

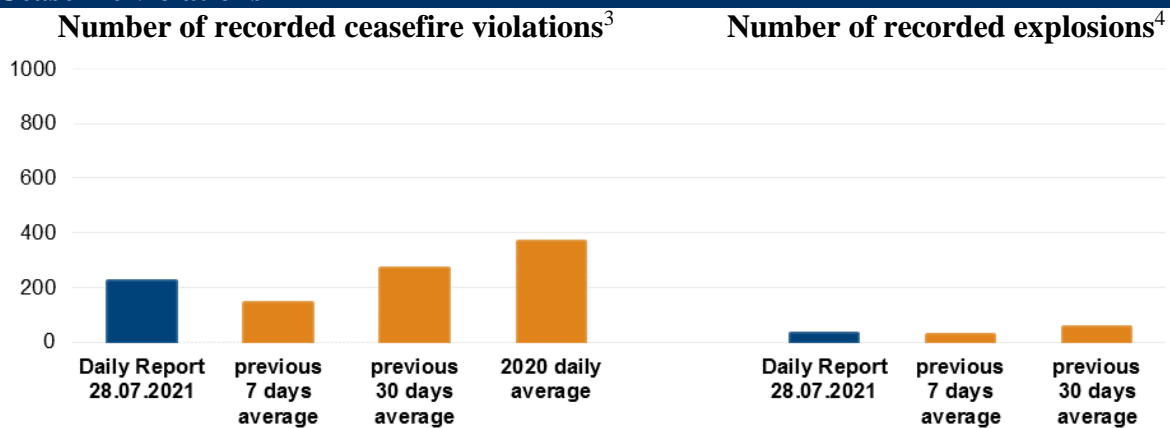
Daily Report 174/2021

28 July 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 149 ceasefire violations, including 21 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 394 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 76 ceasefire violations, including 12 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It recorded ceasefire violations inside and near the disengagement area near Petrivske, as well as near 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 observed a religious procession in Kyiv.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at two checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 27 July 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table.

³ Including explosions.

