

# Daily Report 47/2021

27 February 2021<sup>1</sup>

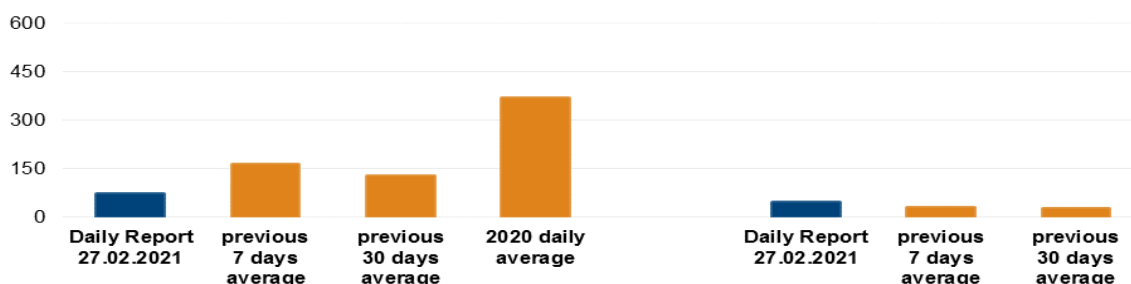
## Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 41 ceasefire violations. In the previous reporting period, it recorded ten ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 30 ceasefire violations. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 20 ceasefire violations 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 and people inside the latter area during daytime.
- The Mission observed weapons in violation of withdrawal lines on both sides of the contact line in Donetsk region.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission 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, including at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka, 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, 26 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.

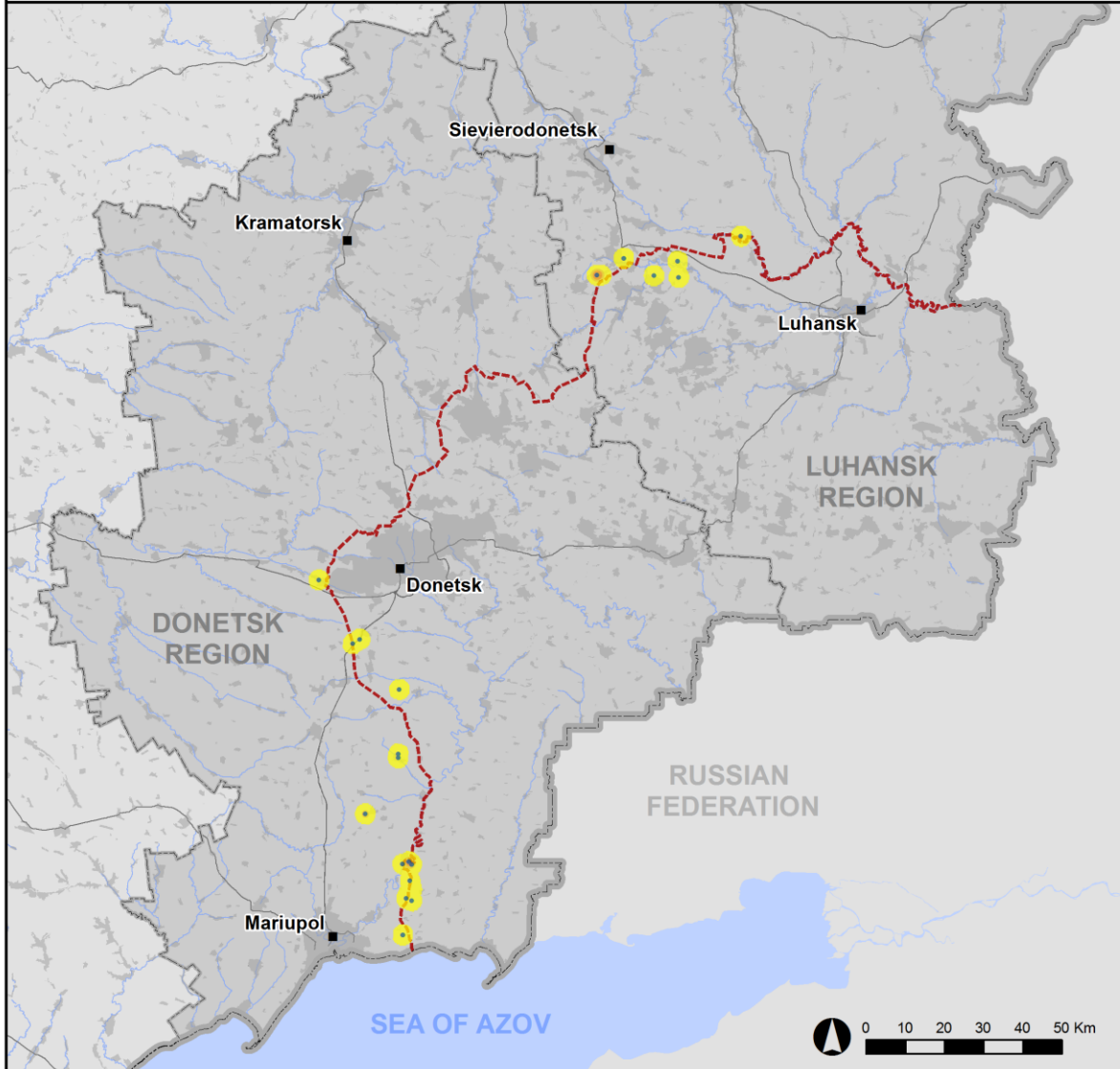
<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

