

Daily Report 92/2020

18 April 2020¹

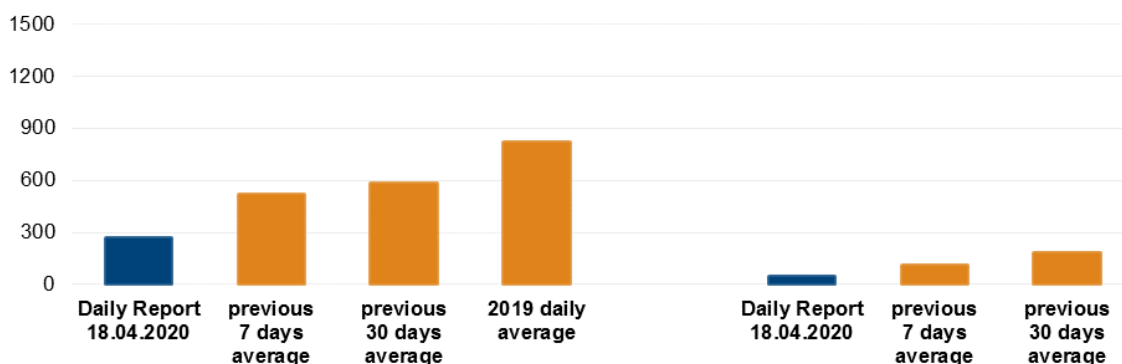
Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- Members of the armed formations continued to deny the SMM passage towards government-controlled areas at a checkpoint south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge, Luhansk region as well as towards non-government-controlled areas at a checkpoint near Olenivka, Donetsk region.*
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, and Zolote. It recorded ceasefire violations inside the Petrivske disengagement area.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 outbreak, including at entry-exit checkpoints and checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission monitored and facilitated adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to critical civilian infrastructure on both sides of the contact line, as well as demining activities, including at cemeteries in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted in non-government-controlled areas of both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



Map of recorded ceasefire violations

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 17 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 were not operational.

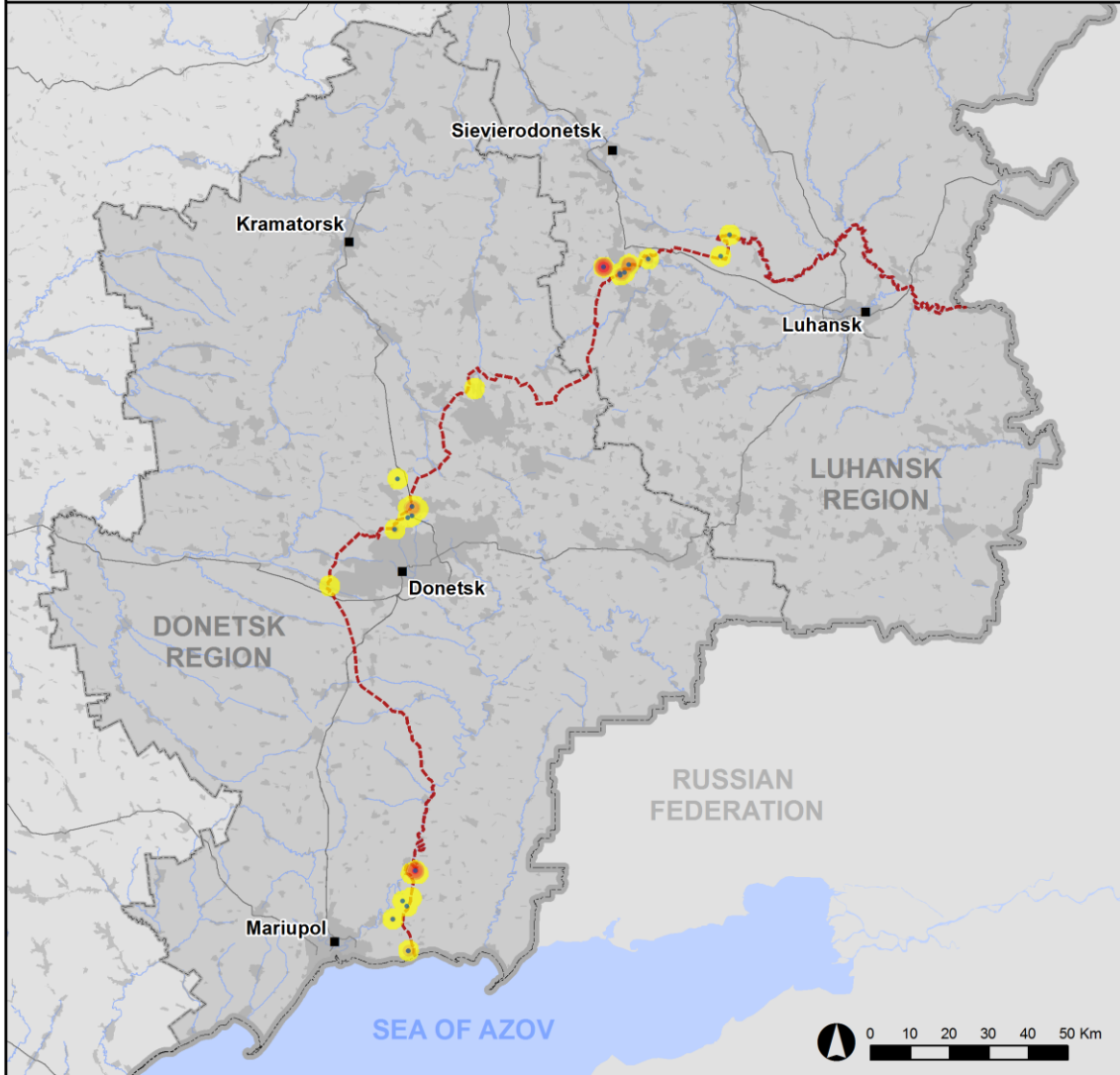
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

