

Daily Report 188/2021

13 August 2021¹

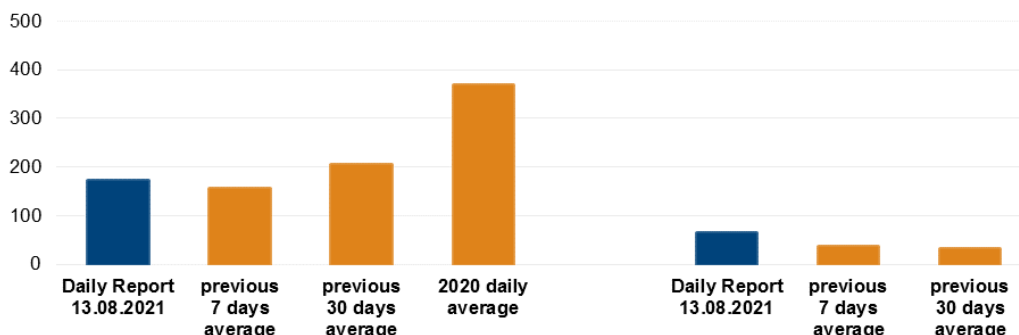
Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 155 ceasefire violations, including 64 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 33 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 17 ceasefire violations, including one explosion. In the previous reporting period, it recorded no ceasefire violations.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable repairs and operation of critical civilian infrastructure. It recorded ten ceasefire violations near the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS).
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at three entry-exit checkpoints and four corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission visited four border crossing points outside government control in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and monitored border areas outside government control in Donetsk region.
- The Mission observed a convoy of trucks with Russian Federation licence plates in a non-government-controlled area in Luhansk region.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at two checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region as well as at a border crossing point near non-government-controlled Izvaryne, Luhansk region. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced multiple 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, 12 August 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time. During the reporting period, weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some of the SMM cameras between the evenings of 11 and 12 August.

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

³ Including explosions.

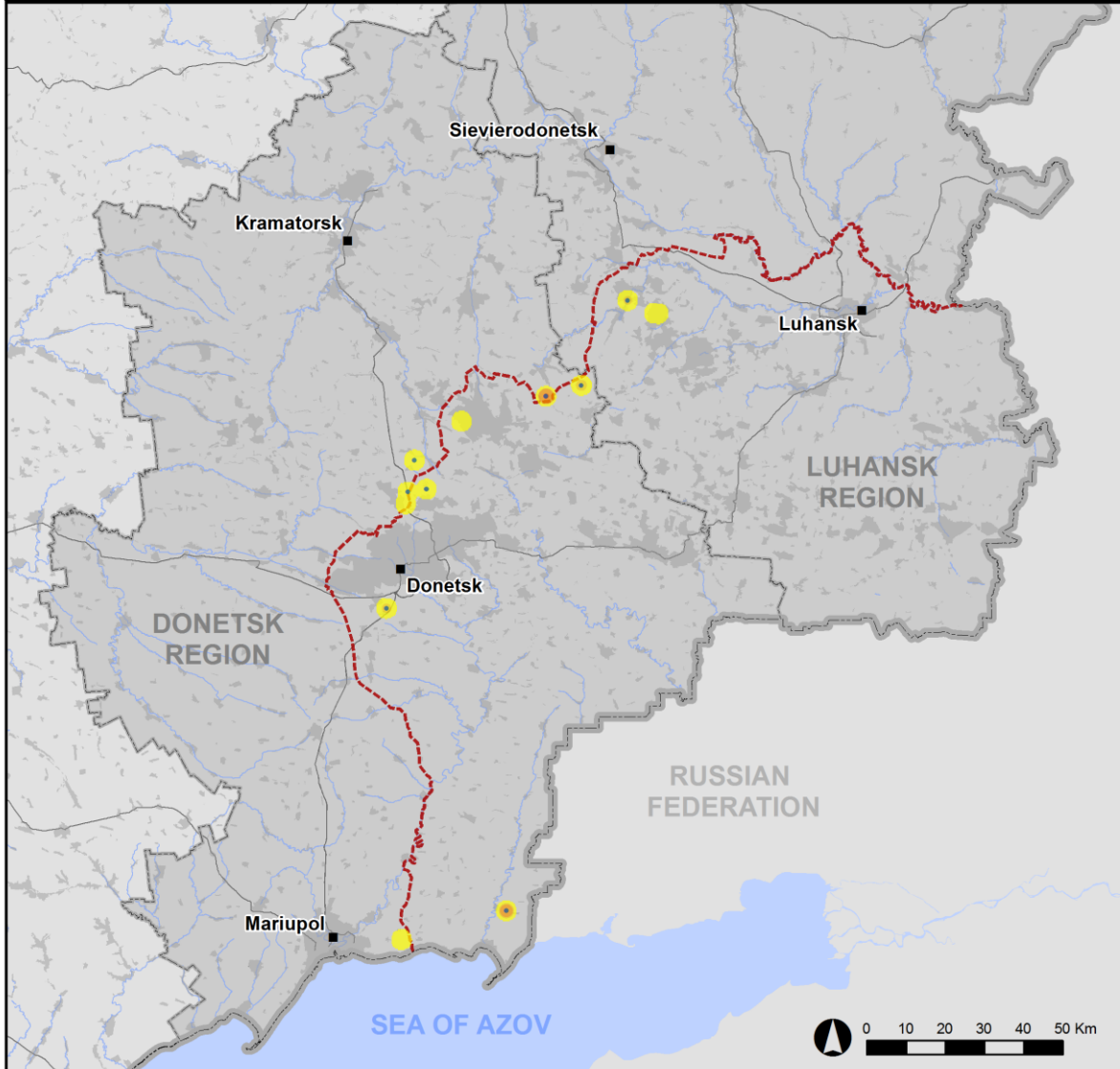
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

