Members of the armed formations continued to deny SMM passage at checkpoints along the contact line in Donetsk region

Members of the armed formations continued to deny the Mission passage at checkpoints along official crossing routes in Donetsk region. These restrictions constitute an impediment to the implementation of the Mission's mandate.⁵

At a checkpoint near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards non-government-controlled areas, citing "orders from superiors" related to COVID-19.*

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁶

On 7 April, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), while positioned about 150m north-west of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw a non-SMM unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) flying from north to south above its position.

On the same day, while positioned at six locations around the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the SMM heard about 45 undetermined explosions and 60 bursts of small-arms and heavy-machine-gun fire, all assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

The same day, inside the disengagement area, about 350m north of its southern edge, the SMM [again](#) saw five wooden logs lying across road T-1316, as well as two concrete blocks with a sign (with "Quarantine" written in Cyrillic on it) atop one of them on the edge of the road. Throughout the day, the SMM saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) near the southern edge of the disengagement area.

Outside of the reporting period, on 22 March, an SMM mid-range UAV again spotted 100 anti-tank mines inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-

⁵ The Mission began facing repeated denials when attempting to cross into non-government-controlled areas at checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk region on 21 March and Luhansk region on 23 March. For more information, see SMM Daily and Spot Reports.

⁶ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), about 150m south of its northern edge (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 18 December 2019](#)).⁷ Outside the disengagement area, the UAV also again spotted 15 anti-tank mines about 500m north of the disengagement area's northern edge and four mine signs lying on the ground, about 40m north of a road between Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) and Viktorivka (non-government-controlled, 42km south-west of Donetsk). All mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. (For previous observation in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 21 March 2020](#).)

On 4 April, inside the disengagement area near Petrivske, on its northern edge, an SMM mini-UAV again spotted about 140 anti-tank mines running south for about 350m. Outside the disengagement area, the UAV again spotted about 125 anti-tank mines (TM-62M) laid in a field near the aforementioned road between Bohdanivka and Viktorivka. All mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. (For previous observations in the area, see above and [SMM Daily Report 27 March 2020](#).)

On 4 April, outside the disengagement area, an SMM mini-UAV again spotted about 80 anti-tank mines (TM-62M) starting about 30m west of the area's western edge and extending north for about 150m. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 6 March 2020](#).)

On the evening of 6 April, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka recorded a projectile in flight at an assessed range of 3.5-4km east-south-east, assessed as inside the disengagement area.

On 7 April, while positioned 2km north of Petrivske, the SMM heard seven shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 1-2km south-south-east, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

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.

Indications of military and military-type presence inside the security zone⁸

The SMM observed military and military-type presence in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including in residential areas (for further details, see the table below).

On 7 April, while positioned in Krasnyi Yar (non-government-controlled, 12km north-east of Luhansk) to monitor adherence to localized ceasefires to enable demining activities, the SMM observed a grey non-SMM UAV flying over its position on two occasions.

⁷ Imagery was available only after the Mission retrieved an SMM mid-range UAV on 29 March 2020, which had experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, and had crashed in or near the disengagement area near Petrivske on 22 March 2020. (For details, please see [SMM Daily Report 23 March 2020](#)).

⁸ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Presence of mines near non-government-controlled Styla

On 22 March, an SMM mid-range UAV [again](#) spotted seven anti-tank mines in a field about 4km south-west of Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the armed formations.⁹

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

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable vegetation clearance, inspection and maintenance of railway tracks near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk), repairs to water infrastructure in Krasnyi Lyman (non-government-controlled, 30km north-west of Luhansk) and in Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), and water wells in Raivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north-west of Luhansk); the construction of a power line near the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) close to Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) and demining activities in Krasnyi Yar.

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. On the evening of 6 April, the SMM camera at the DFS recorded 16 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 0.5-1km south. On the following day, while positioned at three locations near the DFS, the SMM heard and saw ceasefire violations including four impacts of undetermined weapons and about 125 bursts and shots of heavy-machine-gun and small-arms fire. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

Measures at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints to counter COVID-19 outbreak

In Donetsk region, the SMM saw that the EECP near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk) and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka remained closed.*

In Luhansk region, the SMM saw that the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge remained closed.

Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) for about an hour, the SMM saw 14 covered cargo trucks (six with Russian Federation licence plates and eight with “DPR” plates) and nine pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) entering Ukraine, and five pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) exiting Ukraine.

While at the border crossing point near Marynivka (78km east of Donetsk) for about 15 minutes, the SMM observed no traffic entering Ukraine and a covered cargo truck (with “DPR” plates) exiting Ukraine.