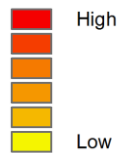


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 17 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: 18/04/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded fewer ceasefire violations, however, the same number of explosions (24), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (24 explosions).⁵ About 75 per cent of the ceasefire violations, including 12 explosions, were recorded in areas north, south and west of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) and at northerly directions of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded fewer ceasefire violations, however, more explosions (24), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (eight explosions). Almost all ceasefire violations, including almost all explosions, were recorded in areas east of 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 and Luhansk regions

Members of the armed formations continued to deny the Mission passage at checkpoints in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions along official crossing routes. These restrictions constitute an impediment to the implementation of the Mission's mandate.⁶

At a checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage towards government-controlled areas, referring to the closure of the checkpoint due to COVID-19 (see [SMM Spot Report 14/2020](#)).*

At a checkpoint near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage into non-government-controlled areas, referring to quarantine restrictions due to COVID-19 (see [SMM Spot Report 14/2020](#)).*

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁷

On 17 April, while positioned inside **the disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw a car (a SUV type) and a truck bearing the logo of an international humanitarian organization arrive from government-controlled areas at the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge and its volunteers unload big white boxes near the new span of the bridge. The Mission then saw a group of volunteers of the same organization come from non-government-controlled areas and move the boxes back to the non-government-controlled areas south of the bridge. A representative of the said organization told the Mission that about two tonnes of humanitarian aid consisting of medication, medical masks, and equipment for disinfection had been transferred to non-government-controlled areas. Throughout the day, the SMM saw eight members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) between the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge and their checkpoint south of it.

⁵ In the [SMM Daily Report of 17 April 2020](#), the number of explosions recorded in Donetsk region should have been 24 instead of 25.

⁶ 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.

⁷ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

On the evening of 16 April, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded 20 undetermined explosions, five projectiles in flight and a muzzle flash, all at an assessed range of 3-6km east and assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery. On 17 April, the SMM saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) near the southern edge of the disengagement area.

