

# Daily Report 227/2021

28 September 2021<sup>1</sup>

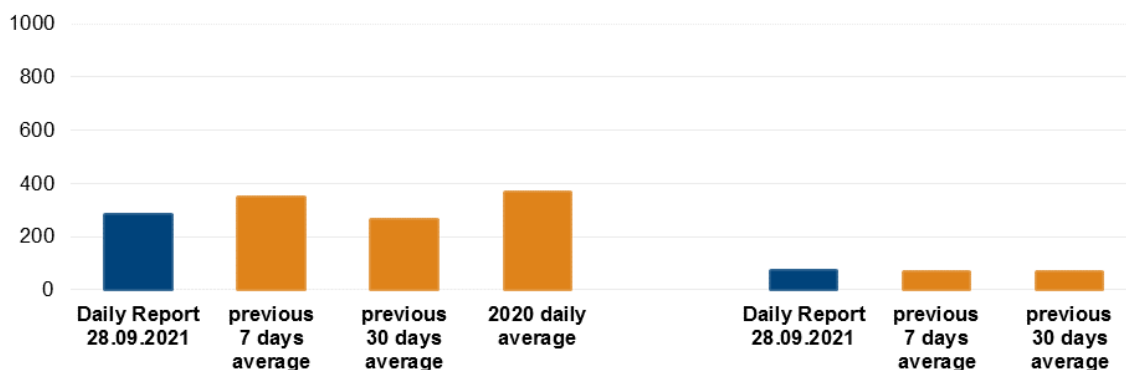
## Summary

- In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 143 ceasefire violations, including 42 explosions. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 65 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 139 ceasefire violations, including 31 explosions. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded ten ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission corroborated reports of a civilian causality in non-government-controlled Donetsk city.
- The SMM continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske; it recorded ceasefire violations inside the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation, construction and repairs of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM 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 Mission monitored a gathering in Kyiv.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a border crossing point near Voznesenivka and at the Chervona Mohyla railway station in Voznesenivka, Luhansk region.

## 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, 27 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. During part of the reporting period, the SMM cameras at the Oktiabr mine were not operational.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

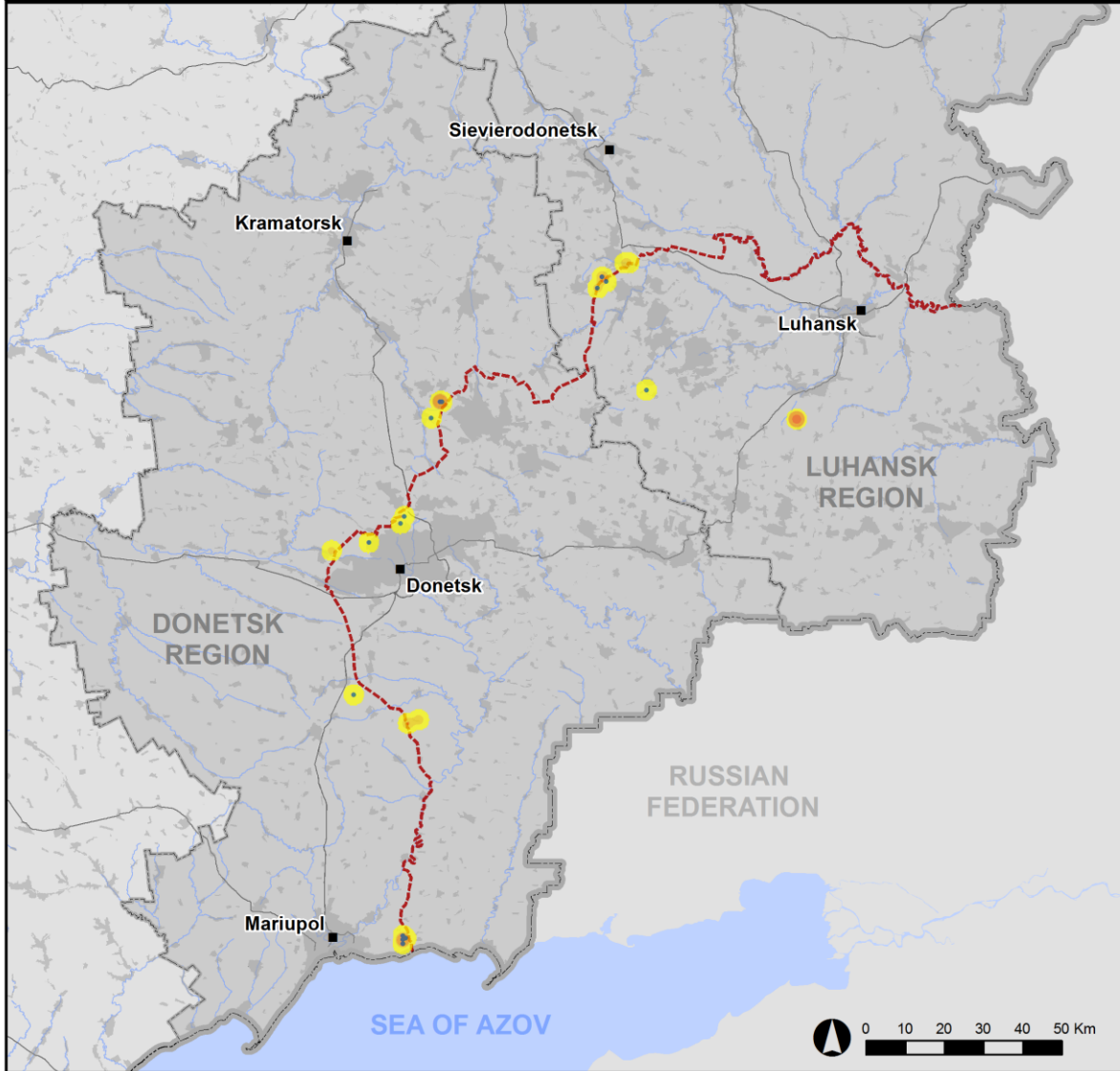
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

