

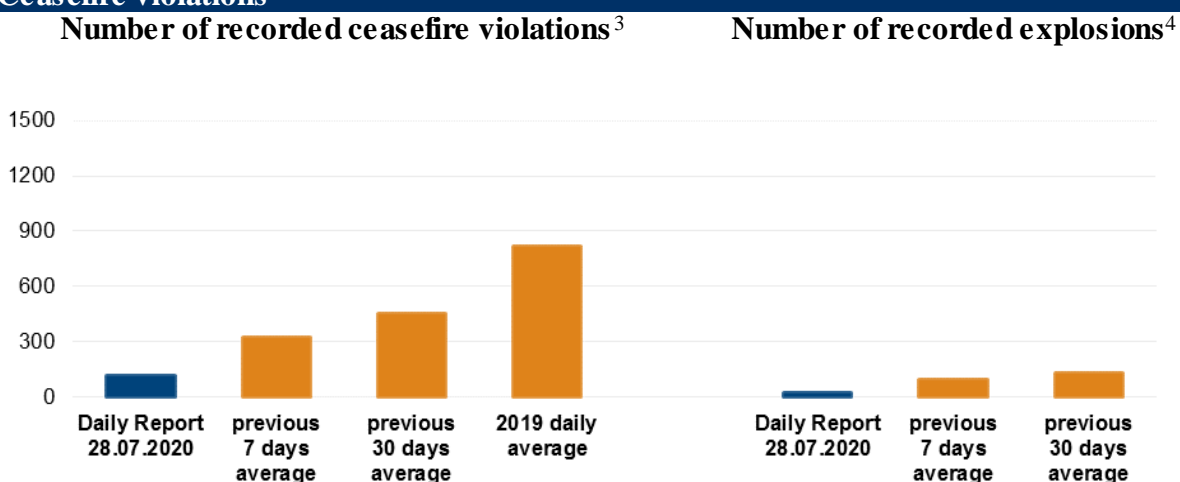
# Daily Report 178/2020

28 July 2020<sup>1</sup>

## Summary

- Following the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July, which reached agreement regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire as of 00:01 on 27 July, the SMM recorded 111 ceasefire violations, all in Donetsk region, including 21 explosions.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. An SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle spotted people inside the latter two disengagement areas during evening and night hours.
- The SMM saw 22 weapons in violation of withdrawal lines, of which all but one were seen at the airfield in non-government-controlled Peremozhne, Luhansk region.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and maintenance of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 outbreak, including at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.\*

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



<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 27 July 2020. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

<sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM cameras in Petrivske, near Shyrokyne and at the Oktiabr mine were not operational.

