

# Daily Report 290/2020

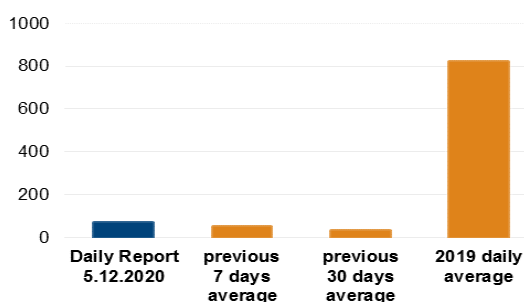
5 December 2020<sup>1</sup>

## Summary

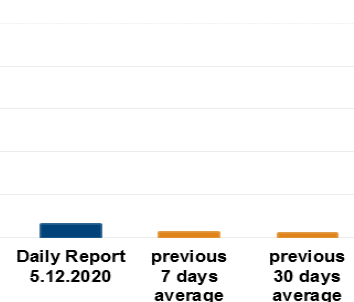
- The SMM recorded 57 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 79 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission recorded 13 ceasefire violations in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.
- The 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 the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and five checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission continued monitoring the situation in Zakarpattia.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a checkpoint in non-government controlled Yasynuvata, Donetsk region.\*

## 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, 4 December 2020. All times are in Eastern European 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.

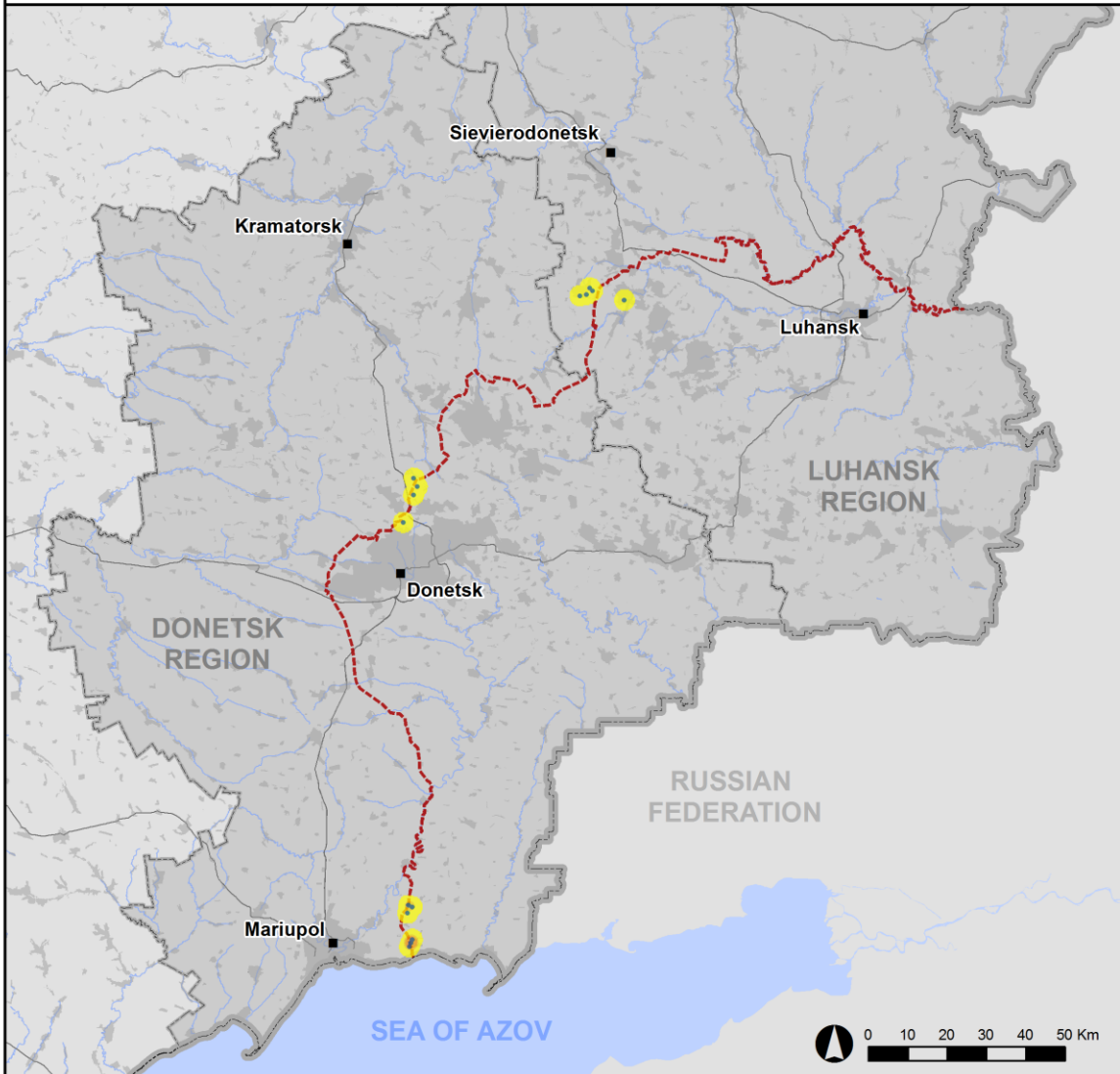
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations



