



# Daily Report 183/2020

3 August 2020<sup>1</sup>

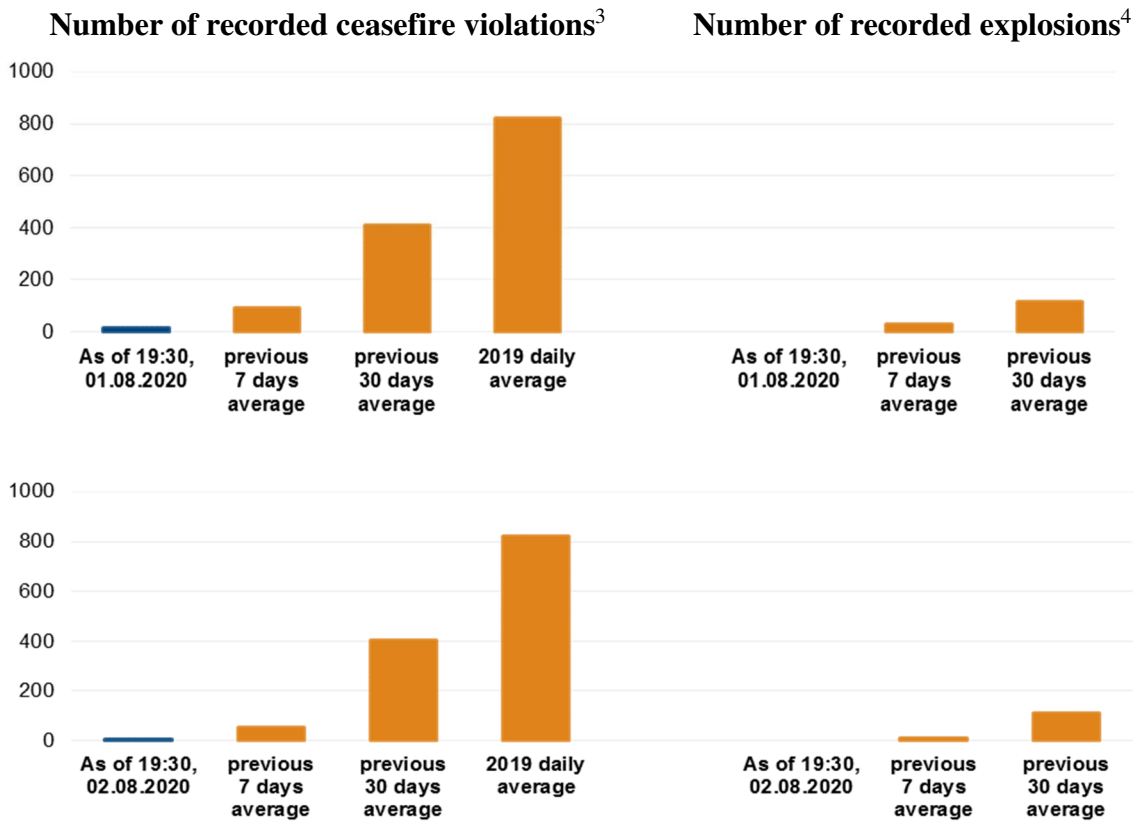
## Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, between the evenings of 31 July and 1 August, the SMM recorded 15 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region (compared with nine during the previous reporting period) and no ceasefire violations in Luhansk region (compared with 93 during the previous reporting period).
- Between the evenings of 1 and 2 August, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation in Donetsk region and two ceasefire violations in Luhansk region.
- From 00:01 on 27 July until the end of the reporting period, the SMM recorded a total of 243 ceasefire violations.
- Small-arms fire was directed at SMM unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) near Petrivske and Kamianka, Donetsk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. Inside the latter two areas, an SMM long-range UAV observed people during evening and night hours.
- An SMM long-range UAV spotted a train moving eastwards towards the border near non-government-controlled Voznesenivka, Luhansk region.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to as well as maintenance and operation 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.\*

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<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 2 August 2020. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

