

Daily Report 2/2021

5 January 2021¹

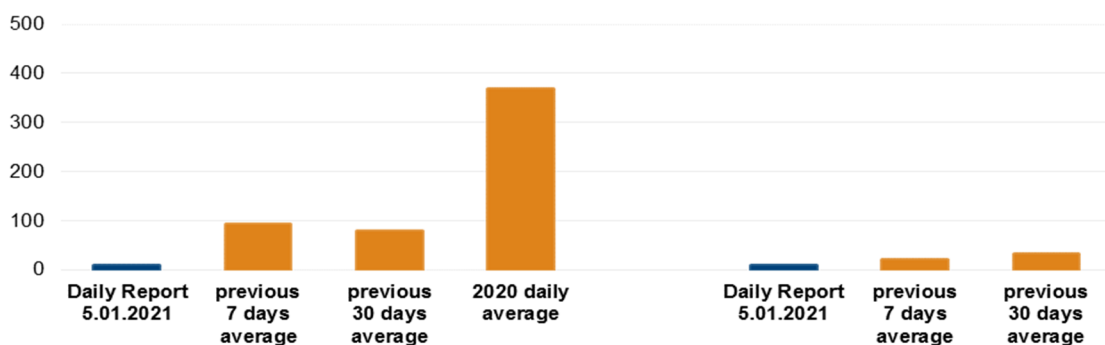
Summary

- The SMM recorded seven ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 112 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission recorded one ceasefire violation in Luhansk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. Inside the area near Petrivske, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle spotted people near former positions of the armed formations during daytime hours.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable construction and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM monitored a march in Kyiv.
- 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, 4 January 2021. 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 Zolote were not operational and weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of most of the other SMM cameras.

³ Including explosions.

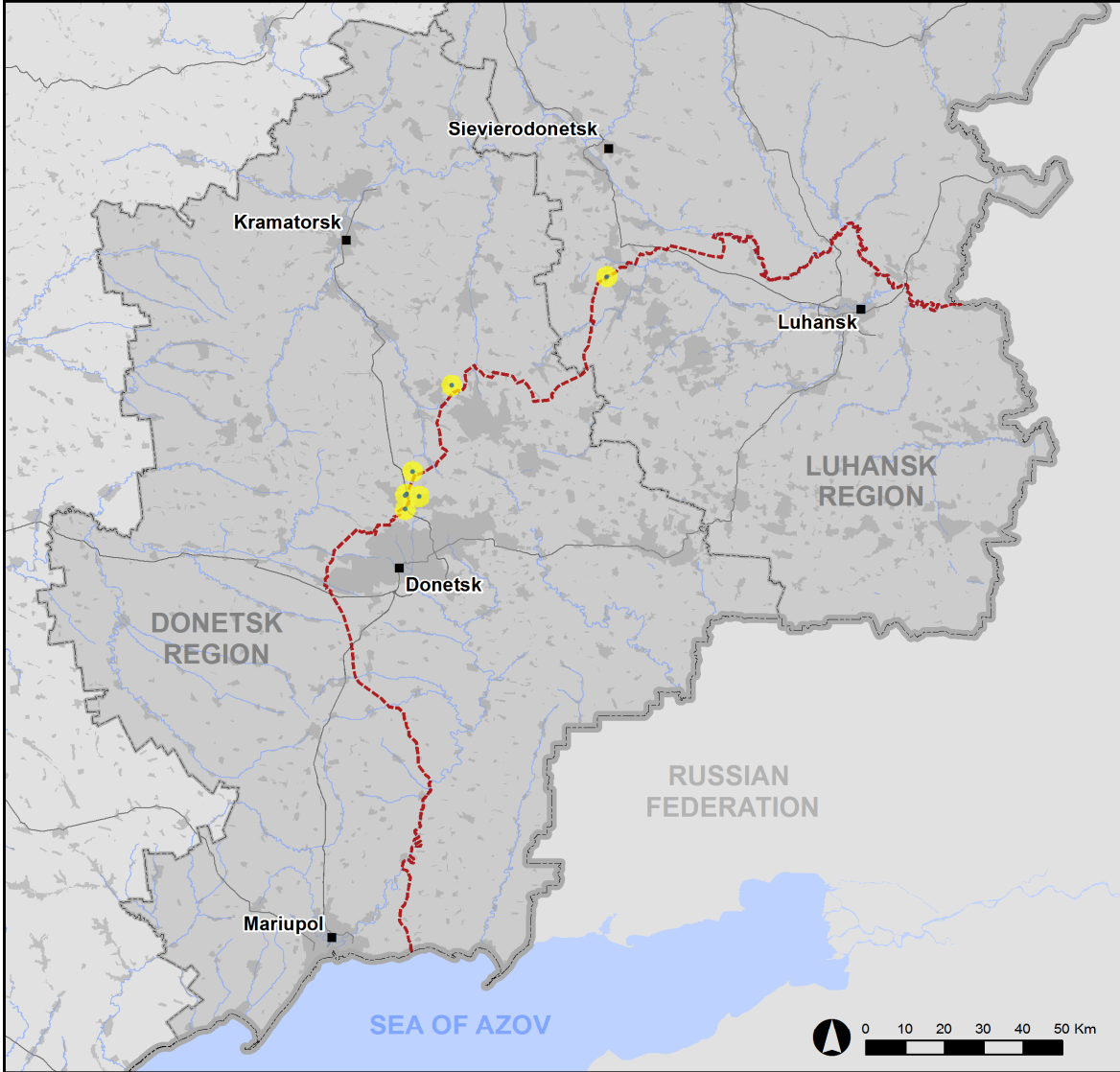
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

