

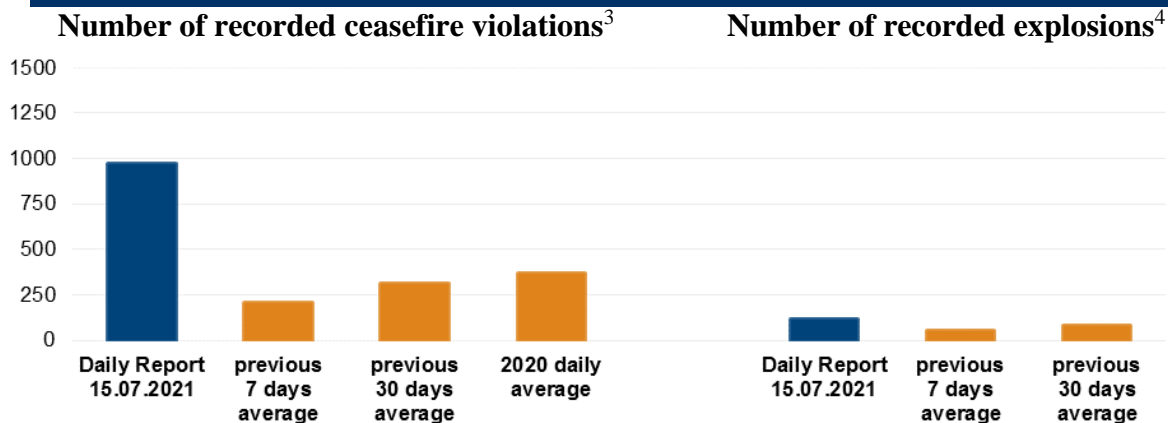
Daily Report 163/2021

15 July 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 364 ceasefire violations, including six explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 395 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 608 ceasefire violations, including 108 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 99 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM observed damage from shelling and small-arms fire to seven civilian properties and a working school in Donetsk region, and to an apartment in Zolote-5/Mykhailivka, Luhansk region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It recorded ceasefire violations inside and close to the disengagement area near Petrivske and multiple ceasefire violations close to the disengagement area near Zolote.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at three entry-exit checkpoints and the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at two checkpoints of the armed formations, all in southern Donetsk region.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 14 July 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Petrivske was not operational.

³ Including explosions.

