

Daily Report 179/2021

3 August 2021¹

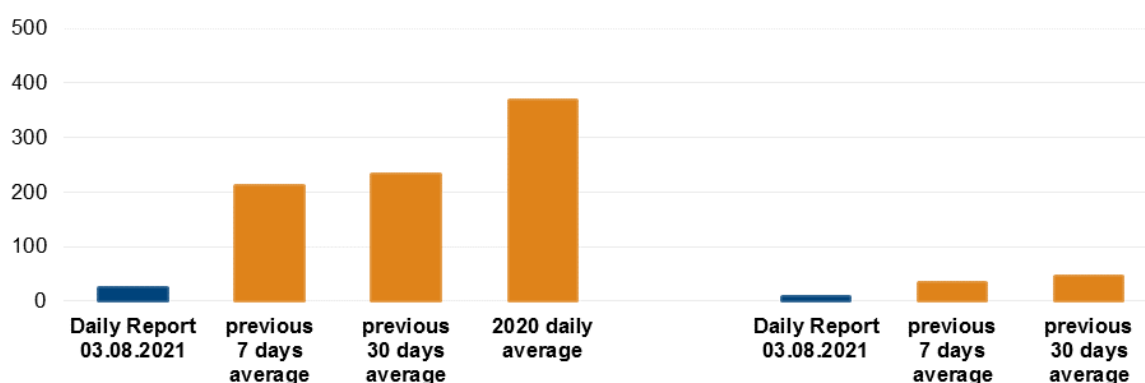
Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 25 ceasefire violations, including seven explosions. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 19 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded one ceasefire violation in the 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 the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a heavy weapons holding area in a government-controlled area and at a checkpoint of the armed formations, in Donetsk region. Its UAVs again experienced instances of GPS signal interference.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 2 August 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.

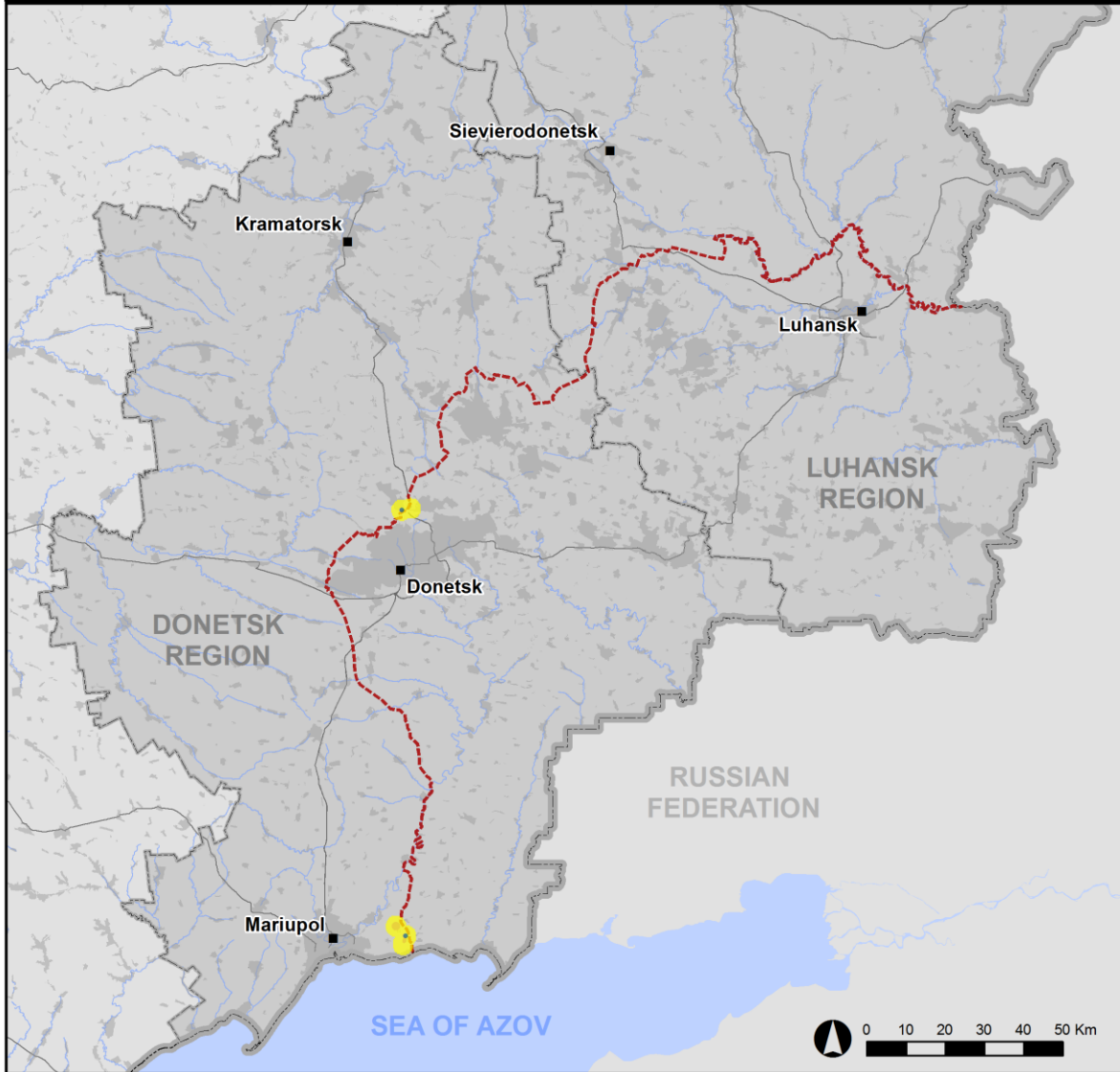
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