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



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

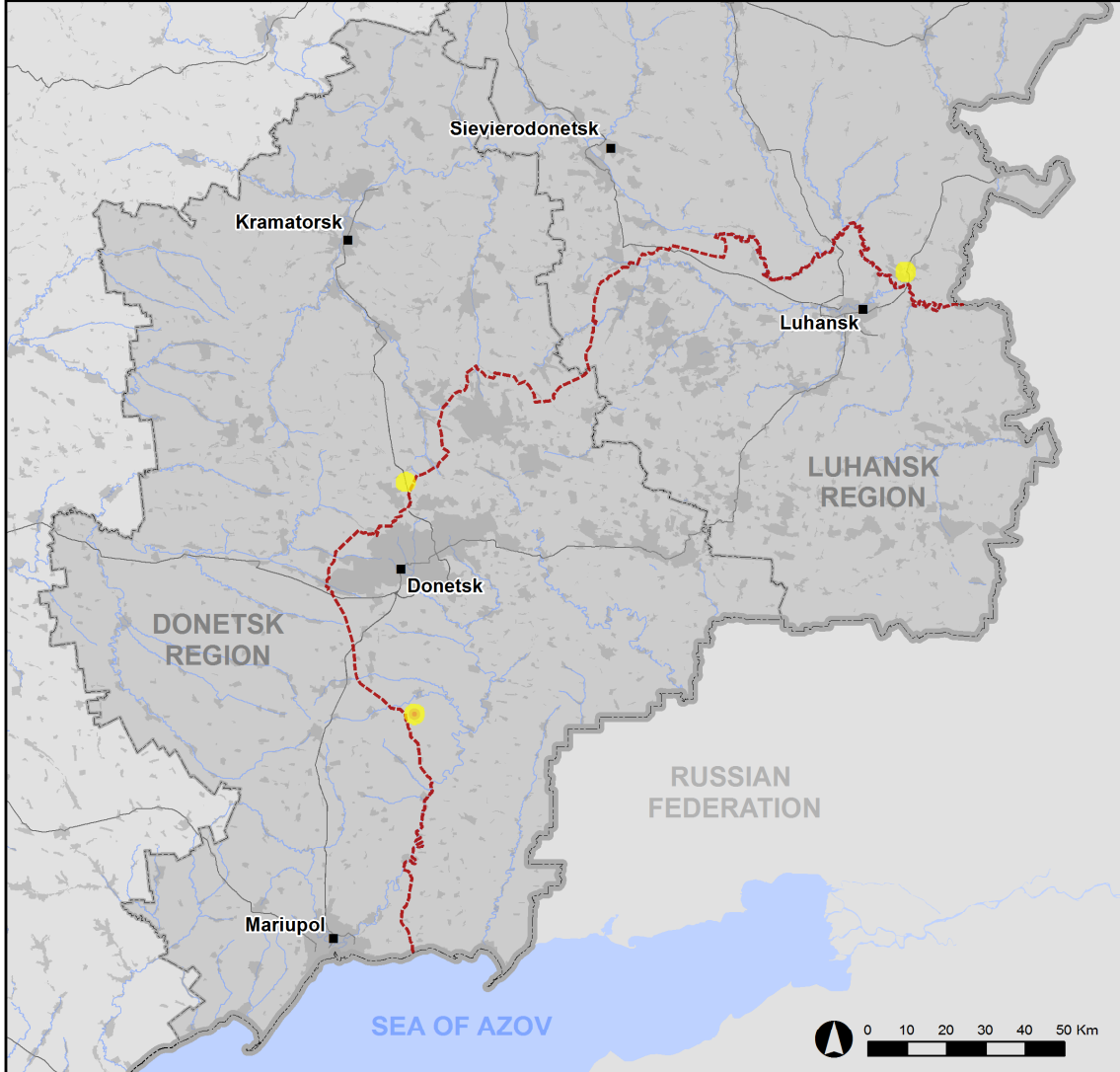
<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

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

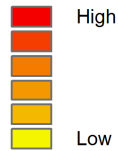
### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

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

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 1-2 August 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: 03/08/2020

In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 31 July and 1 August, the SMM recorded 15 explosions, all in areas near the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below). During the [previous reporting period](#), the SMM recorded nine ceasefire violations, also all in areas near the disengagement area near Petrivske.

Between the evenings of 1 and 2 August, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation.

In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 31 July and 1 August, the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations. During the [previous reporting period](#), the SMM recorded 93 ceasefire violations, including three explosions.

Between the evenings of 1 and 2 August, the Mission recorded two ceasefire violations – both shots in an area near the disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk)

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group (TCG) on 22 July regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, from 00:01 on 27 July until the end of the reporting period, the SMM recorded a total of 243 ceasefire violations, both in Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 44 explosions, a projectile in flight and 198 bursts and shots of small-arms fire).

