

Daily Report 238/2020

6 October 2020¹

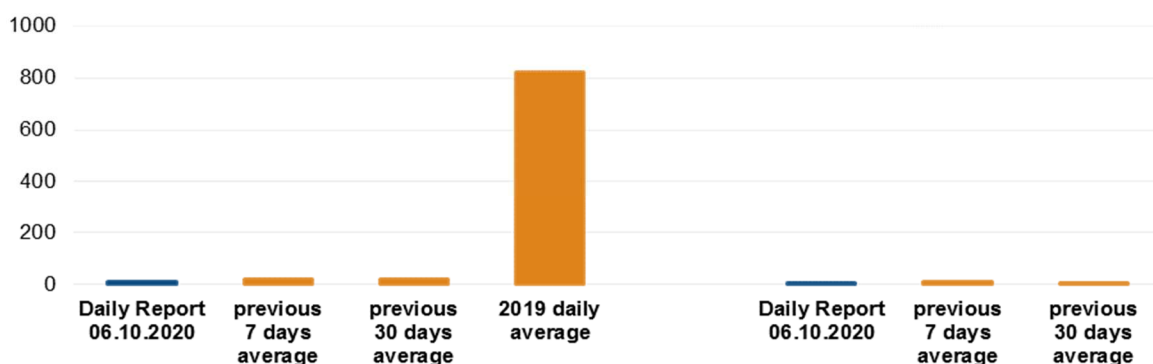
Summary

- The SMM recorded nine ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and five in Luhansk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded eight ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and two in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. During evening hours, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle spotted a person inside the disengagement area near Zolote.
- The SMM saw 27 weapons in violations of withdrawal lines on both sides of the contact line, including at a training area in Donetsk region and at an airfield in Luhansk region.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission saw that the entry-exit checkpoint near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations had been reopened to civilian crossings.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka, Donetsk region.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



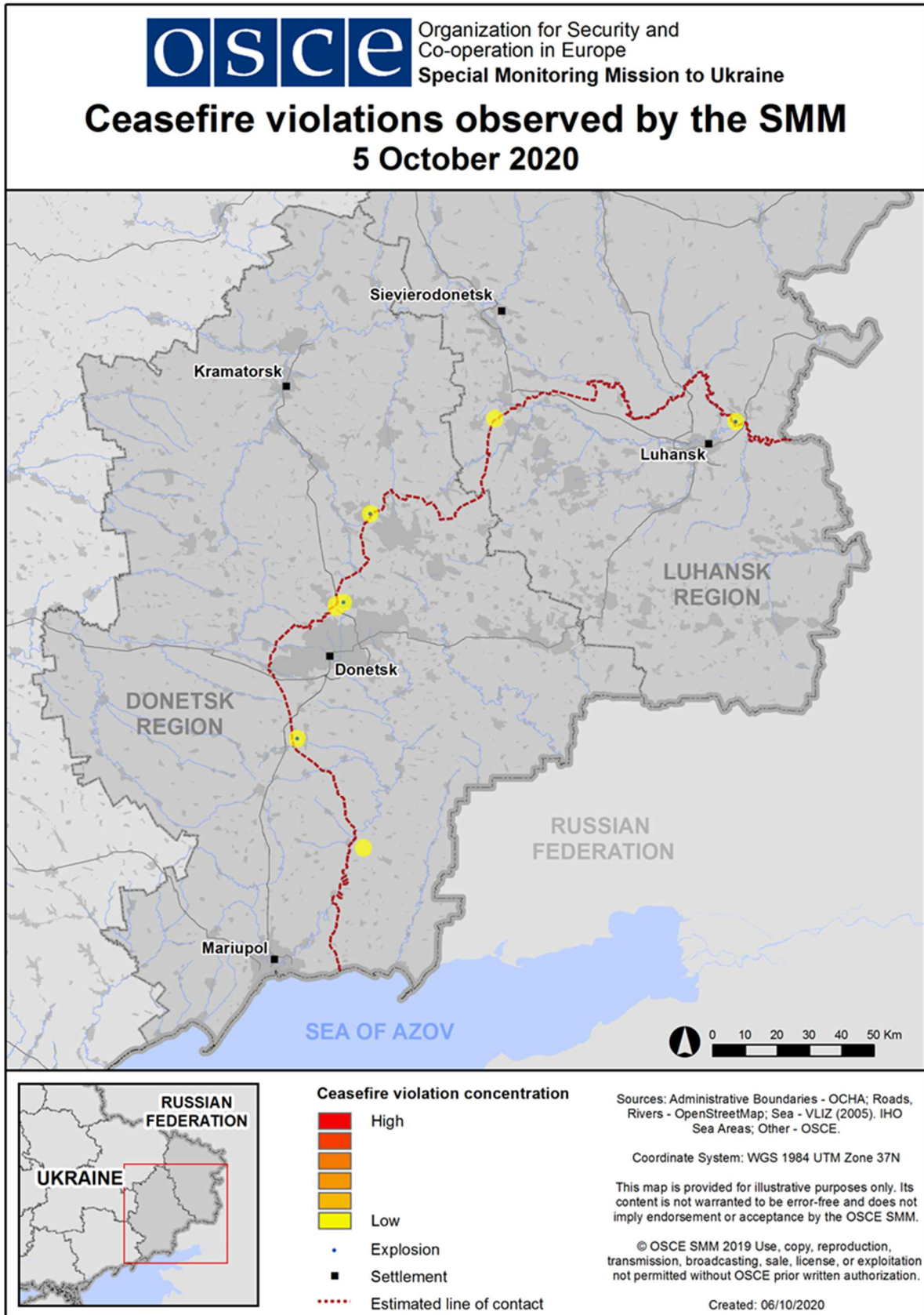
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 5 October 2020. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Petrivske was not operational.