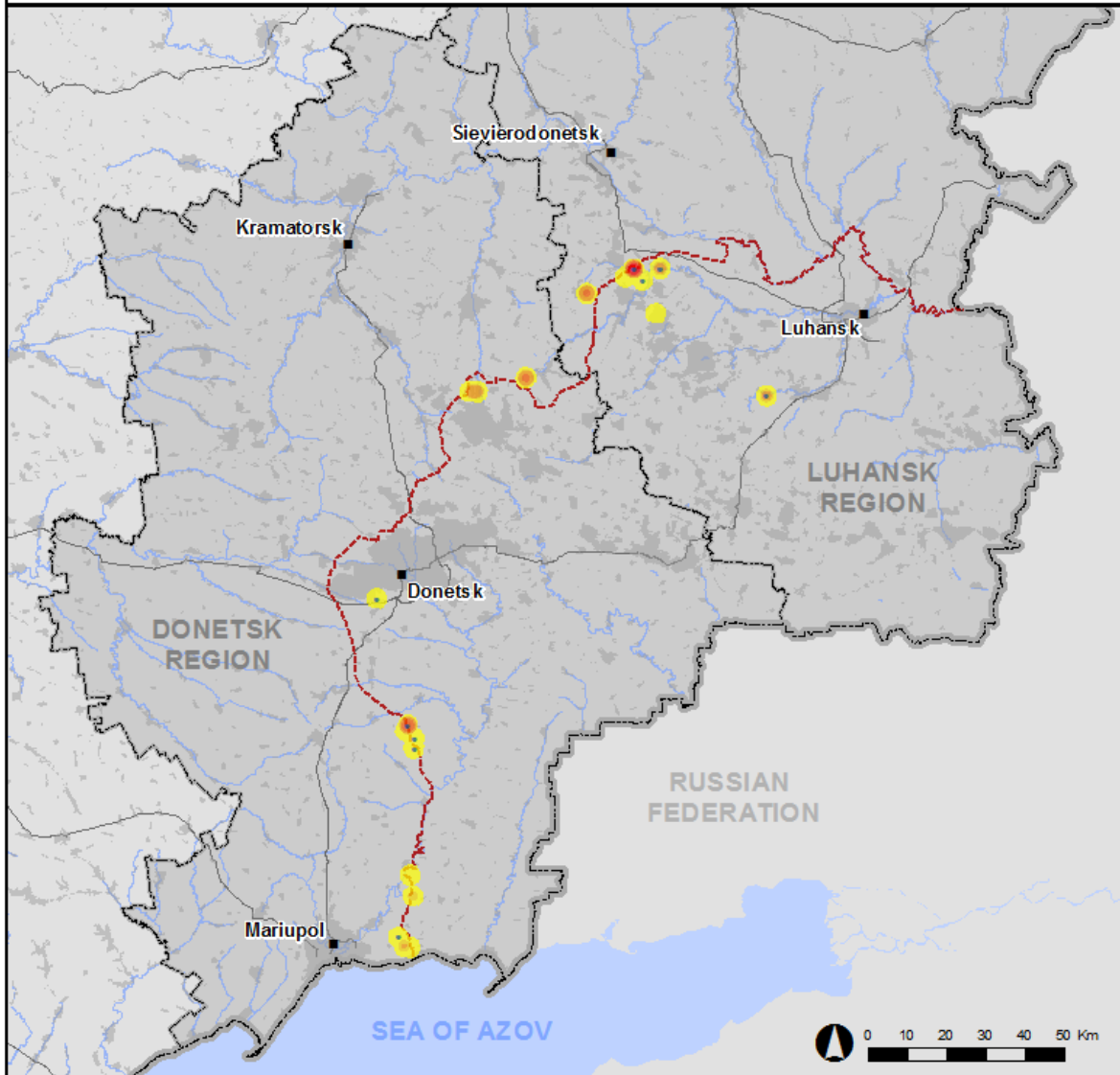
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

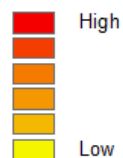


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 14 July 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: 15/07/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 364 ceasefire violations, including six undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred close to the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below), in an area west of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk) and in areas east of Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 395 ceasefire violations, the majority of which occurred near Maiorsk and near Svitlodarsk.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 608 ceasefire violations, including 108 explosions (85 undetermined and 23 tank rounds, the latter assessed as a live-fire exercise outside the security zone). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas close to the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 99 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 recorded at least 44,492 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 13,275 explosions, 7,798 projectiles in flight, 253 muzzle flashes, 141 illumination flares and at least 23,025 bursts and shots).

Damage to seven civilian properties and a functional school in Donetsk region, and to an apartment in Zolote-5/Mykhailivka, Luhansk region

On 13 July, the Mission followed up on reports of damage to seven civilian properties in the Oktiabrskiy district of non-government-controlled Donetsk city.

At 124 Bashkyrska Street, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted recent shrapnel damage to a trunk and branches of a tree, about 10m south of a single-storey inhabited house. A woman (in her seventies), who introduced herself as the owner of the house, told the Mission that on the morning of 10 July she and her son had been still asleep when they heard an explosion outside.

At 126 Bashkyrska Street, about 20m south of a single-storey inhabited house, the Mission spotted several bricks lying below the south-east-facing wall of an outhouse, as well as a crack in its south-east-facing wall and door. About 1m east of the aforementioned outhouse, the Mission saw a recent impact crater, assessed as probably caused by a mortar round fired from an unknown direction.

