



Daily Report 196/2021

23 August 2021¹

Summary

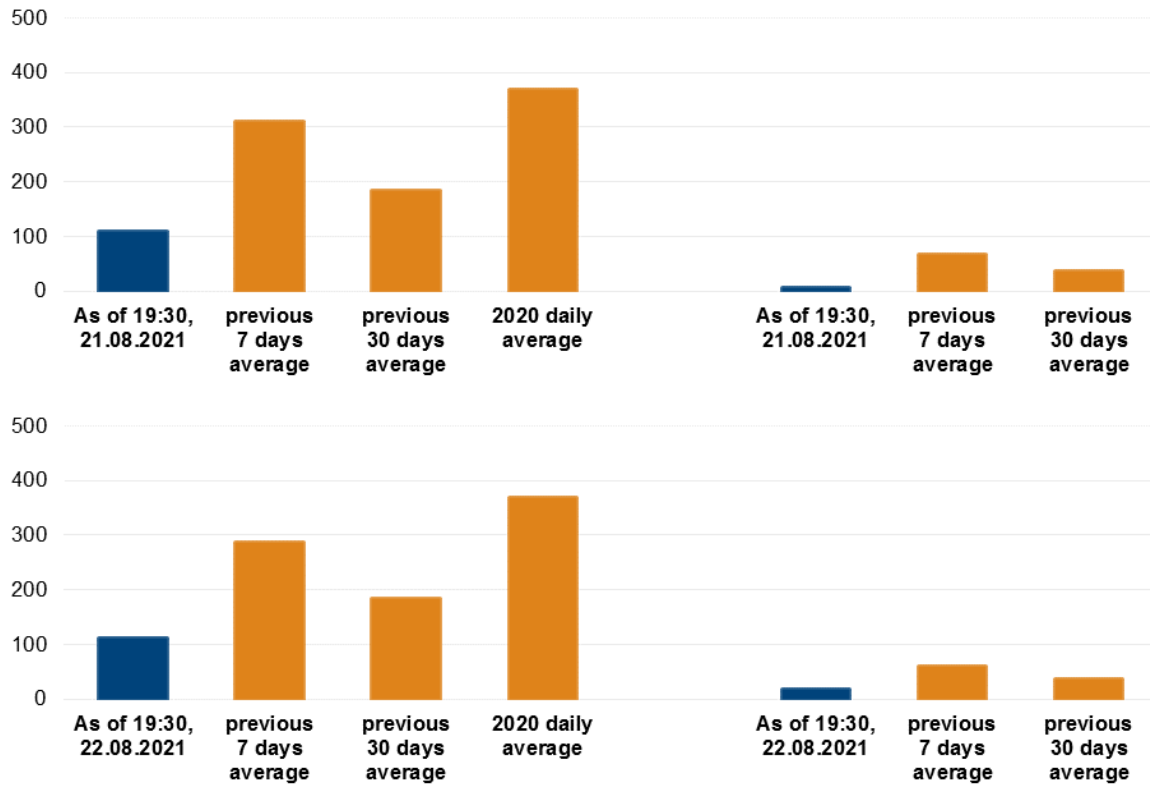
- In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 20 and 22 August, the SMM recorded 220 ceasefire violations, including 23 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 55 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 20 and 22 August, the Mission recorded one explosion. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 92 ceasefire violations in the region.
- Small-arms fire was assessed as directed at two SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) near government-controlled Novohryhorivka and near non-government-controlled Nova Marivka, Donetsk region.*
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It recorded ceasefire violations close to the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation of and repairs to 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 observed no change in the security situation in east and south-east Kherson region.
- The Mission monitored a gathering and a religious service in Kyiv.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at three checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region. Its UAVs again experienced instances of GPS signal interference.*

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 22 August 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴

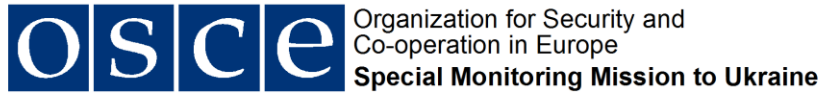


² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some of the SMM cameras.

