

# Daily Report 41/2021

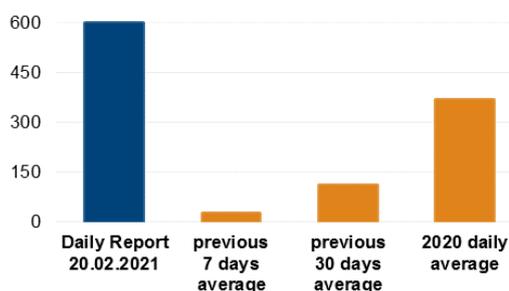
20 February 2021<sup>1</sup>

## Summary

- The SMM recorded 594 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded three ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission recorded eight ceasefire violations in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded one ceasefire violation in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske, and again saw containers inside and near the southern edge of the area near Zolote.
- The Mission saw for the first time 45 anti-tank mines near Dokuchaievsk, Donetsk region.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs and operation of critical civilian infrastructure. It heard 436 ceasefire violations close to the DFS, during and near the times when a bus with DFS workers was driving towards the station and then returned towards Yasynuvata.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and three corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.\*

## 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, 19 February 2021. 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, and weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some of the other SMM cameras.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

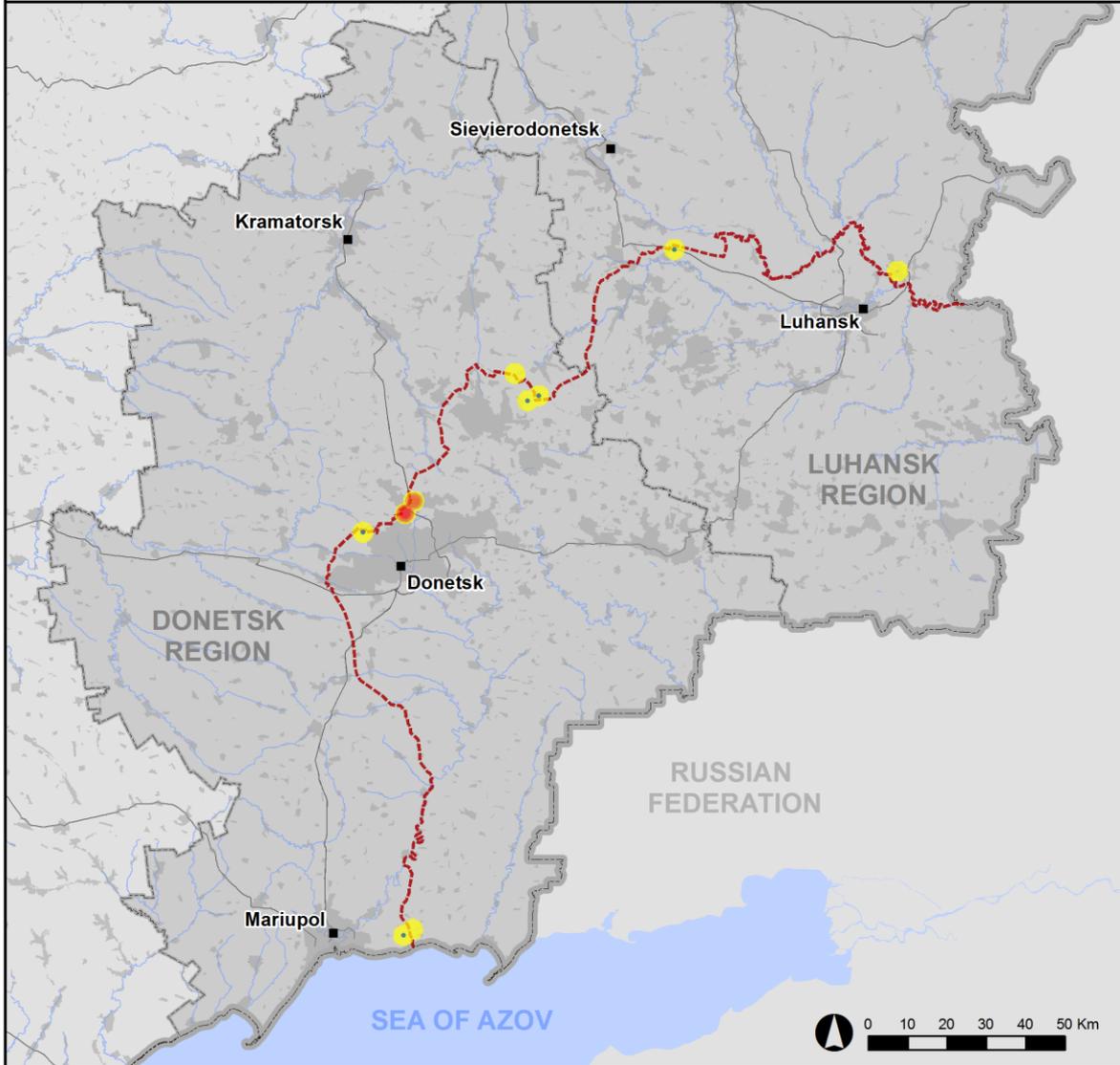
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

