

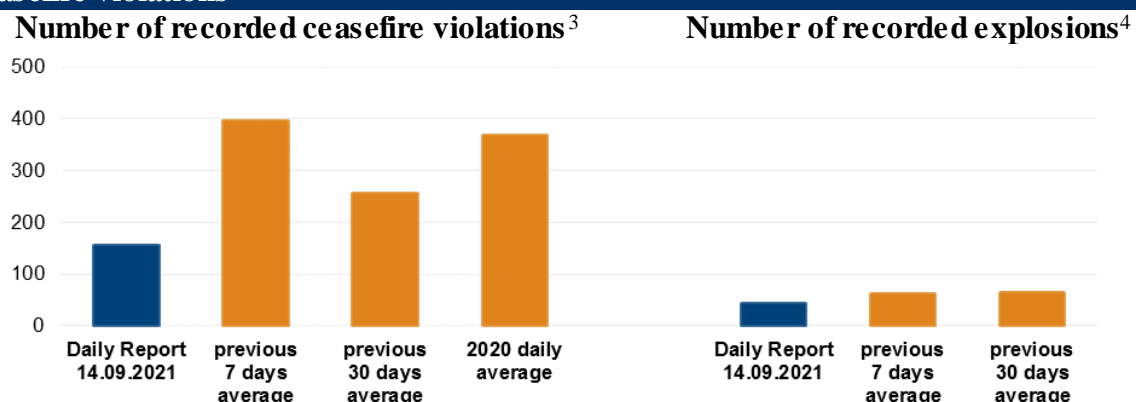
Daily Report 215/2021

14 September 2021¹

Summary

- In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 88 ceasefire violations, including 30 explosions. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 128 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 67 ceasefire violations, including 12 explosions. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 62 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission followed up on reports of damage to a fuel depot in non-government-controlled Donetsk city and to and near residential buildings in government-controlled Kriakivka, Luhansk region.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and three corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission monitored two gatherings in Kharkiv.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a compound near government-controlled Lisne, in southern Donetsk region. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced multiple instances of GPS signal interference.*

Ceasefire violations²



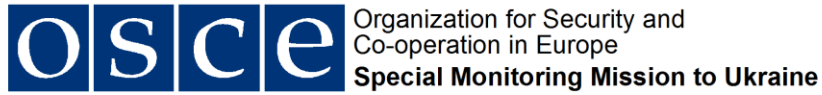
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 13 September 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time. During the reporting period, weather conditions limited the observation capabilities of some of the SMM cameras.

