

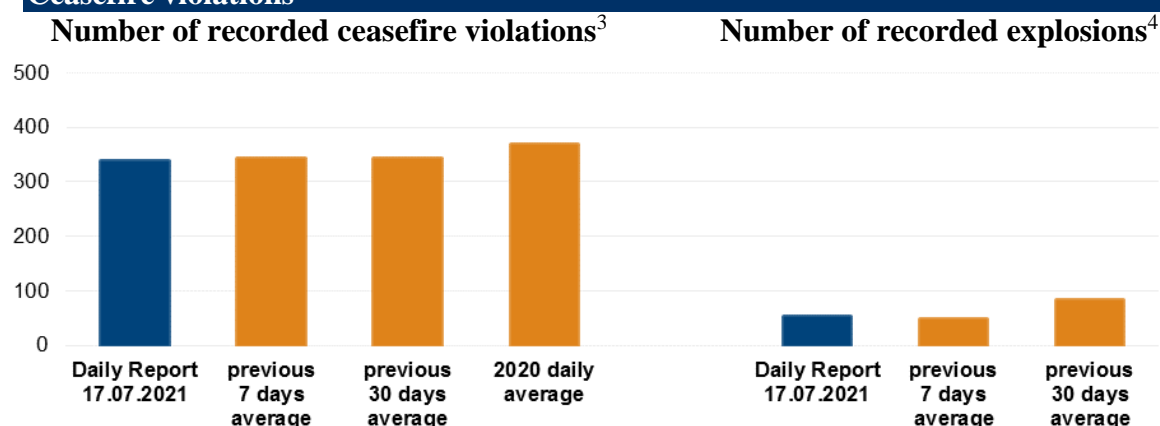
# Daily Report 165/2021

17 July 2021<sup>1</sup>

## Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 286 ceasefire violations, including 36 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 115 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 53 ceasefire violations, including 17 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 95 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM saw recent damage to a civilian property and to a power transformer, as well as recent craters, in government-controlled Taramchuk, Donetsk region, and recent damage to a tractor in non-government-controlled Molodizhne, Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and four corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted. Its unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) again experienced multiple instances of GPS signal interference.\*

## Ceasefire violations<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 16 July 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer 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.

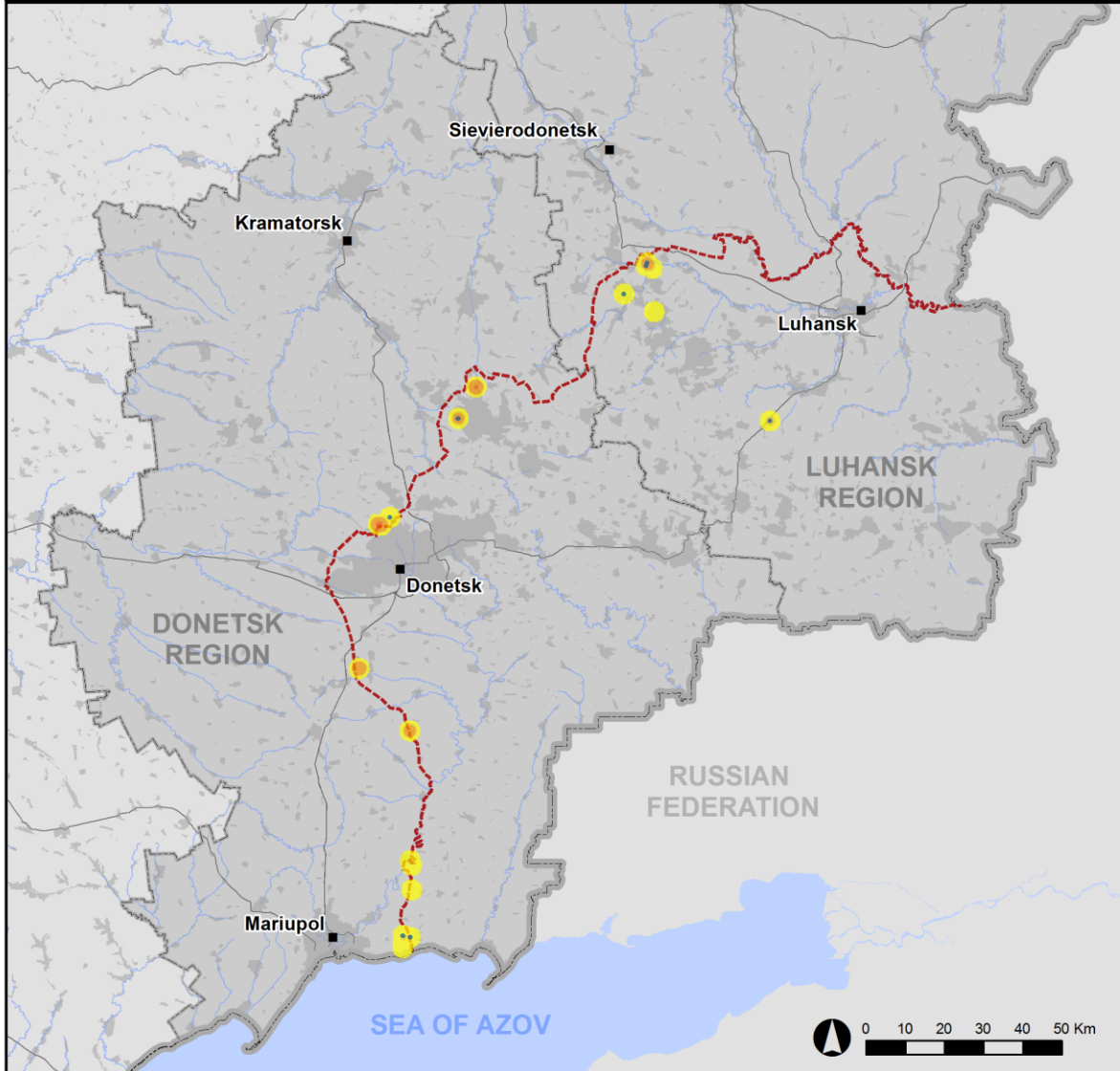
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

