

# Daily Report 244/2020

13 October 2020<sup>1</sup>

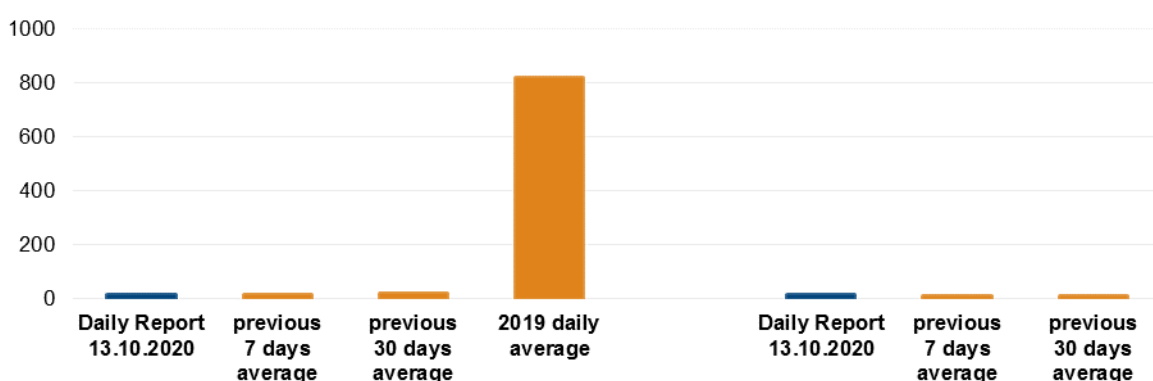
## Summary

- The SMM recorded 14 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and one in Luhansk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded six ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and none in Luhansk region.
- Two teenage boys were injured by the detonation of an explosive device in Nyzhnia Krynka, Donetsk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. During evening and night hours, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle spotted people inside the latter two disengagement areas, and during the daytime, the SMM also observed people inside the Petrivske disengagement area.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 pandemic, including at an entry-exit checkpoint and corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.

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

Number of recorded ceasefire violations<sup>3</sup>

Number of recorded explosions<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 12 October 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 camera in Petrivske was not operational.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions

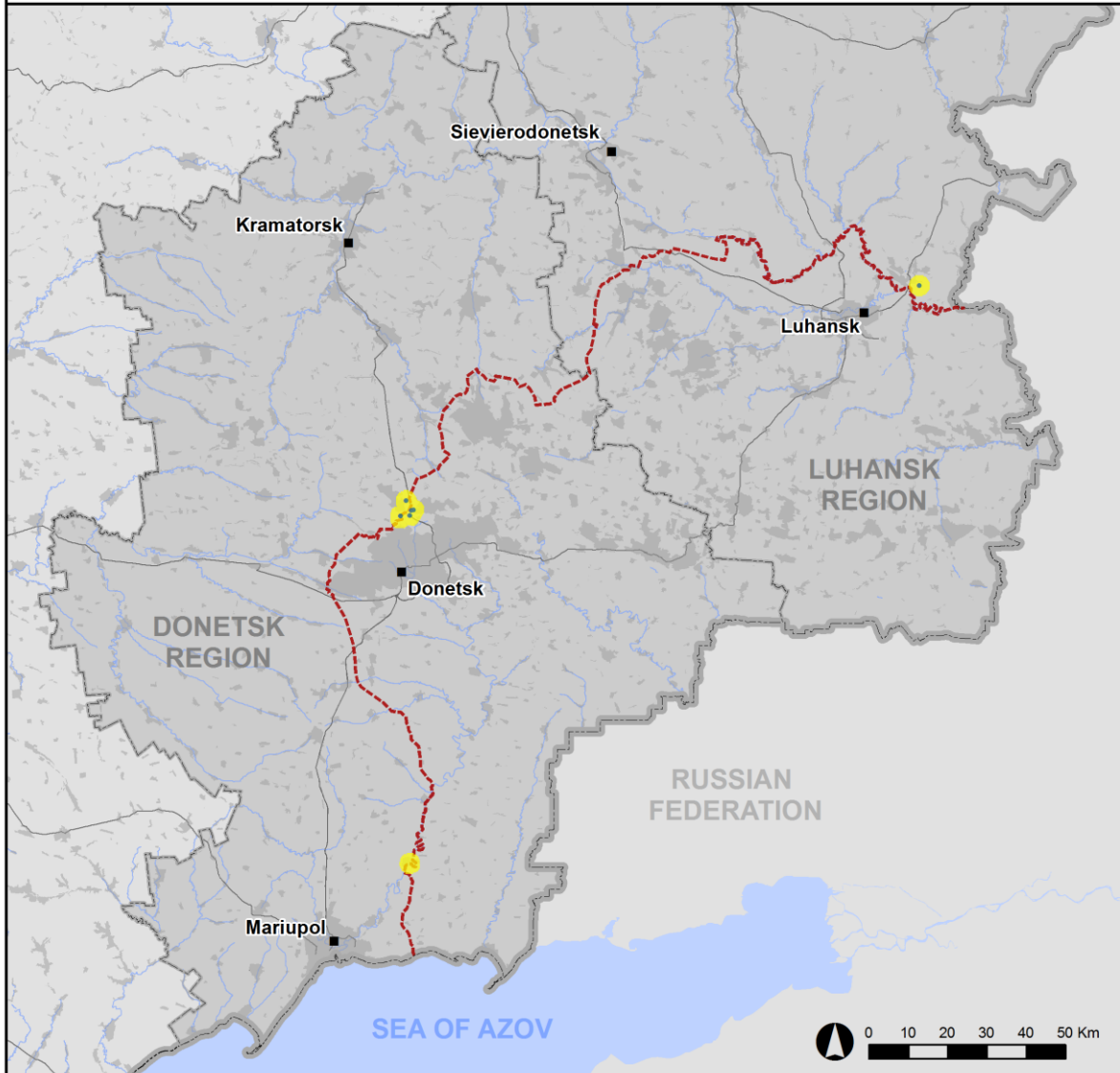
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