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

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

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

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 26 February 2021



#### 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: 26/02/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 41 ceasefire violations, including 34 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas south-east of Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk) and west of Novoselivka (government-controlled, 66km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded ten ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 30 ceasefire violations, including ten undetermined explosions, most of which occurred in areas east and west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 20 ceasefire violations.

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 10,899 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 3,599 explosions, 1,239 projectiles in flight, 105 muzzle flashes, 62 illumination flares and at least 5,894 bursts and shots).

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

On 26 February, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) south of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

On the same day, while positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote**, 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 SMM again saw concrete blocks placed along the northern edge of the fenced perimeter.

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 and another 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.

While positioned near the same checkpoint of the armed formations, the Mission saw three members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), all of whom walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned. The SMM also saw an ambulance carrying two men (in their fifties) and two women (in their thirties), all in medical protective gear, drive to the same location and then return.

On the evening of 25 February, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded two undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 2-4km east-north-east, assessed as outside the disengagement area, but within 5km of its periphery. During the day on 26 February, while positioned at the abovementioned checkpoint of the armed formations south of the area, the

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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.

Mission heard three undetermined explosions and 20 bursts and shots of small-arms and heavy-machine-gun fire, assessed as outside the disengagement area, but within 5km of its periphery as well as another undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 7-10km east, assessed as outside the disengagement area.

During the day on 24 February, inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted two people inside a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 1.5km east-north-east of the area's south-western corner. The same UAV also spotted three people and [again](#) saw a car near a former position of the armed formations about 350m north-north-west of the area's south-eastern corner.

On 26 February, while positioned about 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the Mission heard five undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 7-10km north and south, assessed as outside the disengagement area. While positioned at the same location, about 350m west-north-west of the area's northern western corner, the SMM also saw two armoured personnel carriers (MT-LB) and one infantry fighting vehicle (type undetermined) in a field, about 150m west-south-west of its position, driving in a northerly direction towards road C-050563.

### **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.

In violation of withdrawal lines, the SMM observed two anti-tank guided missile systems in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and six anti-tank guns and six self-propelled howitzers in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission observed three surface-to-air missile systems, 12 tanks and three howitzers, including at two railway stations in government-controlled areas of both Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and 22 tanks in a training area, in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region (for further information, see the tables below).

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

The SMM saw two self-propelled anti-aircraft systems and an anti-aircraft gun in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of both Donetsk and Luhansk regions as well as in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

### **SMM facilitation of maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure**

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

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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.

It additionally facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable maintenance to sewage treatment infrastructure near a government-controlled area of Dolomitne (53km north-east of Donetsk), maintenance to the phenol sludge reservoir near Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km north-east of Donetsk) and to water infrastructure in Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 61km west of Luhansk).

### **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, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was open, with people queueing to travel towards government-controlled areas and in the opposite direction. The Mission observed two golf carts operating between the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge and the EECP. While at the EECP, the Mission also saw a man (age unknown) transferring a coffin with a stretcher from government- to non-government-controlled areas.

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.

