

Daily Report 206/2021

3 September 2021¹

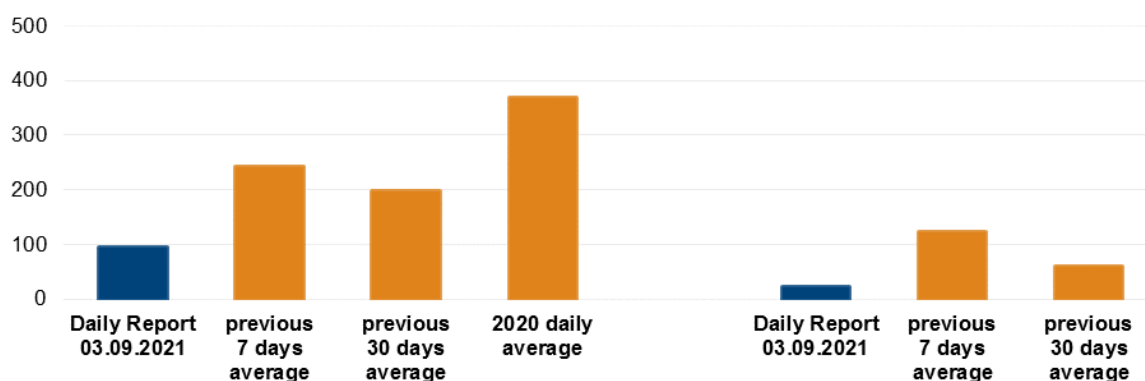
Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 66 ceasefire violations, including 22 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 21 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 28 ceasefire violations, including one explosion. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 41 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 of and repairs to critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at three entry-exit checkpoints and two corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted. *

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



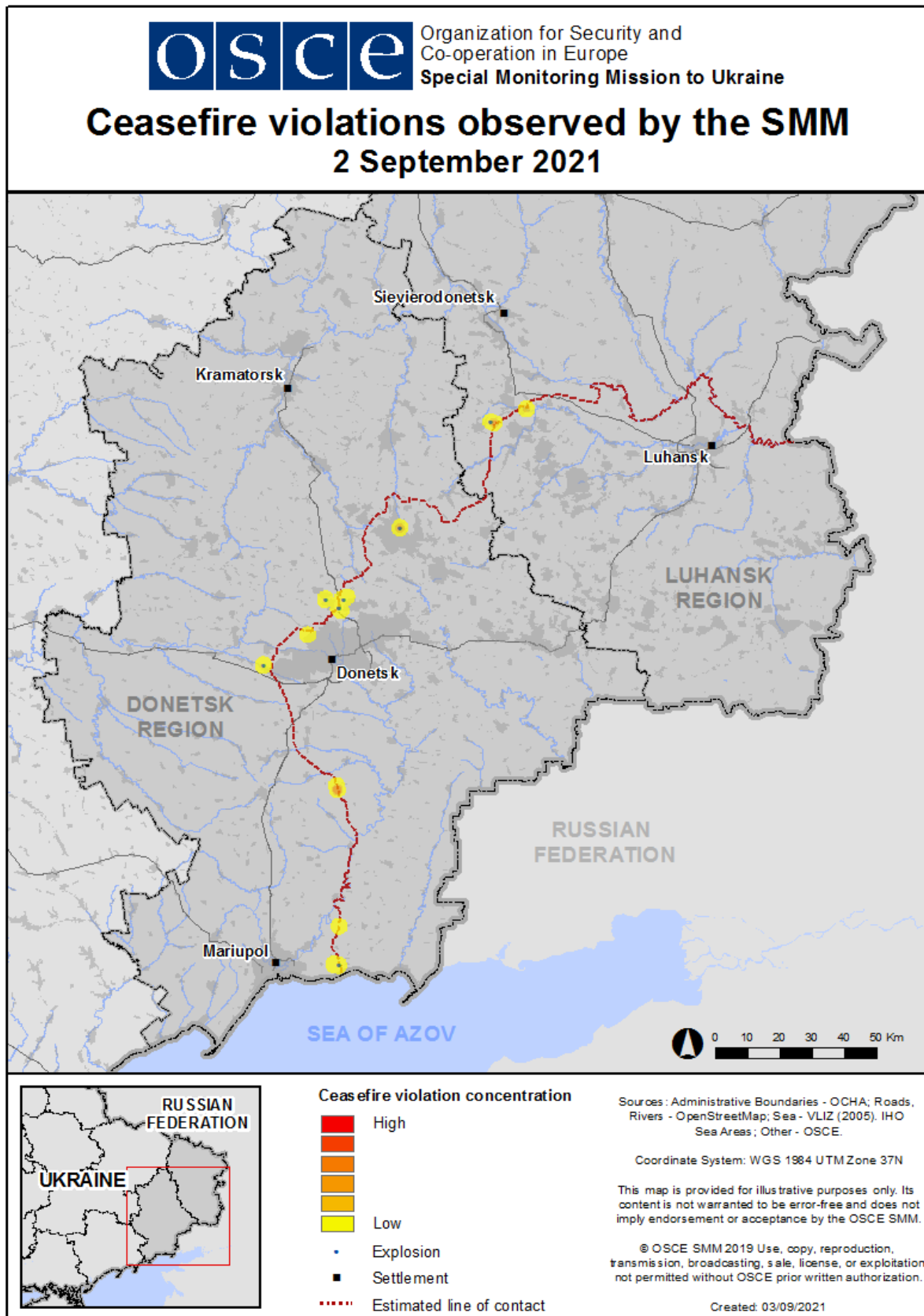
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 2 September 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

