

# Daily Report 222/2021

22 September 2021<sup>1</sup>

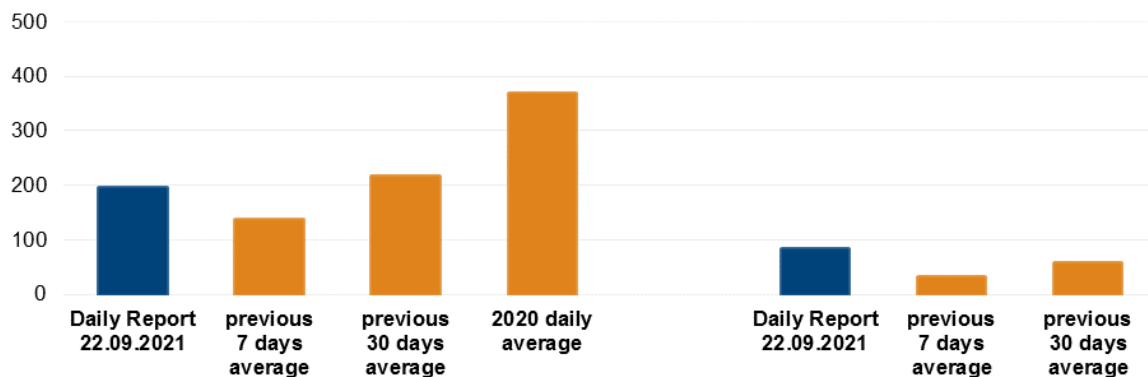
## Summary

- In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 117 ceasefire violations, including eight explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 117 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 79 ceasefire violations, including 76 explosions. In the previous reporting period it recorded five ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at three entry-exit checkpoints and the corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including by a member of the armed formations in a non-government controlled area of Donetsk region. Its mini- and mid-range UAVs experienced instances of jamming.\*

## Ceasefire violations<sup>2</sup>

Number of recorded ceasefire violations<sup>3</sup>

Number of recorded explosions<sup>4</sup>



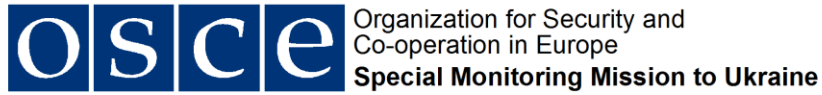
<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 21 September 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

<sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table.

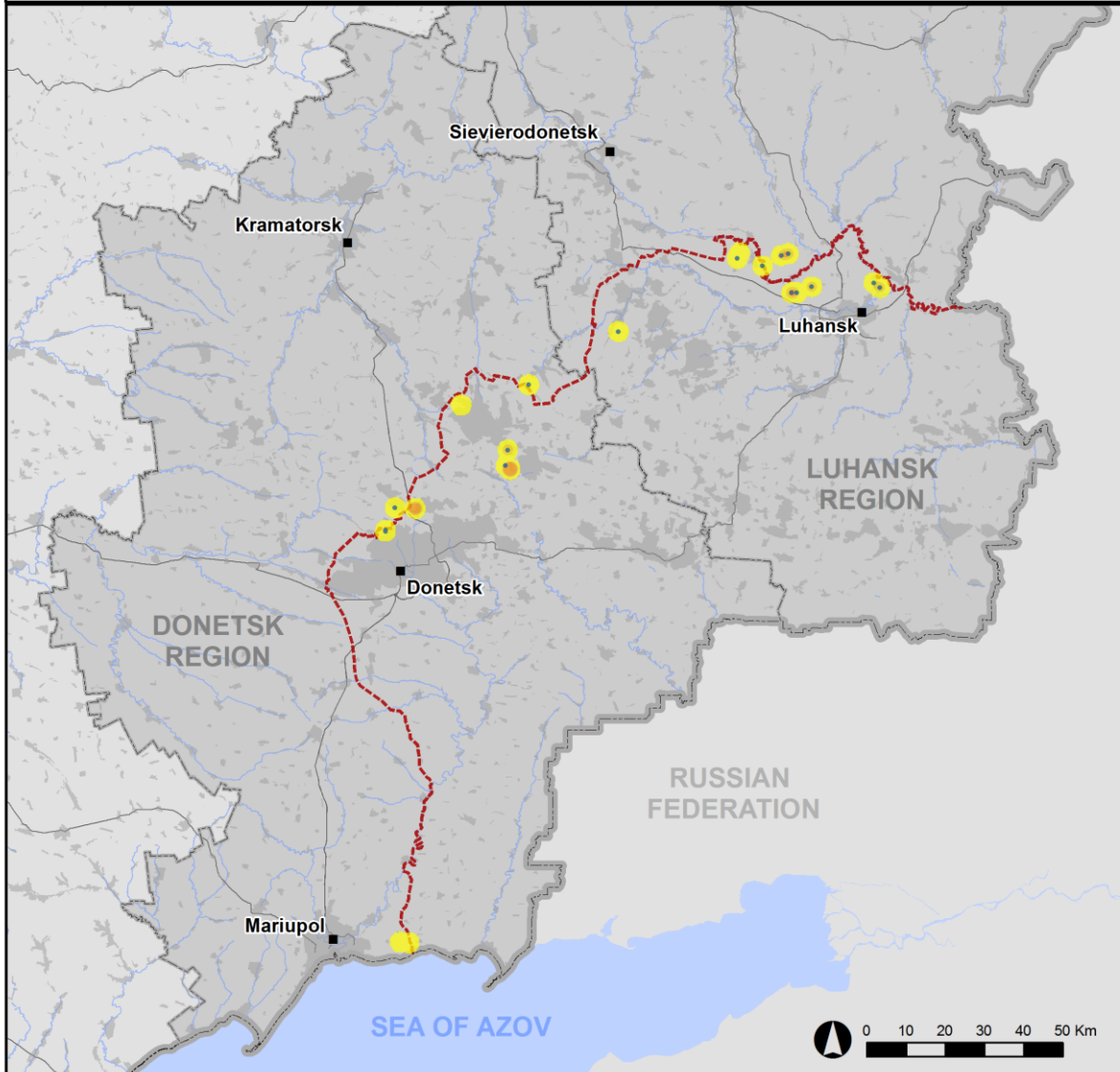
<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

