

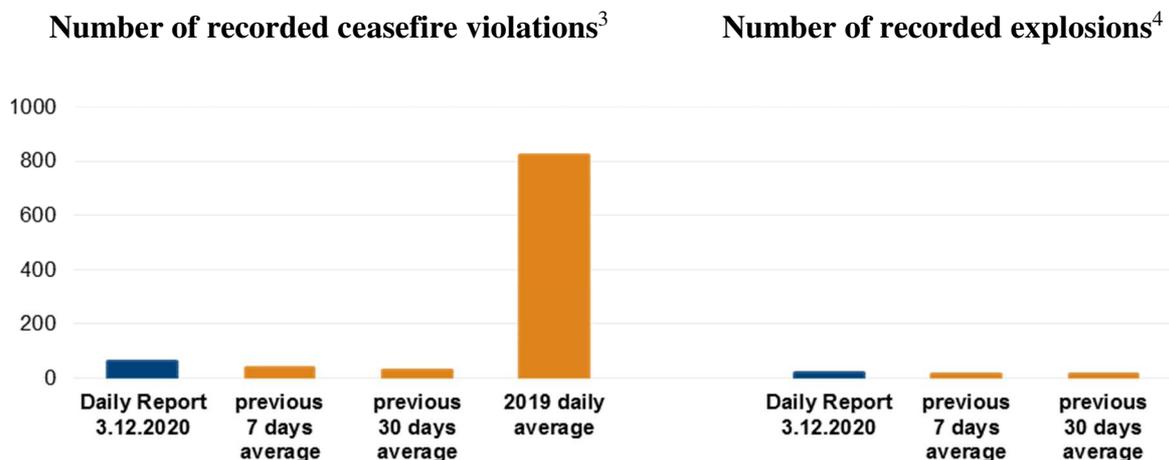
Daily Report 288/2020

3 December 2020¹

Summary

- The SMM recorded ten ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 12 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission recorded 52 ceasefire violations in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded eight ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM 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 maintenance and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at six entry-exit checkpoints and four checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions
- The Mission continues to monitor events in Zakarpattia.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 2 December 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 in the parking lot south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were not operational.

³ Including explosions.

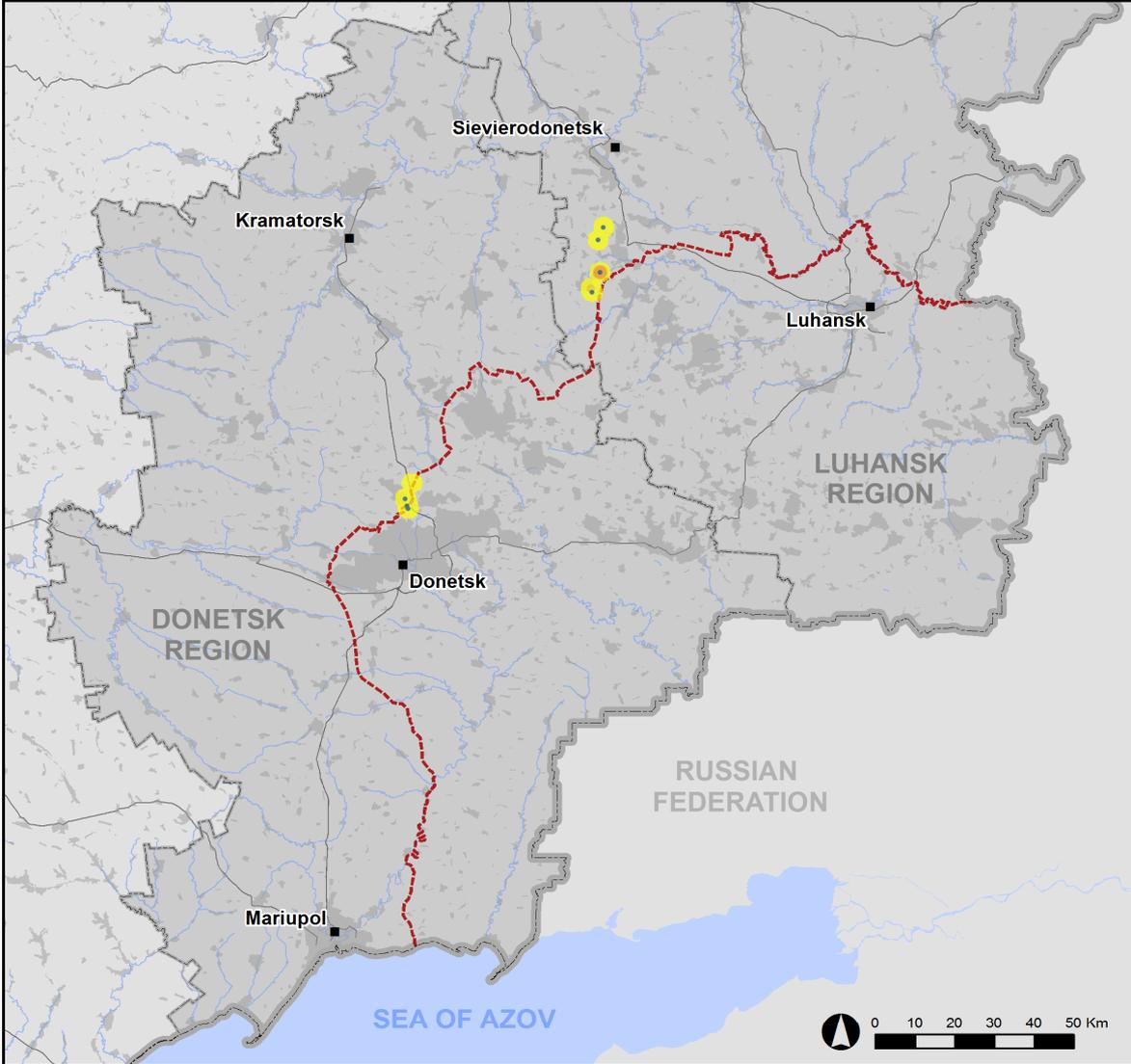
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