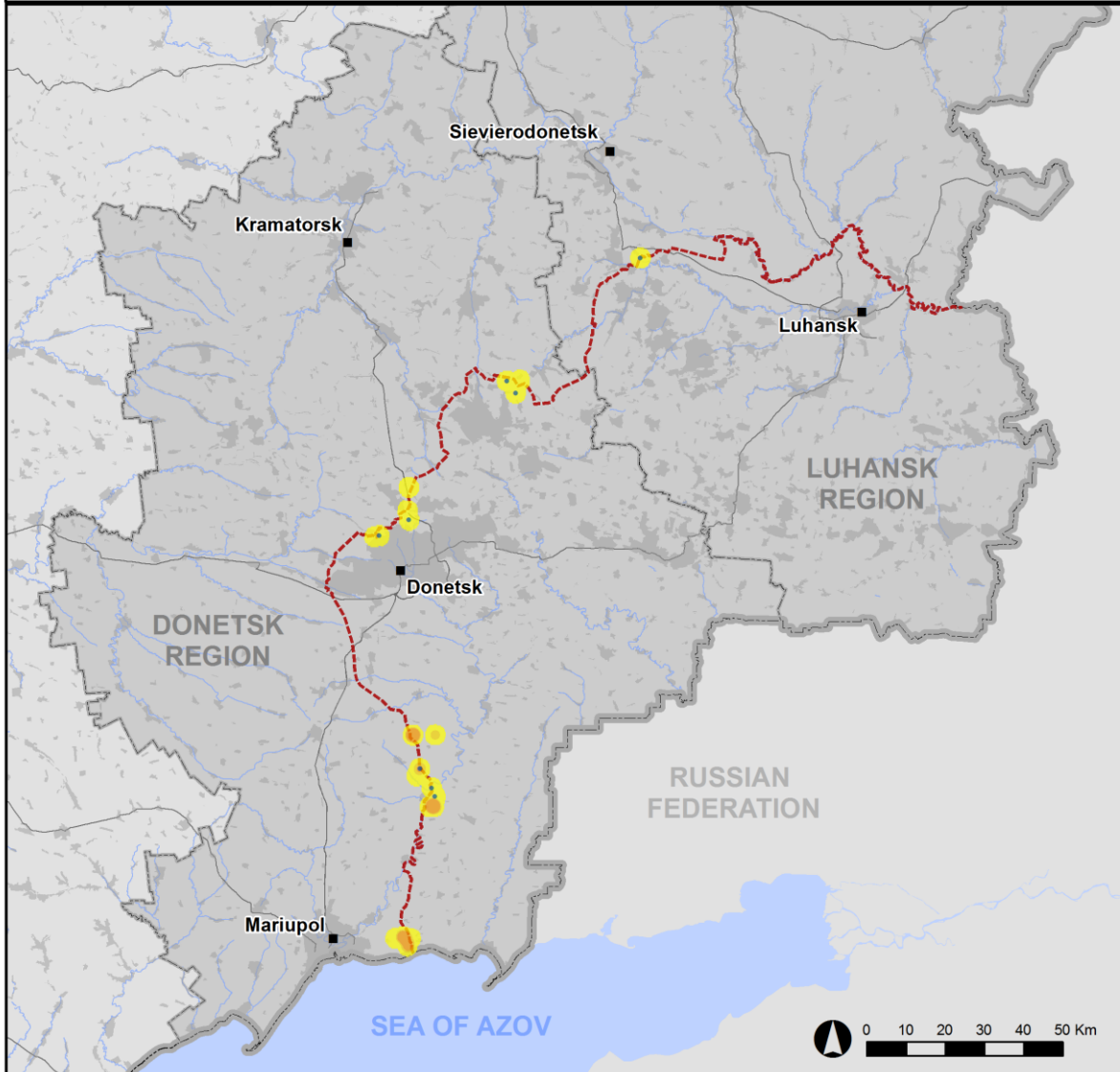
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

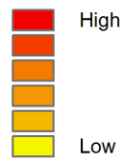
Map of recorded ceasefire violations



Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 21-22 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: 23/08/2021

In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 20 and 22 August, the SMM recorded 220 ceasefire violations, including 23 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk) and south of the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below), as well as in areas south-west of Nova Marivka (non-government-controlled, 64km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 55 ceasefire violations, some of which also occurred in areas north of Shyrokyne.

