



Daily Report 267/2020

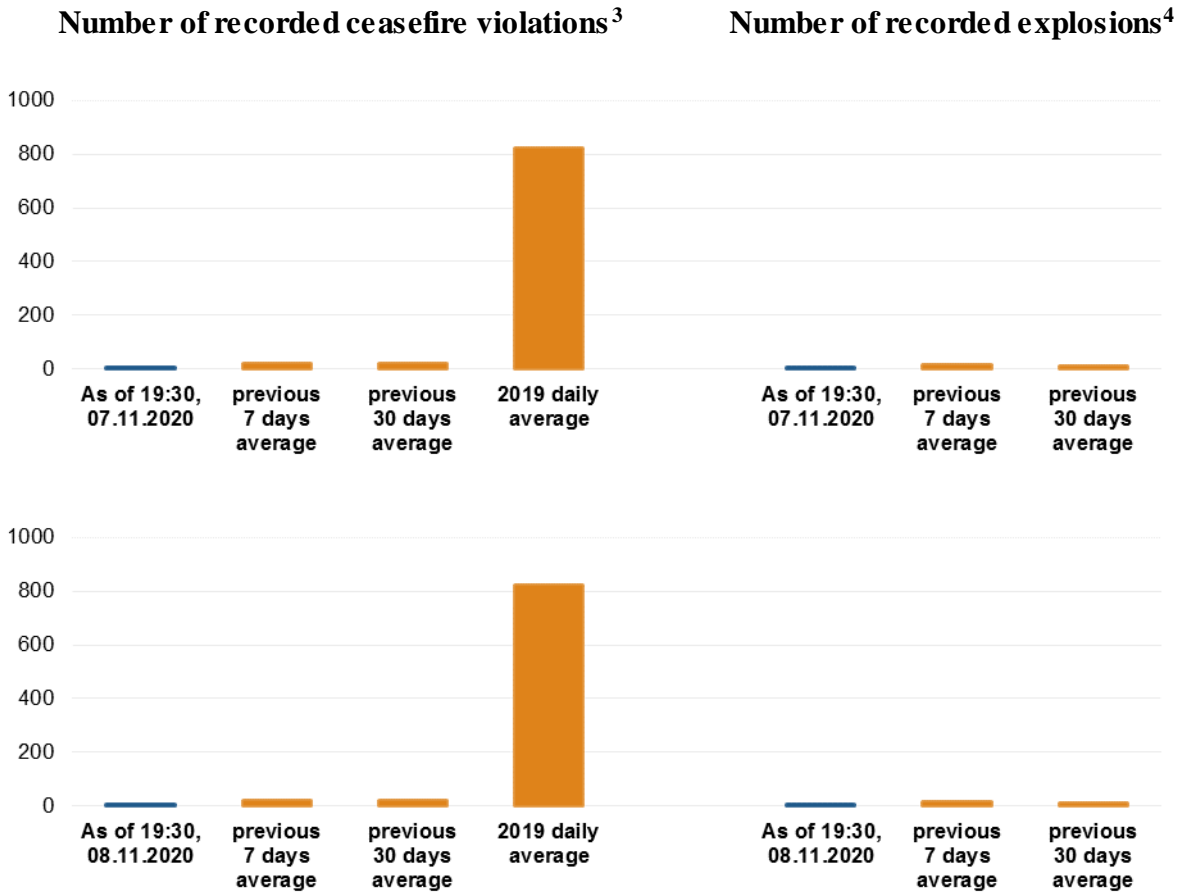
9 November 2020¹

Summary

- Between the evenings of 6 and 8 November, the SMM recorded six ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 55 ceasefire violations in the region.
- Between the evenings of 6 and 8 November, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it also recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM saw mines near Dolomitne and Holmivskyyi, Donetsk region, some for the first time. It also again saw mines near Vesela Hora, Luhansk region.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 pandemic at the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) in Stanytsia Luhanska, Luhansk region. It noted the EECP remained closed.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint near Kreminets, Donetsk region, where members of the armed formations delayed the SMM's passage by more than three hours on 7 November.*

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 8 November 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

Ceasefire violations²



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.