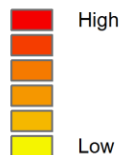


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 27 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.

© OSCE SMM 2019 Use, copy, reproduction, transmission, broadcasting, sale, license, or exploitation not permitted without OSCE prior written authorization.

Created: 28/09/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 143 ceasefire violations, including 42 explosions (one impact, three airbursts and 38 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas south-east of Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km north-east of Donetsk), north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk), and in areas close to the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the SMM recorded 65 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 139 ceasefire violations, including 31 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in an area north of Kruhlyk (non-government-controlled, 31km south-west of Luhansk), assessed as a live-fire training exercise outside the security zone, and in areas north, north-east and south-west of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the SMM recorded ten ceasefire violations, all near the disengagement area near Zolote.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group (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 60,693 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 16,835 explosions, 11,813 projectiles in flight, 272 muzzle flashes, 243 illumination flares and at least 31,530 bursts and shots).

### **Civilian casualty corroborated in non-government-controlled Donetsk city**

The Mission followed up on reports of a man injured on 17 September in Donetsk city's Kuibyshevskiyi district (non-government-controlled, 5km west of Donetsk city centre).

On 26 September, a man (in his thirties) told the SMM over the phone that, on the morning of 17 September, while he and a friend (man in his thirties) had been standing on Kolhospnyi Avenue in the northern part of the Kuibyshevskiyi district, he had heard and seen an explosion nearby and subsequently felt pain in the left side of his body. He saw that his friend had sustained injuries to his hip and the latter had called an ambulance which took them to a hospital.

On 25 September, a man (in his thirties), who introduced himself as a friend of the injured man, told the Mission over the phone that, on the morning of 17 September, he and his friend had been standing on Kolhospnyi Avenue when he heard shelling nearby and realized that he had sustained an injury to his hip and saw that his friend had sustained injuries to the left side of his body.

On 17 September, medical staff at a hospital in Donetsk city's Kalininskyi district told the SMM over the phone that, on the morning of the same day, the first man (in his thirties) had been admitted to the hospital with multiple shrapnel injuries.

(For three other corroborated civilian casualty cases in the area, see SMM Daily Report of [25 September 2021](#) and of [27 September 2021](#).)

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

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska**, the Mission saw three 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).

On the evening of 26 September, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded 13 projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 2-5km east. During the day on 27 September, while positioned at two locations near the **disengagement area near Zolote**, the Mission heard 30 undetermined explosions. All these ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 27 September, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the area, the SMM saw five 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.

While positioned about 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk), the Mission heard 14 shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 2-3km east-south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**. While positioned at the same location, the SMM also heard 11 shots of small-arms fire at an assessed range of 5km east, assessed as outside the disengagement area 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.

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

The SMM observed an anti-aircraft gun in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

## Presence of anti-tank mines near Horlivka, Donetsk region and de-mining activities near Popasna, Luhansk region

On 20 September, on the north-western outskirts of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted six anti-tank mines (not previously reported) laid across a local road leading to Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk), assessed as not recently laid and belonging to the armed formations.

On the eastern outskirts of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), the SMM observed two vehicles bearing the logo of an international organization, and three people (unknown gender and age) wearing protective gear conducting de-mining activities in a field.

---

<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.