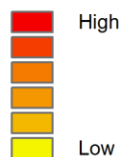


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 12 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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Created: 13/08/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 155 ceasefire violations, including 64 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in an area north-east of Lozove (non-government-controlled, 52km north-east of Donetsk) and in an area south-east of Oleksandrivske (formerly Rozy Liuksemburh, non-government-controlled, 90km south-east of Donetsk), assessed as a live-fire exercise outside the security zone. In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 33 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 17 ceasefire violations, including one undetermined explosion. All ceasefire violations occurred in areas west of Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded no 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 49,255 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 14,087 explosions, 9,408 projectiles in flight, 265 muzzle flashes, 188 illumination flares and at least 25,307 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 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).

Inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), in Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk), the SMM observed a truck with four soldiers of the Ukrainian Army Forces, two of whom were inside the truck and two others standing outside it.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them).

While positioned at two locations near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), 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 six anti-tank guns at a railway station in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, as well as 26 howitzers and an anti-tank gun in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region.

Beyond withdrawal lines, but outside designated storage sites, the SMM saw 97 tanks, 14 towed howitzers/mortars, two self-propelled howitzers/mortars and three surface-to-air

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

missile systems in three training areas in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the tables below.)

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

The SMM saw 16 armoured combat vehicles and an anti-aircraft system in government-controlled areas, including near a residential area, as well as an armoured combat vehicle in a non-government-controlled area, all in Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

Members of an international demining organization near Novoluhanske, Donetsk region

In a field about 2.5km north of Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km north-east of Donetsk), the SMM observed ten members (men, mixed ages) of an international demining organization, some of whom wearing protective gear and using mine detectors east and west of a local road.

SMM facilitation of the operation and repairs of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk). While positioned at two locations near the DFS, the SMM heard ten undetermined explosions, assessed as within a 5km radius of the station. Three of these explosions occurred during the time when a bus with DFS workers was driving between the station and Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk).

The Mission also monitored the security situation near the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk), and adherence to localized ceasefires to enable inspection and repairs to a water pipeline near Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk) and to power lines in and between Vodiane (government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk) and Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, the SMM observed that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk) was closed.

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.

Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point⁶ near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) for about 120 minutes, the Mission observed 11 cars (including eight with “DPR” plates), one covered cargo truck (with “DPR” plates), six buses (including five with “DPR” plates, with passengers of mixed genders and ages) and 25 pedestrians (18 women and seven men, mixed ages) entering Ukraine. During the same time, the SMM observed 38 cars (including 21 with “DPR” plates), 17 covered cargo trucks (including seven with “DPR” plates), ten buses (including nine with “DPR” plates, with passengers of mixed genders and ages) and 17 pedestrians (eight women six men, mixed ages, and three children) exiting Ukraine.

While at a border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk) for about 30 minutes, the SMM observed one woman (in her thirties) exiting Ukraine.

While at a border crossing point near Novoazovsk (102km south-east of Donetsk) for sixty minutes, the Mission observed 17 cars (including 11 with “DPR” plates), one covered cargo truck and one minibus (with “DPR” plates) entering Ukraine. During the same time, the SMM observed 42 cars (including 12 with “DPR” plates), three covered cargo trucks (including one with “DPR” plates) and one minibus (with “DPR” plates) exiting Ukraine.

The Mission also monitored areas near the border with the Russian Federation near Manych (76km east of Donetsk) and Amvrosiivka (56km south-east of Donetsk) and observed no change in the security situation.

While at a border crossing point near Izvaryne (52km south-east of Luhansk) the Mission observed 67 cars (including 32 with “LPR” plates) and one bus (with “LPR” plates, with about 40 passengers of mixed genders and ages) queuing to exit Ukraine. After 15 minutes, a member of the armed formations told the Mission to leave the area.*

On 25 July, aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed the presence of two probable armoured combat vehicles in a compound near Kovske (non-government-controlled, 91km south of Donetsk) about 700m north-north-west of the border with the Russian Federation, one military-type truck in a compound in a residential area of Kholodne (103km south of Donetsk) about 600m west of the border, as well as one military-type truck in a compound in a residential area of Obryv (104km south of Donetsk) about 3.5km south-west of the border.