While at the EECP near Shchastia, the SMM observed 11 trucks stationary on road H-21, about 50m north of the EECP, reportedly carrying construction material for an international humanitarian organization.

The Mission continued monitoring in Lviv, Kherson, Ivano-Frankivsk, Odessa, Kharkiv, Dnipro, 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 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 of 23 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.

Delay:

- On 26 February, at a checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), two members of the armed formations (one of them visibly armed) allowed the Mission passage towards government-controlled areas only after about 18 minutes.

Other impediments:<sup>7</sup>

- On 24 February, an SMM long-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas between government-controlled Pisky (11km north-west of Donetsk) and Novotroitske (36km south-west of Donetsk).

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<sup>7</sup> For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' position.

## Table of weapons

### Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
26/2/2021	2	Anti-tank guided missile system (9P148 <i>Konkurs</i> , 135mm)	Near Fedorivka (71km south of Donetsk)	Patrol
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
24/2/2021	6	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	In a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	6	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)		

### 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>				
24/2/2021	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33 <i>Osa</i> )	In a compound near of Kalynove (35km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
26/2/2021	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i> )	In a compound near Manhush (111km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33 <i>Osa</i> )	Near Volnovakha (53km south of Donetsk)	Patrol
	12	Tank (T-72)	At a railway station in Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk)	
	1	Towed howitzer (2A36 <i>Giatsint-B</i> , 152mm)	At a railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk)	
	2	Self-propelled howitzer (2S19 <i>Msta-S</i> , 152mm)		
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
24/2/2021	22	Tank (17 T-64, five T-72)	In a training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV

### **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>				
24/2/2021	3	Infantry fighting vehicle (one BMP-1 and two BMP variants)	Near Novhorodske (35km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	In a compound near Vasylivka (48km south of Donetsk)	
	9	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)		
	2	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	In a compound near of Starohnativka (51km south of Donetsk)	
	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)		

<sup>8</sup> The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variants)	In a compound near of Novoselivka (66km south of Donetsk)	
	2	Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (ZSU-23-4 <i>Shilka</i> , 23mm)	In a residential area of Chernenko (86km south of Donetsk)	
	1	Armoured combat vehicle (MT-LB variant)		
25/2/2021	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	In a compound near of Krasnohorivka (24km north of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
26/2/2021	2	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle		
	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	Near Fedorivka (71km south of Donetsk)	
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Novoselivka Druha (69km south of Donetsk)	
	4		Near Myrne (63km south of Donetsk)	
1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	In a compound in Muratove (51km north-west of Luhansk)		
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
24/2/2021	5	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	In a compound in a residential area on the south-western edge of Novoazovsk (102km south-east of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV