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



In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 66 ceasefire violations, including 22 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas close to the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below) and in an area south-south-west of Holmivskiyi (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 21 ceasefire violations, some of which also occurred near the disengagement area near Petrivske.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 28 ceasefire violations, including one undetermined explosion. All ceasefire violations occurred in areas north-east and south-west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 41 ceasefire violations, most of which also occurred near the disengagement area near Zolote.⁵

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 53,862 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 15,553 explosions, 10,521 projectiles in flight, 270 muzzle flashes, 218 illumination flares and at least 27,300 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁶

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission observed a calm situation.

On the evening and night of 1-2 September, the SMM camera on the northern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk) recorded one undetermined explosion and 16 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 3-6km east-south-east. On 2 September, while positioned on the south-western edge of Berezivske (non-government-controlled, 53km north-west of Luhansk), the Mission heard 11 bursts and shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 2-3km north-west. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

On the same day, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area near Zolote, the Mission saw three members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them).

On 31 August, inside the disengagement area, about 350m north of its southern edge, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted wooden boards (not previously reported) covering two steps leading down into a previously reported underground structure covered by a green camouflaged net. On 2 September, the SMM again saw the aforementioned underground structure and the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge and inside the area.

On the night of 1-2 September, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded two projectiles in flight at an assessed range

⁵ In the SMM Daily Report of 2 September 2021, this paragraph should have read as follows: “Almost all ceasefire violations occurred in areas north-east of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk).”

⁶ 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 east-south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**, as well as one illumination flare and 24 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km south-east, unable to be assessed as inside or outside the area.

On 2 September, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over the disengagement area.*

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.

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

The SMM saw four armoured combat vehicles and one anti-aircraft gun in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including in residential areas. (For further information, see the table below.)

Presence of anti-tank mines near Kamianka, Donetsk region

On 31 August, on two roads about 2km east and 3km east-south-east of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted in total 21 anti-tank mines, only one of which was not previously reported, all assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 29 June 2021](#).)

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 three locations near the DFS, the SMM heard ten ceasefire violations, including four undetermined explosions, all 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 a localized ceasefire to enable repairs to a sewage treatment plant near Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km north-east of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Luhansk region, the SMM observed that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Stanytsia Luhanska was open, with people queueing to travel in both directions.

At the EECP, the Mission continued observing the fence replacement works. It saw that the fence on the western side of the road had been removed and that five workers (men, in their twenties to forties) were installing a 3m-high welded wire fence. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 1 September 2021](#).) Also at the EECP, the SMM observed ten workers (men, mixed ages) using a crane to assemble structures, assessed as shelters for the border guards.

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.

At the checkpoint of the armed formations 3km south-east of the bridge in Shchastia, the SMM saw four workers (men, in their thirties to fifties) clearing vegetation on both sides of road H-21.

The Mission 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 1 September 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 impediments:⁷

- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during four flights: two times over areas near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), as well as over the disengagement area near Petrivske (see above) and over areas near Novokyivka (non-government-controlled, 25km east 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 tens of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
1/9/2021	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	Near Novohryhorivka (55km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
2/9/2021	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	In a residential area of Zolote-2/Karbonit (62km west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	In a residential area of Troitske (69km west of Luhansk)	
	2	Armoured combat vehicle (BTR variant)		