⁹ Imagery was available only after the Mission retrieved an SMM mid-range UAV on 29 March 2020, which had experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, and had crashed in or near the disengagement area near Petrivske on 22 March 2020. (For details, please see [SMM Daily Report 23 March 2020](#)).

While at a border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk) for about 20 minutes, the SMM [again](#) saw that the border crossing point continued to be closed.

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 and 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 28 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 near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards non-government-controlled areas, citing “orders from superiors”.

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 GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Vodiane (government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk).¹⁰

¹⁰ The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Table of weapons

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone¹¹

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
22/03/2020	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	Near Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
03/04/2020	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Pavlopil (84km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Chermalyk (77km south of Donetsk)	
07/04/2020	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	In a residential area of Avdiivka (17km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR variant)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk)	

¹¹ 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 April 2020¹²

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	3.5-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE (assessed as inside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	6-Apr, 22:03
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	0.5-1km S	Recorded	2	Projectile	E to W	N/K	6-Apr, 21:23
	0.5-1km S	Recorded	6	Projectile	E to W	N/K	6-Apr, 21:24
	0.5-1km S	Recorded	7	Projectile	ENE to WSW	N/K	6-Apr, 21:31
	0.5-1km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	ENE to WSW	N/K	6-Apr, 21:32
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	5	Projectile	N to S	N/K	6-Apr, 23:29
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	6-Apr, 23:59
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	7-Apr, 01:41
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	1-3km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	6-Apr, 20:27
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	6-Apr, 20:32
SMM camera in Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km WSW	Recorded	25	Muzzle flash		N/K	7-Apr, 00:33
	2-4km WSW	Recorded	12	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	7-Apr, 00:33
	2-4km WSW	Recorded	31	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	7-Apr, 00:34
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km NW	Heard	5	Burst		Small arms	7-Apr, 09:25
	1-2km NW	Heard	14	Burst		Small arms	7-Apr, 09:40-09:43
	5km NNW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 09:40-09:43
	1km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Impact	N/K	7-Apr, 13:57
	1km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Impact	N/K	7-Apr, 13:57-14:01
	1-2km N	Heard	12	Burst			7-Apr, 14:56
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-	2-3km NW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 10:08
	2-3km NW	Heard	5	Burst		Small arms	7-Apr, 10:28

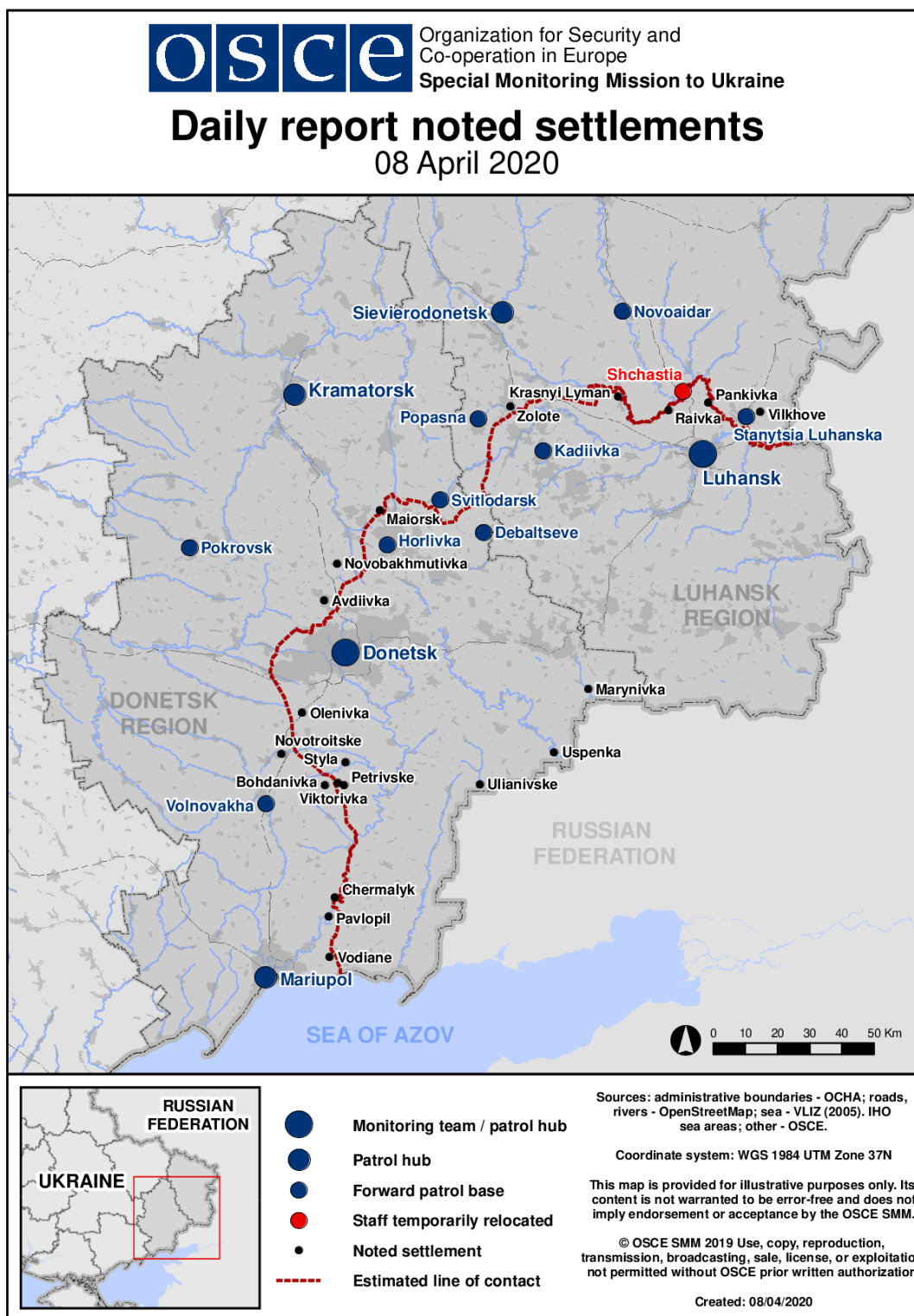
¹² The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments 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.