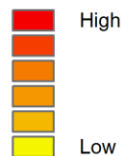


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 12 October 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: 13/10/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 14 ceasefire violations – 12 of them undetermined explosions – at westerly and southerly directions of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded six ceasefire violations, all of them explosions.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation – an undetermined explosion in an area south-east of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations.

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 1,620 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 398 explosions, 17 projectiles in flight, seven muzzle flashes, 21 illumination flares and 1,177 bursts and shots).

### **Two teenagers injured by the detonation of an explosive device in Nyzhnia Kryнка, Donetsk region**

The SMM followed up on reports that two boys – one 15 years old and the other 16 – were injured when an explosive device detonated near school no. 99 in Nyzhnia Kryнка (non-government-controlled, 31km north-east of Donetsk) on 6 October.

On 12 October, a woman, who introduced herself as the mother of the 16-year-old boy, told the Mission over the phone that on the afternoon of 6 October, her son and another boy had been handling an object near the above-mentioned school when it exploded. The mother said that the boys had obtained the object from a younger boy. She added that her son had suffered shrapnel injuries to his right hip and that he was being treated at the children's hospital in Makiivka (non-government-controlled, 12km north-east of Donetsk).

On 9 October, a man, who introduced himself as the father of the 15-year-old boy, told the Mission over the phone that on the afternoon of 6 October, he had been called by a bystander who told him that his son had sustained injuries as the result of an explosion. The father said that he had arrived at the location of the incident about the same time as an ambulance. He added that his son had been seriously injured by the explosion and that he was being treated at the same children's hospital.

On 9 October, medical staff at the above-mentioned hospital told the SMM that two teenage boys were being treated for shrapnel injuries caused by the detonation of an explosive device.

### **Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske**

On the evening of 11 October, while on the eastern edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission recorded an undetermined explosion assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** but within 5km of its periphery.

Also on the evening of 11 October, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a person inside a former position of the armed formations near its eastern edge, about 1.4km north of its south-eastern corner.

On 12 October, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw six 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.

The same day, at the checkpoint of the armed formations on the southern edge of the disengagement area, the SMM observed four people with metal detectors and two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) enter the disengagement area with about ten road maintenance workers. About 40 minutes later, the SMM saw two people with metal detectors exit the disengagement area.

On the evening of 10 October, inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted two people inside a former position of the armed formations near its south-eastern corner.

On the night of 11-12 October, inside the disengagement area, an SMM long-range UAV spotted two people inside a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 1.5km east-north-east of its south-western corner. The same UAV spotted five people inside former positions of the armed formations: four about 150m west-north-west and another about 350m north-north-west of the area’s south-eastern corner.

On 12 October, while positioned on the western edge of Petrivske, the Mission observed a civilian vehicle carrying two men in military-style attire traveling west on the road leading to Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk). About five minutes later, the SMM observed three men in military-style attire inside the disengagement area, about 100m south-east of its north-eastern corner, looking in a southerly direction.

### **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.

On 10 October, an SMM long-range UAV spotted 24 weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, including seven tanks, all in a military compound in Khrustalnyi (non-government-controlled, 54km south-west of Luhansk).

