

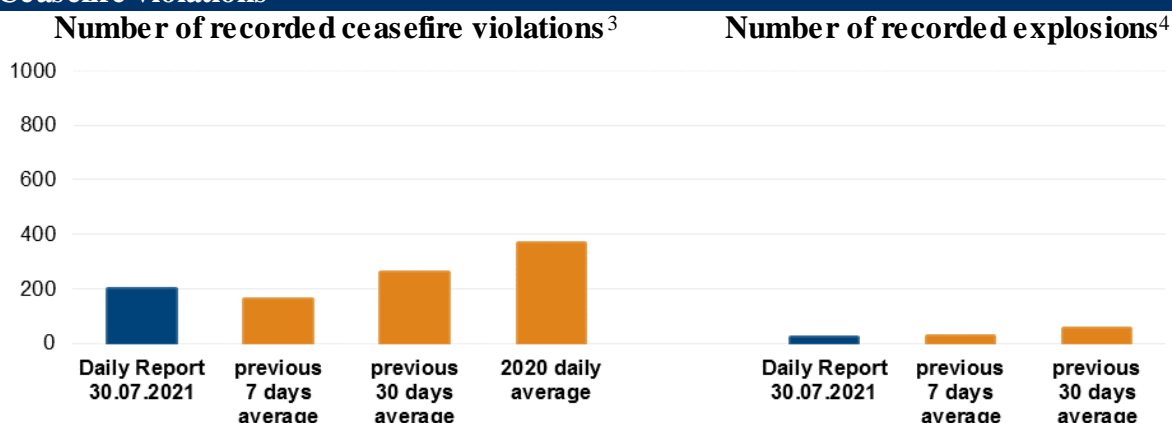
Daily Report 176/2021

30 July 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 173 ceasefire violations, including 14 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 28 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 25 ceasefire violations, including seven explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 14 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The SMM confirmed two civilians injured due to the explosion of an object in non-government-controlled Donetsk city.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation and maintenance of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at three entry-exit checkpoints and three corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The SMM visited a border crossing point outside government control in Donetsk region.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region and in non-government-controlled areas in southern Donetsk region. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced instances of GPS signal interference.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 29 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, one of the SMM cameras in Zolote was not operational.

³ Including explosions.

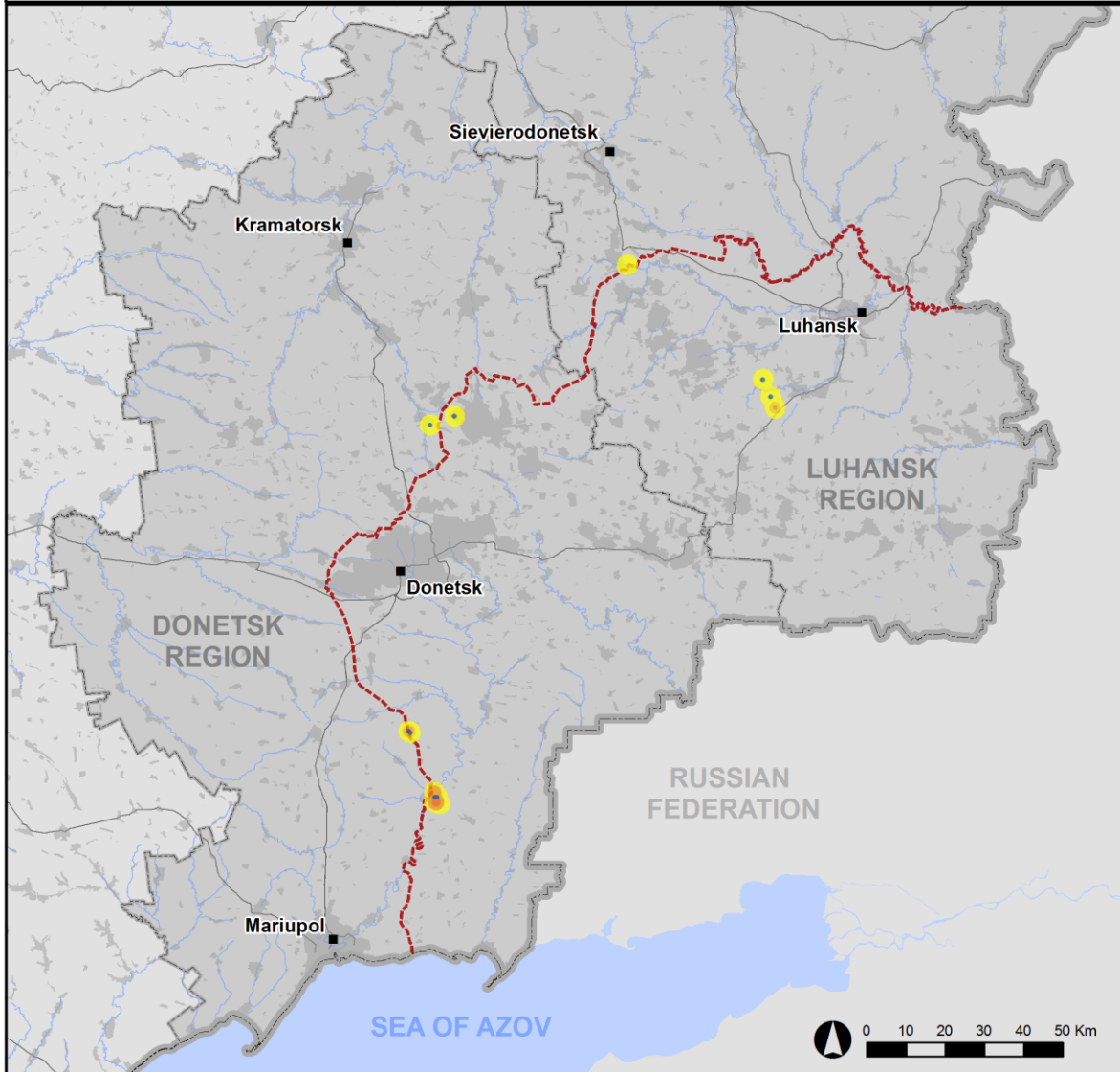
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

