

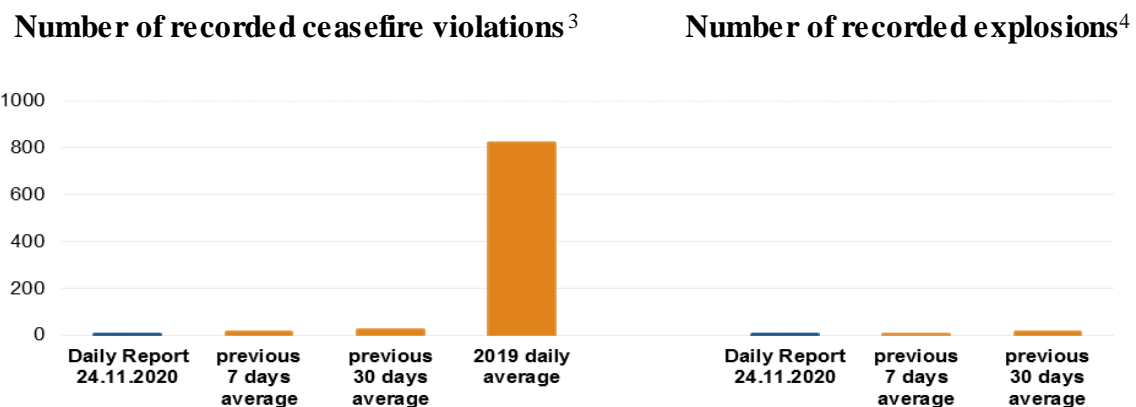
Daily Report 280/2020

24 November 2020¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded two ceasefire violations. In the previous 24 hours, the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. In the previous 24 hours, the Mission recorded 15 ceasefire violations in the region.
- Two men were injured due to an explosion on 12 November in Oleksandrivka, Donetsk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske and observed a calm situation in all three areas.
- 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, including at five entry-exit checkpoints and five checkpoints of the armed formations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at checkpoints of the armed formations near Khreshchatytske and Hryhorivka, both in southern Donetsk region.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 23 November 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM cameras in Petrivske and at the parking lot south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were not operational.

³ Including explosions

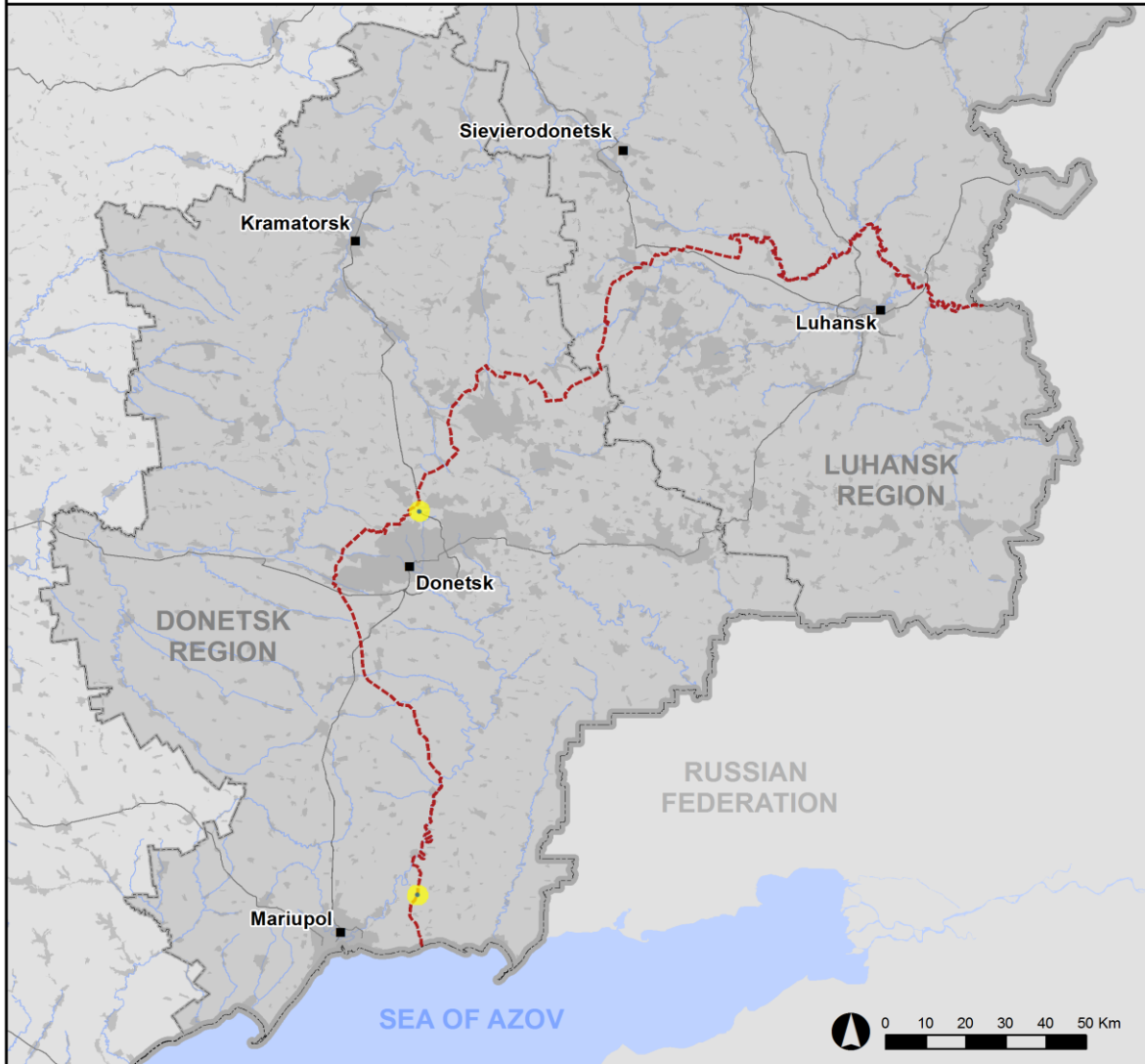
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

