

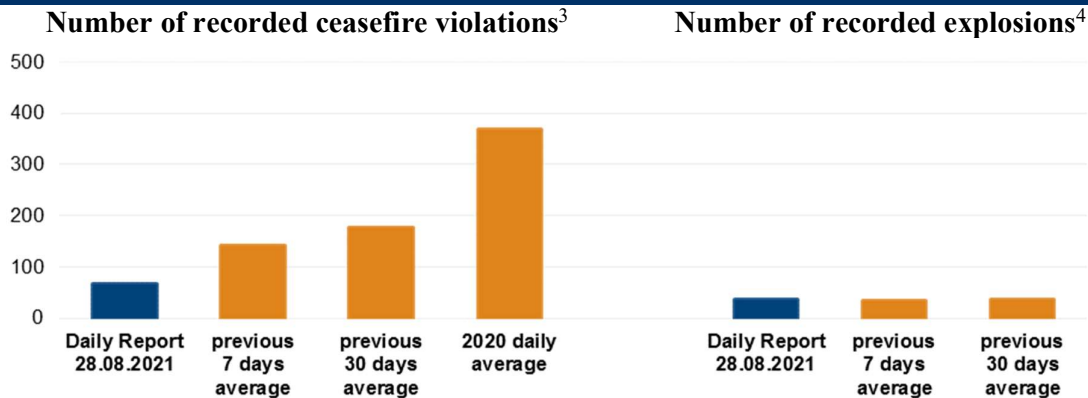
Daily Report 201/2021

28 August 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 40 ceasefire violations, including 11 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 87 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 26 ceasefire violations, including 25 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 155 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It recorded ceasefire violations inside the disengagement area near Petrivske and close to the disengagement area near Zolote.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation and repairs to critical civilian infrastructure and a transfer of funds from non-government- to government-controlled areas.
- 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 monitored areas near the border with the Russian Federation in Donetsk region.
- The Mission’s freedom of movement continued to be restricted. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced multiple instances of GPS signal interference.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 27 August 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, weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of some of the SMM cameras.

³ Including explosions.

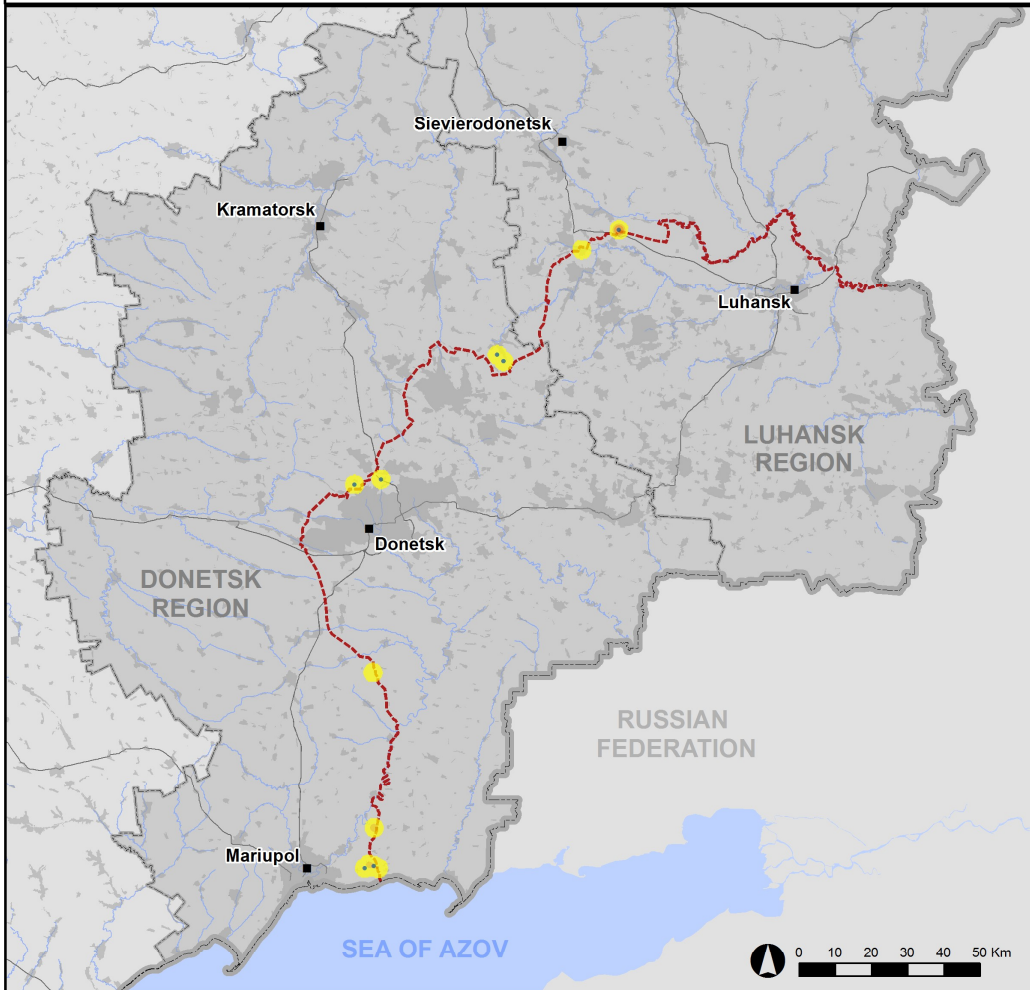
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