A further 500m south-south-west, at 35 Abrosymova Street, in a garden about 10m north-north-east of a single-storey uninhabited house, the Mission saw a recent impact crater. The Mission was unable to assess the type of weapon used and the direction of fire. A man (in his sixties), who introduced himself as a neighbour, told the Mission that on the morning of 10 July he had woken up in his house located nearby due to the noise of shelling.

Also on 13 July, the SMM followed up on reports of damage to an uninhabited apartment in Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk).

At 5 Myru Street, on the north-facing wall of a five-storey building, the Mission saw a hole covered with tape in the window of a fifth floor apartment, as well as shards of glass scattered between two window panes and on the living room floor. In the same room, about 3m south of

the window, the Mission saw a hole in a wooden wardrobe. The SMM assessed the damage as recent and caused by small-arms fire.

On 14 July, the SMM followed up on reports of damage to four civilian properties and a functional school in Holmivskyi (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk).

At 10 Shkilnyi Avenue, at a two-storey inhabited building, the Mission saw about 20 holes in first and second floor windows on a south-facing wall, as well as on the wall itself.

At 11 Shkilnyi Avenue, at an inhabited apartment on the second floor of a two-storey building, the Mission saw about 60 holes in two windows on a south-facing wall, as well as on the wall itself. A woman (in her seventies), who introduced herself as the owner of the apartment, told the SMM that on 12 July, when she had been asleep in the apartment, she had heard an explosion.

At 12 Shkilnyi Avenue, at a two-storey inhabited building, the Mission saw at least 10 holes in first and second floor windows on a north-facing wall, as well as on the wall itself. A woman (in her fifties), who introduced herself as a resident of the building, told the SMM that in the early morning of 12 July she had heard an explosion.

At 13 Shkilnyi Avenue, at a two-storey building of a working school, the Mission saw eight holes in first and second floor windows on a west-facing wall, as well as on the wall itself. About 100-200m further west, at the school's exercise ground, the SMM saw four recent impact craters at distances of 50-100m from each other. The Mission was unable to assess the type of weapon used and the direction of fire. Two women (in their fifties), who introduced themselves as school staff, told the Mission that they reside nearby and had heard explosions in the early morning on 12 July.

The Mission assessed all the aforementioned damage as recent and caused by shrapnel.

About 550m further north-north-west, at 5 Hardina Street, at a two-storey inhabited building, the SMM observed several fresh holes in first and second floor windows on an east-facing wall, as well as on the wall itself. About 7m east of the house, the Mission also observed an impact crater, assessed as recent and caused by a mortar round.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

While positioned inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw three 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).

While positioned on the southern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the SMM heard 58 undetermined explosions and 415 shots and bursts of small-arms fire, all at an assessed range of 3-6km east and north-east and assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

While positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the Mission saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands

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

with “JCCC” written on them). The SMM again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge and inside the area.

On the night of 13-14 July, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded two projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1-3km south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**.

On the same night, the same camera also recorded an undetermined explosion and 179 projectiles in vertical flight at an assessed range of 1-3km east. During the day on 14 July, while positioned on the western edge of Petrivske, the Mission heard three undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 3-7km south. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

Withdrawal of weapons

The SMM 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 saw nine tanks in two training areas in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. (For further information, see the table below.)

Indication of military and military-type presence in the security zone

The SMM also saw two armoured personnel carriers near a residential area in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region and two armoured combat vehicles in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk 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) and monitored the security situation near the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Luhansk region, the Mission observed that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were open, with people queueing to travel in both directions. While at the EECP, the SMM observed eight workers and a truck with a crane mounted on it dismantling a walkthrough metal detector.

The SMM also noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were open, 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 were closed. At the latter checkpoint, the Mission observed two trucks and one civilian vehicle, all bearing the logos of an international organization, traveling towards non-government-controlled areas.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Lviv, Odessa, Ivano-Frankivsk, 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 Coordination (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 8 July 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.