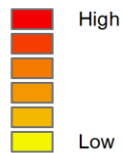


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 23 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: 24/11/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded two ceasefire violations – both undetermined explosions, one in an area south of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) and one at a north-easterly direction of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 15 ceasefire violations in the region.

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 2,516 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 992 explosions, 75 projectiles in flight, 33 muzzle flashes, 27 illumination flares and 1,389 bursts and shots).⁵

Two men injured due to explosion in Oleksandrivka, Donetsk region

The SMM followed up on reports of two men (grandfather in his sixties and grandson in his twenties) injured on 12 November in Oleksandrivka (non-government-controlled, 20km south-west of Donetsk) due to shelling.

On 19 November, a man (in his sixties) told the Mission that on 12 November at about 6:10, he had heard an explosion close to his house at 4 Shevchenko Street in Oleksandrivka and had suffered hearing loss in his left ear. On the same day, a man (in his twenties) told the SMM that on 12 November at around 6:14, he had heard an explosion close to the same abovementioned house and had suffered hearing loss in both ears. He added that he had subsequently been transferred for treatment to a hospital in Donetsk city.

On 19 November, medical staff at a hospital in Donetsk city told the Mission that on 13 November, a man (in his twenties) had been admitted with impaired hearing and raised blood pressure, assessed as brought on as the result of an explosion.

On the same day, a woman (in her sixties) who introduced herself as the wife and grandmother of the two injured men, told the SMM that at the time of the incident, she had been inside her house at the abovementioned address with her husband and grandson when she heard a nearby explosion and gone into shock but had not sustained any injuries.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁶

⁵ In [SMM Daily Report 16 November 2020](#), one ceasefire violation recorded by the SMM camera in Shyrokyne at 17:32 on 14 November appeared in the table of ceasefire violations on p.9-10 twice and was counted twice in the total number of ceasefire violations on p.3. In that report, the total number of ceasefire violations in Donetsk region between the evenings of 13 and 15 November on p.3 should have been 88, including 80 undetermined explosions. Also on p.3, the total number of ceasefire violations recorded following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire on p.3 should have been 2,422 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 967 explosions, 49 projectiles in flight, 30 muzzle flashes, 26 illumination flares and 1,350 bursts and shots).

⁶ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw four 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).

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the Mission saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), one of whom walked into the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

On the southern edge of the area, the SMM saw two workers clearing vegetation in a field about 30m east of road T-1316.

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.

Aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed two multiple launch rocket systems in violation of withdrawal lines in a training area near Miusynsk (non-government-controlled, 62km south-west of Luhansk).

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission observed three surface-to-air missile systems near residential houses in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and 79 additional weapons at two training areas in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region (for further information, see the table below).