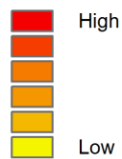
### Map of recorded ceasefire violations



## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 21 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: 22/09/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 117 ceasefire violations, including eight undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas around the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below) and Sofiivka (formerly Karlo-Marksove, non-government-controlled, 40km north-east of Donetsk), the latter being assessed as a live-fire training exercise in the security zone, in violation of the decision of the Trilateral Contact Group (TCG) of 3 March 2016 that prohibits the conduct of live-fire training in the security zone. In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 117 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 79 ceasefire violations, including 76 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas west of Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), south-west of Staryi Aidar (government-controlled, 20km north-west of Luhansk), and south-west of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), including some close to the disengagement area (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded five ceasefire violations.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the TCG 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 58,367 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 16,396 explosions, 11,344 projectiles in flight, 270 muzzle flashes, 237 illumination flares and at least 30,120 bursts and shots).

#### **Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske<sup>5</sup>**

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** 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 positioned inside the disengagement area, the SMM heard 11 undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 4-6km west, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

About 100m north-east of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw a stationary armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70) on the northern edge of the road leading north-eastwards to Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 62km west of Luhansk). (See below.)

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw three 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.

An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying near the southern edge of the disengagement area. (See below.)\*

While positioned at three locations near the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the Mission observed a calm situation.

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

### **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.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, the Mission saw 14 tanks, three anti-tank guns, three multiple launch rocket systems and one howitzer, all but one at a railway station. (For further information, see the table below.)

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

The Mission saw one armoured combat vehicle in a government-controlled area of Luhansk region. (For further information, see above and the table below.)

### **Mine hazard signs near non-government-controlled Panteleimonivka, Donetsk region**

Near the north-western edge of Panteleimonivka (non-government-controlled, 26km north-east of Donetsk), the SMM saw about 20 plastic bottles placed on top of wooden sticks, assessed as makeshift mine hazard warning signs (not previously reported), along the north-western edge of the M-04 road.

### **SMM facilitation - the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure**

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. While positioned at two locations near the station, the SMM heard 32 ceasefire violations (including two undetermined explosions), assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

On 21 September, the Mission also monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs of power lines near Mykolaivka (non-government-controlled, 70km south of Donetsk).

### **Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints**

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 the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were open, with people queueing to travel in both directions. At the EECP, the SMM observed workers (men, mixed ages) working on metal structures and dismantling two pedestrian shelters. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 21 September 2021](#).)

