



Daily Report 286/2021

6 December 2021¹

Summary

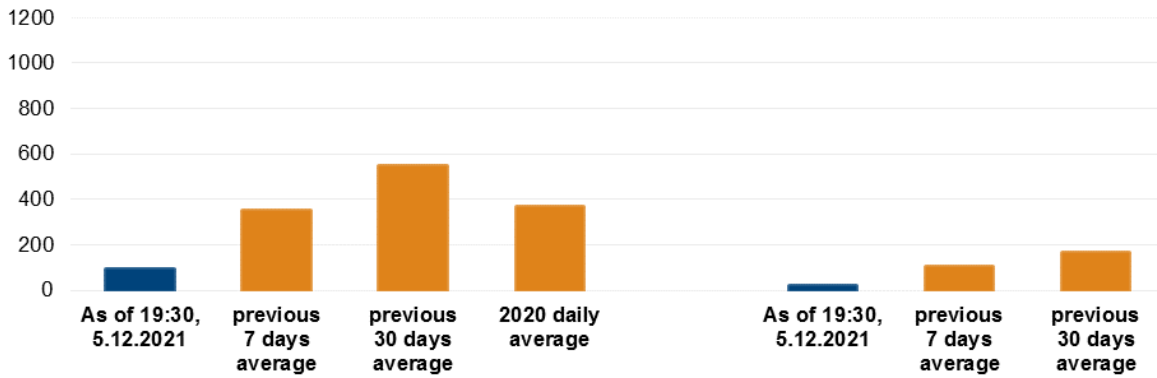
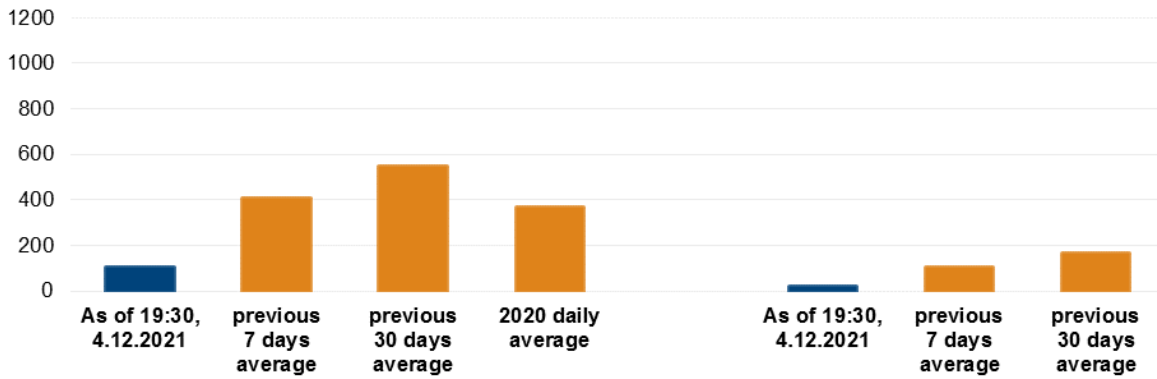
- In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 3 and 5 December, the SMM recorded 153 ceasefire violations, including 28 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 286 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 3 and 5 December, the Mission recorded 43 ceasefire violations, including 12 explosions. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 261 ceasefire violations in the region.
- Members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage three times near Stanytsia Luhanska and Zolote, Luhansk region.*
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It recorded ceasefire violations inside the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated the operation and maintenance of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at three entry-exit checkpoints and three corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Luhansk region.
- The SMM monitored the security situation in eastern and southern Kherson region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 5 December 2021. All times are in Eastern European Time.

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴

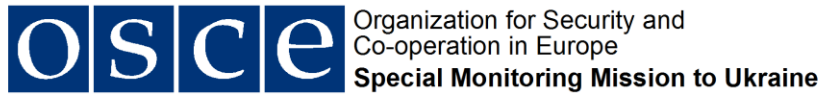


² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM cameras near Oktiabr Mine and near Petrivske were not operational and weather conditions limited the observational capabilities of other SMM cameras.