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

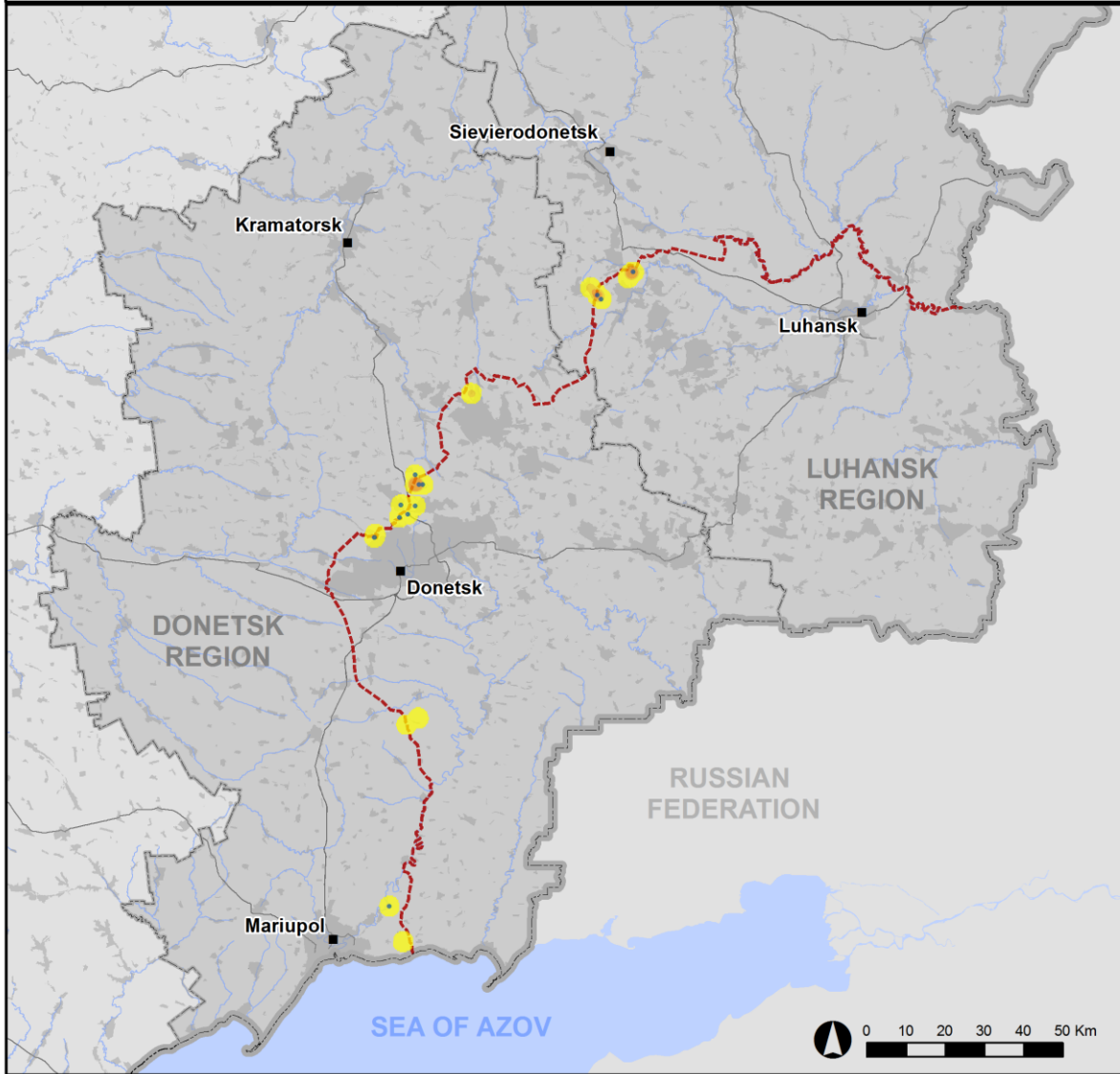
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

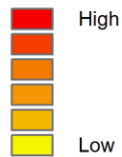
Map of recorded ceasefire violations



Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 13 September 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: 14/09/2021

In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 88 ceasefire violations, including 30 explosions (one impact and 29 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred around the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) and inside and near the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk). (See below.) In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 134 ceasefire violations, some of which also occurred around the DFS and near the disengagement area near Petrivske.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 67 ceasefire violations, including 12 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas south-east of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk) and near the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). (See below.) In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 62 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 Mission has recorded at least 57,213 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 16,076 explosions, 11,017 projectiles in flight, 270 muzzle flashes, 225 illumination flares and at least 29,625 bursts and shots).

Reports of damage to a fuel depot in non-government-controlled Donetsk city and to and near residential buildings in government-controlled Kriakivka, Luhansk region

The SMM followed up on reports of damage to a fuel depot in Donetsk's city Kirovskiy District (non-government-controlled) and to and near two residential buildings in Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km north-west of Luhansk).

On 12 September, in Donetsk's city Kirovskiy District, at a fuel depot at 9 Naftova Street, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted scorch marks on the north-western side of the top of a storage tank as well as two metal sheets placed over a piece of wood, reportedly to cover a hole. The UAV also spotted that the handrail and metal guard along the north-western edge of the tank were bent. The SMM also saw plastic fragments on the ground below the north-western side of the same tank. The SMM could not assess the cause of damage. A security guard told the SMM that there had been explosions in the area on 11 September.

On 10 and 11 September, on the north-eastern edge of Kriakivka, at 27 Bolnychna Street, the Mission saw three craters about 7m east, 1m west, and 12m north-north-west, respectively, of an inhabited five-storey residential building.