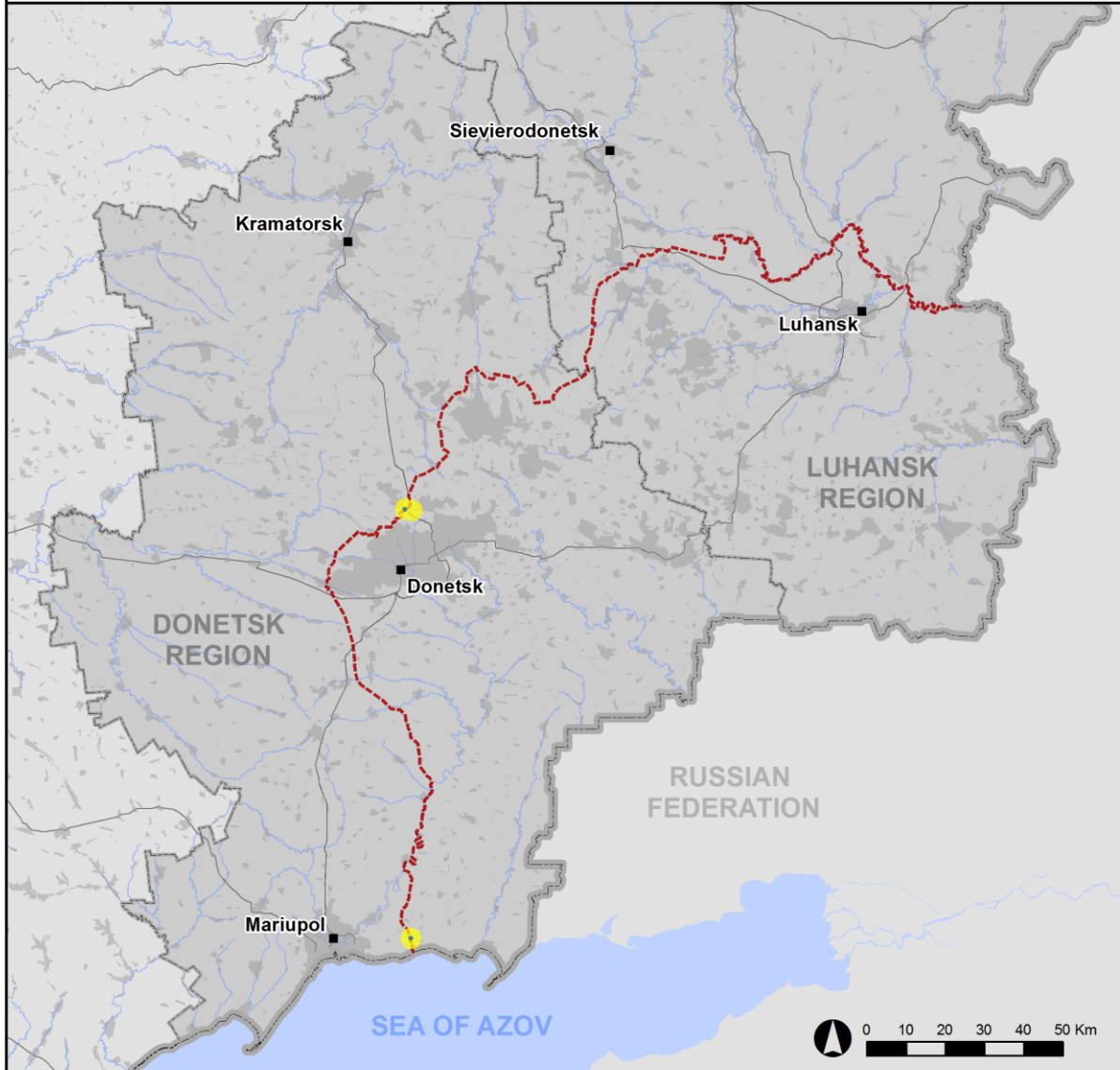
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

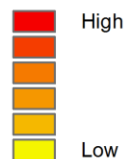


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 7-8 November 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: 09/11/2020

In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 6 and 8 November, the SMM recorded six ceasefire violations, including three undetermined explosions, at south-westerly directions of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below) and in areas north-east of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 55 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations, as in the [previous reporting period](#). The last time it had recorded ceasefire violations in the region was on 4 November (see [SMM Daily Report 5 November 2020](#)).

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 2,112 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 733 explosions, 45 projectiles in flight, 16 muzzle flashes, 23 illumination flares and 1,295 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 7 and 8 November, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw 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 7 November, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the Mission saw [again](#) a stationary white container truck with a JCCC inscription facing north on the side of road T-1316 about 840m south of the area’s northern edge and 50m north of the railway bridge. On 8 November, the container truck was stationary outside of the disengagement area, near its northern edge.

On 7 November, inside the disengagement area, about 60m south of its northern edge, the SMM saw nine workers painting a safety fence on both sides of road T-1316. On 8 November, it saw 12 workers repairing the road about 5km north of the area’s northern edge.

On both days, outside the area, between 250m-600m south of its southern edge, the Mission saw workers with heavy equipment installing fences on both sides of road T-1316, conducting groundwork, clearing the asphalt, installing traffic signs and welding a metal construction, reportedly for use as a bus stop.

On both days, the SMM saw workers asphaltting the road at the south-eastern outskirts of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km west of Luhansk).

On both days, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them).

On 7 November, while positioned on the western edge of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the Mission saw a car with two men in military-type

⁵ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

clothing driving west on the road between Petrivske and Viktorivka (non-government-controlled, 42km south-west of Donetsk), outside of the northern edge of the **disengagement area near Petrivske** stopping about 200m north-west of the area's north-eastern corner and then returning towards Petrivske.