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

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 27 August 2021



Ceasefire violation concentration

High



Low



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: 28/08/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 40 ceasefire violations, including 11 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred at northerly directions of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk) and in areas north-east of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 87 ceasefire violations, some of which also occurred at northerly directions of Shyrokyne.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 26 ceasefire violations, including 25 undetermined explosions. Almost all ceasefire violations occurred at south-easterly directions of Bobrovo (government-controlled, 56km north-west of Luhansk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 155 ceasefire violations.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July 2020 regarding 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 52,377 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 14,775 explosions, 10,264 projectiles in flight, 269 muzzle flashes, 204 illumination flares and at least 26,865 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).

While on the southern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the Mission heard one shot of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 3-4km north-east, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

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

Inside the disengagement area, about 350m north of its southern edge and 12m west of road T1316, the SMM saw a previously reported underground structure. The Mission again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge and inside the area. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 27 August 2021](#).)

Outside the disengagement area, about 70m north of its northern edge, on the eastern side of road T1316, the SMM observed seven workers (men, in their twenties) with a utility truck and a crane dismantling a concrete wall and unloading pallets of bricks.

An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over the disengagement area near Zolote.*

On the evening of 26 August, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded five projectiles in flight, at an assessed range

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

of 1-3km south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk).

During the day on 27 August, while positioned at three locations near the area, the SMM 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 howitzers and one mortar in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. (For further information, see the tables below.)

SMM facilitation of the operation and repairs of critical civilian infrastructure and a transfer of funds

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk). While positioned in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), the SMM heard two undetermined explosions assessed as within a 5km radius of the station.

The SMM 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 repairs to the phenol sludge reservoir near Nelipivka (government-controlled, 40km north of Donetsk).

The SMM also facilitated and monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable a transfer of funds from non-government- to government-controlled areas across the bridge in Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk), reportedly related to payments for water supply.

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 civilian traffic passing through in both directions.

In Luhansk region, the Mission observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations were open, with large numbers of people queuing to travel in both directions.

In the area of the EECP, the SMM observed four workers (men, in their thirties) replacing an old metal fence with a new one. It also noted that all metal poles of the aforementioned metal fence had been replaced with new ones and a lower part of the new fence had been installed. The Mission also saw five workers (men, in their thirties and forties) with heavy machinery clearing, flattening and leveling the road.

The Mission noted that the EECs near Zolote and Shchastia were open, but that the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote and 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia were closed for civilian traffic.

Border areas outside government control

The Mission monitored areas near the border with the Russian Federation near Manych (76km east of Donetsk), Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk), Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) and Vasylivka (65km south-east of Donetsk), and observed no change in the security situation.

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 27 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.

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 impediments⁶:

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Mykolaivka Druha (government-controlled, 55km north of Donetsk).
- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during 16 flights: once over areas near non-government-controlled Petrivske (41km south of Donetsk), Tretiaky (32km east of Donetsk), Panteleimonivka (26km north-east of Donetsk), Ozerianivka (35km north-east of Donetsk), Khoroshe (36km west of Luhansk), and government-controlled Vodiane (94km south of Donetsk), Pavlopil (84km south of Donetsk), Lebedynske (99km south of Donetsk) and Chabanivka (66km north-west of Luhansk), twice

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.

over areas near non-government-controlled Mykhailivka (30km north-east of Donetsk) and near government-controlled Zolote (60km west of Luhansk), including during one flight over the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (see above), as well as three times over non-government-controlled Luhansk city.