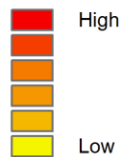


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 2 August 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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In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 25 ceasefire violations, including seven undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 19 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. The last time the Mission did not record any ceasefire violations in the region was on [27 July 2021](#). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation.

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 47,821 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 13,743 explosions, 9,078 projectiles in flight, 263 muzzle flashes, 181 illumination flares and at least 24,556 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

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).

During the day on 31 July, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted a person inside a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 1km west of the area’s north-eastern corner.

On 2 August, while positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them).

On the same day, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk).*

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.

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

The Mission saw three armoured combat vehicles, one of which near a residential area, in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

On 31 July, in positions of the armed formations about 4km west-north-west of Lebiazhe (non-government-controlled, 23km north-east of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted a person in

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

military-type clothing, assessed as a member of the armed formations aiming a rifle at the UAV. (On the same day, small-arms-fire was assessed as directed at an SMM mini-UAV in the area, see SMM Daily Report of [2 August 2021](#).)

Presence of hazard signs near Petrivske, Donetsk region and of mine hazard signs in Kadiivka and near Molodizhne, Luhansk region

On 1 August, while in Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km west of Luhansk), the SMM observed for the first time a mine hazard sign (black board with “Mines” written in Russian) assessed as recently installed on top of a fence belonging to the armed formations.

On the same day, about 600m north-east of Molodizhne (non-government-controlled, 63km north-west of Luhansk), on the northern edge of a road leading towards Zolote-5/Mykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the Mission observed for the first time a mine hazard sign (red board with “Stop Mines” written in Russian).

On 2 August, about 2km north of Petrivske, on both sides of road C-051532, the SMM saw for the first time two warning signs (red board with “Prohibited area. Trespassers will be shot without warning” written in Russian), assessed as recently installed.

SMM facilitation of the operation and maintenance of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk). While positioned on the south-east edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), the Mission heard one undetermined explosion, assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the SMM observed 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 people queuing to travel in both directions. At the latter crossing point, the Mission saw a man (in his fifties) receiving medical assistance after having lost consciousness reportedly.

In Luhansk region, the SMM 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 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 31 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 heavy weapons holding area in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, two representatives of the Ukrainian Armed Forces denied the Mission to enter a part of the facility, citing “a need for a permit”.
- About 2km north of Korsun (non-government-controlled, 31km north-east of Donetsk), the Mission saw a stationary utility truck blocking the road and an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage north-east towards Sofiivka (formerly Karlo-Marksove, non-government-controlled, 40km north-east of Donetsk).

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:⁶

- Medical staff at a hospital in Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk) refused to share information related to a civilian casualty.
- Two SMM mid-range UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, one during a flight over areas near Kremenivka (government-controlled, 78km south of Donetsk) and the other during a flight over areas near Ozarianivka (formerly Pershe Travnia, government-controlled, 52km north of Donetsk).
- Three SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, one during a flight over the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) and during a flight over areas near Petrivske, another one during two separate flights over areas near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) and the last during a flight over areas near Lozivskiyi (non-government-controlled, 32km 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 UAVs' positions.

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

| Date | No. | Type | Location | Source of observation |
|------------------------------------|------------|--|---|------------------------------|
| Government-controlled areas | | | | |
| 29/7/2021 | 1 | Probable armoured combat vehicle (type undermined) | In a residential area of Nevelske (18km north-west of Donetsk) | Mid-range UAV |
| 30/7/2021 | 2 | Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant) | In a compound near Vozdvyzhenka (formerly Krasnyi Pakhar, 66km north-east of Donetsk) | Mini-UAV |