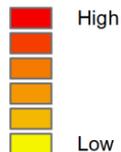


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 19 February 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.

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Created: 20/02/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 594 ceasefire violations, including nine undetermined explosions. Five hundred and eighty of these ceasefire violations occurred in areas south of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded three ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded eight ceasefire violations, including an undetermined explosion. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in an area north of the disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded one ceasefire violation.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July 2020 regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, from 00:01 on 27 July 2020 until the end of the reporting period, the SMM has so far recorded at least 10,286 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 3,355 explosions, 1,126 projectiles in flight, 101 muzzle flashes, 61 illumination flares and at least 5,643 bursts and shots).

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

On the night between 19 and 20 February, while in Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM heard seven shots of undetermined weapons at an assessed range of 2-3km west, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 19 February, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska**, the SMM saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) on the southern edge of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

While positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM again saw five containers inside a fenced perimeter south of the area’s southern edge, on the southern edge of the road leading eastwards towards Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 61km west of Luhansk). The Mission observed 17 workers placing concrete tiles between the containers, as well as painting the fence and welding metal posts inside the perimeter. The Mission again saw concrete blocks stacked along the northern edge of the fenced perimeter. Near the same checkpoint, the SMM also saw for the first time two metal posts together, fixed on the western and eastern edge of road T-1316, assessed to be used to regulate traffic

The SMM again saw another container, which was previously located about 30m north of the area’s southern edge, on the area’s southern edge.

Inside the area, the SMM again saw a container about 60-70m north of the other five containers and another one about 350m north of the area’s southern edge, both on the western edge of road T-1316. About 10-30m north of the former container, the Mission again saw six concrete blocks placed in three rows across both lanes of the same road.

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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.

The Mission also saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), four of whom walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

On 19 February, while positioned on the western edge of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM observed one civilian car with three men in military-style clothing driving westward on road C-051532 towards Viktorivka (non-government-controlled, 42km south-west of Donetsk), outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**. It observed the same vehicle drive back towards Petrivske ten minutes later with five men inside, four of which in military-style clothing.

On the same day, while positioned about 2km north of Petrivske, the Mission observed one civilian car with four men in military-style clothing, driving southwards from Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk) towards Petrivske.

### **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 of designated storage sites, the Mission observed 22 towed howitzers and four anti-tank guns in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk region, all at railway stations (for further information, see the table below).

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

The SMM saw five armoured combat vehicles in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

### **Presence of anti-tank mines near Dokuchaievsk, Donetsk region**

On 17 February, in a field about 4.5km south-east of Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk), an SMM mid-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted for the first time about 45 anti-tank mines laid in two rows running from south-east to north-west, assessed as belonging to the armed formations (not visible in imagery from 19 December 2020).