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

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk). While positioned in Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), the SMM heard one undetermined explosion, assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

The Mission also monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable repairs to the roofs of buildings at the DFS and to electricity infrastructure in Staromykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 15km west of Donetsk), as well as to enable the construction of a sewage system at the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Stanytsia Luhanska.

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

In Donetsk region, the SMM observed that the 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 people queueing to travel in both directions.

In Luhansk region, the Mission observed that the 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 saw four men (in their twenties to forties) installing metal panels on the east side of a metal structure and noted that about 50 seats had been installed along the eastern edge of the same structure. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 27 September 2021](#).) Near the checkpoint of the armed formations, the Mission saw two men wearing orange vests (in their thirties and fifties) using geodesic measuring equipment.

On both days, the SMM 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.

## **Border areas outside government control**

While at a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, 65km south-east of Luhansk), the Mission observed no traffic entering Ukraine, and 21 cars (including seven with “LPR” plates) and 22 covered cargo trucks (including 21 with “LPR” plates) exiting Ukraine. Upon its arrival at the location, an armed member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.<sup>6\*</sup>

While at the Chervona Mohyla railway station in Voznesenivka, the SMM did not observe any traffic entering or exiting Ukraine. After about five minutes, two armed members of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.\*

---

<sup>6</sup> According to decisions in 2014 by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, operations are officially designated as suspended at these and other border crossing points located outside government control.

While at the pedestrian border crossing point near Novoborovytsi (non-government-controlled, 79km south of Luhansk), for about 20 minutes, the Mission did not observe any people entering or exiting Ukraine.

### **SMM monitored a gathering in Kyiv**

In Kyiv, outside the Kyiv Court of Appeal, at 2A Solomianska Street, the Mission observed about 100 people (mostly men, mixed ages), some of whom were wearing clothing with the logo of *National Corps*, showing their support for two defendants of *National Corps* subject to court proceedings. It also observed the presence of about 200 law enforcement officers and a calm situation. (For previous similar gathering, see [SMM Daily Report of 25 September 2021](#).)

The SMM continued monitoring in Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, 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 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 below). 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.*

#### Denials:

- At the Chervona Mohyla railway station in Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), two armed members of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area, referring to a lack of prior notification.
- At a border crossing point near Voznesenivka, an armed member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area, referring to a lack of prior notification. (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>7</sup>

---

<sup>7</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 Volnovakha (government-controlled, 53km south of Donetsk).
- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during three flights: twice over areas near Volnovakha and once over areas near Novohryhorivka (non-government-controlled, 61km north-east of Donetsk).

**Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>8</sup>**

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
24/9/2021	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23, 23mm)	In a training area near Sofiivka (formerly Karlo-Marksove, 40km north-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV

---

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



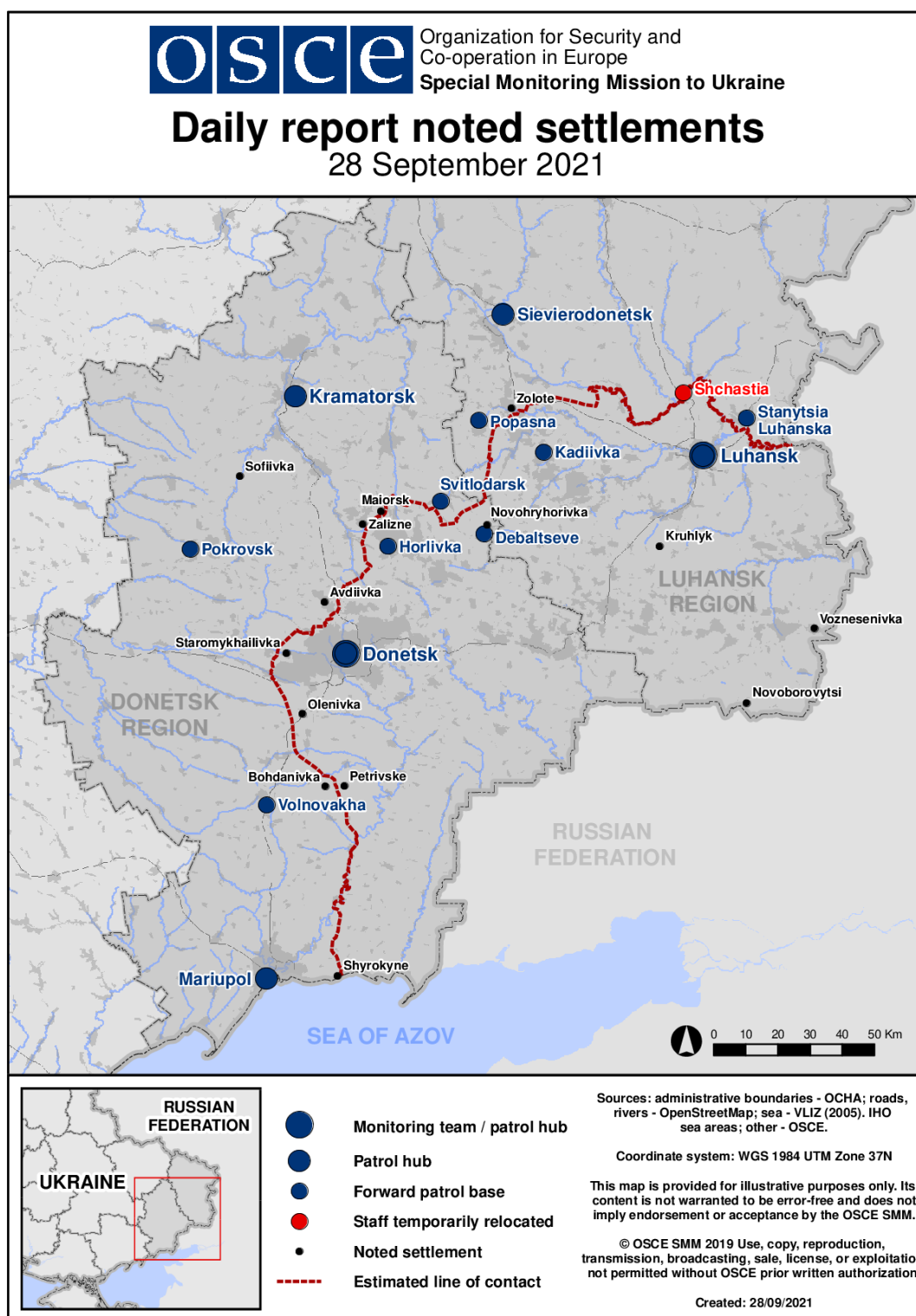
**Table of ceasefire violations as of 27 September 2021<sup>9</sup>**