**Table of ceasefire violations as of 26 February 2021<sup>9</sup>**

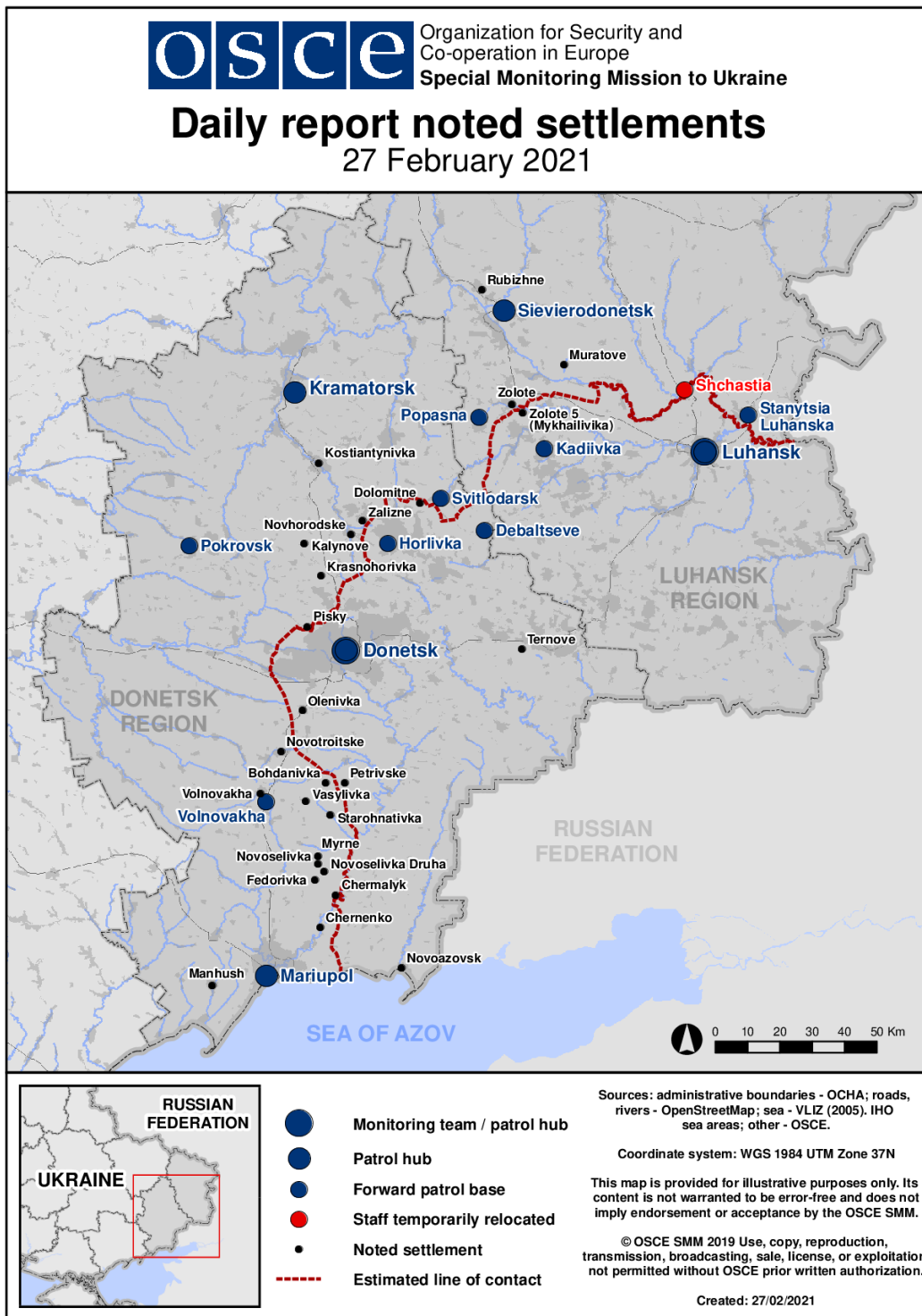
SMM position	Event location	Means	No	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	1-2km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 20:35
	1-2km SE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Feb, 21:04
	1-3km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	25-Feb, 21:04
	1-2km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 21:04
	1-3km SE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Feb, 21:04
	1-2km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	25-Feb, 21:04
	1-2km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 21:04
	1-3km SE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Feb, 21:05
	1-2km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	25-Feb, 21:05
	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 23:04
	1-2km SSE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Feb, 23:04
	1-3km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	25-Feb, 23:04
	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 23:07
	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 23:08
	1-2km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 23:10
	1-2km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 01:45
	2-3km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 03:49
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled,	3-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	25-Feb, 21:04
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 21:04
	3-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 21:10

<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.

90km S of Donetsk)							
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	1-4km ENE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 23:08
	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	26-Feb, 03:40
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	26-Feb, 03:42
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 04:56
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 20:14
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 23:05
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Feb, 23:07
About 700m SW of Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	1km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 09:36
	3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 11:28
Pavlopil (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	3-5km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 08:40
About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	7-8km N	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Feb, 09:50-09:54
	8-10km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Feb, 10:15
	10km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Feb, 10:26-10:28

About 2km SE of Novoselivka (government-controlled, 66km S of Donetsk)	5-7km WNW	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 10:05-10:42
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-4km ENE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	25-Feb, 19:09
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	25-Feb, 19:10
N edge of Holubivka (formerly Kirovsk, non-government-controlled, 51km W of Luhansk)	5km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 09:13
N edge of Trokhizbenka (government-controlled, 32km NW of Luhansk)	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 11:33
About 3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	7-10km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	26-Feb, 11:33-11:47
	5-7km W	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote )	N/K	26-Feb, 13:52-14:10
	5-7km W	Heard	17	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	26-Feb, 13:52-14:10
	5-7km W	Heard	3	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	HMG	26-Feb, 13:52-14:10
Sentianivka (formerly Frunze, non-government-controlled, 44km W of Luhansk)	3km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Feb, 12:32

### 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).