### **SMM facilitation of maintenance, operation and repairs to critical civilian infrastructure**

The SMM continued to facilitate the maintenance and operation of the DFS. While positioned on the south-eastern edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), the Mission recorded 580 bursts and shots of small-arms fire within a 5km radius of the DFS, 436 of which occurred during and near the times when a bus with DFS workers was driving towards the DFS and then returned to Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk).

The Mission also facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to the phenol sludge reservoir near Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km

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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.

north-east of Donetsk), to water infrastructure between Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) and Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk) and in Krasnyi Lyman (non-government-controlled, 30km north-west of Luhansk) as well as to enable maintenance of and repairs to a power line near Holubivske (non-government-controlled, 51km west of Luhansk) and to sewage infrastructure near a government-controlled area of Dolomitne (53km north-east of Donetsk). While positioned near Dolomitne, the SMM heard seven ceasefire violations, including three shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 500m west of its position.

### **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 (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) were open and saw civilian traffic passing through in both directions.

In Luhansk region, at about 9:05 and 10:15 a.m. at the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Stanytsia Luhanska, the Mission saw about 20 and 15 people (mixed genders and ages), respectively, queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas, and about 50 people (mixed genders and ages) and 35 people, respectively, queuing in the opposite direction. The Mission observed a golf cart operating between the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge and the EECP.

The SMM also noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were open but did not observe any people passing through, and that the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote and 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia were closed.

### **Mission monitored a gathering in Kyiv**

On 19 February, outside the building of the Office of the President of Ukraine, Bankova street, 11, the Mission monitored a gathering of about 15 men (in their twenties), some of whom carried a red and black banner and held signs expressing criticism of the owner of a TV broadcaster. Subsequently, the SMM saw two groups of ten men each (in their twenties and thirties), some of them carrying banners of the Tradition and Order and of the National Corps, join the gathering. The SMM saw more than 100 law enforcement officers standing nearby.

The Mission 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, [SMM Daily Report of 19 February 2021](#)). 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 weapons

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

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
19/2/2021	4	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	At a railway station in Sloviansk (95km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	12	Towed howitzer (2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i> , 152mm )		
	10	Towed howitzer (2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i> , 152mm)	Near a railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk)	

### **Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>7</sup>**

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
17/2/201	2	Armoured personnel carrier (one BTR variant and one probable BTR-70).	In residential area of Nova Marivka (64km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
	3	Infantry fighting vehicle (one BMP variant and two BMP-2)		