Denials:

- At a checkpoint of the armed formations near Starolaspa (non-government-controlled, 51km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the Mission passage into the settlement, citing “ongoing engineering and demining activity in the area”. While at the checkpoint, the SMM observed civilian traffic passing through.
- At a checkpoint of the armed formations near Shevchenko (non-government-controlled, 69km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage northward towards Nova Marivka (non-government-controlled, 64km south of Donetsk), citing orders from superiors “not to let the SMM through due to security concerns”. While at the checkpoint, the SMM observed civilian traffic passing through.

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:⁶

- An SMM mini- and mid-range UAVs both experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk).

⁶ For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interferences could have originated from anywhere within the radius of tens of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Tables of weapons

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/7/2021	7	Tank (six T-72, one T-64)	In a training area near Oleksandrivske (90km south-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
14/7/2021	2	Tank (type unknown)	In a training area near Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁷

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
14/7/2021	2	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near a residential area of Novoluhanske (53km north-east of Donetsk)	Patrol
Non-government-controlled areas				
14/7/2021	2	Armoured combat vehicles (type unknown)	Near Dovhe (22km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

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

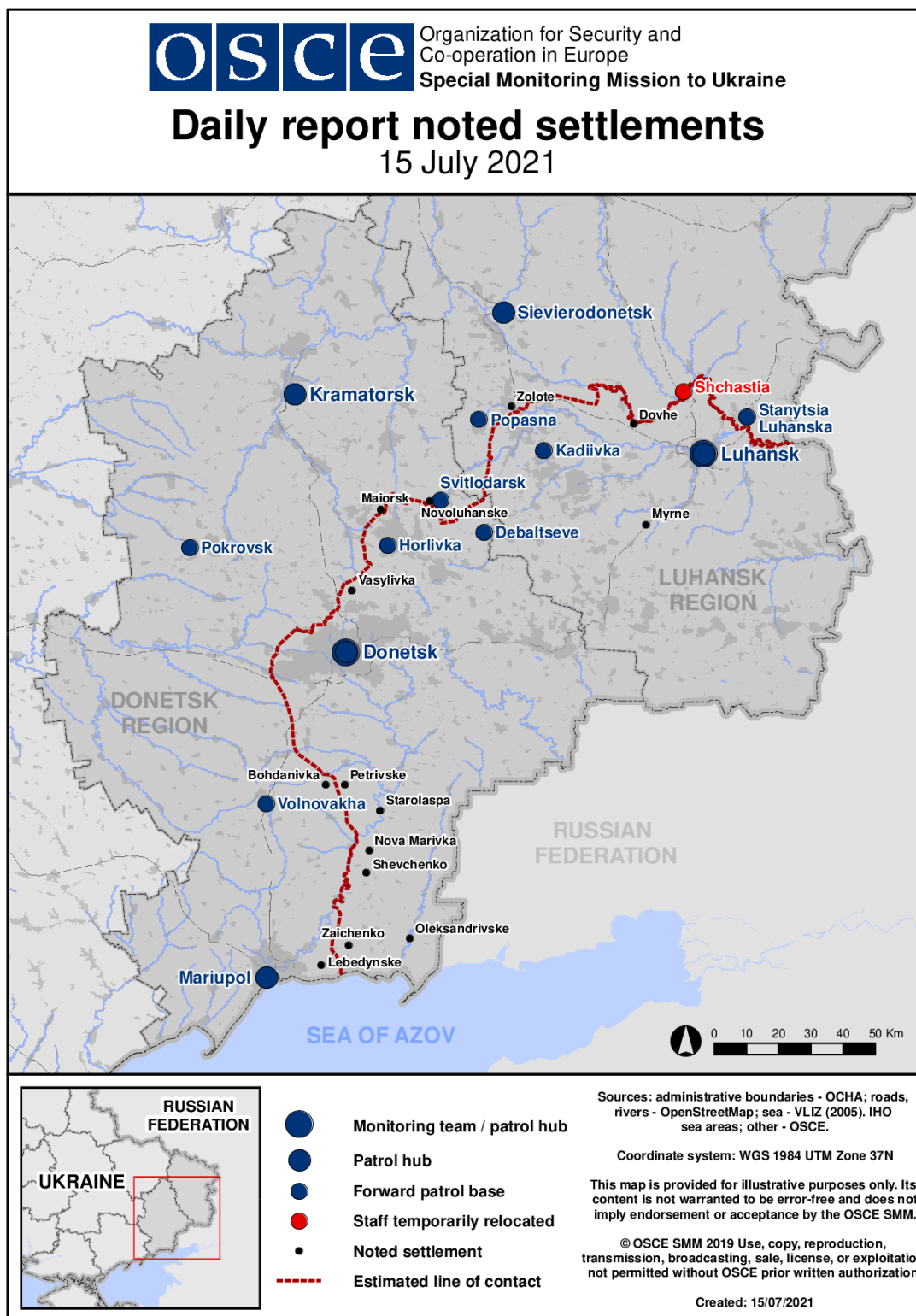
Table of ceasefire violations as of 14 July 2021⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	1-3km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SSW to NNE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	14-Jul, 00:33
	1-3km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	14-Jul, 02:07
	1-3km E	Recorded	87	Projectile	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	14-Jul, 02:08
	1-3km E	Recorded	92	Projectile	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	14-Jul, 02:24
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:48
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:49
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:50
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:38
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	14-Jul, 02:38
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	4	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	14-Jul, 02:39
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:44
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:45
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:48
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:49
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	14-Jul, 02:50
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	13-Jul, 21:44
	1-3km E	Recorded	11	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	13-Jul, 21:47
	1-3km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	13-Jul, 22:07
	3-5km E	Recorded	25	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 01:40