Tables of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

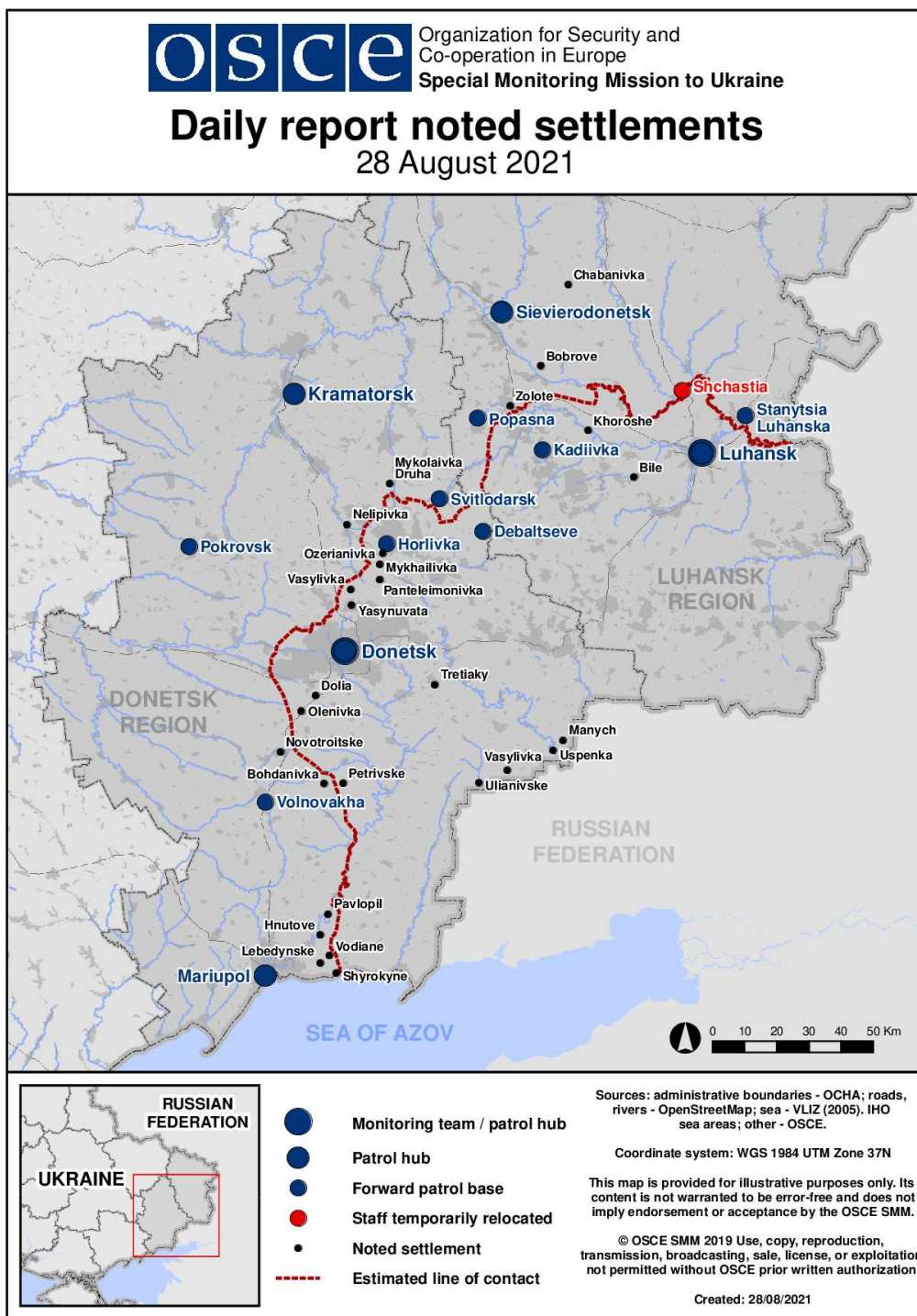
Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
26/8/2021	2	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	Near Bile (22km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	4	Towed howitzer (D-30A <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		
27/8/2021	1	Towed mortar (type undetermined)	Near Dolia (15km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol

Table of ceasefire violations as of 27 August 2021⁷

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	1-3km SE	Recorded	5	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Aug, 20:54
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	10	Projectile	S to N	N/K	26-Aug, 22:12
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km NNE	Recorded	4	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	26-Aug, 21:12
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	26-Aug, 21:12
	4-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	26-Aug, 21:13
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare		N/K	26-Aug, 21:28
	4-6km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Aug, 01:42
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	4-6km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Aug, 20:33
	4-6km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Aug, 21:47
	4-6km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Aug, 21:51
Railway station in Donetsk (non-government-controlled, 6km NW of Donetsk city centre)	5km NNW	Heard and saw	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Aug, 09:30
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km SSW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Aug, 09:31
About 1.5km NNW of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	3-4km E	Heard	7	Burst		Small arms	27-Aug, 10:17-10:18
	4-5km NE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined		27-Aug, 13:01
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Aug, 17:02
About 3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	3-4km NE	Heard	1	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	27-Aug, 08:06-08:18
2.5km S of Bobrove (government-controlled, 56km NW of Luhansk)	5-10km SSE	Heard	25	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Aug, 09:23-09:30

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.

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).