In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 20 and 22 August, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation - an undetermined explosion - in an area north-east of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 92 ceasefire violations, some of which also occurred near the aforementioned disengagement area.

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 51,683 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 14,583 explosions, 10,151 projectiles in flight, 267 muzzle flashes, 198 illumination flares and at least 26,484 bursts and shots).

Small-arms fire assessed as directed at two SMM mini-UAVs near government-controlled Novohryhorivka and near non-government-controlled Nova Marivka, Donetsk region

On 21 August, while positioned about 1.5km south of Nova Marivka (non-government-controlled, 64km south of Donetsk) to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard 40 bursts of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of about 3km west, assessed as aimed at the UAV, which was flying near positions of the armed formations, about 3km west-north-west of the SMM's position.* The Mission landed the UAV and moved to a location nearby. During the same and two subsequent flights over the same area, the UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming.*

On 22 August, while positioned about 2.5km south of Novohryhorivka (government-controlled, 55km south of Donetsk) to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard two bursts of small-arms fire at an assessed distance of 3km north-north-east, assessed as aimed at the UAV, which was flying near about 3km north-north-east of the SMM's position. The Mission landed the UAV and left the area.*

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 22 August, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw 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 21 August, while positioned on the eastern edge of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km west of Luhansk), the SMM heard one undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 6-8km north, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote**,

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

but within 5km of its periphery.

On 21 August, about 75m north-east of the northern edge of the disengagement area, on the northern edge of the road leading north-east towards Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 62km west of Luhansk), the Mission observed a stationary military vehicle next to the construction site of a structure made of concrete blocks, in which it saw five soldiers of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On 21 and 22 August, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them).

On the evening and night of 21-22 August, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded 52 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 4-6km south-east, 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.

In violation of withdrawal lines, the Mission saw one self-propelled anti-aircraft system in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites, the SMM observed three surface-to-air-missile systems in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, all in two compounds in and near residential areas. (For further information, see the tables below.)

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

In a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region, the Mission saw one armoured combat vehicle in a residential area. (For further information, see the table below.)

SMM facilitation of the operation and repairs of critical civilian infrastructure

On 21 and 22 August, the SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk). On 21 August while positioned at two locations near the DFS, the Mission heard four ceasefire violations, including one undetermined explosion, assessed as within a 5km radius of the station.

On both days, the SMM also monitored the security situation near the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

On 21 August, the Mission also monitored the adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to water pipelines near Zaitseve (50km north-east of Donetsk) and to power lines near Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km north-east of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, on 22 August, the Mission observed that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) was open and that the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Kremynets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) was closed.

In Luhansk region, on 21 August, the SMM observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was open, with people queueing to travel in both directions. At the parking lot of the EECP, the Mission again observed heavy machinery and six workers laying asphalt. On 22 August, the SMM observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations were open, with people queueing to travel in both directions.

On both days, the Mission 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.

Security situation in east and south-east Kherson region

On 20-22 August, the SMM monitored areas in east and south-east Kherson region, including at checkpoints near Kalanchak (67km south-east of Kherson) and Chaplynka (77km south-east of Kherson), as well as areas near Novotroitske (154km east of Kherson), Chonhar (163km south-east of Kherson) and Henichesk (176km east of Kherson) and along the North Crimean Canal. While monitoring these areas, the Mission observed no change in the security situation.

SMM monitored a gathering and a religious service in Kyiv

On 21 August, in front of the Verkhovna Rada at 5 Mykhaila Hrushevskoho Street, the Mission observed a gathering of about 5,000 people (mixed genders and ages), some of whom were holding banners and signs in support of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The SMM saw around 700 law enforcement officers nearby and observed a calm situation.

On 22 August, at Saint Sophia Cathedral at 24 Volodymyrska Street in Kyiv, the Mission observed about 10,000 people (mostly men of mixed ages) attending a religious service organized by the Orthodox Church of Ukraine. The SMM saw about 1000 law enforcement officers in the vicinity and observed a calm situation.

The SMM continued monitoring in 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 13 August 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.