	2-4km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 02:32
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 02:33
	2-4km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 02:34
	2-4km E	Recorded	12	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 02:35
	2-4km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 02:48
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	14-Jul, 00:25
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	12	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	14-Jul, 00:32
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 01:37
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	14-Jul, 02:02
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 02:10
SMM camera in Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	1-3km W	Recorded	10	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Jul, 22:24
	1-3km W	Recorded	30	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Jul, 22:25
	1-3km W	Recorded	20	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Jul, 22:26
	1-3km W	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Jul, 22:38
	1-3km W	Recorded	10	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 00:34
	1-3km W	Recorded	15	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 00:35
	1-3km W	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 00:50
About 2.5km N of Luhanske (non-government-controlled, 15km SW of Donetsk)	1-2km NE	Heard and saw	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Jul, 09:29
W edge of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	3-4km S	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	14-Jul, 11:15
	5-7km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	14-Jul, 15:20
About 600m NE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	2-3km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	14-Jul, 10:45

⁸ 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.

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera on N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	3-5km SSE	Recorded	56	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 00:01
	3-5km SSE	Recorded	21	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	14-Jul, 00:02
	3-5km SSE	Recorded	5	Projectile	W to E	N/K	14-Jul, 00:03
Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km W of Luhansk)	10-15km N	Heard	23	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Jul, 20:24-20:34
	1-2km NW	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	13-Jul, 20:28
	10-15km N	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Jul, 20:43-20:54
3km north of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	4-6km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	14-Jul, 09:32
	3-5km NE	Heard	57	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	14-Jul, 17:50-18:30
	3-5km NE	Heard	46	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	HMG	14-Jul, 17:50-18:30
	3-5km NE	Heard	156	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	14-Jul, 17:50-18:30
	3-5km NE	Heard	210	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	14-Jul, 17:50-18:30
	3-5km NE	Heard	3	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	14-Jul, 18:20-18:30
Malomykolaivka (non-government-controlled, 36km SW of Luhansk)	9-10km N	Heard	23	Explosion		Tank (type N/K)	14-Jul, 10:33-10:44

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions⁹



⁹ 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).