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

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 4 December 2020



#### Ceasefire violation concentration

- High
- 
- Low

- 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: 04/12/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 57 ceasefire violations, including 28 undetermined explosions at north-easterly directions of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk) and 13 undetermined explosions at south-easterly directions of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 79 ceasefire violations in the region, including 26 undetermined explosions at north-easterly directions of Shyrokyne

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 13 ceasefire violations, including eight undetermined explosions at southerly directions of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded no 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 2,995 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 1,215 explosions, 89 projectiles in flight, 37 muzzle flashes, 37 illumination flares and 1,617 bursts and shots).

### Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske<sup>5</sup>

On 4 December, 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) on the southern edge of the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

In the night between 3 and 4 December, while on the northern edge of Popasna, the Mission recorded two undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 4-5km south-east, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), but within 5km of its periphery. On 4 December, the Mission saw three members of the armed formations (wearing an armband with “JCCC” written on it) near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, two of whom it saw walking into the area up to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returning, accompanied by one person wearing protective gear.

On 4 December, while positioned at three 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.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission spotted one self-propelled anti-aircraft system in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region.

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

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

The SMM saw three armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (for further information, see the table below).

## **Unexploded ordnance (UXO) near Debaltseve, Donetsk region**

On 1 December, about 150m south of road M-04 between Debaltseve (non-government-controlled, 58km north-east of Donetsk) and Deperativka (non-government-controlled, 65km west of Luhansk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a tail of a rocket projectile (9M27F 220mm) with four folding fins sticking out of the ground, assessed as not recent.

About 300m south-west of Lohvynove (non-government-controlled, 59km north-east of Donetsk) near road M-03, the same UAV spotted a crater at the location of a previously observed 125mm tank round (for previous observations in the area see [SMM Daily Report 13 November 2020](#)).

## **SMM facilitation of repairs to 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), as well as demining activities near government-controlled Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Orikhove (57km north-west of Luhansk) and near government-controlled Lopaskyne (23km north-west of Luhansk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk). While positioned at two locations near the DFS, the SMM recorded two undetermined explosions 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 checkpoint (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk), as well as the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) were operational, with vehicles and pedestrians traveling in both directions. The Mission noted that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk) was closed.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska, as well as the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational, with pedestrians queueing to travel in both directions.

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. At the latter checkpoint, the SMM saw three workers drilling holes on the eastern side of the checkpoint.

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

## **The SMM continued monitoring the situation in Zakarpattia region**

The SMM followed up on reports about an Internet video in which a man in military-type clothing standing next to a “Berehove” road sign directs verbal threats towards the Hungarian minority in Ukraine. On 2 December, two representatives of a Ukrainian patriotic organization told the Mission that their organization had no association with the video. On 4 December, an officer of the Zakarpattia Regional Police told the SMM that police had launched an investigation related to the video.

On 5 December, a man (in his twenties) in Mynai (184km west of Ivano-Frankivsk), a settlement near Uzhhorod (182km west of Ivano-Frankivsk), told the SMM by phone that he had attended school and university in Hungarian and Ukrainian languages, respectively, and, being of Hungarian descent and speaking Hungarian while living in Zakarpattia, had not faced any problems.

The SMM will continue to follow up on the situation.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Kharkiv, Odessa, Dnipro, Lviv, 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 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.*

### Denials of access:

- On 4 December, at a checkpoint of the armed formations in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), two members of the armed formations, one visibly armed, denied the SMM passage through the checkpoint towards road M-04 citing “a special operation in the area”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission saw civilian cars being denied passage through it.

### *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:

- On 4 December, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk).<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAV's position.

## Tables of weapons

### Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
04/12/2020	1	Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (2K22 <i>Tunguska</i> )	In Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk)	Patrol

### **Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>8</sup>**

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
03/12/2020	1	Probable armoured carrier (BTR-variant)	Near Shchastia (20km north of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)		
04/12/2020	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-type)	Near Kamianka (20km north of Donetsk)	Patrol

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<sup>8</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 4 December 2020<sup>9</sup>**

