

Daily Report 283/2020

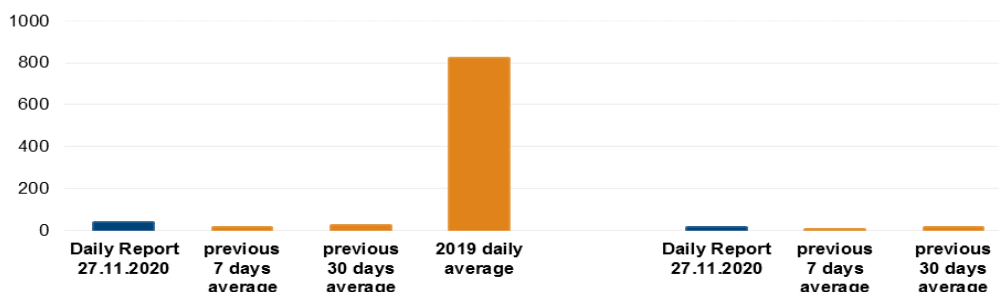
27 November 2020¹

Summary

- The SMM recorded 38 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and none in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded one ceasefire violation in Donetsk region and four in Luhansk region.
- Three children sustained injuries when an object exploded in Dmytrivka, Donetsk region.
- Small-arms fire was assessed as aimed at an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle north of Petrivske, Donetsk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to as well as the maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and four checkpoints of the armed formations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission observed a convoy of trucks with Russian Federation licence plates in non-government-controlled Donetsk city.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³



Number of recorded explosions⁴

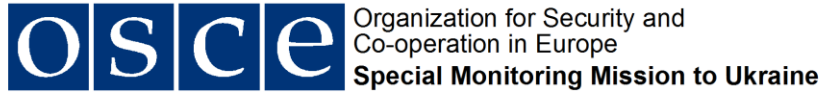
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 26 November 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