#### **Small-arms fire directed at SMM unmanned aerial vehicles on two occasions\***

On 1 August, positioned about 2km north of Petrivske to conduct a mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) flight in areas close to the disengagement area near Petrivske, the SMM heard 15 single shots of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of about 500m west of its position and assessed as aimed at the UAV, which was flying over positions assessed as belonging to the armed formations. The SMM landed the UAV and left the area.\*

On 2 August, positioned in Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk) to conduct a mini-UAV flight the SMM heard a single shot of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of about 60m west of the its position, assessed as aimed at the UAV. The SMM landed the UAV and left the area.\*

These incidents occurred 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, one of which is a ban on operation of any types of aerial vehicles of the sides.

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

On both 1 and 2 August, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw three 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.

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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 the morning of 2 August, while on the eastern edge of Stanytsia Luhanska, the SMM heard two shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 300-500m west, assessed as outside the disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska but within 5km of its periphery.

On the evening of 31 July, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted a person about 200m south-west and two people about 550m west-south-west, respectively, of the area's north-eastern corner, all near former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. Also inside the disengagement area, the UAV spotted five people near a former position of the armed formations, near the area's eastern edge and about 1.4km north of the area's south-eastern corner.

On the same day, outside the disengagement area, about 500m south of its southern edge, the SMM saw ten workers from non-government-controlled areas with a bulldozer levelling the ground east of road T-1316 and an excavator clearing vegetation from both the eastern and western edges of the road. On the following day in the same area, the Mission saw four workers from non-government-controlled areas with an excavator loading soil into a truck.

On 1 and 2 August, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them), some of whom it saw walking along road T-1316 inside the area up to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returning.

On 1 August, while flying an SMM mini-UAV near the **disengagement area near Petrivske**, the SMM heard 15 shots of small-arms fire assessed as aimed at the UAV as well as assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery (see above).

On 2 August, positioned near Petrivske and Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 42km south-west of Donetsk), 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.

### **Indications of military and military-type presence inside the security zone<sup>6</sup>**

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles in the security zone in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region and in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (for further details, see the table below).

### **Presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO) near Kruta Balka and mines near Maiorsk and in Zaitseve and Vodiane**

On 31 July, about 3km east of Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk), on the road leading to Zaitseve (50km north-east of Donetsk), an SMM mid-range UAV spotted for the first time 22 anti-tank-mines laid across the road, assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces, not seen on imagery from 13 June 2020. The same UAV also spotted that 16 previously reported mines, about 20m west of the aforementioned mines,

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

were newly burnt out (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 23 May 2020](#)).

On 31 July, about 2km north-east of Vodiane (government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk), along the road leading to Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV again spotted 23 anti-tank mines. All of these mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 7 May 2020](#)).

On 1 August, the Mission observed for the first time a tailfin (73mm) embedded in the asphalt of road M-04 near Kruta Balka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Donetsk).

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

On 1 August, the SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable preparations of construction works south of the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (see above) as well as near Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), south of the bridge in Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk). The Mission 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 activities near government-controlled Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk) (including to support access to agricultural land).

On 2 August, the SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable preparations of construction works south of the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote as well as to enable vegetation clearance, inspection and maintenance of railway tracks near Vilkhove.

On 1 August, the SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) and monitor the security situation near the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk). On 2 August, the SMM continued to facilitate the operation of DFS.

### **Border areas outside government control**

On 31 July, at 22:39, an SMM long-range UAV spotted a train consisting of 60 wagons departing from the railway station in Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, 65km south-east of Luhansk) and traveling eastward in the direction of the international border (for previous similar observation, see [SMM Daily Report 18 February 2020](#)).

On 1 August, between 09:36 and 11:30, at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk), the SMM observed unusually long queues of cars and people entering and exiting Ukraine. The Mission saw 94 cars and vans (13 with Ukrainian, 28 with Russian Federation and one with Georgian licence plates, and 52 with “DPR” plates), 54 cargo trucks (20 with Ukrainian, seven with Russian Federation, three with Georgian, three with Lithuanian and two with Belarusian licence plates, and 19 with “DPR” plates), and a bus (approximately 50 passengers) enter Ukraine. During the same time it saw ten pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) exit Ukraine. Three truck drivers (male, in their forties

and fifties) told the SMM separately that the lines at the border crossing point had been very long and they had each been waiting at least two days to exit Ukraine.