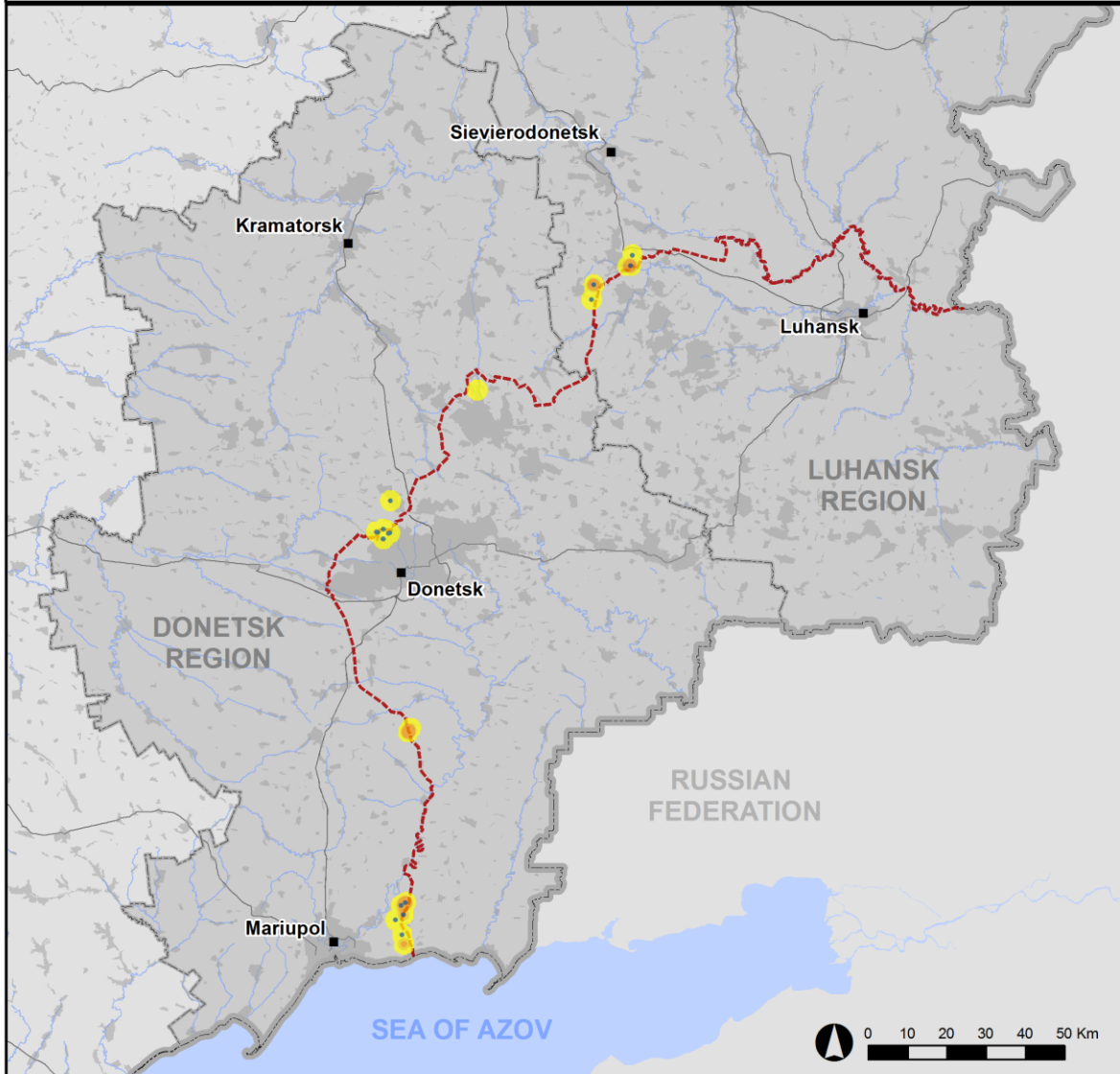
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

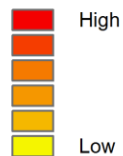


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 27 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: 28/07/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 149 ceasefire violations, including 21 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas north-east and east of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk), inside and in an area south of the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) on the evening of 26 July (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 394 ceasefire violations, the majority of which also occurred inside and near the aforementioned disengagement area.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 76 ceasefire violations, including 12 explosions (two impacts and ten undetermined). All ceasefire violations occurred in areas north-east and south-west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the TCG 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 47,026 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 13,660 explosions, 8,926 projectiles in flight, 262 muzzle flashes, 171 illumination flares and at least 24,007 bursts and shots).

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 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 evening and night of 26-27 July, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded one undetermined explosion, 27 projectiles in flight and two illumination flares at an assessed range of 3-5km east, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

On 27 July, while positioned at two locations near the area, the Mission heard nine undetermined explosions and 35 bursts of small-arms fire, assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

On the same day, while positioned on the eastern edge of road T-1316, about 70m north of the disengagement area, the Mission saw a tractor clearing vegetation east of road T-1316, as well as a stationary truck, piles of bricks and eight workers (male, age unknown) dismantling a fence separating vehicle traffic from a pedestrian path. While positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them). The Mission again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge and inside the area.

On the evening of 26 July, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded ten projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km east-south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**, as well as 41 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km south-east, which it was unable to assess

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

as inside or outside the disengagement area.

On 27 July, while positioned at three locations near the 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.

Weapon storage sites

A permanent storage site in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region

27 July

The SMM noted that 31 tanks (T-64) were missing compared with the previous visit on 15 April 2021.

Presence of anti-tank mines near Mykolaivka and a remnant of ammunition near Donetsk city, Donetsk region

On 26 July, about 2km north of Mykolaivka (government-controlled, 40km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted for the first time four anti-tank mines scattered across road C-050542 leading north towards Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk), assessed as not recently laid and as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (not visible in imagery from 17 February 2021).