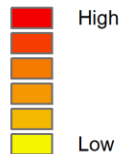


Organization for Security and  
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Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 16 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: 17/07/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 286 ceasefire violations, including 36 explosions (two airbursts and 34 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in easterly directions of Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk), south-easterly directions of Berezove (government-controlled, 31km south-west of Donetsk) and north-westerly directions of Vesele (non-government-controlled, 9km north-west of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 115 ceasefire violations, most of which again occurred near Maiorsk.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 53 ceasefire violations, including 17 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred at north-easterly directions of Berezhivske (non-government-controlled, 53km north-west of Luhansk) and in a training area near Kruhlyk, (non-government-controlled, 31km south-west of Luhansk), assessed as a live-fire exercise outside of the security zone. In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 95 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 45,041 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 13,346 explosions, 8,079 projectiles in flight, 254 muzzle flashes, 142 illumination flares and at least 23,220 bursts and shots).

**Damage to a civilian property and to a power transformer, as well as recent craters, in government-controlled Taramchuk, Donetsk region, and recent damage to a tractor in non-government-controlled Molodizhne, Luhansk region.**

On 14 July, the SMM followed up on reports of recent damage to civilian property and a power transformer in Taramchuk (government-controlled, 29km south-west of Donetsk).

On Shyroka Street, the Mission observed that one side of the gate of an uninhabited residential house was lying on the ground about 3m from its housing and that the other side of the gate and the gate pillars were damaged with numerous holes as well as shrapnel damage to the pillar. The Mission also saw that planks of a south-west facing wooden fence near the gate were lying nearby on the ground.

About 35m south-west of the gate, the Mission observed two holes in a power transformer and one hole in a concrete pillar. It also saw that the transformer's two power lines had been cut and were lying on the ground. A further 15m south-east of the pillar, the SMM observed two craters on soft ground along the western side of the street.

The SMM assessed the damage and craters as recent and caused by artillery rounds fired from a north-easterly direction.

In the same settlement, a man (in his forties), who introduced himself as a local resident, told the Mission that he had heard shelling on the morning of 13 July.

On 16 July, the Mission followed up on reports of a shot that damaged a tractor in Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km north-west of Luhansk). In a field on the north-eastern outskirts of Molodizhne, the SMM observed that both the front and rear windows of a tractor were broken and that there were glass shards in the cabin, as well as on the engine block.

A farmer (man, in his forties) told the Mission that, on the morning of 14 July, while he had been standing close to his tractor in a field about 800m north-north-east of Molodizhne, a single bullet had penetrated the front window of the tractor cabin and exited through the rear window. The SMM assessed the damage as recent, but could not determine the type of weapon used.

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

While positioned inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission 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 night of 15-16 July, while on the northern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), the SMM heard one undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 10-15km east-south-east, assessed as outside of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) but within 5km of its periphery.

While positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw seven members of the armed formations (wearing armbands 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 15-16 July, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded 32 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 3-5km south-east, unable to be assessed as inside or outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), but within 5km of its periphery.

During the day on 16 July, while positioned at three locations near the disengagement area, the Mission observed a calm situation.

### **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.

In violation of withdrawal lines, the Mission saw a surface-to-air missile system in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

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

The SMM saw three armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas and 11 armoured combat vehicles in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

### **Recent crater near Popasna and signs of impact on a road near Molodizhne, Luhansk 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.