Denial:

- On 21 August, at a checkpoint near Nova Marivka (non-government-controlled, 64km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage west towards Staromarivka (62km south of Donetsk), referring to a mine incident that had caused the closure of the area. While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing through.
- On the same day, at a checkpoint near Starolaspa (non-government-controlled, 51km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the Mission passage west towards Novolaspa (non-government-controlled, 50km south of Donetsk), citing "ongoing demining in the area". While at the checkpoint, the SMM observed civilian traffic passing through.
- On the same day, at a checkpoint near Shevchenko (non-government-controlled, 69km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage south towards Lukove (non-government-controlled, 72km south of Donetsk), citing "ongoing engineering works in the area". 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

- On 21 August, while positioned near Nova Marivka (non-government-controlled, 64km south of Donetsk) to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard 40 bursts of small-arms fire, assessed as aimed at the UAV. The Mission landed the UAV and left the area. (See above.)
- On the same day, SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during three separate flights over areas near Nova Marivka and during one flight over areas near Maiorove (formerly Krasnyi Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 57km south-east of Donetsk).
- On 22 August, while positioned near Novohryhorivka (government-controlled, 55km south of Donetsk) to conduct an announced mini-UAV flight, the SMM heard two bursts of small-arms fire, assessed as aimed at the UAV. The Mission landed the UAV and left the area. (See above.)
- On the same day an SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over areas near Pyschchevyk (government-

⁶ 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.

controlled, 84km south of Donetsk).

- On the same day, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over areas near Myronivskiyi (government-controlled, 62km north-east of Donetsk).

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
22/8/2021	1	Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (2K22 <i>Tunguska</i>)	Near Starohnativka (51km south of Donetsk)	Patrol

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
20/8/2021	2	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33 <i>Osa</i>)	In a compound near a residential area of Kasianivka (81km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
	1	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)	In a compound in a residential area of Berdychi (24km north-west of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
21/8/2021	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	In a residential area of Khoroshovo (8km south of Donetsk)	Patrol