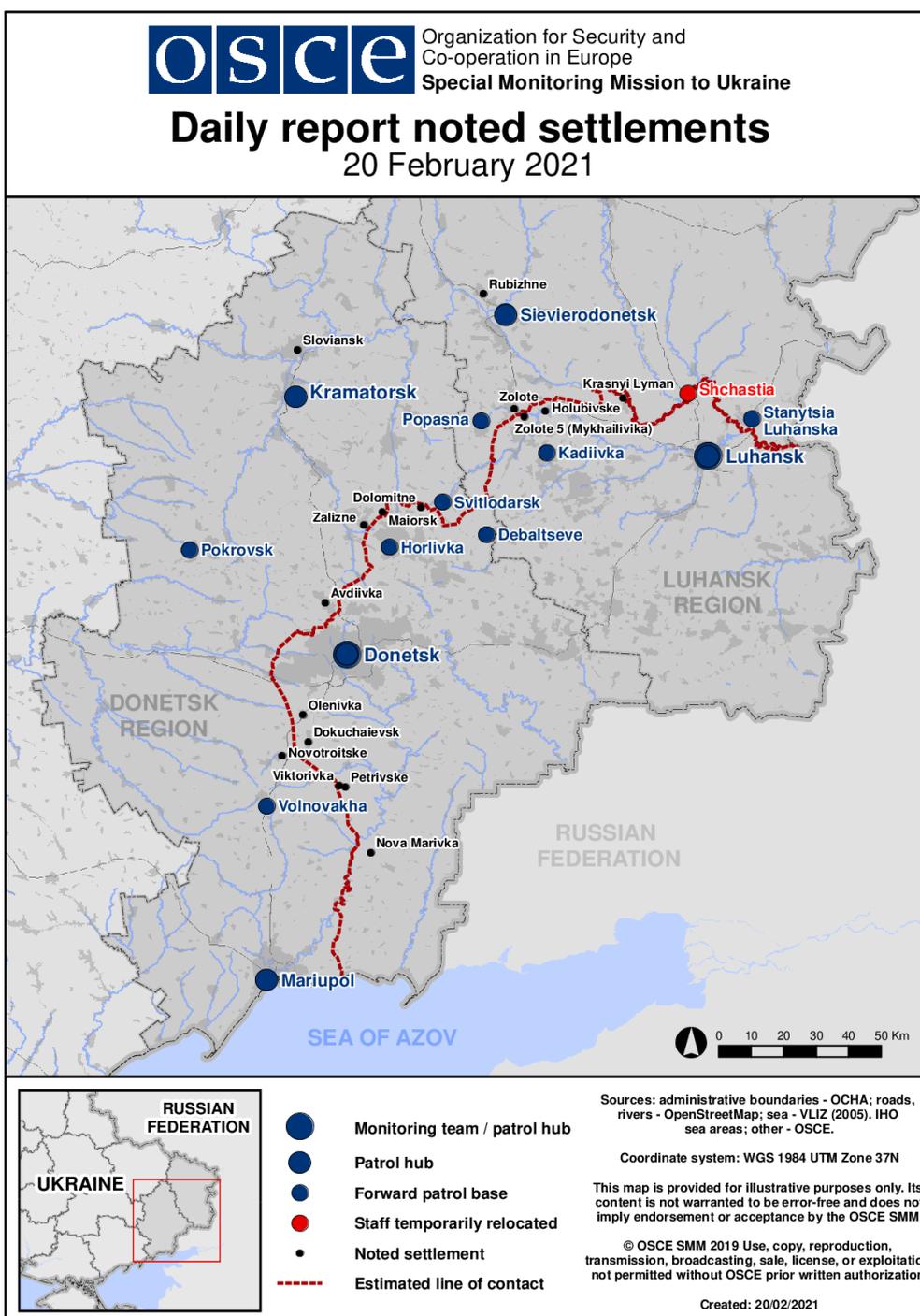
<sup>7</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

**Table of ceasefire violations as of 19 February 2021<sup>8</sup>**

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	4-6km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Feb, 05:18
	4-6km W	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Feb, 05:48
	4-6km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Feb, 05:50
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	18-Feb, 19:00
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	19-Feb, 00:37
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Feb, 00:52
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-4km SSE	Heard	4	Burst		Small arms	19-Feb, 09:00-09:30
	3-4km SSE	Heard	250	Shot		Small arms	19-Feb, 09:00-09:30
	3-4km E	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	19-Feb, 09:31-10:00
	3-4km E	Heard	180	Shot		Small arms	19-Feb, 09:31-10:00
	3-4km SSE	Heard	4	Burst		Small arms	19-Feb, 10:15-10:45
	3-4km SSE	Heard	75	Shot		Small arms	19-Feb, 10:15-10:45
	3-4km SSE	Heard	65	Shot		Small arms	19-Feb, 10:46-11:15
About 1km SW of Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km NE of Donetsk)	7-8km SSE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Feb, 11:53
	500m W	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	19-Feb, 11:58
	8km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Feb, 12:12
E edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	2-3km W	Heard	7	Shot		N/K	19-Feb, 00:34-00:39
Sentianivka (formerly Frunze, non-government-controlled, 44km W of Luhansk)	5-7km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	19-Feb, 11:19-11:25

<sup>8</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.

### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>9</sup>



<sup>9</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).