On 1 August, at the pedestrian border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk) the Mission noted that there was no one present and the border crossing point appeared to be closed.

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

In Donetsk region, on 1 August, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk) was operational, but did not observe any traffic.

In Luhansk region, on both 1 and 2 August, the SMM noted that the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational.

On 1 August, while at the EECP at about 08:40, 10:30, 13:10 and 14:30, the SMM Mission saw in total about 620 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) queuing to enter government-controlled areas and about 860 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) in total queuing 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 EECP, the SMM [again](#) spoke to a woman and her daughter (40 and 16 years old), who told the SMM that they had spent another night in the disengagement area after being unable to enter non-government-controlled areas because they could not demonstrate that they lived in non-government-controlled areas. Another woman (30 years old) told the SMM that she and her two-year-old son had spent the night in the disengagement area after being unable to enter non-government-controlled areas for the same reason.

The same day, while at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the bridge at about 11:00 and again at about 15:15, the SMM saw about 25 and 15 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages), respectively, queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and about 30 and 25 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages), respectively, queuing in the opposite direction. The Mission saw a shuttle bus operating between the checkpoint and a bus stop about 1.8km south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

On 2 August, while at the EECP at about 09:00 and 15:10, the Mission saw in total about 400 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) queuing to enter government-controlled areas and about 130 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) in total queuing 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 EECP, the Mission spoke again to the woman and her daughter (40 and 16 years old) from the day before who told the SMM that they had spent the night again in the disengagement area and that they expected their relatives to bring them the necessary documents within two days. The SMM also spoke with a pregnant woman and her husband (both 25 years old) who said that they had spent two nights in the disengagement area without being able to enter non-government-controlled areas because they could not demonstrate that they lived in non-government-controlled areas.

The same day, while at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the bridge at about 11:00, 12:00, 13:00 and 14:00, the SMM saw a total of about 80 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages), queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and a total of about 70 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages), queuing in the opposite direction. The Mission saw a shuttle bus operating between the checkpoint and a bus stop about 1.8km south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

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 of 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.*

#### Denial:

- On 2 August, at a checkpoint near Bezimenne (non-government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk), the SMM was denied passage by three members of the armed formations (one of whom was visibly armed), who told the SMM that they had received orders to prevent the SMM from passing. While present there, the SMM observed one civilian vehicle traveling north through the checkpoint.

#### *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.

#### Delay:

- On 2 August, at a checkpoint in the vicinity of Tavrycheske (non-government-controlled, 76km south of Donetsk), the SMM was stopped by two members of the armed formations (one of whom was visibly armed). After a delay of 33 minutes, the SMM was permitted to pass through the checkpoint. No other traffic was seen going through the checkpoint while they were present there.

#### Other impediments:

- On 1 August, while conducting a mini-UAV flight near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM heard 15 single shots of small-arms fire, assessed as directed at its UAV. The SMM landed the UAV safely and left the area (see above).



- On 1 August, an SMM mini-UAV and mid-range UAV flight both experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Zernove (non-government-controlled, 33km south of Donetsk).
- On 1 August, an SMM mid-range UAV flight experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying near Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk).
- On 2 August, while conducting a mini-UAV flight near Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk), the SMM heard a single shot of small-arms fire, assessed as directed at its UAV. The SMM landed the UAV safely and left the area (see above).
- On 2 August, SMM mini-UAV and mid-range UAV flights on three occasions experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Novohryhorivka (government-controlled, 55km south of Donetsk) and Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km south of Donetsk).