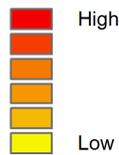


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 2 December 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: 03/12/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded ten ceasefire violations, including five undetermined explosions, all in areas near the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 12 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 52 ceasefire violations, including 15 undetermined explosions, all at northerly, easterly and southerly directions of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), some of which were recorded near the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded eight ceasefire violations in the region, all near the disengagement area near Zolote.

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 2,846 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 1,108 explosions, 89 projectiles in flight, 33 muzzle flashes, 27 illumination flares and 1,589 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 2 December, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), 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).

In the evening of 1 December and the night between 1 and 2 December, while in Popasna, the SMM heard 12 undetermined explosions and 28 shots and bursts of heavy-machine-gun and small-arms fire, all at an assessed range of 3-5km east and assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

On 2 December, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw three members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), accompanied by two people wearing protective gear, walking into the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returning.

On 2 December, while positioned at two 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.

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

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.

On 2 December, on the southern side of road H-15 leading from the checkpoint of the armed formations near Kreminets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk), about 3.5km south-west of Dubrivka (non-government-controlled, 7km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM saw about 15 members of the armed formations inside an open air polygon, conducting activities assessed as preparations for a live-fire exercise. Such exercises are in violation of the decision of the Trilateral Contact Group of 3 March 2016 that prohibits the conduct of live-fire training in the security zone.

On the same day, while positioned on the south-eastern edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), the SMM heard an explosion at an assessed range of about 1-2km east, assessed as a pre-announced controlled detonation of unexploded ordnance (UXO).

Mine hazard sign in Horlivka, Donetsk region

In a residential area of northern Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk), on eastern side of a local road, the SMM saw for the first time a billboard with “Do not leave the road! The area near the road is contaminated with mines!” written on it in Russian.

SMM facilitation of repairs to and maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to power lines near Smile (non-government-controlled, 31km north-west of Luhansk) and in the Trudivski area of Donetsk city’s Petrovskiy district (non-government-controlled, 15km south-west of Donetsk city centre), and water infrastructure in Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 61km west of Luhansk), as well as demining activities near government-controlled Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at two locations close to the station, the SMM recorded four ceasefire violations, including two undetermined explosions, all within a 5km radius of the station.

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoints (EECP) near government-controlled Novotroitske (36km south-west of Donetsk) and Marinka (23km south-west of Donetsk) were operational but did not observe any civilian traffic. It noted that the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) and near Kreminets were closed. At the latter checkpoint, the Mission saw a yellow bus with “Children” written on it and about ten men (mixed ages) in civilian clothing on board, driving from the checkpoint towards Oleksandrivka (non-government-controlled, 20km south-west of Donetsk).

The Mission also observed that the EECP Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk) was operational but did not see any civilian traffic.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was operational, with pedestrians queuing to travel towards non-government-controlled areas.

The Mission noted that the EECs 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.

The SMM met with interlocutors in Zakarpattia region

The SMM followed up on the situation in Zakarpattia region.

On 3 December, in Uzhhorod (182km west of Ivano-Frankivsk), the Head of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Regional Department in Zakarpattia region told the SMM that the search on 30 November in Uzhhorod had been conducted in accordance with the relevant legislation, adding that the court hearings on registration of the evidence would also take place in Uzhhorod.

On the same day, the SMM attempted to meet with the lawyers of the Transcarpathian Hungarian Cultural Association (KMKSZ) in Uzhhorod, but they were not ready to meet before checking with their superiors. They said they would revert in the following day or two.

Later that day, a knowledgeable member of the Hungarian community in Uzhhorod told the Mission that the Hungarian anthem had been sung within the local population along with the Ukrainian anthem for many years and that there had been no issues in the past. He added that apart from initial media reports he had not heard more about a recent event at which Hungarian anthem had been sung. Another member of the Hungarian community in Uzhhorod told the SMM that all communities in Zakarpattia had been living together peacefully for many decades and that they all had a clear understanding that the recent events are stirred to create divisions among the communities living in Zakarpattia.

The SMM will continue to follow up.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Dnipro, Lviv, 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 (see [SMM Daily Report 1 December 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.