On the evening of 16 April, the SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) recorded four projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1-2km south-south-west and assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**. During the same evening, the SMM camera in Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded 19 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 5-7km east-south-east and assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 17 April, while positioned about 2km north of Petrivske, the SMM heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 2-3km south-west and assessed as inside the disengagement area. While positioned about 700m north-east of Petrivske, the Mission heard seven shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 1-2km south, which it was unable to assess as inside or outside the disengagement area.

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 saw two tanks in violation of withdrawal lines in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region (for further details, see the table below).

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

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles in the security zone in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including within residential areas (for further details, see the table below).

Presence of mines near Shchastia and Styla and mine hazard signs near Toretsk

On 16 April, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [again](#) spotted 33 anti-tank mines (TM-62) laid across road H-21 about 150m south-east of the bridge in Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On 17 April, in a field about 25m from the eastern side of road C-051532 between non-government-controlled Styla (34km south of Donetsk) and Petrivske, the SMM saw for the first time an anti-vehicle mine (TM-83).

During the same day, on both sides of a local road, about 4km south of Toretsk (formerly Dzerzhynsk, government-controlled, 43km north of Donetsk) and leading to Novhorodske (government-controlled, 35km north of Donetsk), the Mission saw for the first time two mine hazard signs (a white skull and “Mines” written in Cyrillic).

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

Situation of civilians and measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and checkpoints of the armed formations to counter COVID-19 outbreak

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted 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.

In Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km west of Luhansk), a woman in her forties told the SMM that she was a resident of Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled 61km north-west of Luhansk) and was unable to visit her husband in Irmino (non-government-controlled, 54km west of Luhansk) due to inability to obtain a permission to travel through a [recently established](#) checkpoint on the eastern edge of Pervomaisk.

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

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 pipelines at and maintenance of phenol sludge reservoir near government-controlled Zalizne (formerly Artemove, 42km north-east of Donetsk); repairs to water infrastructure near non-government-controlled Pankivka (16km north of Luhansk), near Raivka (16km north-west of Luhansk), near Krasnyi Lyman (30km north-west of Luhansk) and in Zolote-5/Mykhailivka; construction of a power line close to the EECP near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk); and demining activities in Krasnyi Yar (non-government-controlled, 12km north-east of Luhansk).

The Mission also monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable demining activities at two cemeteries in government-controlled Chermalyk (77km south of Donetsk) and Hranitne (60km south of Donetsk).

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. On 17 April, while positioned in three locations near the station, and despite security guarantees having been provided for a localized ceasefire, the SMM heard six undetermined explosions as well as bursts and shots of small-arms fire, all assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

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 of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations again denied the SMM passage towards government-controlled areas, citing the closure of the checkpoint due to COVID-19 (see [SMM Spot Report 14/2020](#)).
- At a checkpoint of the armed formations near the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations [again](#) told the SMM that if it travelled towards government-controlled areas SMM members would be subject to a ten-day quarantine when returning to non-government-controlled areas. The Mission did not travel towards government-controlled areas.
- Near a position of the armed formations on road T-0504 close to Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km west of Luhansk), an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) told the SMM that if it travelled towards government-controlled areas SMM members would be subject to a ten-day quarantine when returning to non-government-controlled areas. The Mission did not travel towards government-controlled areas.
- At a checkpoint near of Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage, citing quarantine restrictions due to COVID-19.

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.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
17/04/2020	2	Tank (T-64)	North of Kapit anove (49km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
15/04/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle	In a residential area of Avdiivka (17km north of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Probable armoured combat vehicle		
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)		
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Avdiivka	
	1	Probable armoured combat vehicle		
16/04/2020	2	Armoured combat vehicle	In and near Shchastia (20km north of Luhansk)	
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMD variant)		
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	In a residential area of Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
17/04/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	Near Hnutove (90km south of Donetsk)	Patrol