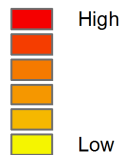


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 4 January 2021



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.

© OSCE SMM 2019 Use, copy, reproduction, transmission, broadcasting, sale, license, or exploitation not permitted without OSCE prior written authorization.

Created: 05/01/2021

In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded seven ceasefire violations, all undetermined explosions, five of which occurred in areas near the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the SMM recorded 112 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation – an undetermined explosion in an area west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), 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 at least 5,322 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 2,183 explosions, 665 projectiles in flight, 61 muzzle flashes, 51 illumination flares and at least 2,362 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 4 January, the SMM observed two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), south of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

On the same day, while positioned on the northern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the Mission recorded an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 3-4km south-west, assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the area, the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), who in pairs walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned, on two separate occasions.

During the day on 1 January, inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted five people wearing camouflage clothing: three at a former position of the armed formations near the area’s south-eastern corner, and two about 300m north-west of its south-eastern corner, walking in a southerly direction.

On the eastern edge of the area, in a field about 375m north-north-west of its south-eastern corner, the UAV also spotted a stationary car.

On 4 January, while positioned at three locations near the area, the SMM observed a calm situation.

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

SMM facilitation of construction and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at two locations near the station, the SMM heard five undetermined explosions, all assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

The Mission also monitored the security situation around the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk). While positioned near the station, the SMM heard an undetermined explosion.

The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable the construction of a power line between government-controlled Lopaskyne (23km north-west of Luhansk) and Lobacheve (17km north-west of Luhansk), as well as demining activities near government-controlled Hirske (63km west of Luhansk) and Myrna Dolyna (67km north-west of Luhansk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the Mission saw 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 (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) were operational, with traffic passing through the checkpoint in both directions. Throughout its presence at the EECP, the Mission observed no traffic passing through it.

In Luhansk region, the SMM noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational, with pedestrians passing through 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.

On the eastern edge of the latter checkpoint, the Mission observed two workers welding metal and an excavator being used to dig up soil nearby.

SMM monitored a march in Kyiv

On 1 January in Kyiv, the SMM monitored a peaceful march of about 3,000-3,500 people (mixed genders and ages) commemorating the birth of Stepan Bandera. The Mission saw participants gathering in Shevchenko Park and then walking along Volodymyrska Street to Khreshchatyk from where they proceeded until Maidan Nezalezhnosti. It saw many of them carrying lit torches, Ukrainian flags and flags of various political parties and movements as well as chanting patriotic slogans. During the march, the Mission also saw about 500 police officers.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro and Chernivtsi.