About 5m north-north-east of an abandoned building at the Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km north-west of Donetsk city centre), the Mission observed for the first time a tailfin of a 120mm mortar round (unable to assess if recent), embedded in a hard surface.

SMM facilitation of the operation and maintenance of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km 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 queuing to travel in both directions.

The SMM 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 Mission observed a religious procession in Kyiv

The Mission observed a peaceful religious procession of about 50,000 people (approximately 75 per cent female, of mixed ages) organized by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (affiliated

with the Moscow Patriarchate) on the occasion of the 1033rd anniversary of the Baptism of Kievan Rus. The SMM saw the procession marching from Saint Volodymyr's Hill towards the Ukrainian Parliament, and ending at the Kyiv Pechersk Lavra. Some participants were holding signs with messages critical of the division of the Orthodox Church. The Mission saw about 10,000 law enforcement officers in the vicinity.

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 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 26 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 near Korsun (non-government-controlled, 31km north-east of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage north towards Debaltseve (non-government-controlled, 58km north-east of Donetsk), citing “orders from superiors” and directing it to a secondary route through Korsun, which was blocked by a stationary utility truck.
- At a checkpoint near Staromarivka (62km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the Mission passage south towards Khreshchatytske (formerly Krasnoarmiiske, non-government-controlled, 86km south of Donetsk), citing “ongoing demining activities”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing through.
- At a checkpoint near Shevchenko (non-government-controlled, 69km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage south towards Khreshchatytske, citing “the SMM's safety”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission 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-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over areas near Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk).

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

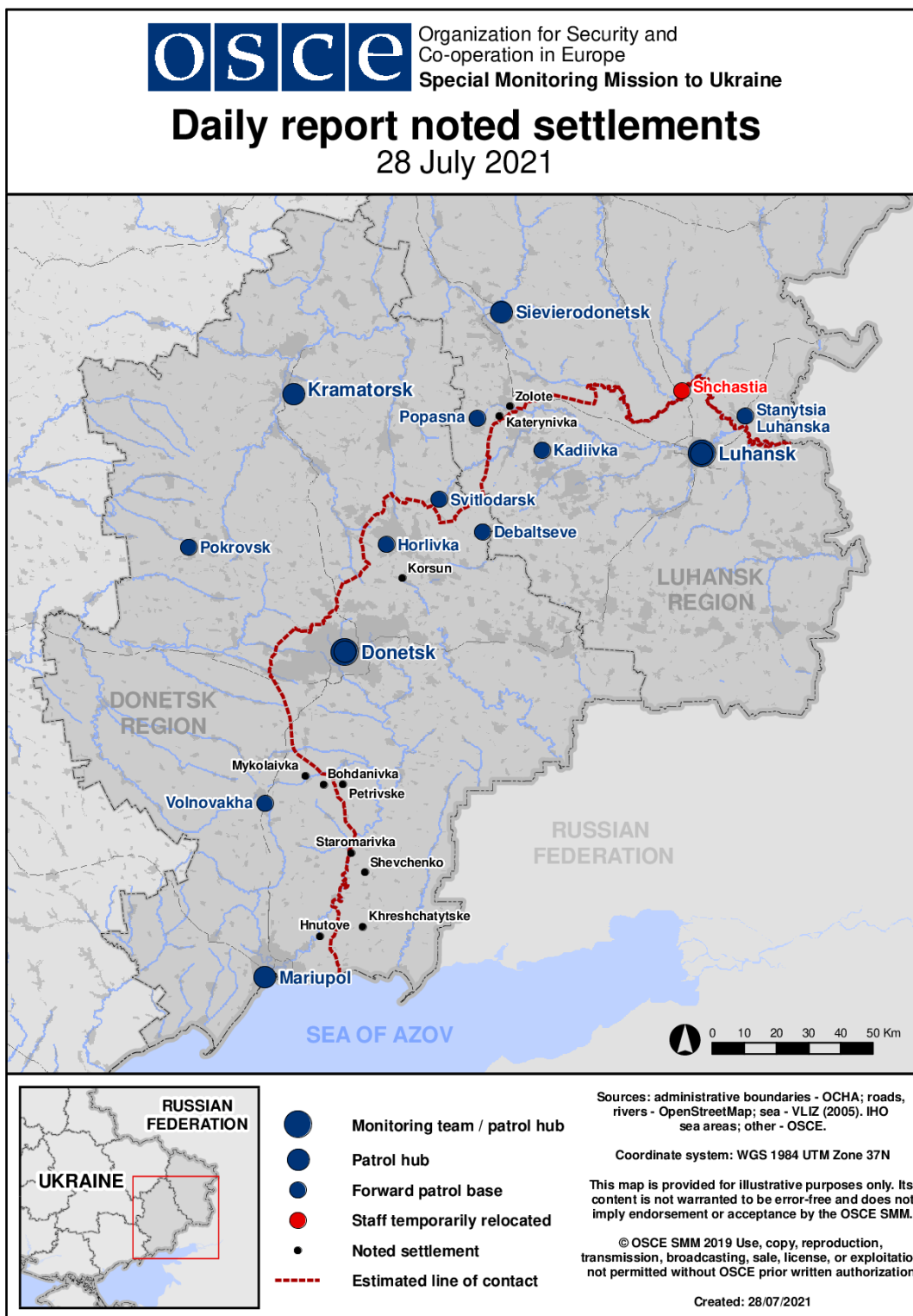
Table of ceasefire violations as of 27 July 2021⁷