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	5-7km SSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (also recorded by the SMM camera at the Oktiabr mine)	N/K	26-Sep, 20:22
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	26-Sep, 19:22
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	26-Sep, 19:28
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	26-Sep, 19:28
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Sep, 19:44
	3-5km N	Recorded	8	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	26-Sep, 19:59
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	26-Sep, 19:59
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	26-Sep, 19:59
	3-5km N	Recorded	8	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	26-Sep, 20:00
	3-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	W to E	N/K	26-Sep, 20:32
	3-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	W to E	N/K	26-Sep, 20:49
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	26-Sep, 21:01
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	26-Sep, 21:01
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Sep, 21:01
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Sep, 21:04
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	26-Sep, 21:17
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	26-Sep, 21:17
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	26-Sep, 21:17
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	26-Sep, 21:39
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	27-Sep, 00:17
	2-4km N	Recorded	2	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	27-Sep, 00:18
About 2km ENE of Staromykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 15km W of Donetsk)	5-6km NE	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 13:45
About 500m SE of Nelipivka (government-controlled, 40km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 11:35
About 2km WSW of Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km E	Heard	40	Burst		HMG	27-Sep, 12:03
	2-3km E	Heard	20	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 12:10-12:17
	2-4km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 12:26
SE part of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-4km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 11:51
E part of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km W of Donetsk)	1-2km NE	Heard	9	Burst		Small arms	27-Sep, 13:35
About 500m NE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 12:01
Entry-exit checkpoint near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km SW of Donetsk)	5-6km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 11:08
About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	5km E	Heard	11	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	27-Sep, 12:54-12:56
	2-3km ESE	Heard	10	Shot	Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	27-Sep, 14:24
	2-3km ESE	Heard	4	Shot	Assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske	Small arms	27-Sep, 14:29

<sup>9</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.

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-4km E	Recorded	5	Projectile	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Sep, 20:42
	2-4km E	Recorded	3	Projectile	NW to SE (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Sep, 21:24
	3-5km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	NW to SE (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Sep, 21:59
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	NW to SE (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Sep, 22:12
Zorynsk (non-government-controlled, 54km SW of Luhansk)	1-2km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 10:38
Kruhlyk (non-government-controlled, 31km SW of Luhansk)	0.8-1km NW	Heard	20	Burst	Undetermined	Small arms	27-Sep, 10:43-10:44
	0.8-1km NW	Heard	70	Shot	Undetermined	Small arms	27-Sep, 10:43-10:44
	0.8-1km NW	Heard	5	Burst	Undetermined	HMG	27-Sep, 10:59-11:00
About 3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	3-5km WSW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 11:25
W part of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	3-5km W	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 15:00-15:10
	3-5km NW	Heard	16	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	27-Sep, 15:42-15:46

### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>10</sup>



<sup>10</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).