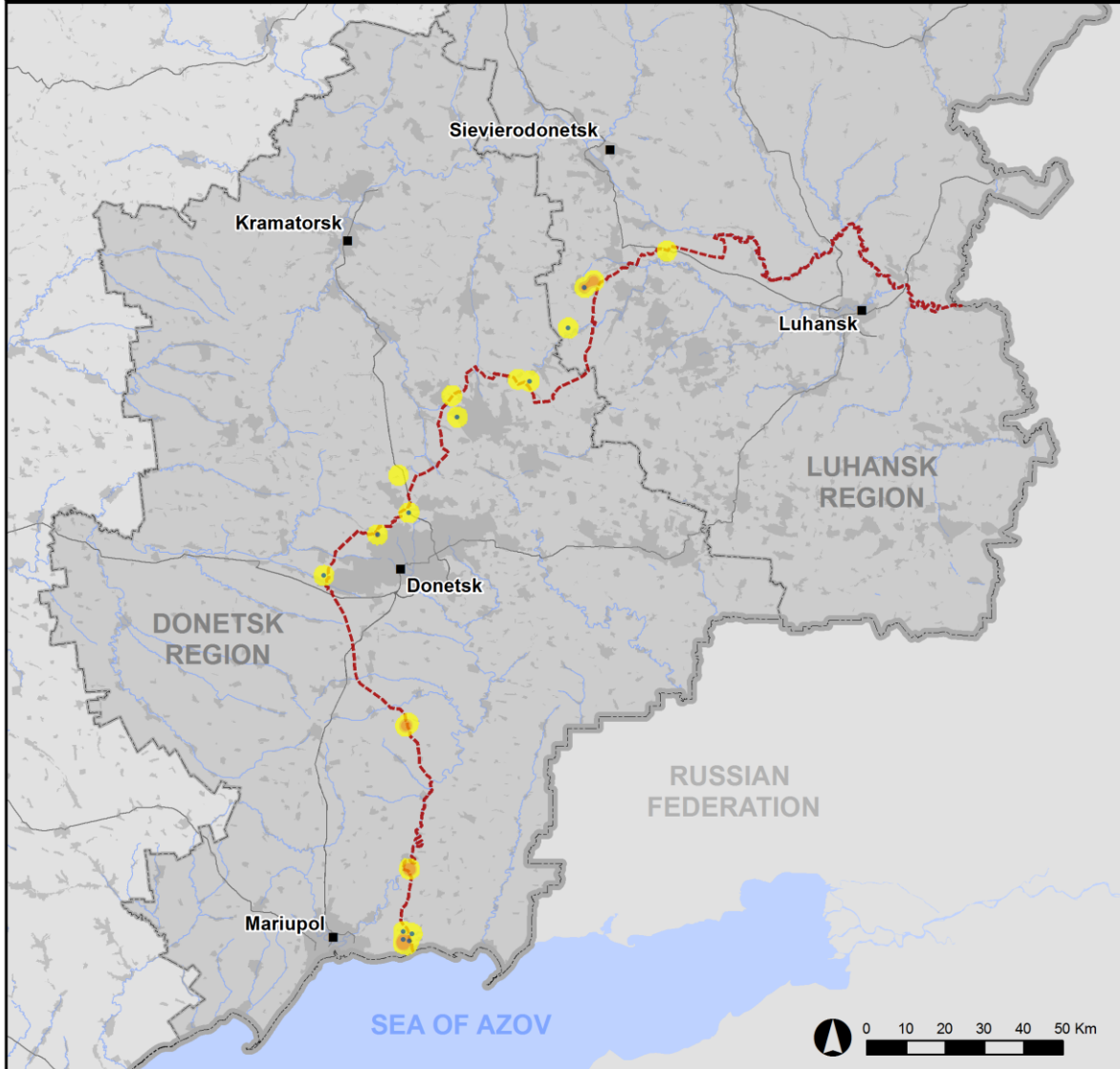
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 4-5 December 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.

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

Created: 06/12/2021

In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 3 and 5 December, the SMM recorded 153 ceasefire violations, including 28 explosions (one impact and 27 undetermined). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk); south-south-east of Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk) and inside the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk). (See below.) In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 286 ceasefire violations in the region, some of which also occurred in areas north of Shyrokyne and close to the disengagement area near Petrivske.

In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 3 and 5 December, the SMM recorded 43 ceasefire violations, including 12 undetermined explosions. The majority of ceasefire violations occurred in areas close to the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk). (See below.) In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 261 ceasefire violations in the region.

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 89,176 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 24,530 explosions, 21,302 projectiles in flight, 403 muzzle flashes, 387 illumination flares and at least 42,554 bursts and shots).

Armed formations denied the SMM passage three times near Stanytsia Luhanska and Zolote, Luhansk region

On 5 December, the armed formations in Luhansk region twice denied the SMM passage to non-government-controlled areas. Both of the affected SMM patrols were travelling from government-controlled areas.

The first denial occurred at 09:40, at about 350m north of the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote. The second occurred at 10:50, at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk). On the first occasion, members of the armed formations cited a “lack of security guarantees” and on the second a “lack of permission from those in control”.

Additionally, earlier in the morning, at 09:27, at a checkpoint near the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote, two members of the armed formations denied another SMM patrol passage inside the disengagement area, citing a “lack of security guarantees” and “orders from their superiors”. The patrol was to assist the SMM patrol crossing to non-government-controlled areas mentioned above.* (See [SMM Spot Report 35/2021](#).)

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 4 and 5 December, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) south of the repaired span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

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

On 5 December, while on the northern edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km w of Luhansk), the SMM heard 22 bursts of heavy-machine-gun fire, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote**, but within 5km of its periphery.

On 4 and 5 December, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them). On both days, the Mission again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the area’s southern edge and inside the disengagement area. It saw that the previously reported road barriers across road T-1316, on the area’s southern edge, continued to be closed.