### **Table of weapons**

#### Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

<b>Date</b>	<b>No. of weapons</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Source of observation</b>
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<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
31/07/2020	2	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33 <i>Osa</i> )	Near Kalynove ( 35km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
01/08/2020	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i> )	At a train station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>7</sup>

<b>Date</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Source of observation</b>
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
31/07/2020	2	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	Near Ozarianivka (formerly Pershe Travnia, 52km north of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	3	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	Near Lebedynske (99km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	2	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near Pionerske (101km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
31/07/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	Near Lobacheve (13km east of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
02/08/2020	1	Infantry Fighting Vehicle (BTR variant)	In south-western part of Donetsk city	Patrol

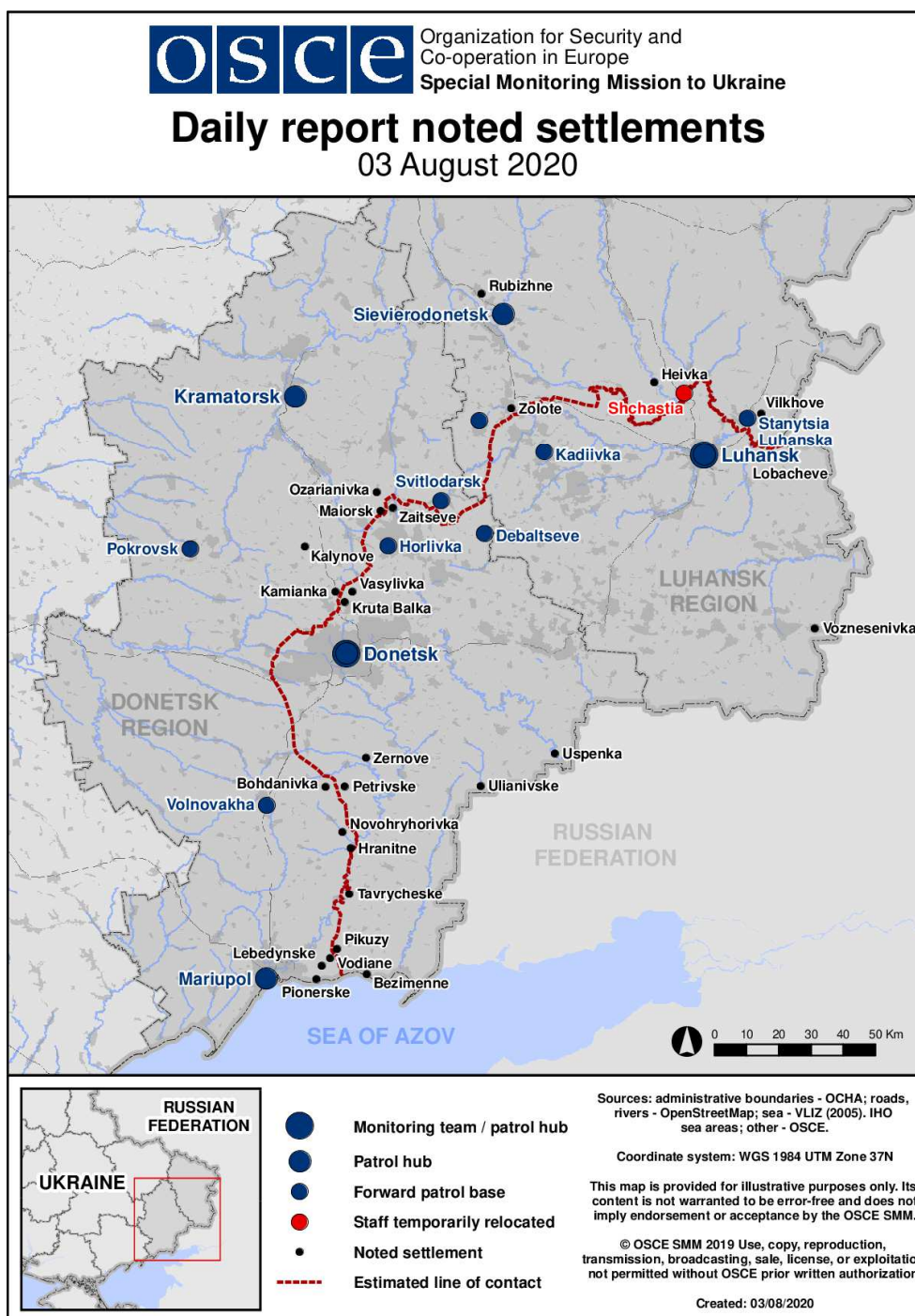
<sup>7</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

**Table of ceasefire violations as of 2 August 2020<sup>8</sup>**

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	500m W	Heard	15	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	1-Aug, 11:40
About 400m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	60m W	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	2-Aug, 11:45
E edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	300-500m W	Heard	2	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	2-Aug, 08:26

<sup>8</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>9</sup>



<sup>9</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).