On 27 July, aerial imagery available to the Mission revealed the presence of one armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined) in a residential area of Kumachove (55km south-east of Donetsk) about 6km west-north-west of the border with the Russian Federation.

On 31 July, aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed the presence of three military-type trucks near in a compound near a residential area of Markyne (94km south of Donetsk) about 4km west of the border with the Russian Federation.

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.

Convoy of trucks with Russian Federation licence plates in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region

The Mission observed a convoy of three covered cargo trucks with Russian Federation licence plates, escorted by three other vehicles (with “MChS” and “police” written on their sides) moving in a north-westerly direction on road M-04 near Komisarivka (non-government-controlled, 17km south-east of Luhansk). (For previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report of 27 November 2020](#)).

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 below). 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.

Denial:

- At a checkpoint near Oleksandrivske (formerly Rozy Liuksemburh, non-government-controlled, 90km south-east of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage south-east towards Markyne (non-government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk), citing a “training exercise in the area”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission heard 15 undetermined explosions and 25 bursts of small-arms fire (see above).
- At a checkpoint near Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk), three members of the armed formations, one of them visibly armed, denied the SMM passage west towards Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk) and south towards Sakhanka (non-government-controlled, 97km south of Donetsk), citing “ongoing small-arms fire in the area”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing through.
- At a border crossing point near Izvaryne (non-government-controlled, 52km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area, referring to lack of prior coordination.

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:

- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over government-controlled areas near Krasnohorivka (24km north of Donetsk), Sukha Balka (36km north of Donetsk), Myrne (63km south of Donetsk), and over non-government-controlled Lozove (52km north-east of Donetsk) and Holubivka (formerly Kirovsk, 51km west of Luhansk).
- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Myrne.
- The SMM cancelled a mid-range UAV flight due to GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, near Lozove.

Tables of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
12/8/2021	6	Anti-tank gun (MT-12, <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	At a railway station in Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk), where the Mission also spotted 29 armoured combat vehicles. ⁷	Patrol
Non-government-controlled areas				
11/8/2021	14	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk), where the Mission also spotted 55 armoured combat vehicles.	Mini-UAV
	12	Towed howitzer (D-30A <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		
	1	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
7/8/2021	27	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk)	Aerial imagery
	42		In a training area near Myrne (28km south-west of Luhansk), where imagery also revealed the presence of 67 armoured combat vehicles.	
	2	Self-propelled howitzer/mortar (type undetermined)		
	14	Towed howitzer/mortar (type undetermined)		
11/8/2021	28	Tank (T-64)	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	3	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)		

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
11/8/2021	12	Armoured combat vehicle (probable BMP variant)	Near Valentynivka (35km north of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (ZSU-23-4 <i>Shilka</i> , 23mm)	Near a residential area of Chernenko (86km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
12/8/2021	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Valentynivka (35km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	3	Armoured recovery vehicle (BREM-1)	Near Novoselivka Druha (23km north of Donetsk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
12/8/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-60)	Near Marianivka (13km south of Donetsk)	Patrol

⁷ The armoured combat vehicles mentioned in this section are not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

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 12 August 2021⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	12-Aug, 01:26
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	12-Aug, 01:26
About 3km SSE of Lozove (non-government-controlled, 52km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km NNE	Heard	22	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 10:54-11:06
	2-4km NNE	Heard	50	Burst		Small arms	12-Aug, 10:54-11:06
Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	3-4km E	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	12-Aug, 11:03
Oleksandrivske (non-government-controlled, 90km SE of Donetsk)	2km ESE	Heard	15	Explosion	Undetermined	Artillery (type N/K)	12-Aug, 11:25-11:40
	2km ESE	Heard	25	Burst		Small arms	12-Aug, 11:25-11:40
About 700m WSW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	4-6km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 11:36
	4-6km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 11:39
	4-6km NNE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 11:40
	4-6km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 11:48
About 1km WSW of Novoselivka Druha (government-controlled, 23km N of Donetsk)	3-4km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 12:13
SE part of Dolia (non-government-controlled, 15km SW of Donetsk)	1.5-2km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 13:03-13:06
	1.5-2km NNE	Heard	9	Burst		Small arms	12-Aug, 13:03-13:06
About 3km S of Lohvynove (non-government-controlled, 59km NE of Donetsk)	4-7km NNE	Heard	14	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 13:35-13:40
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km NW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Aug, 14:40
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	12-Aug, 16:11-16:12
Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km W of Luhansk)	7-10km WNW	Heard	9	Burst		HMG	11-Aug, 19:50-20:30
	1km W	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	11-Aug, 19:50-20:30
	100m WSW	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	11-Aug, 20:25-20:27
	7-10km WNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	11-Aug, 20:30

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.