On the ground floor of the same building, the SMM saw that the two west-facing entrance metal doors were deformed and torn from their frame. In the east-facing wall of the building, the SMM saw shrapnel marks and 18 shattered windows on the second and third floor with glass shards on the ground below. Inside the building, the Mission also noticed shrapnel marks in apartment doors and walls and also saw eight shattered windows in its west-facing wall (three on the first floor, three on the second floor and two on the third floor).

At 26 Bolnychna Street, the Mission saw another crater about 25m north-east of an inhabited two-storey residential building.

All craters and damage was assessed as recent. The SMM could not assess the type of weapon used or direction of fire.

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

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

On the evening of 12 September, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded 29 projectiles in flight, at an assessed range of 4-6km east-south-east, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

During the day on 13 September, while positioned at two locations near the area, the SMM heard three undetermined explosions and two shots of small-arms fire, assessed as outside the area but within 5km of its periphery.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw seven members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them). The SMM again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge and inside the area, as well as a previously reported underground structure inside the area.

On the evening of 12 September, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded three projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1-3km east-south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**.

During the day on 13 September, while positioned about 2km north of Petrivske, the Mission heard one shot of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 600m-1km south-east, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 27 August, outside the disengagement area, about 500m west-north-west of its north-eastern corner, an SMM mini-UAV spotted three anti-personnel mines (PMN-2, not previously reported): two on the northern edge of road C-051532 and one on its southern edge, assessed as not recently laid.

On the same day, also outside the disengagement area, about 300m west-north-west of its north-eastern corner, the same UAV spotted a previously reported anti-tank mine on the northern edge of road C-051532. (For previous observations in the area see [SMM Daily Report of 27 May 2021](#).) All these mines were assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

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 SMM saw 21 multiple launch rocket systems in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region.

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

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission saw 30 howitzers, six surface-to-air missile systems, five tanks, five anti-tank guns and three anti-tank guided missile systems all in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, including at two railway stations, and 47 tanks in two training areas in non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the tables below.)

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

The Mission saw an armoured combat vehicle in a residential area in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, and two armoured combat vehicles in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

Mine hazard sign near Dovhe, Luhansk region

In a field about 3km south-east of Dovhe (non-government-controlled, 22km north-west of Luhansk), about 50m north of road P-66, the SMM observed one not previously reported mine hazard sign (red square with “Stop, Mines!” written on it in Russian), assessed as recent.

SMM facilitation of the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at three locations near the station, the SMM heard 53 ceasefire violations, all assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS, of which 13 were undetermined explosions. Seven of these occurred when a bus with DFS workers was driving between Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk) and the station.

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.

While at the EECP, the Mission observed four trucks, with the flag of a European country visible on their doors, travelling to non-government-controlled areas. (For previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report of 13 September 2021](#).)

In Luhansk region, the Mission observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was open, with people queueing to travel in both directions. While at the EECP, the SMM again observed a number of workers raising metal structures. About 50m west of the EECP, the SMM observed the skeleton frame of a modular building being raised (not previously reported).

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.

Gatherings in Kharkiv

On 12 September the SMM saw about 1,500 people (almost all women, in their teens to their forties) marching between Svobody Square and Sarzhyn Yar Park in Kharkiv. Some of the participants were holding rainbow banners, signs and flags with messages supporting equality, human rights, and non-discrimination. At the end of the march, the Mission saw the police escort some of the participants to a metro station in the area, after they had removed shirts, flags, and other items with a rainbow motif. During the march, the Mission saw a group of five men (in their twenties and thirties) burning a rainbow flag nearby and five law enforcement officers who stopped them. The SMM also saw about 500 law enforcement officers throughout the event.

On the same day, at the Shevchenko Monument in the centre of Kharkiv, the Mission saw 50 people (almost all men, in their teens to thirties), most wearing black clothes and some of them holding Ukrainian flags, as well as flags of *Tradition and Order* and *Right Sector*, protesting against the abovementioned event. It saw about 20 police officers and observed a calm situation.

The SMM continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, 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 Co-ordination (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 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.

Denial:

- At a compound near Lisne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk), three soldiers of the Ukrainian Armed Forces denied the SMM access, citing “orders from superiors”.