### **Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>5</sup>**

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles, as well as an anti-aircraft gun, in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (for further information, see the table below).

### **Presence of anti-tank mines near Popasna**

On 9 October, in two locations north and south of road T-0504 on the north-eastern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), an SMM mini-UAV again spotted about 220 anti-tank mines, assessed as part of larger minefields belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 10 July 2020](#) and see [SMM Daily Report 8 May 2020](#)).

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

### **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, 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.

On the morning of 12 October, about 140m north-west of the bridge in Shchastia, the SMM observed about 40 workers unloading construction materials by crane, assessed as for the construction of booths, and transporting sand and gravel to the same location. At a checkpoint of the armed formations about 3km south-east of the bridge, the SMM observed about 35 workers with heavy equipment, including steamrollers and asphalt graders, at a roadwork site.

The Mission also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable railway inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk); maintenance of power lines near Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km west of Luhansk); repairs to water infrastructure near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk); maintenance of road T-1316 near Zolote and road H-21 south of Shchastia (see below); and demining activities near Hirske (government-controlled, 63km west of Luhansk).

On the northern outskirts of Tsvitni Pisky (non-government-controlled, 11km north of Luhansk) the SMM observed seven workers carrying out vegetation clearance on the western side of road H-21 and 11 workers at the same location repairing roadside guard rails and potholes with heavy equipment.

The Mission also continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at three locations near the station, the Mission recorded seven undetermined explosions assessed as within a 5km radius of the station.

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

On the night of 11 October, about 1.2km north-west of Kvashyne (65km south-east of Donetsk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted a freight train with two diesel engines and 52 open cargo carts traveling in a westerly direction, away from the international border.

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

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) in Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational.

While at the EECP at 13:15 and 14:20, the SMM saw in total 30 people (mixed genders and ages) queuing to enter government-controlled areas and in total 40 people (mixed genders and ages) queuing in the opposite direction. The Mission also observed a golf cart operating between the new section of the bridge and the EECP.

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, 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 12 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.*

*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 beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

| Date                                   | No. of weapons | Type of weapons                                      | Location  | Source of observation |
|--|----------------|--|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Non-government-controlled areas</b> |                |  |   |                       |
| 10/10/2020                             | 7              | Tank (T-64)  | In a compound near a residential area in Khrustalnyi (54km south-west of Luhansk) | Long-range UAV        |
|  | 9              | Probable towed howitzer (2A65 <i>Msta-B</i> , 152mm) |   |                       |
|  | 8              | Towed howitzer (2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i> , 152mm)      |   |                       |

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

| Date                               | No. | Type                                    | Location                                     | Source of observation |
|------------------------------------|-----|---|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Government-controlled areas</b> |     |   |  |                       |
| 09/10/2020                         | 1   | Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)         | Near Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)          | Mini-UAV              |
| 10/10/2020                         | 2   | Armoured combat vehicle                 | Near Shumy (41km north of Donetsk)           | Long-range UAV        |
|                                    | 1   | Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)     | Near Slavne (26km south-west of Donetsk)     |                       |
|                                    | 1   | Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant) |  |                       |
|                                    | 1   | Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant) | Near Mykolaivka (40km south of Donetsk)      |                       |
| 11/10/2020                         | 5   | Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)      | Near Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)          | Mini-UAV              |
| 12/20/2020                         | 1   | Infantry fighting vehicle (BTR-4)       | Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk) | Patrol                |