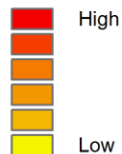


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 29 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: 30/07/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 173 ceasefire violations, including 14 explosions (three airbursts and 11 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred at easterly directions of Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km south of Donetsk) and near the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 28 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 25 ceasefire violations, including seven outgoing explosions of undetermined weapons. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas west and north-west of Myrne (non-government-controlled, 28km south-west of Luhansk) and in areas west-north-west of Uspenka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Luhansk), all assessed as live-fire exercises outside the security zone. In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 14 ceasefire violations.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group (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 47,266 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 13,692 explosions, 9,063 projectiles in flight, 262 muzzle flashes, 173 illumination flares and at least 24,076 bursts and shots).

Two civilians injured due to an explosion in Donetsk city

The SMM followed up on reports of two civilians injured in Donetsk city's Budionnivskyi district (non-government-controlled) on 17 July.

On 18 July, at a residential building at 32A Andriia Malyshka Street, the SMM saw a woman (in her late twenties) with injuries to her neck and chest. She told the Mission that on the previous day she had been outside the entrance of the building with several of her neighbours when one of them (man, age unknown) had thrown an object which detonated. On 28 July, the same woman showed a medical certificate to the SMM stating that she had been hospitalised on 17 July with blast trauma and shrapnel injuries to her left chest area and her neck.

On 28 July, the Mission saw another woman (in her thirties) with a wound to her forehead. She told the SMM that on 17 July, while outside the entrance of the aforementioned building, she had seen one of the neighbours (man, age unknown) throw a green object, and that she had heard an explosion when she had been entering the building. On 18 July, medical staff at Hospital No.9 in non-government-controlled Donetsk city told the SMM that the woman had sustained blast injury, an injury to her forehead due to shrapnel, as well as barotrauma.

On 28 July, a woman (in her seventies) and a man (in his thirties), who introduced themselves as residents of the aforementioned building told the Mission that on the afternoon of 17 July they had heard the sound of an explosion nearby.

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 four members of the armed

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

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 of 28 July, an SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) recorded two projectiles in flight and an illumination flare, all at an assessed range of 3-4km east and assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

On 29 July, while positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them). Four entered the area: three walked about 90m north of its southern edge and one drove in a civilian vehicle to about 350m north of the southern edge, after which they all returned.

While positioned near the same checkpoint of the armed formations, on the south-western edge of road T-1316 at the intersection with the road leading westward towards Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km north-west of Luhansk), the SMM saw freshly painted white lines on the asphalt. The Mission again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge and inside the area.

While positioned about 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the Mission heard two undetermined explosions and 21 shots and bursts of small-arms fire and undetermined weapons at an assessed range of 3-5km south-east and assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** 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 SMM saw six surface-to-air missile systems in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

Weapons storage sites

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

27 July

The SMM noted that 15 tanks (T-64) were missing, compared with the previous visit on 19 November 2019.