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	16	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Jul, 21:18
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	10	Projectile	NW to SE (assessed as inside of the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Jul, 21:30
	2-4km SE	Recorded	12	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Jul, 23:24
	2-4km SE	Recorded	4	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Jul, 23:26
	2-4km SE	Recorded	9	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Jul, 23:28
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	8	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	26-Jul, 21:18
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	23	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	26-Jul, 21:24
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	5	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	26-Jul, 21:15
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jul, 21:15
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	27-Jul, 02:35
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	50-100m ENE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jul, 20:46
	50-100m ENE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jul, 20:48

⁷ 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.

	30-50m ENE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jul, 20:50
	1-3km NE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Jul, 20:52
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	16	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	26-Jul, 21:24
About 350m NE of Zhabunki (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 13:17
	2-3km N	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 13:27
About 2km WNW of Pisky (government-controlled, 11km NW of Donetsk)	3-4km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 13:17
	6-7km E	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 13:27-13:31
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	5-6km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 13:40
About 2km NE of Chernenko (government-controlled, 86km S of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:10-10:18
	2-3km SE	Heard	12	Burst		Small arms	27-Jul, 10:10-10:18
About 800m N of Chernenko (government-controlled, 86km S of Donetsk)	5-7km SE	Heard	5	Burst		Small arms	27-Jul, 10:13
	5-7km SE	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	27-Jul, 10:13
	5-7km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:18
	5-7km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:20
	5-7km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 10:31-10:39
About 2.5km SSE of Lomakyne (government-controlled, 93km S of Donetsk)	4-6km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Jul, 11:55
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	3-5km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Jul, 21:37
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Jul, 21:46
	3-5km E	Recorded	7	Projectile	SSW to NNE (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Jul, 21:46
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Jul, 23:19
	3-5km E	Recorded	13	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Jul, 23:19
	3-5km E	Recorded	3	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Jul, 23:20
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	27-Jul, 02:22
S edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (60km W of Luhansk)	3-10km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	27-Jul, 08:40-08:42
	2-5km NNE	Heard	10	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	27-Jul, 08:41
SE edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	3km NE	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	27-Jul, 13:55-14:03
	3km NE	Heard	25	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	27-Jul, 13:55-14:03
	1.5-3km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Impact	N/K	27-Jul, 13:55-14:03

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions⁸



⁸ 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).