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

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles on both sides of the contact line in Donetsk region and in government-controlled areas of Luhansk region, some near residential houses (for further information, see the table below).

Anti-personnel mines no longer present near Petrivske, Donetsk region

The Mission observed that a previously spotted transparent plastic bag filled with about 20 anti-personnel mines (assessed as PMN-2-type) lying on the ground about 2km north of Petrivske and about 170m east of road C051532, between Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk) and Petrivske, was no longer present (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 10 November 2020](#)).

Three meters west of the same road, about 2.4 km north of Petrivske, the Mission saw for the first time a red rectangular sign with “Danger Mines” written in Russian and a white skull and crossbones in the centre, marking a known minefield.

⁷ 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, maintenance to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable railway inspection and maintenance near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk) and between non-government-controlled Yasne (30km south-west of Donetsk) and Olenivka (23km south-west of Donetsk), repairs to water infrastructure near non-government-controlled Slovianoserbsk (28km north-west of Luhansk) and Krasnyi Lyman (30km north-west of Luhansk), as well as demining activities in agricultural fields near government-controlled Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk) and between government-controlled Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Orikhove (57km north-west of Luhansk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS.

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the Mission noted 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 were operational. While at the EECP and the checkpoint, the SMM observed civilian traffic in both directions.

The SMM noted that the EECP near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) was operational but did not observe any civilian traffic. It also observed that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Kremiets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) remained closed.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational. While at the EECP and the checkpoint, the SMM saw pedestrian traffic in both directions. The SMM also saw two golf carts operating between the EECP and the new section of the bridge.

The Mission noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were operational but that the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote and 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia remained closed.

Near the latter checkpoint, the Mission observed 16 workers with heavy equipment constructing metal steps for a public toilet, welding and installing metal poles around generators, painting markings on the asphalt and preparing metal poles for instalment around a water well.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Dnipro, Lviv, Odessa, Ivano-Frankivsk, 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 23 November 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.

Denials:

- At a checkpoint near Khreshchatytske (formerly Krasnoarmiiske, non-government-controlled, 86km south of Donetsk), two visibly armed members of the armed formations (men in their thirties and forties) denied the SMM passage towards Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), referring to ongoing demining activities in the area.
- At a checkpoint near Hryhorivka (non-government-controlled, 68km south of Donetsk) two visibly armed members of the armed formations (men in their thirties) denied the Mission passage towards the settlement, referring to a need for written permission from their 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 withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
19/11/2020	2	Multiple launch rocket system (type undetermined)	In a training area near Miusynsk (62km south-west of Luhansk)	Aerial imagery

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
22/11/2020	3	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33, <i>Osa</i>)	Near a residential area in Kalynove (35km north of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
Non-government-controlled areas				
20/11/2020	18	Tank (ten T-72 and eight T-64)	In a training area near Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk), where the same UAV also spotted 39 infantry fighting vehicles (21 BMP-1 and 18 BMP-2), ten armoured personnel carriers (nine MT-LB and one BTR-80), an anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm), two armoured combat vehicles and a combat engineering vehicle (IMR-2) ⁸	Mini-UAV
	4	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		
	18	Towed howitzer (D-30A <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		
	6	Towed anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		
	4	Towed mortar (2S12 <i>Sani</i> , 120mm)		
19/11/2020	2	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Miusynsk (62km south-west of Luhansk), where imagery also revealed the presence of 21 armoured combat vehicles	Aerial imagery
	10	Self-propelled howitzer (type undetermined)		
	13	Towed mortar (type undetermined)		
	4	Surface-to-air missile system (type undetermined)		

Table of indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁹

Date	No.	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
23/11/2020	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	Near Romanivka (41km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	4	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	In a residential area of Buhas (44km south-west of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-60)	In a residential area of Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70)	Near Vyskryva (76km west of Luhansk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
19/11/2020	2	Armoured combat vehicle	Near Petrivske (41km south of Donetsk)	Aerial imagery

⁸ The armoured combat vehicles and anti-aircraft guns mentioned in this table are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

⁹ 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 23 November 2020¹⁰

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	2-4km S	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Nov, 23:08
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	23-Nov, 04:41
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE, subsequent to the previous event	N/K	23-Nov, 04:41
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact, subsequent to the previous event	N/K	23-Nov, 04:41

¹⁰ 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 regions¹¹



¹¹ 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).