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

The SMM saw six armoured combat vehicles and a trench digger in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions and two combat engineering vehicles, an armoured personnel carrier and an anti-aircraft gun in a compound in non-government-controlled Donetsk city. (For further information, see the table below.)

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).

The SMM also monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable maintenance of the phenol reservoir pipeline near Nelipivka (government-controlled, 40km north of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

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 queuing to travel in both directions. At the latter checkpoint, the SMM saw medical personnel (three men and a woman, mixed ages) providing assistance to a woman (in her sixties) and two men (in their fifties to sixties), who reportedly suffered heat exhaustion.

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.

Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point⁶ near Novoazovsk (102km south-east of Donetsk) for about 40 minutes, the Mission observed 11 cars (including seven with “DPR” plates), five covered cargo trucks (including four with “DPR” plates), one bus (with “DPR” plates and about 30 passengers, mixed genders and ages) and four people (a woman and three men, mixed ages) entering Ukraine. During the same time, the SMM also observed 13 cars (including eight with “DPR” plates), four covered cargo trucks (including two with “DPR” plates), and one bus (with “DPR” plates and three passengers, mixed genders and ages) exiting Ukraine.

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, 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](#)

⁶ According to decisions in 2014 by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, operations are officially designated as suspended at these and other border crossing points located outside government control.

Pryshyb; these restrictions continued to limit the Mission's observations.

Denials:

- In Bolotene (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk), two Ukrainian Armed Forces personnel denied the SMM passage northward, referring to a military position in the area.
- At a checkpoint near Bessarabka (non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage southward towards Novoazovsk (non-government-controlled, 102km south-east of Donetsk). While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing through.
- At a checkpoint near Khreshchatytske (formerly Krasnoarmiiske, non-government-controlled, 86km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage westward towards Verkhnohyrokyvske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), citing "demining activities in the area".
- At a junction of road M-14 with road C-051246 leading towards Markyne (non-government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations driving a civilian car stopped the SMM and denied its passage north towards Markyne and Shcherbak (non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk), citing "training activities in the area".

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, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other obstacles.

Other impediments:⁷

- An SMM mid-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Netailove (government-controlled, 22km north-west of Donetsk).
- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during three flights over areas near Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) and two flights over areas near Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk).

⁷ 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 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				
28/7/2021	6	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)	Near Maiak (19km east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁸

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
28/7/2021	2	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	In a compound near Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Trench digger (PZM-2)		
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (probable MT-LB)		
29/7/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	Near Lomakyne (93km south of Donetsk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
28/7/2021	2	Combat engineering vehicle (BAT-M)	In a compound in the Budionnivskyi district of Donetsk city	Mini-UAV
	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)		
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)		