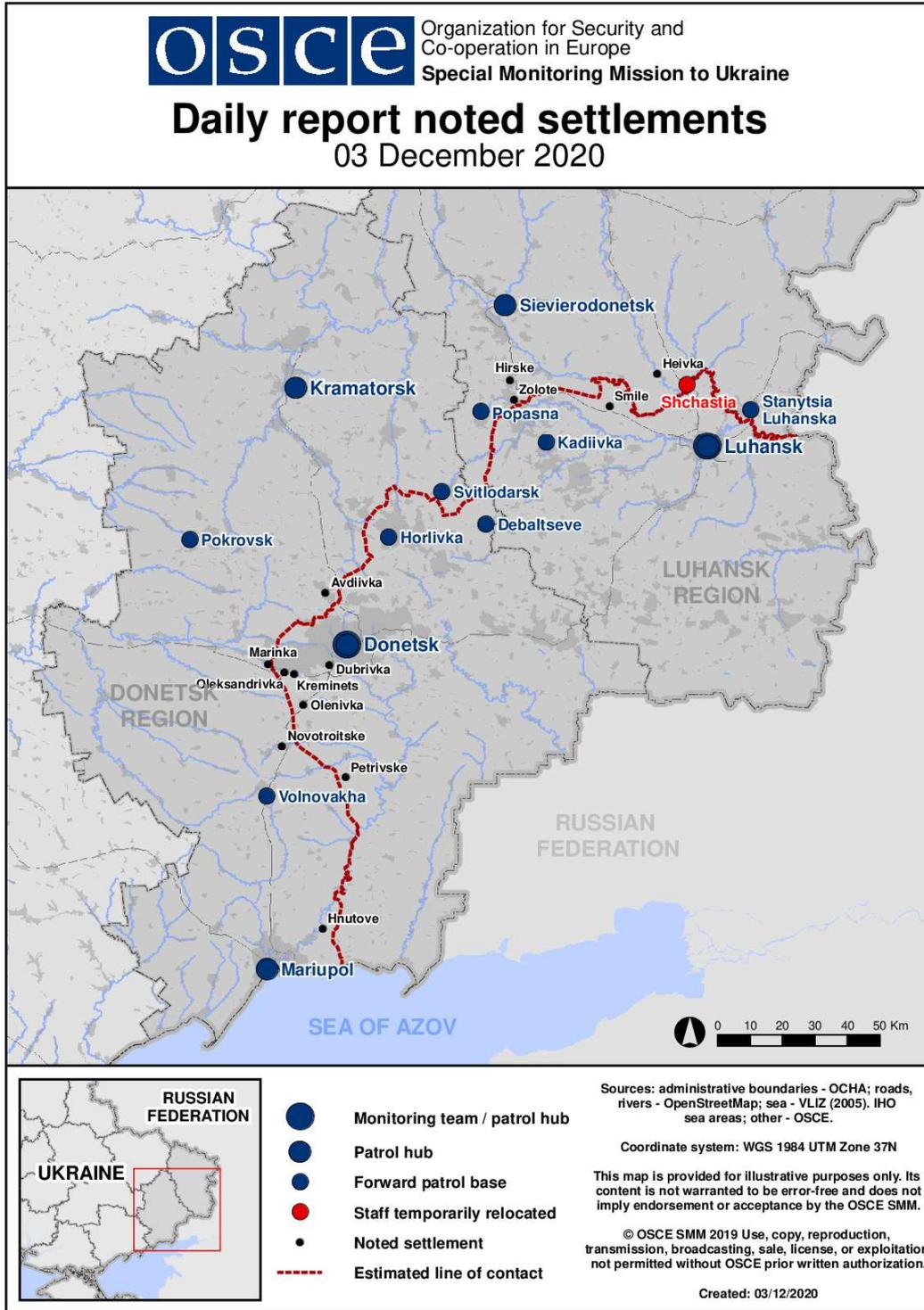
Table of ceasefire violations as of 2 December 2020⁷

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	1-Dec, 20:57
	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	1-Dec, 21:00
	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	1-Dec, 21:09
	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	1-Dec, 21:13
	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	1-Dec, 21:13
	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka)	N/K	1-Dec, 23:00
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasyuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Dec, 13:17
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	1-2km SE	Heard	2	Shot		HMG	2-Dec, 09:45
	6-8km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Dec, 13:16
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	10-15km NNE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	1-Dec, 19:07
	3-5km E	Heard	7	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	1-Dec, 19:08
	8-10km NNE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	1-Dec, 19:37-19:38
	3-5km E	Heard	15	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	1-Dec, 19:37-19:38
	3-5km E	Heard	5	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	HMG	1-Dec, 19:37-19:38
	3-5km E	Heard	12	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the	N/K	1-Dec, 19:51-20:03

⁷ 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.

					disengagement area)		
	3-5km E	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	HMG	1-Dec, 19:57
	5-6km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Dec, 01:51
	4-5km SSE	Heard	7	Shot		Small arms	2-Dec, 01:51-01:53
	4-5km SSE	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	2-Dec, 01:52-01:53

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions⁸



⁸ 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).