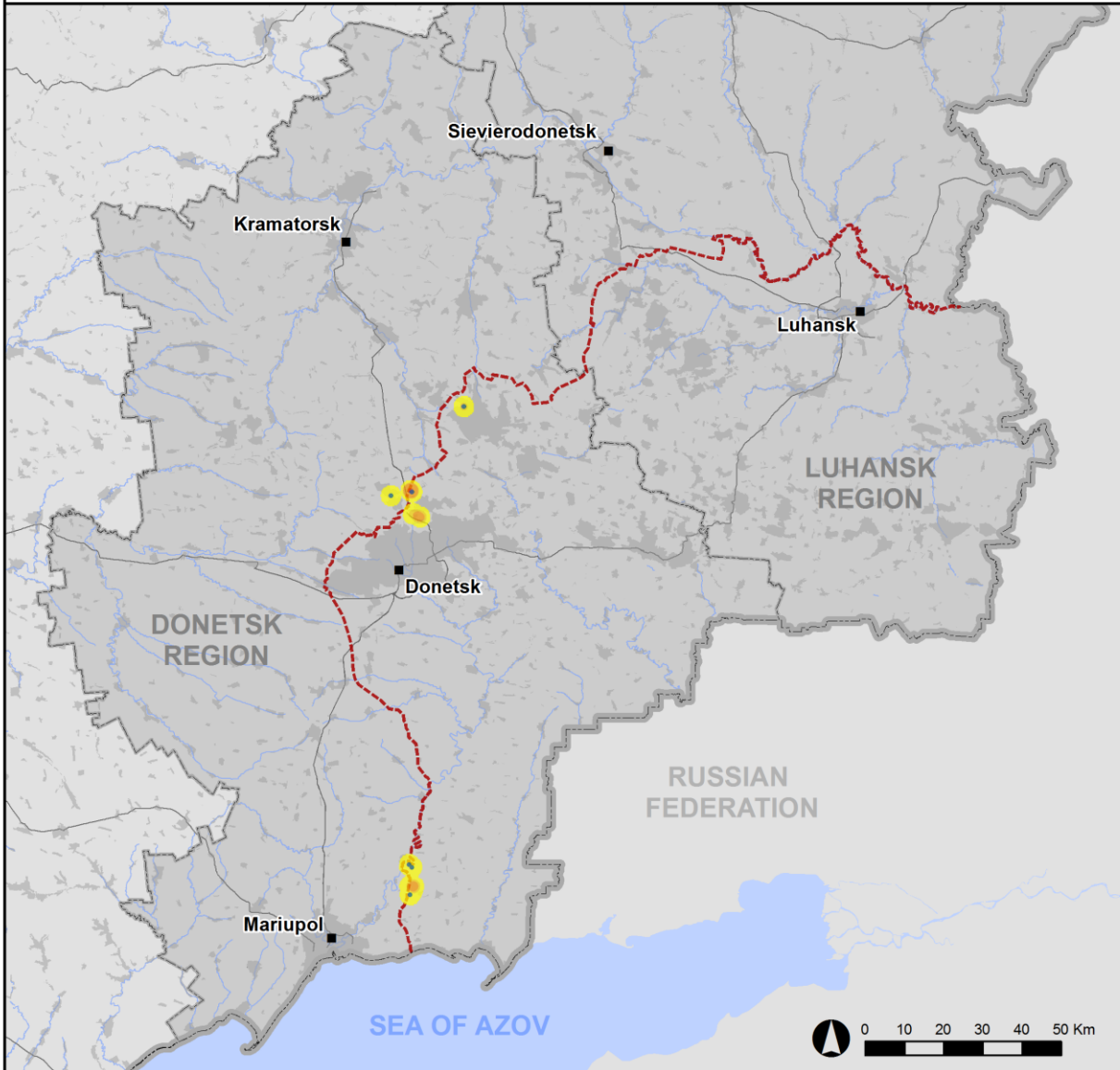
<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

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

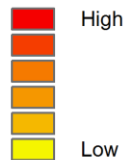


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 27 July 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: 28/07/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations (141, of which 30 were recorded on 26 July), including more explosions (25, of which four were recorded on 26 July), compared with the [previous 24 hours](#) (116 ceasefire violations, including 18 explosions) (see also below). The majority of ceasefire violations, including the majority of explosions, were recorded at south-easterly and south-westerly directions of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk), all of which occurred within a 5km radius of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. During the [previous 24 hours](#), it recorded ceasefire violations, including 23 explosions.

Starting at 00:01 on 27 July, following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, the SMM recorded 111 ceasefire violations, all in Donetsk region (including 21 explosions and 90 bursts and shots of small-arms-fire). All these ceasefire violations were recorded between 09:45 and 11:35 on 27 July.

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

On 27 July, inside the disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw two 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 24 July, aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed a 12m-long extension to an existing trench about 150m west of the western edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (not visible in imagery from 5 July 2020).

On the evening of 25 July, inside the disengagement area, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted two people within former positions of the armed formations on the eastern edge of the disengagement area. In the same area, the UAV spotted for the first time a 5m-long trench assessed as belonging to the armed formations (not visible in imagery from 23 July 2020). The UAV also spotted three people within former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 500m south-west of the area’s north-eastern corner, as well as a person walking along a footpath towards a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 550m south of the area’s northern edge and about 300m east of road T-1316.

On the evening of 26 July, inside the disengagement area, an SMM long-range UAV spotted two people inside former positions of the armed formations about 1.5km north of its south-eastern corner, as well as two people inside former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 1.4km south-east of its north-western corner.

Throughout the day on 27 July, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), two of whom were walking along road T-1316 inside the area up to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

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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.

On 23 July, outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), about 150m south of its southern edge, aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed a 23m-long westward extension and an 80m-long eastward extension to an existing trench assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (not visible in imagery from 5 July 2020).

On the night of 26-27 July, inside the disengagement area, an SMM long-range UAV spotted a person inside a former position of the armed formations about 400m north-west of its south-eastern corner.

On 27 July, on two separate occasions, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over the disengagement area near Petrivske.\*

### **Withdrawal of weapons**

The SMM continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in the implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum. It saw 22 weapons in violation of respective withdrawal lines: one in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and the remainder at the airfield in Peremozhne (non-government-controlled, 19km south of Luhansk).<sup>6</sup> It also observed 22 weapons beyond respective withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites at the same airfield (for further details, see the tables below).