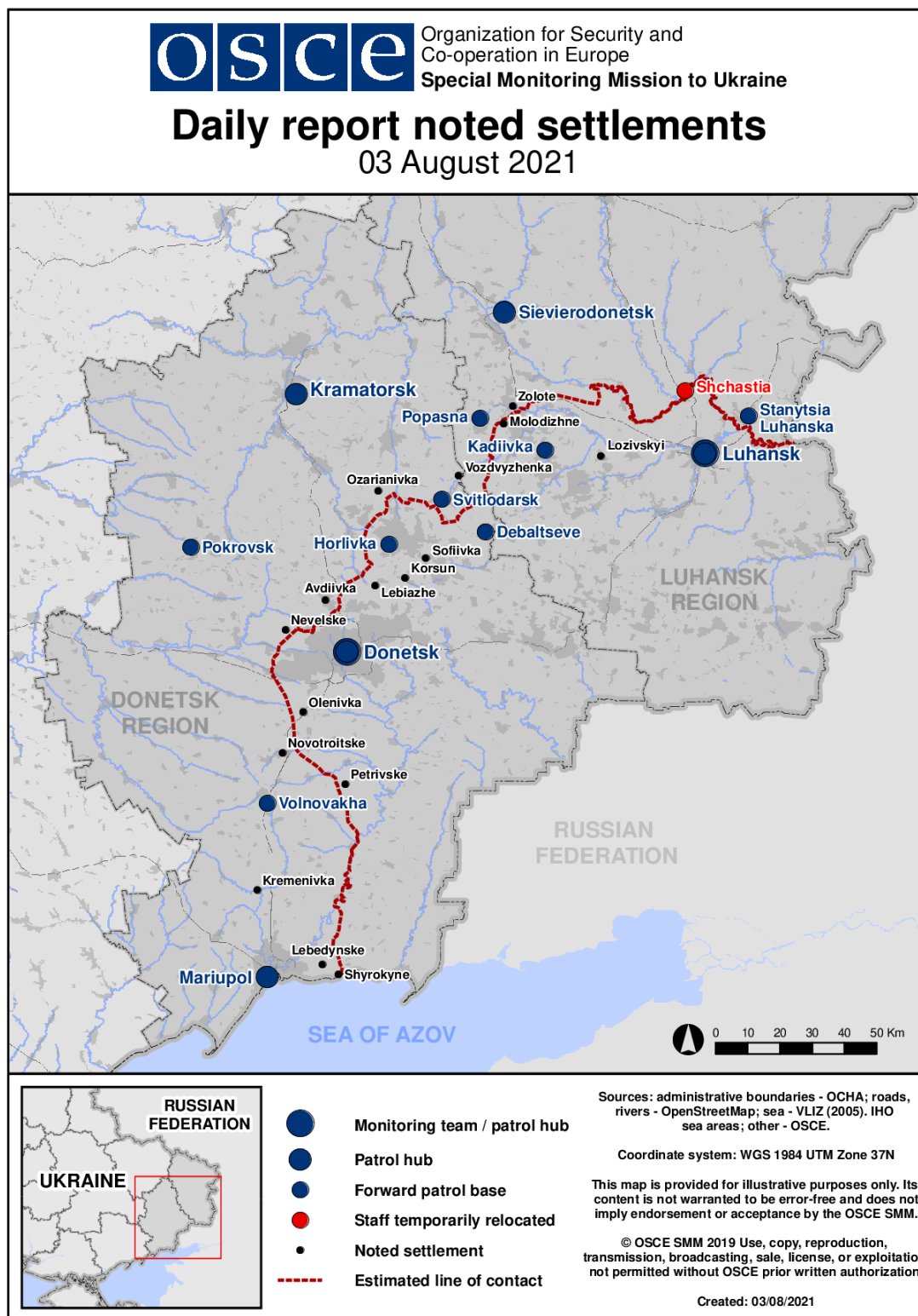
⁷ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 2 August 2021⁸

| SMM position | Event location | Means | No. | Observation | Description | Weapon | Date, time |
|--|----------------|----------|-----|--------------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|
| SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk) | 1-2km S | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | NW to SE | | 1-Aug, 22:39 |
| | 1-2km S | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | NW to SE | | 1-Aug, 23:09 |
| SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk) | 2-4km N | Recorded | 1 | Illumination flare | In vertical flight | | 1-Aug, 21:57 |
| | 2-4km N | Recorded | 1 | Illumination flare | In vertical flight | | 1-Aug, 22:03 |
| | 2-4km N | Recorded | 1 | Illumination flare | In vertical flight | | 1-Aug, 22:31 |
| | 2-4km N | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | E to W | | 1-Aug, 22:36 |
| | 2-4km N | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | E to W | | 1-Aug, 22:37 |
| | 2-4km N | Recorded | 1 | Projectile | E to W | | 1-Aug, 23:35 |
| SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk) | 1.5km SSE | Heard | 1 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 2-Aug, 09:27 |
| About 500m NE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk) | 3-4km NNE | Heard | 10 | Burst | | Small arms | 2-Aug, 11:26 |
| About 2.5km SE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk) | 4-5km NE | Heard | 2 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 2-Aug, 13:03 |
| | 4-5km NE | Heard | 4 | Explosion | Undetermined | N/K | 2-Aug, 13:23-13:27 |

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.

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).