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 September, the SMM monitored areas in east and south-east Kherson region, at a checkpoint near Chonhar (163km south-east of Kherson) as well as areas near Ataman (161km

south-east of Kherson), Syvash (162km south-east of Kherson), Vesnianka (155km east of Kherson), Novohryhorivka (183km east of Kherson), along the coast of the Azov Sea near Henichesk (176km east of Kherson), Novyi Azov (190km east of Kherson), Komisarivka (189km east of Kherson), Stokopani (181km east of Kherson), and Strilkove (193km south-east of Kherson). On 21 September, it also monitored areas along the North Crimean Canal near Nova Kakhovka (59km east of Kherson). On both days, it observed no change in the security situation.

The SMM continued monitoring in 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 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 20 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:

- About 1.5km north-east of Korsun (non-government-controlled, 31km north-east of Donetsk), a utility truck blocked the road and a member of the armed formations got out of it, and denied the Mission passage north-east towards Debaltseve (non-government-controlled, 58km north-east of Donetsk), referring to an ongoing live-fire exercise nearby. The SMM separately recorded 65 ceasefire violations in the area (one of which was also seen), which were assessed as a live-fire exercise in the security zone. (See above.)

#### *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:<sup>6</sup>

- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). (See above.)

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<sup>6</sup> For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of tens of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Sosnivske (non-government-controlled, 78km south of Donetsk).
- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during three flights: twice near the railway station in Donetsk (6km north-west of Donetsk city centre) and once near Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk).

## Table of weapons

### Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
21/9/2021	1	Self-propelled howitzer (2S3 <i>Akatsiya</i> , 152mm)	Near Malynivka (62km south-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
	14	Tank (type undetermined)	At the railway station in Zachativka (74km south-west of Donetsk)	
	3	Anti-tank gun (MT-12 <i>Rapira</i> , 100mm)		
	3	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)		

### **Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>7</sup>**

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
21/9/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-70)	Near Zolote-4/Rodina (62km west of Luhansk)	Patrol

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

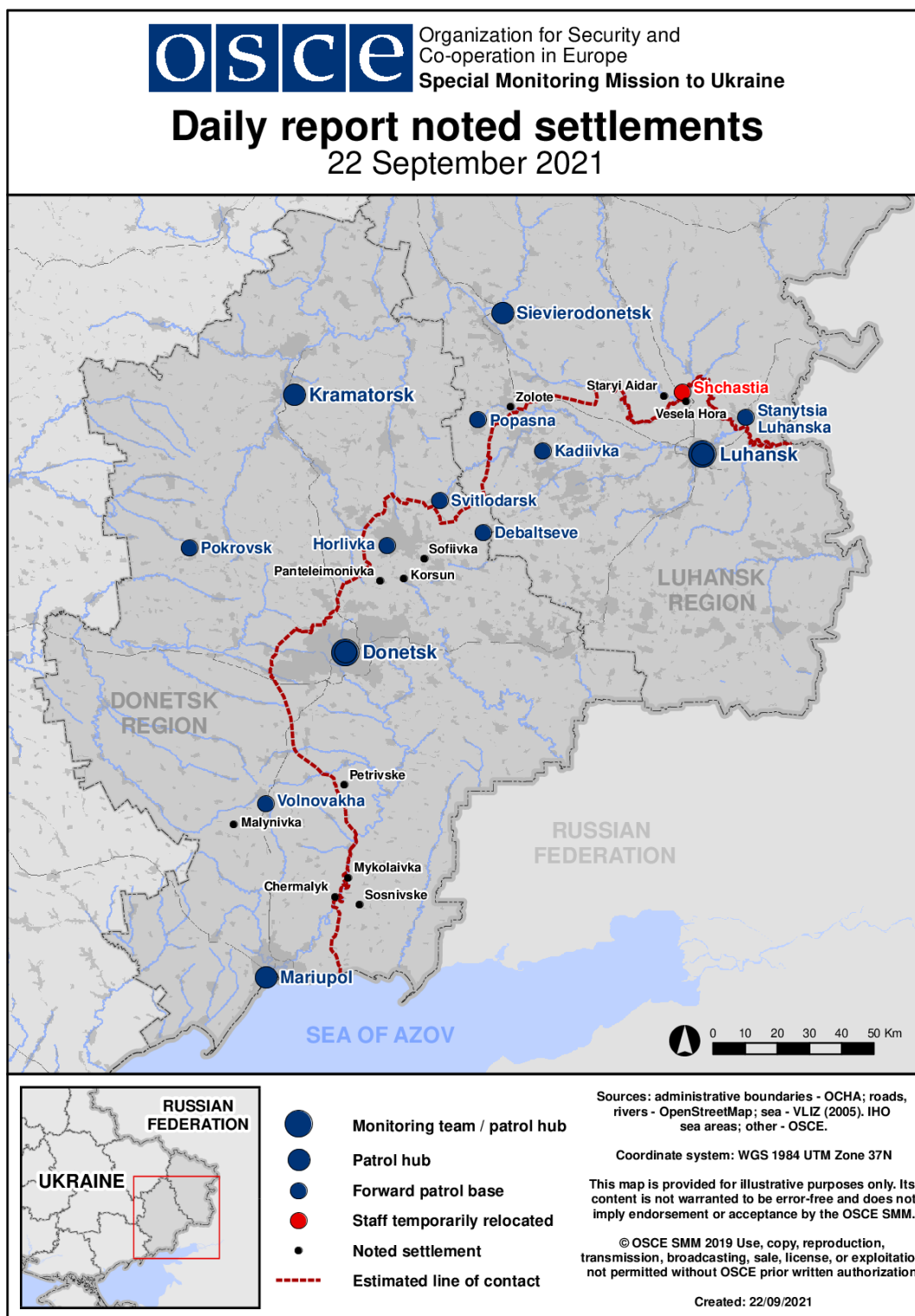
**Table of ceasefire violations as of 21 September 2021<sup>8</sup>**