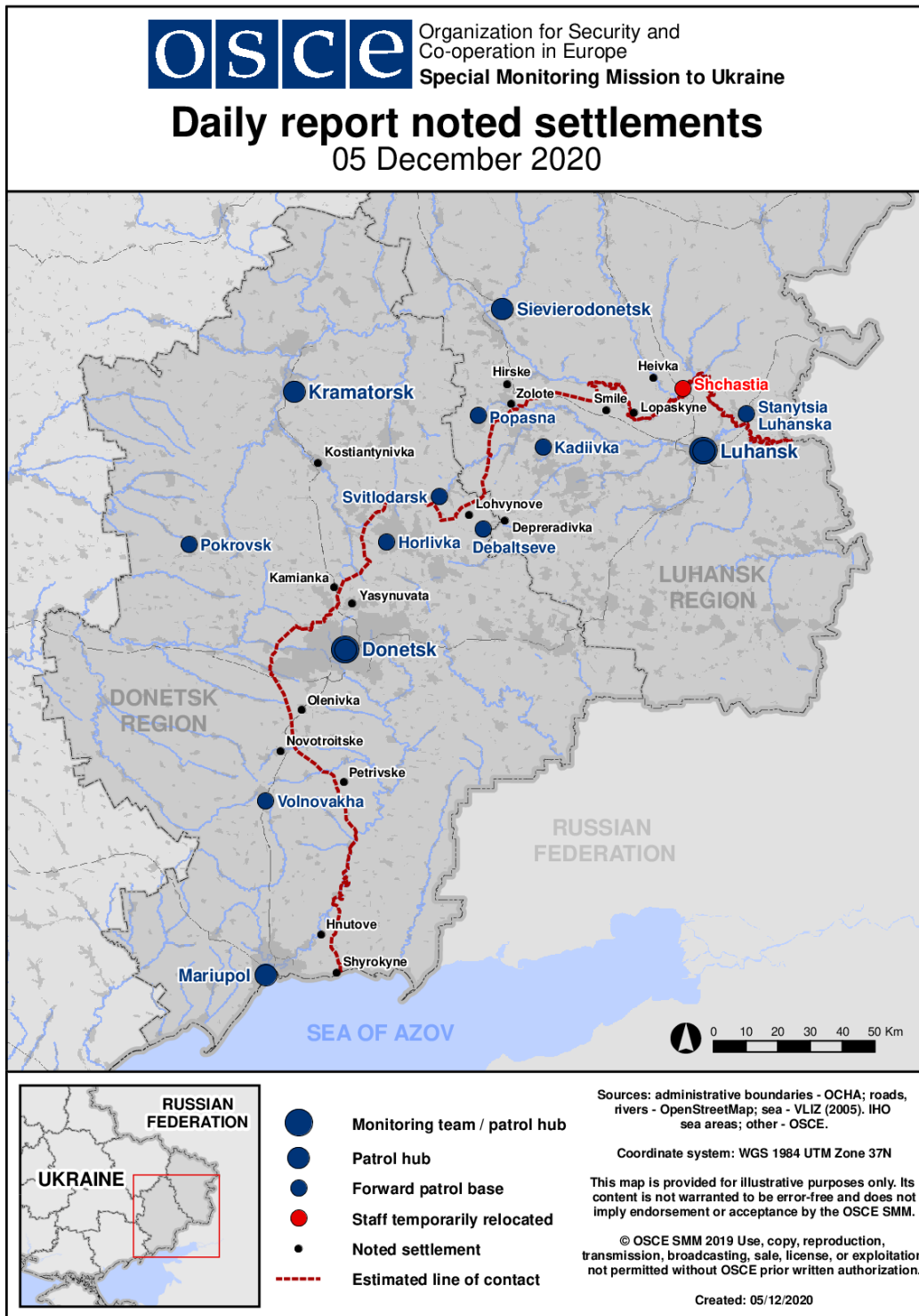
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government- controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:30
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:31
	4-6km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:31
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:32
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:33
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:34
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:36
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:38
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:39
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:40
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government- controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (also recorded by the SMM camera near Hnutove)	N/K	3-Dec, 22:32
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 02:57
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	4-Dec, 02:57
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 02:58
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 02:59
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	4-Dec, 02:59
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 03:00
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 03:01
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Burst	In vertical flight	N/K	4-Dec, 03:01
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 03:02
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 03:03
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 03:04
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Burst	In vertical flight	N/K	4-Dec, 03:05
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 03:06
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 03:07
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Muzzle flash		N/K	4-Dec, 03:08
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:31
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:32
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:33
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:34
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:35
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:36
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:37
4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:38	
4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 05:40	
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	4-Dec, 05:56
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 16:51
About 1km NW of the railway station in	5-6km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 13:17

<sup>9</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.



Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)							
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	3km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 10:19
	3km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 11:10
	3km NE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 11:59
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4-5km SSE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Dec, 21:28-21:33
	4-5km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 03:53
	4-5km S	Heard	3	Burst		N/K	4-Dec, 04:07
	4-5km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 04:08
	3-4km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 04:34
	4-5km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 04:44-04:48
Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	2-3km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 12:10
	2-3km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 12:35

### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>10</sup>



<sup>10</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).