On 15 July, in a field about 2km east of the eastern edge of Popasna and about 100m south of road T-0504, an SMM mini-UAV spotted a crater, assessed as recent and caused by a probable mortar round (not visible in imagery from 1 April 2021).

On the same day, about 700m further east and about 2.7km west-south-west of Molodizhne, the same UAV spotted signs of impact on road T-0504, assessed as recent and probably caused by a mortar round (not visible in imagery from 20 April 2021).

### **Presence of mine sign near Popasna, Luhansk region**

On the eastern outskirts of Popasna, the Mission observed a mine sign for the first time (red with a white skull and crossbones and with “Danger mines” written on it in Ukrainian and English), on the southern side of road T-0504.

### **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).

The SMM monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable repairs to a phenol sludge reservoir near Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km north-east of Donetsk).

### **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, with traffic passing through in both directions.

In Luhansk region, the Mission observed that the 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.

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.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, 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 16 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.

*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:<sup>6</sup>

- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, four times while flying over areas near Luhanske (government-controlled, 59km north-east of Donetsk); twice while flying over areas near Spartak (non-government-controlled, 9km north of Donetsk) and Vesele (non-government-controlled, 9km north-west of Donetsk) and once while flying over areas near Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), Kruta Balka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Donetsk), Mineralne (non-government-controlled, 10km north-east of Donetsk), Orikhove (government-controlled, 57km north-west of Luhansk), Novozvanivka (government-controlled, 70km west of Luhansk), Troitske (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk) and Zhovte (non-government-controlled, 17km north-west of Luhansk).
- SMM mid-range UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Manhush (government-controlled, 111km south of Donetsk) and Mariupol (government-controlled, 102km south of Donetsk).
- The SMM was unable to launch a mid-range UAV flight due to GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, near Luhanske.

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<sup>6</sup> 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 in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
16/7/2021	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33 <i>Osa</i> )	Near Vershyna (63km north-east of Donetsk)	Patrol

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
15/7/2021	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM variant)	Near Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
16/7/2021	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BTR-4)		Patrol
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
15/7/2021	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Novoselivka (16km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	3	Infantry fighting vehicle (one BMP-1KSh Potok-2, one BMP-2 and one BMP variant)	Near Dovhe (22km north-west of Luhansk)	
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near Pervomaisk (58km west of Luhansk)	
16/7/2021	5			Patrol

<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 16 July 2021<sup>8</sup>**