On 8 November, while positioned in three locations near the disengagement area, 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.

Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁶

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles in both government-controlled and non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

On 7 November, about 600m south-east of the bridge in Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk), in the centre divider of the road H-21, an SMM mini unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a blue container with "JCCC" written on its the roof, assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

Mines observed in areas near Dolomitne and Holmivskiyi, Donetsk region and near Vesela Hora, Luhansk region

On 5 November, in fields about 1.5km east-south-east of Dolomitne (53km north-east of Donetsk), an SMM mid-range UAV spotted for the first time about 35 probable anti-tank mines, laid in two rows from north to south. It also spotted for the first time five anti-tank mines laid across the road about 1.1km east of Dolomitne. The same UAV also again spotted nine anti-tank mines laid across the road about 600m south-west-south of Dolomitne (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 8 April 2019](#)). All these mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

The same UAV spotted for the first time about 150 anti-tank mines about 5.5km east-north-east of Holmivskiyi (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk). About 5km east-north-east of Holmivskiyi, it also spotted about 500 anti-tank mines laid in a field and about 15 anti-tank mines laid in three rows across the road between Holmivskiyi and Dolomitne (for previous observations in the area, see SMM Daily Reports of [12 March 2020](#) and [19 May 2020](#)). All these mines were assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

On 6 November, about 1.5km north-west of Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk) and about 30m west of road H-21, an SMM mini-UAV spotted 20 anti-tank mines laid in two rows, assessed as belonging to the armed formations (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 28 October 2020](#)).

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

On 6 November, about 2km north-north-west of Bohdanivka (non-government-controlled, 60km south-east of Donetsk), on the western edge of road T-0508, the SMM observed for the first time a mine hazard sign on a red rectangular board with black skull and bones and “Stop mines” and “Danger mines”, written in Cyrillic. On the same day, about 700m north-west of Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk), the Mission observed for the first time a mine hazard sign on a yellow board with “Mines” written in Cyrillic.

SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

On 7 and 8 November, 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, and near Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), south of the bridge in Shchastia.

On both days, about 200m north of the former checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces on the northern edge of the bridge in Shchastia, the Mission observed nine workers painting pavement markings on the asphalt, welding a metal structure, reportedly for a bus stop, and conducting works on booths.

Also on both days, about 3km south-east of the bridge, at the checkpoint of the armed formations, the Mission saw between 40-50 workers with heavy equipment paving the road, installing light poles and constructing a metal roof, reportedly for a future pedestrian corridor. The SMM also observed workers constructing two metal structures, assessed as for future document control booths, and installing gates and fences.

Also on both days, the SMM 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 road T-1316 near Zolote – north and south of the disengagement area – and of road H-21 south of Shchastia.

On 7 November, the Mission also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable demining of road T-1316 near Zolote, of road H-21 near the bridge in Shchastia and of agricultural fields near Hirske (government-controlled, 63km west of Luhansk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. During the day on 8 November, while positioned about 1km north-west of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), the Mission heard three ceasefire violations, all shots of heavy-machine-gun fire, assessed as within a 5km radius of the station.

Measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

On 7 and 8 November, in Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) in Stanytsia Luhanska remained closed. On 8 November, the Mission noted that the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations also remained closed.⁷

⁷ Notice about the EECP’s temporary closure from 15 October to 31 October 2020 was published on the website of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 13 October. On 28 October, the Ukrainian Armed Forces published on their official Facebook page that the temporary closure of the EECP had been extended until 15 November 2020.

On 7 November, while at the EECF, the Mission saw four women (mixed ages) traveling towards government-controlled areas. On 8 November, while at the corresponding checkpoint from 09:15-11:15, the Mission saw four women (mixed ages) traveling towards non-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 30 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.

Delay:

- On 7 November, at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Kremiets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk), a visibly armed member of the armed formations [again](#) allowed the SMM passage towards Donetsk city only after a member of the armed formations sprayed the SMM's vehicles with a substance, reportedly for disinfection. Irrespective of the fact that the armed formations had been made aware about the intention of the SMM to cross the contact line at that location and at that time, this procedure delayed the Mission by more than three hours.

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁸

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
07/11/2020	1	Armoured personal carrier (BTR-60)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
08/11/2020	1	Armoured personal carrier (BTR-60)		
Non-government-controlled areas				
06/11/2020	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMD-2)	Near Bohdanivka (60km south-east of Donetsk), in a zone within which deployment of heavy armament and military equipment is proscribed according to Point 5 of the Memorandum of 19 September 2014.	Patrol
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMD-variant)		

⁸ 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 8 November 2020⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion		N/K	7-Nov, 17:20
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	7-Nov, 22:27
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	3	Shot		HMG	8-Nov, 09:12

⁹ 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 regions¹⁰



¹⁰ 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).