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

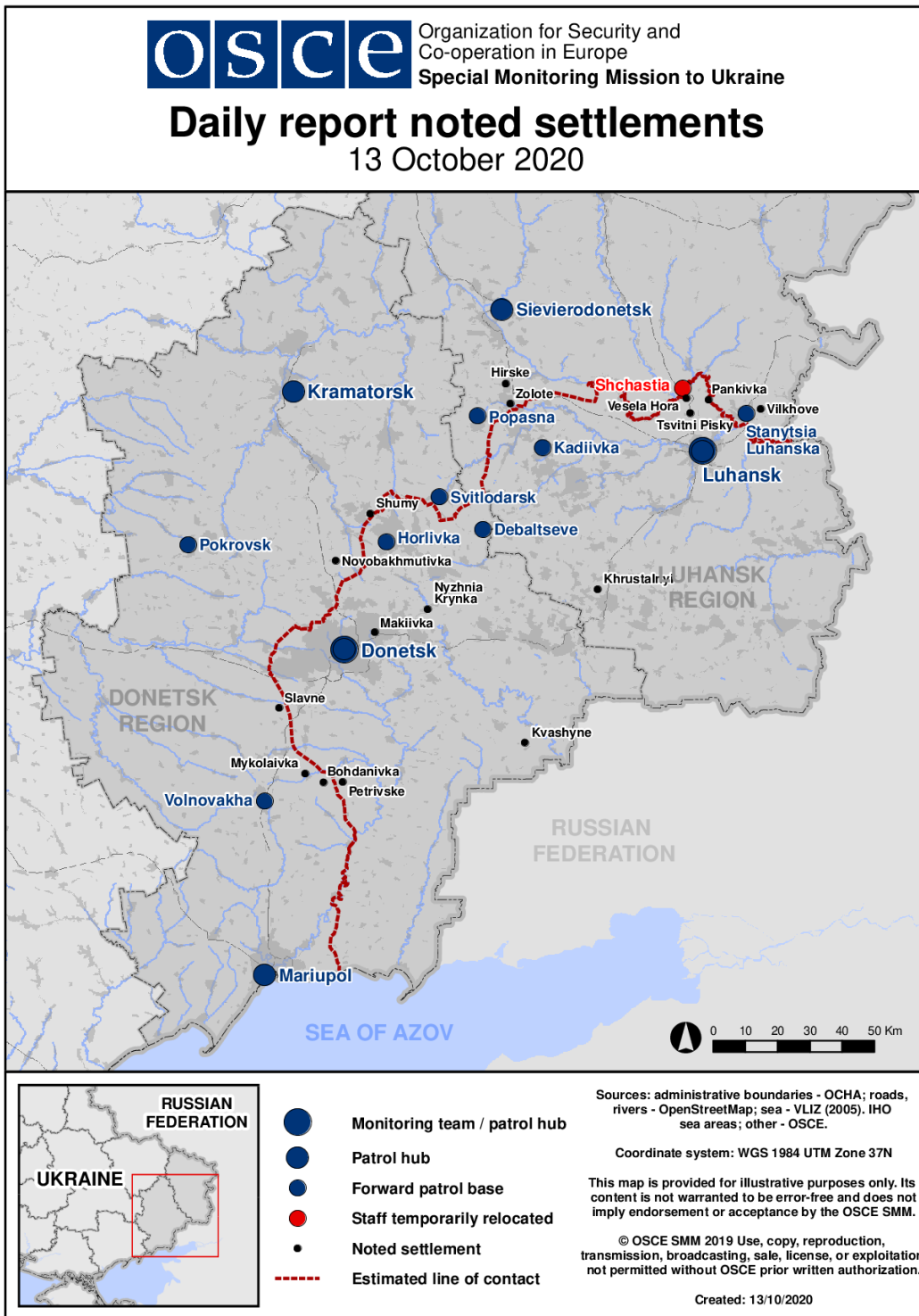
**Table of ceasefire violations as of 12 October 2020<sup>7</sup>**

| SMM position  | Event location | Means    | No. | Observation        | Description   | Weapon     | Date, time    |
|---|----------------|----------|-----|--------------------|---|------------|---------------|
| SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)                                | 0.8-1.2km ESE  | Recorded | 1   | Illumination flare | In vertical flight  | N/K        | 11-Oct, 23:56 |
| SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)                                      | 1-2km S        | Recorded | 2   | Explosion          | Undetermined  | N/K        | 11-Oct, 23:29 |
|   | 1-2km SSE      | Recorded | 3   | Explosion          | Undetermined  | N/K        | 11-Oct, 23:50 |
| About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk) | 3-4km SW       | Heard    | 1   | Explosion          | Undetermined)   | N/K        | 12-Oct, 11:46 |
|   | 3-4km SW       | Heard    | 2   | Explosion          | Undetermined  | N/K        | 12-Oct, 12:07 |
| SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)                                    | 2-3km S        | Heard    | 2   | Explosion          | Undetermined  | N/K        | 12-Oct, 12:07 |
|   | 2-3km S        | Heard    | 1   | Explosion          | Undetermined  | N/K        | 12-Oct, 12:18 |
|   | 3km S          | Heard    | 1   | Burst              |   | Small arms | 12-Oct, 12:55 |
| About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)                              | 3-5km S        | Heard    | 1   | Explosion          | Undetermined  | N/K        | 12-Oct, 12:58 |
| E edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)                          | 3-5km SE       | Heard    | 1   | Explosion          | Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area) | N/K        | 11-Oct, 19:48 |

<sup>7</sup> 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 regions<sup>8</sup>



<sup>8</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 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).