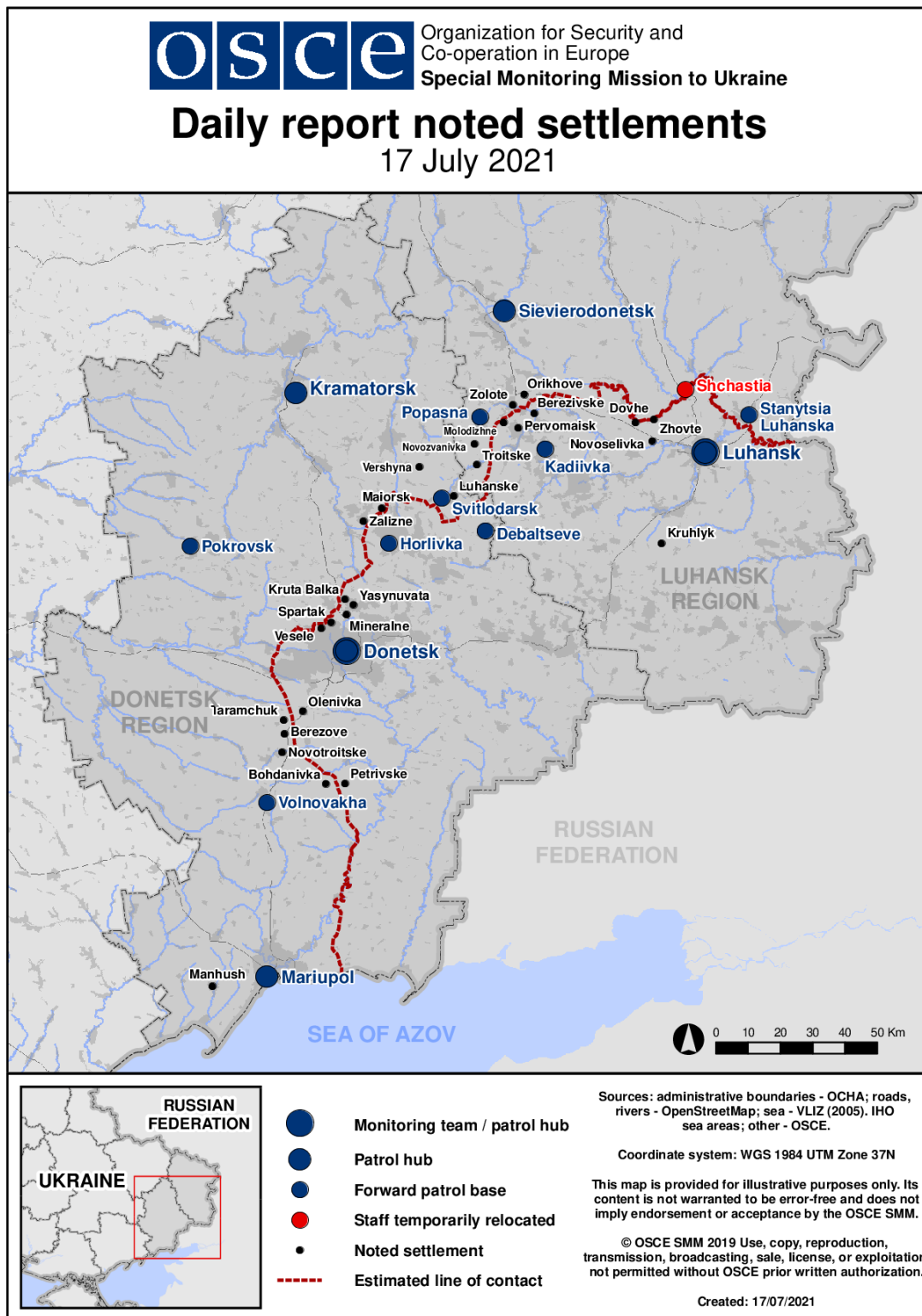
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Berezove (government-controlled, 31km SW of Donetsk)	4-6km SE	Recorded	4	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	16-Jul, 00:26
	4-6km SE	Recorded	7	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	16-Jul, 00:27
	4-6km SE	Recorded	9	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	16-Jul, 00:28
	4-6km SE	Recorded	10	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	16-Jul, 00:29
	4-6km SE	Recorded	10	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	16-Jul, 00:30
	4-6km SE	Recorded	12	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	16-Jul, 00:31
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Recorded	20	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	15-Jul, 22:24
	3-5km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SSW to NNE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	15-Jul, 22:57
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	15-Jul, 22:58
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	15-Jul, 23:02
	3-5km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	15-Jul, 23:05
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	15-Jul, 23:06
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	15-Jul, 23:06
	3-5km SE	Recorded	3	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	15-Jul, 23:41
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	16-Jul, 00:13
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	15-Jul, 22:28
	1-2km ESE	Recorded	7	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	16-Jul, 01:57
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	16-Jul, 02:21
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	16-Jul, 02:21
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	16-Jul, 02:21
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Recorded	36	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	15-Jul, 22:27
	3-5km E	Recorded	30	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	15-Jul, 22:28
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	16-Jul, 02:37
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	16-Jul, 02:37
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	16-Jul, 02:37

<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.



SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 21:53
	1-3km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	15-Jul, 22:00
	1-3km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	15-Jul, 22:00
	1-3km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	15-Jul, 22:00
	1-3km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	15-Jul, 22:29
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 22:34
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 22:37
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 22:49
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	15-Jul, 23:59
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jul, 00:19
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jul, 00:20
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	16-Jul, 01:00
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jul, 02:04
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	16-Jul, 02:04
4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	16-Jul, 02:04	
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km NW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 20:20-20:25
	3-4km NW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 21:00-21:05
	3-4km NW	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 21:15-21:26
	3-4km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 21:32
	3-4km NW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 21:41
	3-4km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 21:48
	3-4km NW	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	15-Jul, 23:41
Spartak (non-government-controlled, 9km N of Donetsk)	4-5km W	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	16-Jul, 12:28
	4-5km W	Heard	29	Burst		HMG	16-Jul, 12:39-12:42
Vesele (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	15	Shot		Small arms	16-Jul, 13:40-13:43
	2-3km NW	Heard	35	Burst		Small arms	16-Jul, 13:40-13:43
Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km W of Luhansk)	1km WNW	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	15-Jul, 21:52
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	10-15km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	16-Jul, 02:38
1.5km N of Kruhlyk (non-government-controlled, 31km SW of Luhansk)	5-10km W	Heard	12	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jul, 10:40-10:52
900m S of Berezivske (non-government-controlled, 53km NW of Luhansk)	2-3km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jul, 17:11-17:26
	2-3km NNE	Heard	9	Shot		HMG	16-Jul, 17:11-17:26
	2-3km NNE	Heard	17	Burst		HMG	16-Jul, 17:11-17:26
	2-3km ENE	Heard	6	Burst		Small arms	16-Jul, 17:11-17:26
	1.5-2km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Jul, 17:25-17:35

### 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).