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 17 April 2020¹⁰

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	8	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Apr, 20:10
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	10	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	16-Apr, 22:58
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	17-Apr, 01:25
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	5-7km ESE	Recorded	3	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:06
	5-7km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S (assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:33
	5-7km ESE	Recorded	15	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the Petrivske disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 23:10
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Apr, 23:48
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 00:21
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	1-3km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	16-Apr, 22:51
	0.8-1.1km S	Recorded	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Apr, 23:15
	0.9-1.1km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	16-Apr, 23:15
	1-3km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	17-Apr, 00:30
	1-3km S	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	17-Apr, 00:45
	0.8-1.5km S	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S	N/K	17-Apr, 00:53
	0.8-1.1km S	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	17-Apr, 03:41
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	17-Apr, 01:01
SMM camera in Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km W of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	5	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	16-Apr, 20:31
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Apr, 20:55
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Apr, 21:08
SMM camera in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1-2km SSW	Recorded	2	Projectile	ESE to WNW (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 23:09
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	2	Projectile	ESE to WNW (assessed as inside the	N/K	16-Apr, 23:48

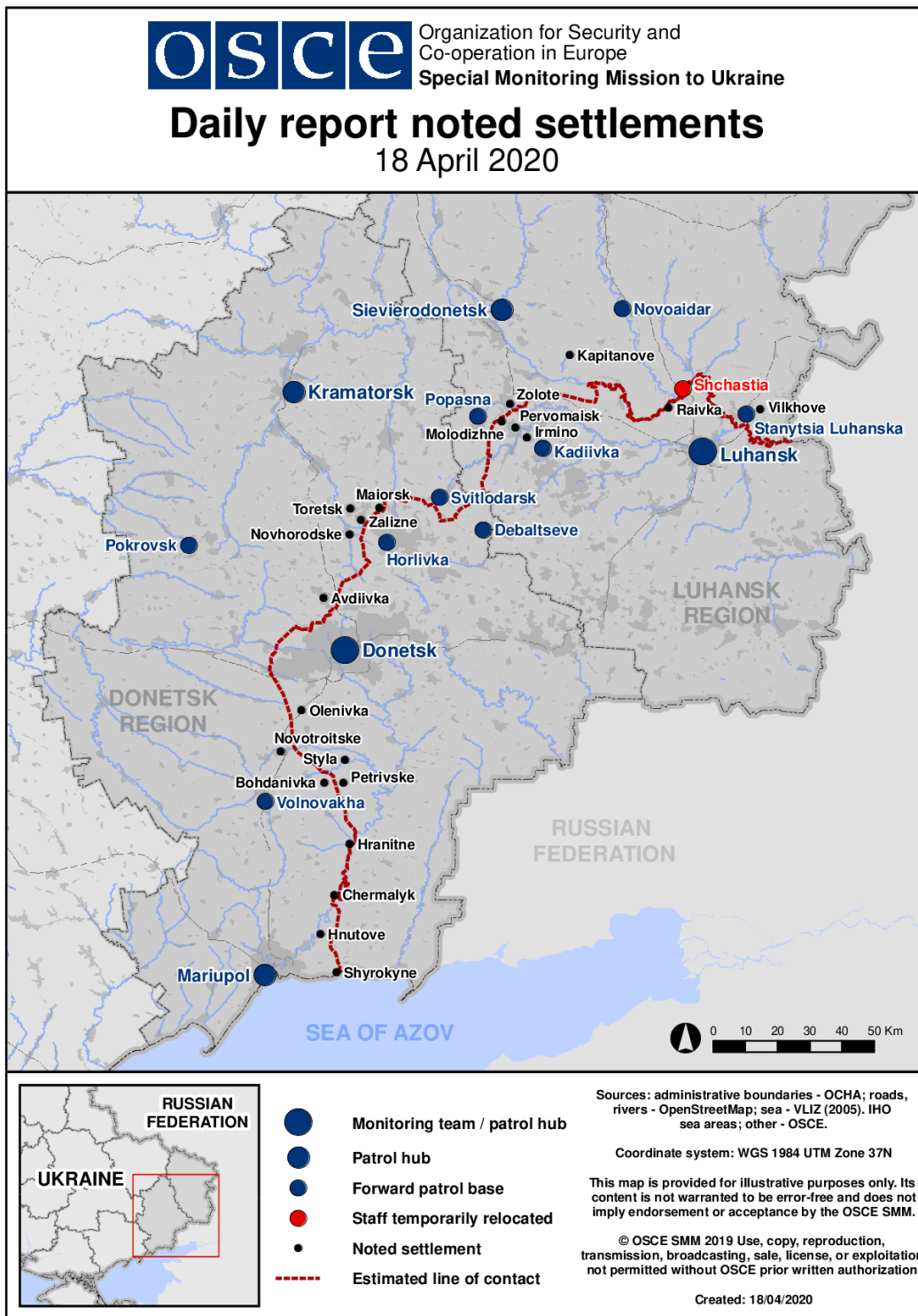
¹⁰ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments 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.