³ Including explosions

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded nine ceasefire violations, including three undetermined explosions. Most ceasefire violations were recorded at southerly directions of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (four in total, see below) and three at an easterly direction of Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km south of Donetsk) (three in total). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded eight ceasefire violations, including one explosion.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded five ceasefire violations – including one undetermined explosion – four in an area north of Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km north-west of Luhansk) (see below) and one in an area west of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded two ceasefire violations, both undetermined explosions.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group 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 has so far recorded a total of 1,515 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 340 explosions, 17 projectiles in flight, three muzzle flashes, 18 illumination flares and 1,137 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske

On the night of 4-5 October, while positioned on the eastern edge of Stanytsia Luhanska, the SMM heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 3-5km south-west, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** but within 5km of its periphery.

Inside the disengagement area, the Mission saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) south of the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

On the evening of 3 October, **inside the disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), a long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a person near a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces near the area’s north-eastern corner.

On 4 October, an SMM mini-UAV spotted resurfacing work being conducted on the road that runs between the railway bridge inside the disengagement area and the bus stop just outside the disengagement area’s northern edge, with construction equipment and several civilian trucks stationary nearby.

On the morning of 5 October, while positioned about 2km west of Molodizhne, the Mission heard four shots of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 1.5km north, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 5 October, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), two of whom walked inside the disengagement area up to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

While positioned at four locations near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the Mission observed a calm situation.

Withdrawal of weapons

The Mission continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum.

The SMM saw 27 weapons in violation of withdrawal lines: two in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region and 25 in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including at a training area near Novoselivka (non-government-controlled, 37km north-east of Donetsk) and at an airfield near Peremozhne (non-government-controlled, 19km south of Luhansk) (for previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report 15 August 2020](#)).

The Mission also saw weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites: two tanks in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and 109 other weapons in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region, including at training areas near Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk) and Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk), as well as at the above-mentioned airfield near Peremozhne (for further information, see the tables below).

Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁵

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles on both sides of the contact line in Donetsk region and in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region (for further information, see the table below).

Anti-tank mines near Lozove and at Donetsk international airport

On 3 October, about 4km north of Lozove (non-government-controlled, 13km west of Donetsk), an SMM long-range UAV again spotted 21 anti-tank mines laid in two rows across both lanes of the road leading from Lozove to Zoloti Pisky (government-controlled, 12km north-west of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the armed formations (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 17 August 2020](#)).

The same UAV again spotted 22 anti-tank mines laid in three rows across a runway at the destroyed Donetsk international airport (8km north-west of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the armed formations. For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 28 September 2020](#).

SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable construction work south of the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (see above), north of Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk), and near Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), south of the bridge in Shchastia.

The Mission also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable railway inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance in Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk); repairs to a sewage treatment plant near Dolomitne (53km north-east of Donetsk); repairs to water infrastructure near non-government-controlled Pankivka (16km north of Luhansk) and Krasnyi Lyman (30km north-west of Luhansk); maintenance of road T-

⁵ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

1316 near Zolote; and inspection of overhead power lines near Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km west of Luhansk).

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. On 5 October, while positioned in the south-eastern part of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), the Mission recorded an undetermined explosion assessed as within a 5km radius of the station.

Border areas outside government control

On the evening of 4 October, in the south-eastern outskirts of Ananivka (63km south-east of Luhansk), about 9km west of the international border, an SMM long-range UAV spotted a train consisting of a diesel locomotive and 50 empty hopper wagons traveling in a westerly direction, away from the border.

Measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints to counter the COVID-19 pandemic

In Donetsk region, the Mission saw that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk) and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) were operational.

While at the EECP from about 9:10 to 12:15 and from 13:20 to 15:00, the SMM saw seven buses, eight cars and 34 people (mixed genders and ages) entering government-controlled areas, as well as nine buses, 19 cars and 139 people (mixed genders and ages) traveling in the opposite direction.

While at the checkpoint on the southern edge of Olenivka from 8:45 to 12:00 and from 14:00 to 15:00, the Mission saw two buses, 11 cars and 42 people (25 women and 16 men, mixed ages, including one child) traveling towards government-controlled areas, as well as five cars and 43 people (26 women and 13 men mixed ages, including four children) traveling in the opposite direction.

In Luhansk region, the SMM noted that the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge had been reopened after their closure due to wildfires in the area on 2 October.

While at the EECP at 14:20 and 14:35, the Mission saw three people entering government-controlled areas and 19 traveling in the opposite direction. The SMM also saw a golf cart operating between the new section of the bridge and the EECP.

At a bus stop about 1.8km south of the bridge, at 9:55, the SMM saw about 200 people waiting for a shuttle bus running to the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the bridge. Near the checkpoint, between about 10:00 and 11:00, the SMM saw members of the armed formations deny access to non-government-controlled areas to about 50 people (mixed genders and ages), who were later allowed at 11:00. At 10:10, the Mission saw five people traveling towards government-controlled areas.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Dnipro, Kharkiv, Chernivtsi and Kyiv.

***Restrictions of the SMM's freedom of movement or other impediments to fulfilment of its mandate**

The SMM's monitoring and freedom of movement are restricted by security hazards and threats, including risks posed by mines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other impediments – which vary from day to day. The SMM's mandate provides for safe and secure access throughout Ukraine. All signatories of the Package of Measures have agreed on the need for this safe and secure access, that restriction of the SMM's freedom of movement constitutes a violation, and on the need for rapid response to these violations. They have also agreed that the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) should contribute to such response and co-ordinate mine clearance. Nonetheless, the armed formations in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions frequently deny the SMM access to areas adjacent to Ukraine's border outside control of the Government (for example, see [SMM Daily Report 5 October 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

- At a checkpoint near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations denied the Mission passage towards government-controlled areas, citing a lack of permission from his 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.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
03/10/2020	2	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33 <i>Osa</i>)	In an industrial complex in Raihorodka (34km north-west of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
Non-government-controlled areas				
04/10/2020	3	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozдика</i> , 122mm)	In a training area near Novoselivka (37km north-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	4	Tank (T-72)		
04/10/2020	2	Self-propelled howitzer (2S3 <i>Akatsiya</i> , 152mm)	At an airfield near Peremozhne (19km south of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
	4	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozдика</i> , 122mm)		
	1	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)		
	2	Towed anti-tank gun (2A29, MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		
	7	Towed howitzer (D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		
	1	Towed howitzer (D-20, 152mm)		
	1	Towed howitzer (2A65 <i>Msta-B</i> , 152mm)		

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapons	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
03/10/2020	2	Tank (one probable T-64 and one probable T-72)	Near Spirne (96km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
Non-government-controlled areas				
04/10/2020	2	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)	At an airfield near Peremozhne (19km south of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV
	2	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33 <i>Osa</i>)		
	1	Towed mortar (2B9 <i>Vasilek</i> , 82mm)		
	1	Mortar (2B14 <i>Podnos</i> , 82mm)		
	1	Mortar (2B11 <i>Sani</i> , 120mm)		
	11	Tanks (four T-64 and seven T-72)		
	25	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk)	
	37	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk), where the same UAV also spotted 70 infantry fighting vehicles ⁶	
	11	Towed howitzer (D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		
	13	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozдика</i> , 122mm)		
5	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)			

⁶ The armoured combat vehicles mentioned in this section are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁷

Date	No.	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
03/10/2020	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	In an abandoned summerhouse area near Halytsynivka (29km north-west of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
04/10/2020	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-variant)	Near Katerynivka (64km west of Luhansk)	
	1	Probable armoured personnel carrier (BTR-variant)	Near Maiorsk (45km north-east of Donetsk)	
05/10/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
Non-government-controlled areas				
03/10/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Dokuchaievsk (30km south-west of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
04/10/2020	8	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-variant)	In a training area near Novoselivka (37km north-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV