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

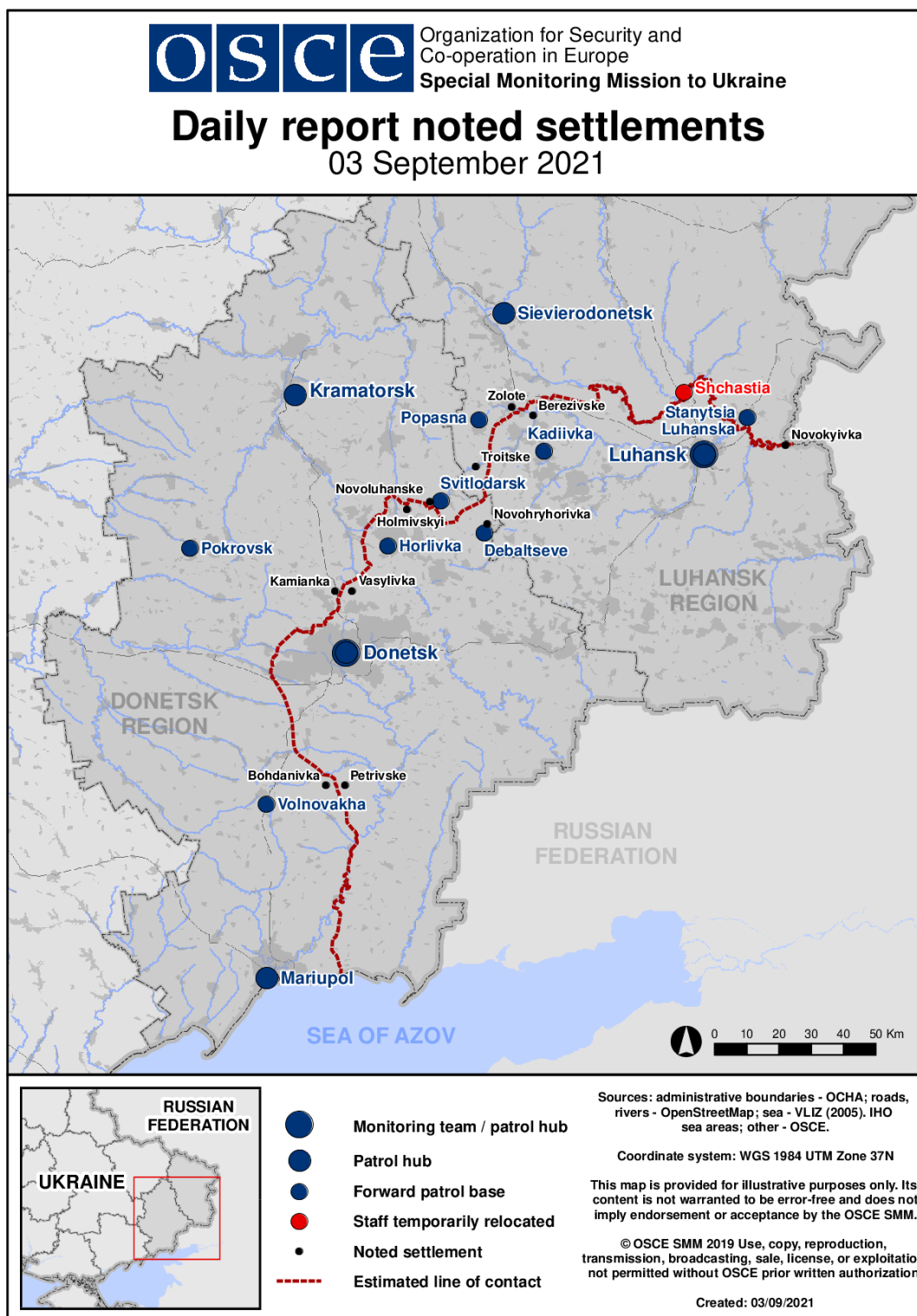
Table of ceasefire violations as of 2 September 2021⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	In vertical flight (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	2-Sep, 00:01
	2-4km SE	Recorded	14	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	2-Sep, 00:01
	2-4km SE	Recorded	4	Projectile	WSW to ENE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	2-Sep, 00:02
	1-3km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	2-Sep, 00:57
	1-3km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	2-Sep, 01:03
	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	2-Sep, 02:35
	2-4km SE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	2-Sep, 03:32
	2-4km SE	Recorded	3	Projectile	SW to NE (unable to be assessed if inside or outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	2-Sep, 03:42
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	1-Sep, 21:17
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Burst	In vertical flight	N/K	1-Sep, 21:46
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	3-5km NNW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Sep, 02:42
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	2-4km WSW	Recorded	3	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	1-Sep, 20:27
	2-4km WSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	1-Sep, 20:27
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	2-Sep, 03:10
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Sep, 03:17
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	2-Sep, 04:27
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-2.5km NW	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	2-Sep, 09:19
	2-3km SW	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	2-Sep, 09:26
About 700m WSW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Sep, 12:35
	2-3km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Sep, 12:37
	3-4km N	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	2-Sep, 12:42
	3-4km N	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	2-Sep, 12:42
Holmivskyi (non-government-controlled, 49km NE of Donetsk)	6-8km SSW	Heard	16	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Sep, 10:07-10:23

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.

About 2km SSE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	3-5km WSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Sep, 09:18
E edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	2-Sep, 11:02
SMM camera on N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4-6km ESE	Recorded	7	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	1-Sep, 20:01
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	5	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	1-Sep, 20:04
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	4	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	1-Sep, 23:09
	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	2-Sep, 04:59
SW edge of Berezivske (non-government-controlled, 53km NW of Luhansk)	2-3km NW	Heard	10	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	2-Sep, 16:40
	2-3km NW	Heard	1	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	2-Sep, 16:40

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).