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

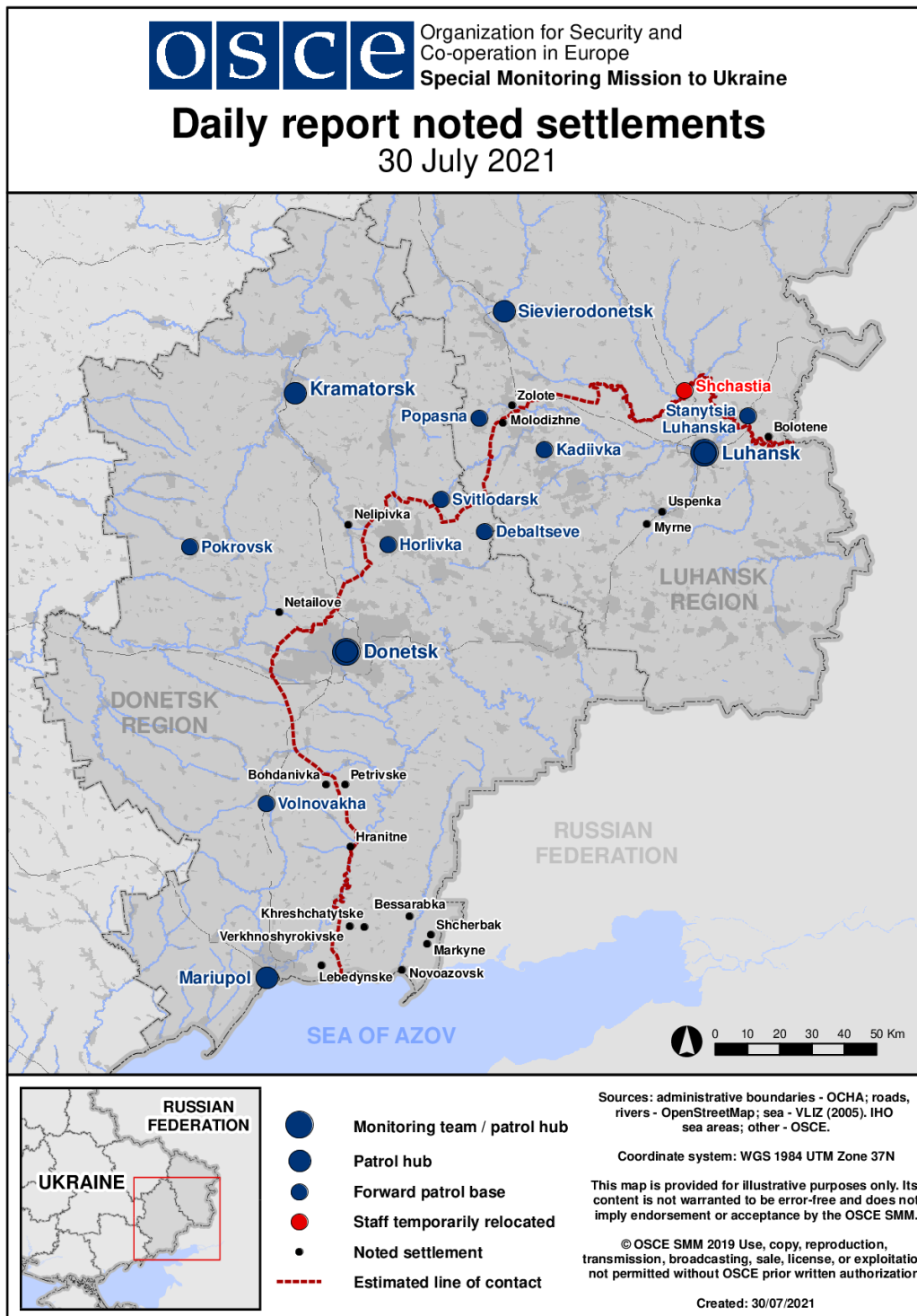
Table of ceasefire violations as of 29 July 2021⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ENE	Recorded	10	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	28-Jul, 21:24
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	9	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	28-Jul, 21:25
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	5	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	28-Jul, 21:27
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	28-Jul, 21:28
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	6	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	28-Jul, 21:53
	2-4km ESE	Recorded	2	Burst	In vertical flight	N/K	28-Jul, 21:54
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Burst	In vertical flight	N/K	28-Jul, 21:54
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	85	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	28-Jul, 21:54
	3-6km ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	28-Jul, 21:55
	2-5km E	Recorded	2	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	29-Jul, 02:04
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	29-Jul, 02:04
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	29-Jul, 02:04
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	3	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	29-Jul, 02:04
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	4	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	29-Jul, 02:05
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	29-Jul, 02:09
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	3	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	29-Jul, 02:10
2-4km ENE	Recorded	5	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	29-Jul, 02:14	
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	4-6km NW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jul, 19:10
	4-6km NW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Jul, 19:18
About 2km WSW of Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km NE of Donetsk)	5-6km S	Heard and saw	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	29-Jul, 09:43
About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	3-4km SE	Heard	10	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	29-Jul, 08:55-09:02
	3-4km SE	Heard	2	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	29-Jul, 08:55-09:02
	3-4km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	29-Jul, 09:16-09:19
	3-4km SE	Heard	3	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	29-Jul, 09:16-09:19
	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	29-Jul, 10:24-11:00
	3-4km SE	Heard	5	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	N/K	29-Jul, 10:24-11:00
	3-4km SE	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	N/K	29-Jul, 10:24-11:00
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	3-4km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	S to N (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jul, 21:23
	3-4km E	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	28-Jul, 21:54
Uspenka (non-government-controlled, 23km SW of Luhansk)	10km WNW	Heard	3	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	29-Jul, 11:45-11:48

⁹ 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
	10km WNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	29-Jul, 12:10
	10km WNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	29-Jul, 12:12
About 500m S of Myrne (non-government-controlled, 28km SW of Luhansk)	1.5-2km W	Heard	5	Shot		Small arms	29-Jul, 12:33-12:47
	1.5-2km W	Heard	10	Burst		Small arms	29-Jul, 12:33-12:47
	2-4km NW	Heard	2	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	29-Jul, 12:37

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹⁰



¹⁰ 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).