### **Indications of military and military-type presence inside the security zone<sup>7</sup>**

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles in the security zone on both sides of the contact line in Donetsk region, including in residential areas, and in government-controlled Luhansk region (for further details, see the table below).

On 16 July, in fields about 3km south-east and 2.5km south-west of Novotoshkovske (government-controlled, 53km west of Luhansk), an SMM mid-range UAV spotted for the first time a 100m-long and a 20-m long extension, running north to south and south-west and north-east, respectively (not visible in imagery from 25 February and 6 June 2020) to existing trenches, assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (for observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 25 July 2020](#)).

On 16 July, in a forested area about 2km south-east of Berezivske (non-government-controlled, 53km north-west of Luhansk), an SMM mid-range UAV spotted for the first time a 280m-long extension running north to south (not visible in imagery from 6 June 2020) to an existing trench, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. This trench extension brings the positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and those of the armed formations to an assessed distance of 400m apart from each other (from a previous assessed distance of 600m).

On the evening of 25 July, on the eastern edge of Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km west of Luhansk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted a burning house, assessed as used by Ukrainian Armed Forces, and another fire about 100m north-west of it. On the western edge of Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 61km west of Luhansk), about

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<sup>6</sup> Formerly Luhansk International Airport.

<sup>7</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

1km south of the aforementioned house, the same UAV spotted vegetation burning in a residential area near military-type positions of the armed formations.

Outside the security zone, an SMM long-range UAV [again](#) spotted a military-type cargo airplane (AN-24T) on the apron of the abovementioned airfield in Peremohzhe. On 27 July, the SMM saw that the airplane was missing internal technical components, including the engine.

### **Presence of mines near Orikhove**

On 16 July, an SMM mid-range UAV again spotted about 20 anti-tank mines in fields about 2.5km south of Orikhove (government-controlled, 57km north-west of Luhansk), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 22 March 2019](#)).

### **SMM facilitation of repairs to and maintenance of critical civilian infrastructure**

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable the assessment and maintenance of gas lines near government-controlled Zalizne (formerly Artemove, 42km north-east of Donetsk) and Nelipivka (40km north-east of Donetsk), and repairs to damaged power and gas lines in government-controlled Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk) and Troitske (69km west of Luhansk).

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to water infrastructure near non-government-controlled Pankivka (16km north of Luhansk) and Yashchukove (46km west of Luhansk), as well as to water infrastructure connected to the Siverskyi Donets-Donbas channel near Shumy (government-controlled, 41km, north of Donetsk).

It also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable vegetation clearance, inspection and maintenance of railway tracks near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk) and demining in areas near government-controlled Novotoshkivske, Orikhove, Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk), including to support access to agricultural land in Heivka.

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS and to monitor the security situation around the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk). While positioned at two locations near the DFS, the SMM heard 12 undetermined explosions and shots and bursts of small-arms fire, all of which were assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS (see the table below).

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

In Donetsk region, the SMM saw that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk) was operational. Between about 14:45 and 15:00, the Mission saw four cars queuing to travel towards non-government controlled areas. While at the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) between about 09:00 and 12:45 and between about 14:30 to 16:00, the SMM saw five cars, three buses and 50 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas. The Mission



observed about 120 passengers (mixed genders and ages) getting off three buses and having their luggage checked by members of the armed formations while queuing to travel towards non-government-controlled areas. Subsequently, the Mission saw all passengers getting back on the same buses and being escorted towards non-government-controlled areas by members of the armed formations in a vehicle.

In Luhansk region, on 27 July, the SMM noted that the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska was operational. While at the EECP at about 08:45 at 13:00 and at about 15:15, the Mission saw about 300, 150 and 80 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages), respectively, queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas, as well as 65 people queuing to travel in the opposite direction.

The Mission saw that a golf cart was transporting people between the EECP and the new section of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

While at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge between about 09:50 and 14:00, the SMM saw about 130 people queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and 140 people queuing in the opposite direction.

### **Peaceful gatherings in Kyiv and Kharkiv**

The SMM monitored two peaceful gatherings – one in front of the regional administration building in Kharkiv (about 300 people, mixed genders and ages) and the second one in Kyiv which started in front of the Office of the President of Ukraine and continued in front of the residence of the President of Ukraine (about 5,000 people, mixed genders and ages). During both gatherings, the Mission heard participants expressing messages critical of the outcomes of the recent meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group and of the government's approach towards certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

The Mission continued monitoring in Dnipro, Odessa, Kherson, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi.