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

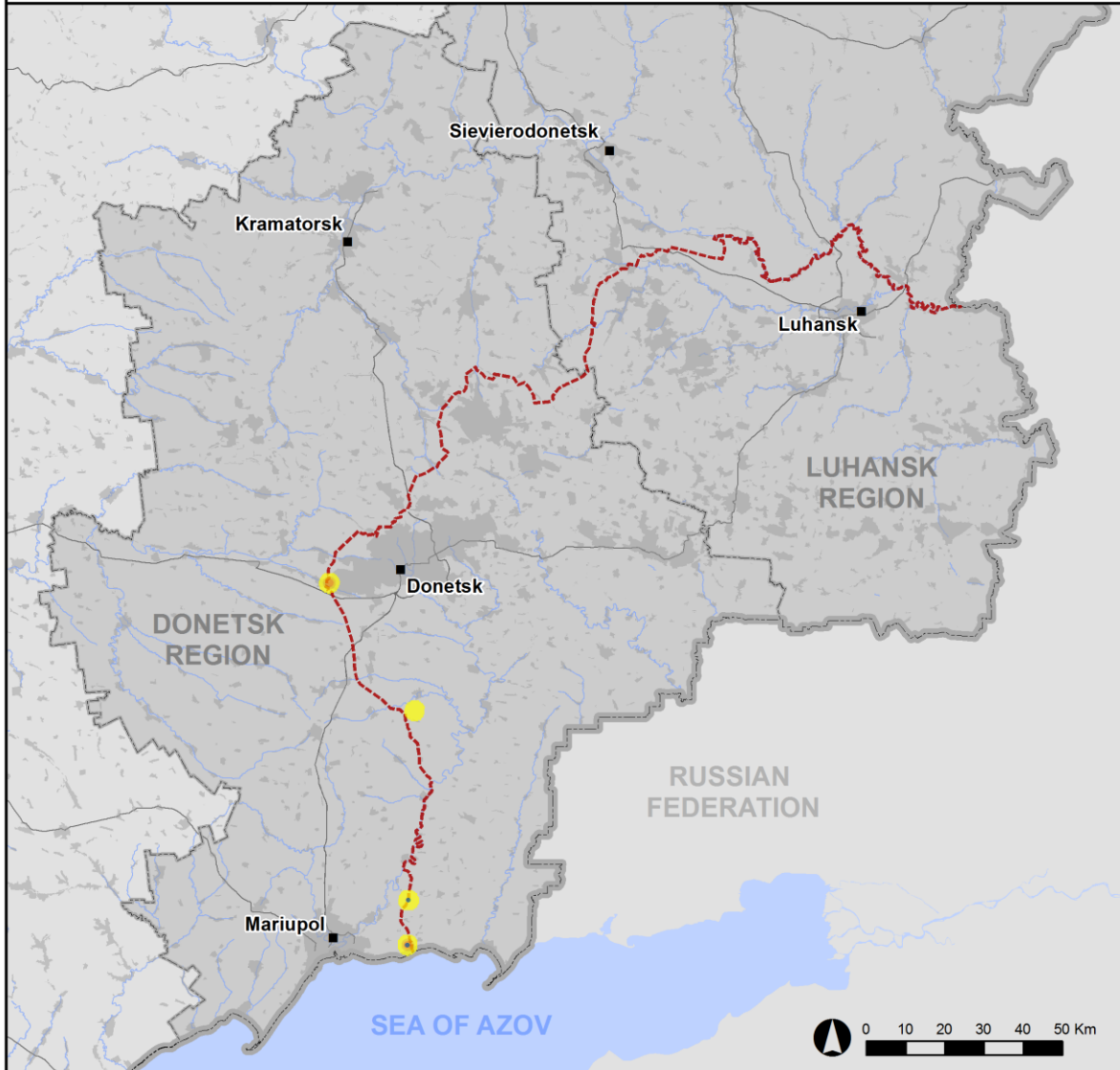
³ Including explosions

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

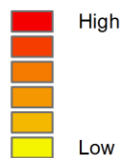
Map of recorded ceasefire violations



Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 26 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: 27/11/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 38 ceasefire violations in an area north-north-east of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk), including 11 undetermined explosions, and in an area west of Donetsk city's Trudivski area (non-government-controlled). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded one ceasefire violation.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. In the [previous reporting period](#), it recorded four 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 2,564 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 1,009 explosions, 80 projectiles in flight, 33 muzzle flashes, 27 illumination flares and 1,416 bursts and shots).

Three children injured by the explosion of an object in Dmytrivka, Donetsk region

The SMM followed up on reports of three children (aged ten, eight and two) in Dmytrivka (non-government-controlled, 85km east of Donetsk) who suffered injuries from the explosion of an object.

On 25 November, a woman (in her thirties) told the SMM over the phone that at about 20:00 on 22 September she had been inside her apartment on Tsentralna Street in Dmytrivka when her partner (man in his thirties) had set fire to an unidentified object in front of her three sons (ten, eight and two years old) in the yard of their house. The woman said that the object had exploded and caused injuries to her children, who had been brought by ambulance to a hospital in non-government-controlled Donetsk city, and to her partner. According to medical certificates presented by the mother, the two older boys sustained shrapnel injuries to their legs and the youngest boy sustained severe injuries to his right eye, all of which were consistent with injuries from an explosion. The mother added that the youngest boy had lost his eye as a result.

On the same day, a man (in his thirties), who introduced himself as the abovementioned woman's partner, told the Mission that on 22 September he had been taking out his livestock to graze in fields near Dmytrivka, where he had found a small aluminium tube with gunpowder inside. On the evening of the same day, he had set the object on fire in the yard of the apartment at the abovementioned address, in front of his partner's three sons, which then exploded, injuring the children. He added that he had sustained a minor injury to his right leg.

Small-arms fire assessed as directed at an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle near Petrivske, Donetsk region

While positioned about 2km north of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) to conduct a mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) flight, the Mission heard one shot and one burst of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 1km north-north-west (see below), assessed as directed at the UAV, which was flying about 1km north-north-west of the SMM's position. The Mission safely landed the aircraft and left the area.*

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

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).

While positioned 1.8km north of Petrivske, the Mission recorded one shot and one burst of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 1km north-north-west, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**, but within 5km of its periphery (see above).

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.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the SMM observed eight tanks and 13 self-propelled howitzers at two railway stations in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

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

The SMM spotted an anti-aircraft gun and five armoured combat vehicles near residential houses in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

Demining activities near Marinka, Donetsk region

On 26 November, on and near road H-15 about 1km south-east of Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM [again](#) saw five de-miners of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine conducting activities, assessed as related to demining.

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 power lines in Donetsk city’s Petrovskiyi district (non-government-controlled, 15km south-west of Donetsk city centre), as well as demining activities near Heivka (government-controlled, 27km north-west of Luhansk) and between government-controlled Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Orikhove (57km north-west of Luhansk).

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

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

The Mission also continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk).

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) was operational. It also noted that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka 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, with pedestrian traffic passing through in both directions. The Mission saw a shuttle bus operating between the checkpoint and a bus stop about 1.8km south 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.

Convoy of trucks with Russian Federation licence plates in non-government-controlled Donetsk city

The Mission observed a convoy of three covered cargo trucks with Russian Federation licence plates (with “Humanitarian Aid from the Russian Federation” written in Russian on their sides), escorted by three other vehicles (with “MChS” and “police” written on their sides) entering a compound near Donetsk city’s Budonivskyi district (for previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report 28 August 2020](#)).

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.

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.

Other impediments:

- While conducting a mini-UAV flight near Petrivske, the Mission heard a shot and a burst of small-arms fire, assessed as aimed at the mini-UAV (see above).