					disengagement area)		
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	5-7km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	E to W	N/K	16-Apr, 20:17
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	16-Apr, 20:25
	5-7km N	Recorded	5	Projectile	E to W	N/K	16-Apr, 20:25
	5-7km N	Recorded	16	Projectile	E to W	N/K	16-Apr, 20:28
	5-7km N	Recorded	6	Projectile	W to E	N/K	16-Apr, 20:29
	5-7km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	E to W	N/K	16-Apr, 20:31
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	16-Apr, 20:33
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Apr, 20:34
	5-7km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	W to E	N/K	16-Apr, 20:34
	5-7km N	Recorded	6	Projectile	E to W	N/K	16-Apr, 20:37
	5-7km N	Recorded	12	Projectile	E to W	N/K	16-Apr, 20:56
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Apr, 21:46
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	4	Projectile	E to W	N/K	17-Apr, 00:13
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	8	Projectile	E to W	N/K	17-Apr, 02:15
About 1km N of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 08:51-09:01
	2-3km SW	Heard	20	Shot		HMG	17-Apr, 09:26-09:27
	2-3km S	Heard	1	Shot		HMG	17-Apr, 09:37
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 14:44
	2km W	Heard	14	Burst		HMG	17-Apr, 11:47-11:48
	2km W	Heard	1	Shot		HMG	17-Apr, 11:47-11:48
	2km W	Heard	26	Burst		HMG	17-Apr, 12:52-12:55
	2km W	Heard	6	Shot		HMG	17-Apr, 12:52-12:55
Oleksandrivka (non-government-controlled, 20km SW of Donetsk)	2km W	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	17-Apr, 13:24
	1-2km WNW	Heard	10	Burst		Small arms	17-Apr, 11:56
About 700m NW of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1-2km NW	Heard	5	Burst		Small arms	17-Apr, 12:21
	1-2km S	Heard	7	Shot	Unable to be assessed as inside or outside the disengagement area	Small arms	17-Apr, 10:48
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	17-Apr, 14:02
About 4.5km NW of Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km WSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 10:58
	3-4km WSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 11:26
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	4-5km SSW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 08:52-09:01
Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	5-8km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 10:57
	6-8km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 11:26
	6-8km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 12:47
SMM camera in Zolote	3-5km E	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as	N/K	16-Apr, 21:12

(government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)					outside the disengagement area)		
	3-5km E	Recorded	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:13
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:13
	3-5km E	Recorded	3	Explosion	Airburst (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:13
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:14
	3-5km E	Recorded	4	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:14
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:15
	3-5km E	Recorded	6	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:15
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 21:16
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	N/K	16-Apr, 21:26
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 22:49
	4-6km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 23:10
	4-6km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	16-Apr, 23:14
Berezivske (non-government-controlled, 53km NW of Luhansk)	3-5km NE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 13:45-14:00

NE edge of Holubivka (formerly Kirovsk, non-government-controlled, 51km W of Luhansk)	8-10km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 13:48
NE edge of Raivka (non-government-controlled, 16km NW of Luhansk)	2km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Apr, 14:33

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹¹



¹¹The 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).