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

- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during six flights: twice over areas near Spirne (government-controlled, 96km north of Donetsk), once over areas near Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 62km west of Luhansk), over Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), over Zolote-2/Karbonit (government-controlled, 62km west of Luhansk) and over Tsvitni Pisky (non-government-controlled, 11km north of Luhansk), respectively.
- An SMM mid-range UAV was cancelled due to GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, near Spirne.

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.

Tables of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/9/2021	21	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	Near Khrustalnyi (formerly Krasnyi Luch, 56km south-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
10/9/2021	12	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	At a railway station in Zachativka (74km south-west of Donetsk), where the Mission also spotted 45 armoured combat vehicles and two anti-aircraft guns. ⁷	Mini-UAV
	5	Tank (T-64)		
	4	Surface-to-air missile system (9K35 <i>Strela-10</i>)		
	6	Towed howitzer (D-30A <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)		
	5	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)	At a railway station near Khlivodarivka (65km south-west of Donetsk), where the Mission also spotted 29 armoured combat vehicles and one anti-aircraft gun.	
	12	Towed howitzers (D-20, 152mm)		
	1	Anti-tank guided missile system (9P148 <i>Konkurs</i> , 135mm)		
	2	Anti-tank guided missile system (9P149 <i>Shturm-S</i> , 130mm)	Near Vesele (66km south-west of Donetsk)	
13/9/2021	2	Surface-to-air missile system (9K33 <i>Osa</i>)	Near Pokrovsk (formerly Krasnoarmiisk, 55km north-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
Non-government-controlled areas				
8/9/2021	24	Tank (type undetermined)	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk), where imagery also revealed the presence of 66 armoured combat vehicles.	Aerial imagery
	23		In a training area near Kruhlyk (31km south-west of Luhansk)	

Other weapons⁸

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
8/9/2021	11	Self-propelled howitzer/mortar (type undetermined)	In a training area near Buhaivka (37km south-west of Luhansk)	Aerial imagery
	13	Towed howitzer/mortar (type undetermined)		

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁹

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
12/9/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	In a residential area in Novohnativka (40km south of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/9/2021	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (one BMP-1 and one BMP-2)	Near Dovhe (22km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

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

⁸ The SMM was unable to assess whether these weapons were in violation of withdrawal lines in the absence of information on their calibre.