### **\*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 14 July 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.*

*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 the evening and night of 25-26 July, an SMM long-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas between Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk) and Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km west of Donetsk), between government-controlled Dacha (53km north of Donetsk) and Troitske (69km west of Luhansk), and between non-government-controlled Novoukrainske (77km east of Donetsk) and Samsonove (83km south of Donetsk).<sup>8</sup>
- On 26 July, an SMM long-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near government-controlled Klishchiivka (60km north of Donetsk) and Popasna (69km west of Luhansk).
- On 27 July, on three separate occasions, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km south of Donetsk).
- On the same day, on two separate occasions, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk).

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<sup>8</sup> The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of several kilometres of the UAVs' position.

## Table of weapons

### Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
25/07/2020	1	Probable mortar (type undetermined)	Near Nevelske (18km north-west of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
25/07/2020	5	Towed howitzer (four D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm and one 2A65 <i>Msta-B</i> , 152mm)	On the apron and runway of the airfield in Peremozhne (19km south of Luhansk) (for previous observations, see <a href="#">SMM Daily Report 27 July 2020</a> )	Mini-UAV
	1	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)		
	2	Self-propelled howitzer (one 2S3 <i>Akatsiya</i> , 152mm and one 2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		
	2	Anti-tank gun (one BS-3, 100mm and one MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		
26/07/2020	2	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)		Long-range UAV
	6	Towed howitzer (four D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm, one 2A65 <i>Msta-B</i> , 152mm and one D-20, 152mm)		
	2	Self-propelled howitzer (one 2S3 <i>Akatsiya</i> , 152mm and one 2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		
	1	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
26/07/2020	1	Probable tank (type undetermined)	Near Oleksandropil (43km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
25/07/2020	6	Towed mortar (three 2S12, 120mm and three 2B9 <i>Vasilek</i> , 82mm)	On the apron and runway of the airfield in Peremozhne (19km south of Luhansk) (for previous observations, see <a href="#">SMM Daily Report 27 July 2020</a> )	Mini-UAV
	2	Surface-to-air missile system (one 9K33 <i>Osa</i> and one <i>Strela-10</i> )		
	2	Tank (one T-64 and one T-72)		
	1	Mortar (2B14 <i>Podnos</i> , 82mm)		
26/07/2020	4	Towed mortar (2B9 <i>Vasilek</i> , 82mm)		Long-range UAV
	2	Mortar (one 2B11 <i>Sani</i> , 120mm and one 2B14 <i>Podnos</i> , 82mm)		
	2	Surface-to-air missile system (one 9K33 <i>Osa</i> and one <i>Strela-10</i> )		
	2	Tank (one T-64 and one T-72)		



**Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>9</sup>**

<b>Date</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Source of observation</b>
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
23/07/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	Aerial imagery
25/07/2020	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (type undetermined)	Near Starohnativka (51kmsouth of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	1	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Novomykhailivka (28km south-west of Donetsk)	
	2	Probable armoured utility vehicle (type undetermined)	In residential area of Umanske (25km north-west of Donetsk)	
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-type)	Near Troitske (69km west of Luhansk)	
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-type)	Near Verkhnotoretske (23km north-east of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
26/07/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Lomakyne (93km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
	5	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-type)	Near Zaitseve (62km north-east of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	2	Infantry fighting vehicles (BMP-1)	Near Taramchuk (29km south-west of Donetsk)	
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
25/07/2020	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP type)	In a residential area of Sosnivske (78km south of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV

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<sup>9</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 27 July 2020<sup>10</sup>**

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date and time
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	26-Jul, 23:47
	1-3km SE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jul, 23:49
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	26-Jul, 22:15
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	4-5km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jul, 23:46
	2-3km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	26-Jul, 21:32
	3-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	26-Jul, 21:52
	3-4km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	26-Jul, 21:53
	3-4km E	Recorded	21	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	26-Jul, 21:54
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	9	Shot		Small arms	27-Jul, 11:07-11:35
	2-3km S	Heard	16	Shot		Small arms	27-Jul, 11:07-11:35
	2-3km S	Heard	5	Burst		Small arms	27-Jul, 11:07-11:35
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	4-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:13
	4-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:15
	3km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:21
	3km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:28
	3km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:31
	3km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:35
	3km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:37
	3km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:39
	2-3km SE	Heard	60	Burst		Small arms	27-Jul, 10:55-11:05
About 1 km NE of Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km NE of Donetsk)	6-7km ESE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 09:45-09:50
	6-7km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:06
	6-7km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:23
	6-7km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:27
	6-7km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:30
	6-7km ESE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:40

<sup>10</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.

### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>11</sup>



<sup>11</sup> The SMM is deployed to ten locations throughout Ukraine – Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, 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).