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

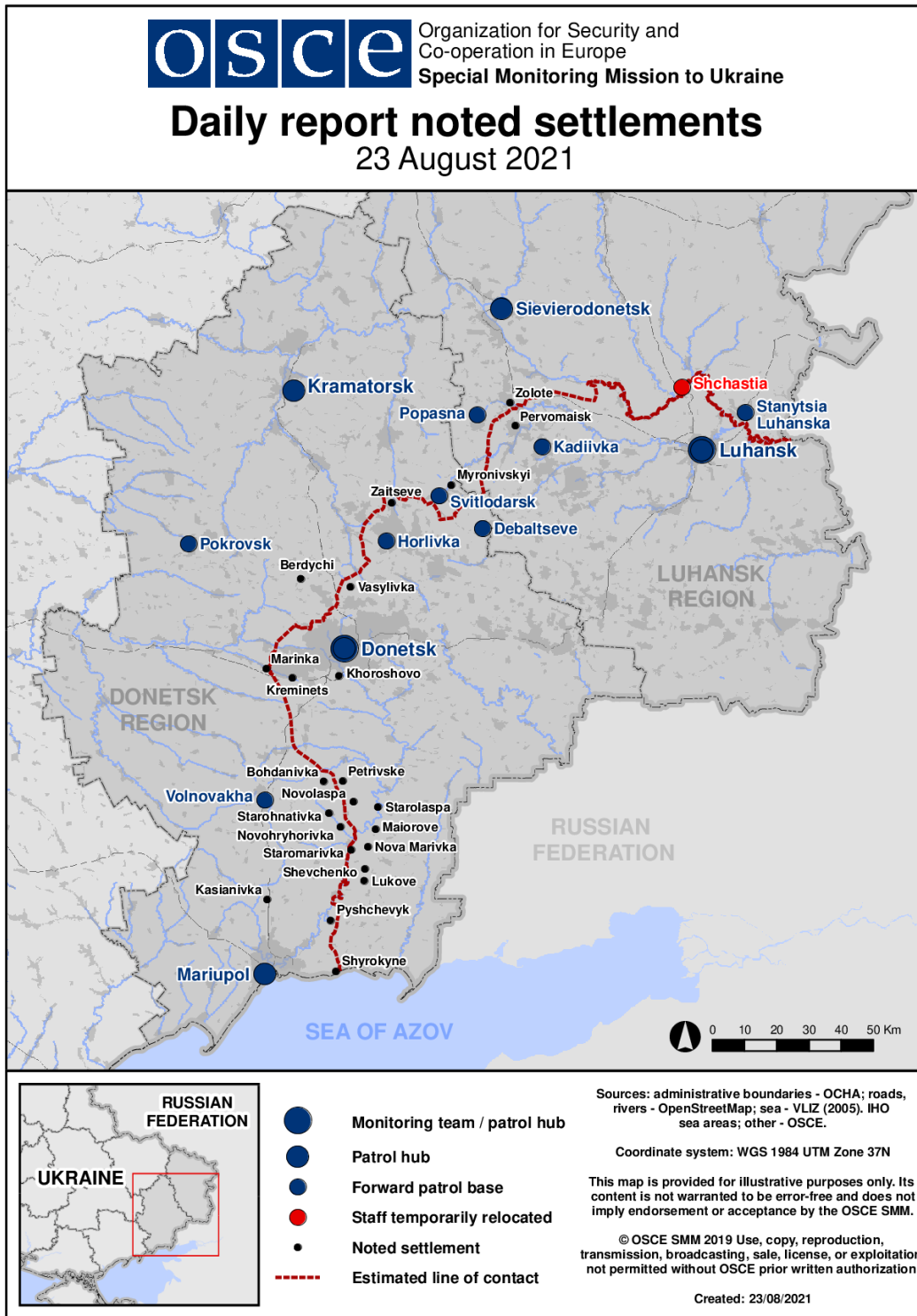
Table of ceasefire violations as of 22 August 2021⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Hranitne (government-controlled, 60km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S	N/K	20-Aug, 21:30
	2-4km SE	Recorded	5	Projectile	SSW to NNE	N/K	20-Aug, 21:31
	2-4km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	S to N	N/K	20-Aug, 21:31
	2-4km SE	Recorded	3	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	20-Aug, 21:54
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Aug, 21:54
	2-4km SE	Recorded	3	Projectile	S to N	N/K	20-Aug, 22:43
	2-4km NE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Aug, 00:25
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	1-3km W	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	21-Aug, 03:45
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	2-4km NNE	Recorded	5	Projectile	W to E	N/K	21-Aug, 00:37
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E	N/K	21-Aug, 00:38
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	3	Projectile	W to E	N/K	21-Aug, 00:39
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	21-Aug, 03:01
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	11	Projectile	W to E	N/K	21-Aug, 03:02
SMM camera in Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	2-5km WSW	Recorded	3	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	20-Aug, 21:08
Railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	4-5km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Aug, 10:05
About 1.5km S of Nova Marivka (non-government-controlled, 64km S of Donetsk)	3km W	Heard	40	Burst		Small arms	21-Aug, 10:52
	3-5km W	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	21-Aug, 10:58
	3-5km W	Heard	5	Shot		Small arms	21-Aug, 10:58
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	6-8km SE	Heard	11	Shot		HMG	21-Aug, 11:51-11:54
About 1km E of Holmivskyyi (non-government-controlled, 49km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km ENE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Aug, 12:21
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	1-1.5km SE	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	21-Aug, 10:30
About 1km SW of Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Aug, 13:07
E edge of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	6-8km N	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	21-Aug, 15:56
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	4-6km SE	Recorded	6	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	21-Aug, 20:25
	4-6km SE	Recorded	3	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	21-Aug, 20:26
	4-6km SE	Recorded	8	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	21-Aug, 20:27
	4-6km SE	Recorded	8	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	21-Aug, 23:56
	4-6km SE	Recorded	18	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	22-Aug, 00:06

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.

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
	4-6km SE	Recorded	8	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	22-Aug, 00:21
	4-6km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	22-Aug, 00:51
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	1-3km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	21-Aug, 22:39
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km NNW	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	21-Aug, 22:26
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	5	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-Aug, 23:34
	4-6km N	Recorded	8	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	22-Aug, 02:22
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	22-Aug, 02:53
	4-6km N	Recorded	25	Projectile	E to W	N/K	22-Aug, 03:17
About 2.5km S of Novohryhorivka (government-controlled, 55km S of Donetsk)	3km NNE	Heard	2	Burst		Small arms	22-Aug, 12:13-12:15
	5km NNE	Heard	16	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Aug, 12:36-12:38
Railway station in Donetsk (non-government-controlled, 6km NW of Donetsk city centre)	3-4km WNW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	22-Aug, 14:11

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).