government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km NW	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	7-Apr, 10:29
	1-2km N	Heard	2	Shot		Small arms	7-Apr, 10:42
	1-2km NW	Heard	27	Burst		Small arms	7-Apr, 11:31-11:32
	1-2km NW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 12:13
	3-5km NW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 12:18-12:20
	2-3km W	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	7-Apr, 12:18
	2-4km NW	Heard	17	Burst		HMG	7-Apr, 13:11-13:18
	2-4km NW	Heard	12	Burst		HMG	7-Apr, 13:19
	2-4km NW	Heard	19	Shot		HMG	7-Apr, 13:26-13:40
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1-2km SSE	Heard	7	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	7-Apr, 09:38
Novohryhorivka (non-government-controlled, 61km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km NE	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	7-Apr, 11:59
Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	2-3km NNE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 11:13
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	2km ESE	Heard	11	Burst		HMG	7-Apr, 10:29
	5km SW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 12:17-12:21
	3-5km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 13:04
	3-5km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 14:01
	3-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 14:04
	5-6km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 14:17
Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 14:12
Horlivka non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	6-8km W	Heard	28	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	6-Apr, 23:10-23:22
About 6km N of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 14:13
	3-4km W	Heard	10	Burst		Small arms	7-Apr, 15:32
	5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 15:31
	5km W	Heard and saw	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 15:52
	3-4km W	Heard	30	Burst		Small arms	7-Apr, 15:54
SMM camera in Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	3-5km S	Recorded	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 04:24
	3-5km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	7-Apr, 04:24
	3-5km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	7-Apr, 04:27
	3-5km S	Recorded	3	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	7-Apr, 04:29
	3-5km S	Recorded	4	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	7-Apr, 04:30

N edge of disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	5-8km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 09:16-09:18
About 2km E of Zolote-3/Stakhanovets (government-controlled, 61km W of Luhansk)	5-10km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 09:50
	5-10km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 12:05
	5-10km ESE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 12:24
	5-10km ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 12:25
	5-10km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 12:53
SW edge Berezivske (non-government-controlled, 53km NW of Luhansk)	4-5km N	Heard	2	Burst		HMG	7-Apr, 10:29-11:10
	4-5km N	Heard	24	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 10:29-11:10
	3-4km NW	Heard	18	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 12:04-12:15
	3-4km NW	Heard	30	Burst	Assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	HMG	7-Apr, 12:04-12:15
Holubivske (non-government-controlled, 51km W of Luhansk)	4-5km W	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 12:03-12:09
N edge of Kalynove-Borshchuvate (non-government-controlled, 61km W of Luhansk)	4-5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 13:02-13:25
	2-3km W	Heard	30	Burst	Assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	Small Arms	7-Apr, 13:02-13:25
	8-10km SW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 13:02-13:25
	8-10km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Apr, 13:38-13:55
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled,	5-7km E	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area)	N/K	7-Apr, 14:00-14:20

69km W of Luhansk)							
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Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹³



¹³The 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).