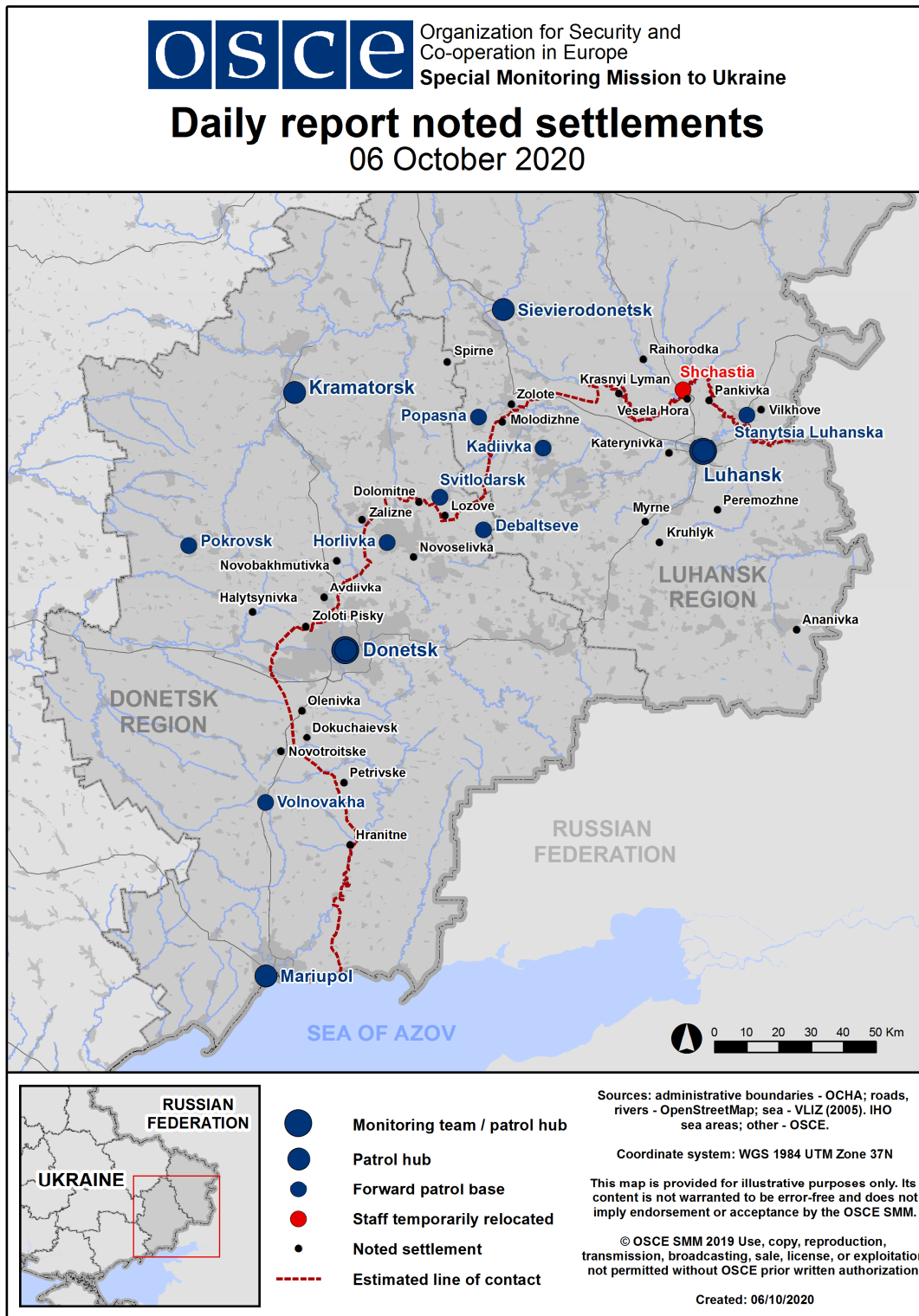
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Table of ceasefire violations as of 5 October 2020⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	4-Oct, 21:34
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	1-2km SSW	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E	N/K	5-Oct, 05:53
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	4-6km ESE	Recorded	3	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	4-Oct, 23:23
About 2.5km NE of Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km SW of Donetsk)	3-5km ENE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	5-Oct, 09:29
SE part of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	4-5km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	5-Oct, 10:01
About 1km NE of Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km NE of Donetsk)	2km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	5-Oct, 11:02
Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km NW of Luhansk)	1.5km N	Heard	4	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	5-Oct, 12:00-12:15
E edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	3-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	5-Oct, 01:09

⁸ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by 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 regions⁹



⁹ 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 have 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 also patrols in this settlement during daylight hours).