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	1-3km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Sep, 20:43
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Sep, 21:18
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	3	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	20-Sep, 21:19
About 3km WSW of the railway station in Donetsk (non-government-controlled, 6km NW of Donetsk city centre)	3-4km NNE	Heard	5	Shot		Small arms	21-Sep, 10:50
	3-4km NNE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 11:04
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-1.5km SW	Heard	30	Shot		Small arms	21-Sep, 13:02-13:03
About 2.5km SE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	2-3km NE	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	21-Sep, 13:19
	2-3km NE	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	21-Sep, 13:24
About 6km N of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km W	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	21-Sep, 09:32
	3-5km W	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	21-Sep, 09:32
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	6-7km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 11:04
	6-7km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 11:20
About 1.5km NE of Korsun (non-government-controlled, 31km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 10:31
About 1.5km S of Sofivka (formerly Karlo-Marksove, non-government-controlled, 40km NE of Donetsk)	1.5km SW	Heard	50	Shot		Small arms	21-Sep, 11:25-11:30
About 2.5km S of Sofivka (formerly Karlo-Marksove, non-government-controlled, 40km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	12	Burst		HMG	21-Sep, 12:49-12:54
	2-3km NW	Heard and saw	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 12:49-12:54
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 17:18
NW edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	4-6km SW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 10:16-10:21
About 2.5km E of Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km N of Luhansk)	12-15km W	Heard	13	Explosion	Undetermined	Artillery (type N/K)	21-Sep, 10:16-10:18
E edge of Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km N of Luhansk)	10-15km SSW	Heard	12	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 10:53-11:10
About 4.5km S of Stanytsia Luhanska (16km NE of Luhansk)	4-6km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	21-Sep, 11:08
	4-6km W	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	21-Sep, 11:30-11:35
N edge of Trokhizbenka (government-controlled, 32km NW of Luhansk)	5-10km SSW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 11:07
	5-7km SSW	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	21-Sep, 11:11
SE edge of Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km N of Luhansk)	12-15km W	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	Artillery (type N/K)	21-Sep, 11:31-11:45
	12-15km SW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	Artillery (type N/K)	21-Sep, 11:33
About 2km E of Staryi Aidar (government-controlled, 20km NW of Luhansk)	10-15km SSW	Heard	16	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 12:02-12:20
Raivka (non-government-controlled, 16km NW of Luhansk)	10-15km W	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	Artillery (type N/K)	21-Sep, 12:26
Kadiivka (formerly Stakhanov, non-government-controlled, 50km W of Luhansk)	10-12km WSW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Sep, 14:22

<sup>8</sup> 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 regions<sup>9</sup>



<sup>9</sup> 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).