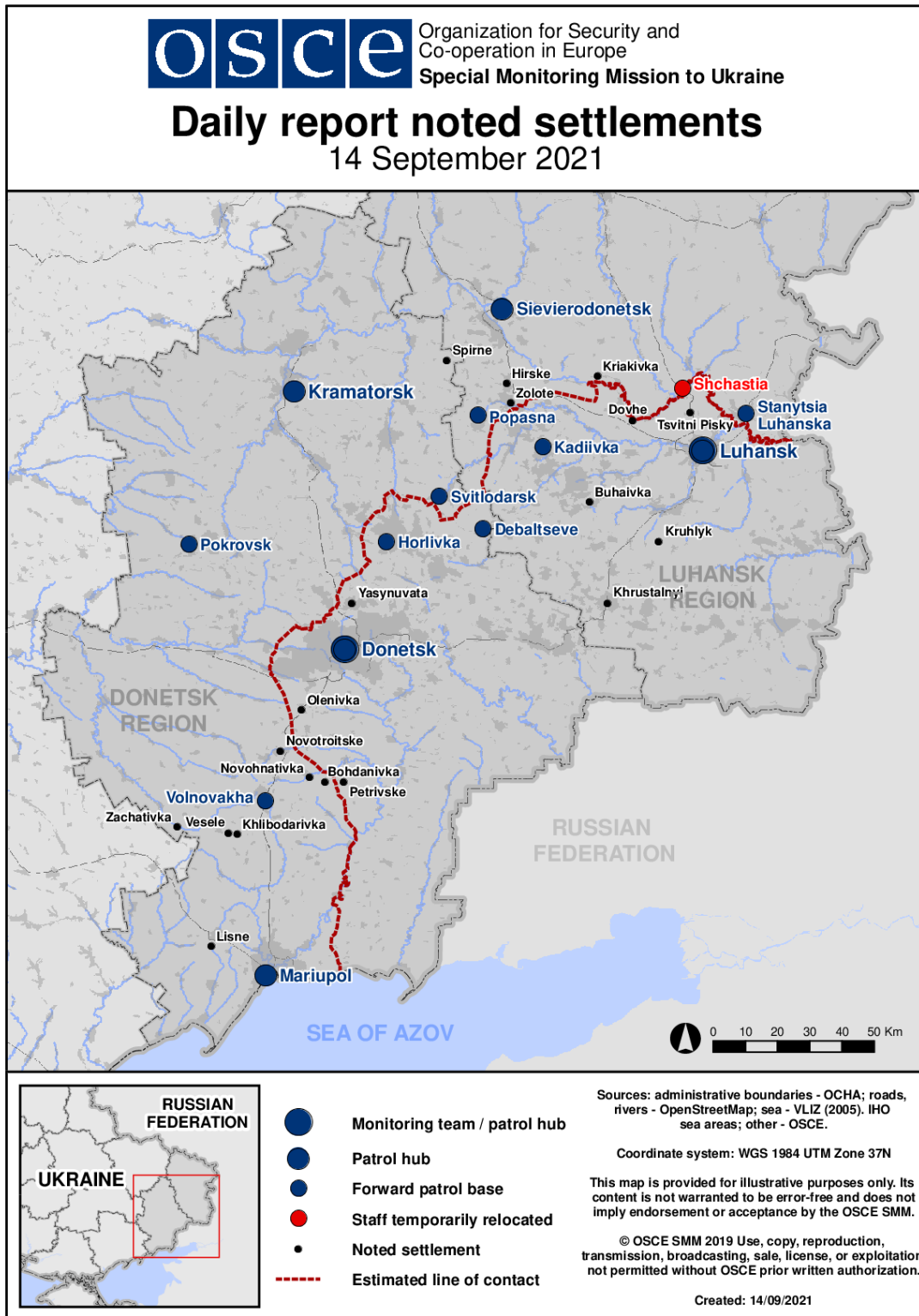
⁹ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 13 September 2021¹⁰

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 ESE	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	12-Sep, 22:31
	1-3km ESE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	12-Sep, 22:31
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 03:55
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Recorded	9	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	13-Sep, 03:37
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	1-3km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Sep, 23:22
	1-3km W	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Sep, 23:38
	1-3km W	Recorded	1	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	12-Sep, 23:39
	1-3km W	Recorded	1	Projectile	SE to NW	N/K	12-Sep, 23:39
	1-3km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	12-Sep, 23:39
	1-3km WNW	Recorded	2	Projectile	S to N	N/K	12-Sep, 23:40
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	W to E	N/K	13-Sep, 00:10
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	4-5km W	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 10:35
	4-5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 10:45
About 2km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	0.6-1km SE	Heard	1	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	13-Sep, 12:15
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	4-5km E	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 10:34-10:36
	2-3km E	Heard	40	Burst		Small arms	13-Sep, 12:45-12:54
	3-4km E	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 13:12
	3-4km NE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 14:23
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 10:43-10:44
	3-5km E	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 11:43
	2-4km S	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 14:22
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	4-6km ESE	Recorded	3	Projectile	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	12-Sep, 20:36
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	10	Projectile	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	12-Sep, 20:37
	4-6km ESE	Recorded	16	Projectile	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	12-Sep, 20:38
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	5-8km SE	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	12-Sep, 22:40-23:00
	5-8km SE	Heard	6	Burst		HMG	12-Sep, 22:40-23:00
	5-8km SE	Heard	8	Burst		Small arms	12-Sep, 22:40-23:00
	7-9km SE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Sep, 17:55-18:10
	3-5km SE	Heard	10	Burst	Undetermined	HMG	13-Sep, 17:55-18:10
About 3km N of Pervomaïsk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	1.7km E	Heard	2	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	Small arms	13-Sep, 09:03
Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	4-6km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Sep, 11:17-11:18

¹⁰ 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 regions¹¹



¹¹ 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).