***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 Minsk agreements 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 29 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:

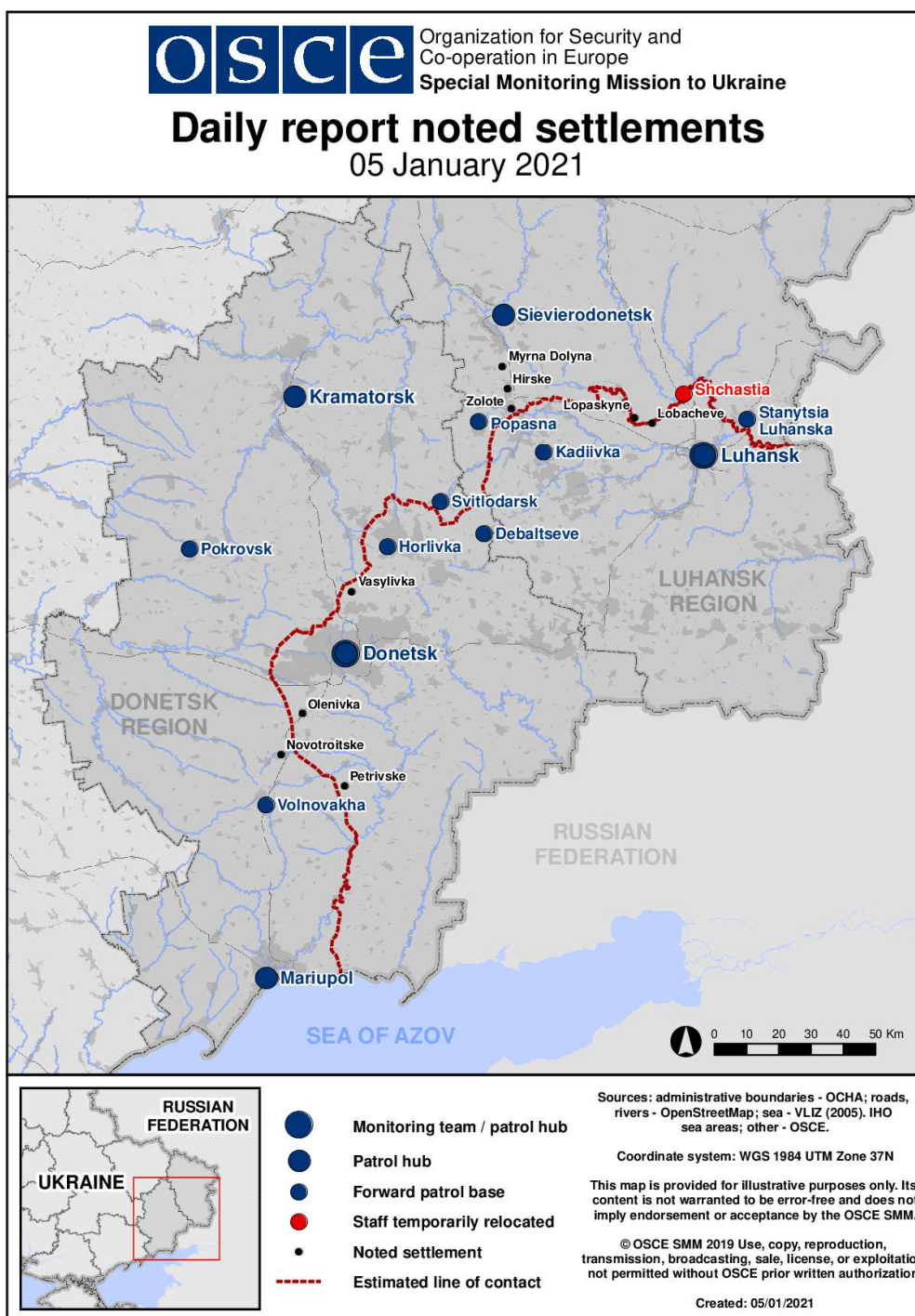
- The sides continued to deny the SMM full access, as well as the ability to travel certain roads previously identified as important for effective monitoring by the Mission and for civilians' movement, through failure to conduct comprehensive clearance of mines, UXO and other obstacles.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 4 January 2021⁶

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
About 300m SE of Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	4-5km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Jan, 10:21
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-4km NE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (inside 5km radius of DFS)	N/K	4-Jan, 11:21
	2-3km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (inside 5km radius of DFS)	N/K	4-Jan, 11:32
	2-3km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (inside 5km radius of DFS)	N/K	4-Jan, 11:46
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	5-6km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (inside 5km radius of DFS)	N/K	4-Jan, 10:21
Ozarianivka (formerly Pershe Travnia, government-controlled, 52km N of Donetsk)	5-7km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Jan, 12:27
NE edge of Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km W of Luhansk)	3-4km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area)	N/K	4-Jan, 10:45

⁶ 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 regions⁷



⁷ 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).