Table of weapons

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
26/11/2020	3	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	At a railway station in Druzhkivka (72km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	10	Self-propelled howitzer (2S3 <i>Akatsiya</i> , 152mm)		
	8	Tank (T-64)	At a railway station in Pokrovsk (formerly Krasnoarmiisk, 55km north-west of Donetsk)	

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
26/11/2020	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	Near a residential area of Zaitseve (62km north-east of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-1)		
	4	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near a residential area of Krasnohorivka (24 km north of Donetsk)	

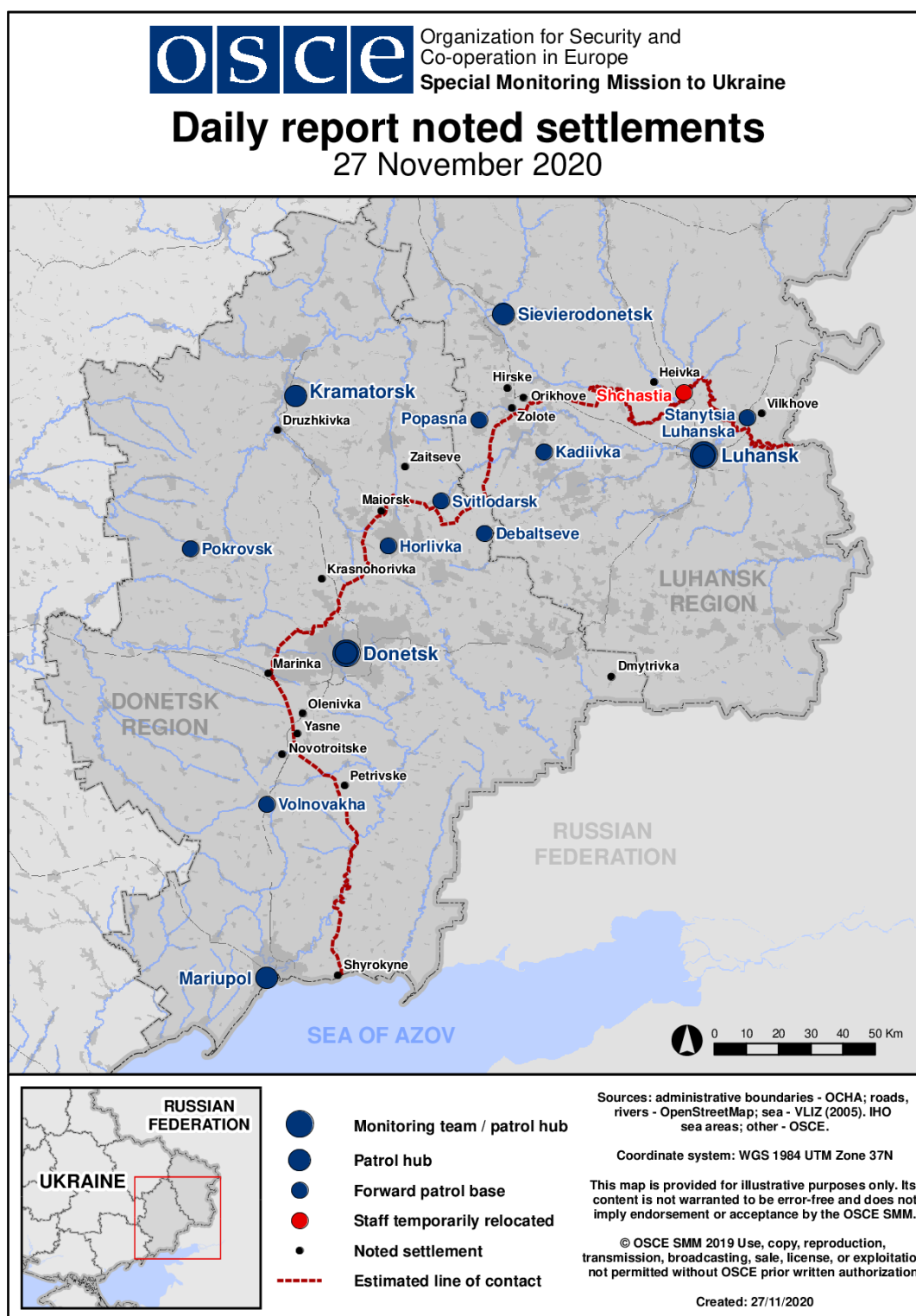
⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 26 November 2020⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government- controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Nov, 19:12
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE (subsequent to the previous event.)	N/K	25-Nov, 19:12
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to the previous event).	N/K	25-Nov, 19:12
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government- controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Nov, 22:11
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Nov, 22:13
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E (subsequent to the previous event)	N/K	25-Nov, 22:13
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Nov, 22:15
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E (subsequent to the previous event.)	N/K	25-Nov, 22:15
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Nov, 22:30
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E (subsequent to the previous event)	N/K	25-Nov, 22:30
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:01
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:02
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:05
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:07
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:08
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:09
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:10
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:11
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Nov, 00:12
About 2km N of Petrivske (non- government- controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	1km NNW	Heard	1	Shot	Assessed as outside of the disengagement area	Small arms	26-Nov, 11:27
	1km NNW	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside of the disengagement area	Small arms	26-Nov, 11:27
Trudivski area of Donetsk city (non-government- controlled, 15km SW of Donetsk city centre)	1-2km W	Heard	4	Burst		Small arms	26-Nov, 12:00-12:18
	1-2km W	Heard	12	Shot		HMG	26-Nov, 12:00-12:18
	1-2km W	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	26-Nov, 12:00-12:18

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).