On 5 December, while positioned inside the area, about 1km south of its northern edge, the Mission again saw a camera, wrapped in camouflage fabric, attached to a tree about 20m west of road T-1316. About 450m north of the area’s southern edge, the SMM also again observed a wooden crate and two metal boxes placed across the same road, assessed as ammunition boxes. (For previous observations in the area, see SMM Daily Reports of [24 November](#), [26 November](#), [29 November 2021](#) and [2 December 2021](#).)

On the evening of 3 December, the SMM camera about 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded 26 projectiles in flight, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk).

During the day on 4 and 5 December, while positioned at three locations near the disengagement area, the Mission observed a calm situation.

Withdrawal of weapons

The Mission 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, the Mission saw 30 tanks and 17 howitzers at two railway stations in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. (For further information, see the table below.)

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

The SMM observed five armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including in two residential areas. In non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region it saw three armoured combat vehicles in a residential area and a portable battlefield surveillance radar. (For further information, see the table below.)

On 4 December, while positioned about 4km west of Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk), the SMM saw a non-SMM unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), assessed as flown by an agricultural company, reportedly to assess whether the field needs fertilization, taking off in a field 30m east of road C-051636. The operation of any aerial vehicles is banned by the 22 July 2020 agreement on Measures to strengthen the ceasefire.

Presence of anti-personnel mine and recent crater near Maiorsk, and mine hazard signs in Spartak and Vesele, Donetsk region

On 2 December, in a field about 1.5km south of Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) and about 20m east of a position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted one anti-personnel mine (not previously reported and not visible in imagery from 17 September 2021), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On the same day, about 300m further south-south-west, the same UAV spotted an impact crater just north of an above-ground gas pipeline, assessed as recent and caused by a probable grenade. The Mission was unable to assess the direction of fire.

On 4 December, on the southern edge of the junction of Aedromna Street and Kyivska Street in Spartak (non-government-controlled, 9km north of Donetsk), the Mission observed a mine hazard sign (white rectangle, with a white skull and crossbones on a red square with “Danger! Mines!” and “Mines and Unexploded Ammunition in the Field and on the Side of the Road” written on it in Russian) attached to a metal pole. About 350m north-east, on the west side of a local road, the SMM also observed a mine hazard sign (red rectangle with white skull and crossbones and “Stop! Mines!” written on it in Russian) attached to a wooden pole.

On the same day, on the eastern edge of a local road in Vesele (non-government-controlled, 9km north-west of Donetsk), the SMM saw a mine hazard sign (red rectangle with “Mines” written on it in Russian). These three mine hazard signs were assessed as recent (not previously reported).

SMM facilitation of the operation and maintenance of critical civilian infrastructure

On 4 and 5 December, the SMM continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) (DFS). On 4 December, while positioned on the western edge of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), the Mission heard one undetermined explosion, assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS, during the transfer of DFS workers between the station and Yasynuvata.

On 4 December, the SMM also monitored the security situation in the area of the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

On 4 and 5 December, in Luhansk region, the SMM 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.

On both days, 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.

Also on both days, along road T-1316, between the EECP near Zolote and the following intersection, on the western side of the road, the Mission observed that workers continued

building a fence. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 4 December 2021](#).)

Border areas outside government control

On 4 December, while at a border crossing point near Uspenka (non-government-controlled, 73km south-east of Donetsk) for about an hour, the SMM observed 12 cars (including ten with “DPR” plates), four covered cargo trucks (including two with “DPR” plates), one bus (with “DPR” plates, carrying passengers of mixed genders and ages) and 29 people (15 women and 14 men of mixed ages) entering Ukraine. At the same time it saw 14 cars (including 12 with “DPR” plates), three covered cargo trucks (with “DPR” plates), one bus (with “DPR” plates, carrying about 30 passengers of mixed genders and ages) and 45 people (32 women and 13 men of mixed ages) exiting Ukraine.

On the same day, while at a border crossing point near Ulianiivske (non-government-controlled, 61km south-east of Donetsk) for about 25 minutes, the Mission saw no civilian traffic.

Also on 4 December, the SMM monitored areas close to the border with the Russian Federation in Luhansk region near Ohulchansk (25km east of Luhansk), Makariv Yar (formerly Parkhomenko, 28km east of Luhansk) and Kruzhylivka (34km east of Luhansk) and observed no change in the security situation.

Security situation in eastern and southern Kherson region

On 2 and 3 December, the SMM monitored areas in eastern and southern Kherson region and visited areas along the coast of the Black Sea near Skadovsk (62km south-east of Kherson), as well as areas near Mykhailivka (39km south of Kherson), Novomykolaivka (46km south of Kherson), Radensk (25km east of Kherson), Velyki Kopani (32km south-east of Kherson) and Nova Kakhovka (59km east of Kherson). While monitoring these areas, the Mission observed no change in the security situation.

The SMM continued monitoring in Lviv, Odessa, 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 30 November 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:⁶

- On 5 December, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming while flying over areas near Novosvitlivka (non-government-controlled, 16km south-east of Luhansk).

⁶ 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 UAV's position.

Tables of weapons

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
4/12/2021	30	Tank (probable T-64)	At a railway station in Pokrovsk (formerly Krasnoarmiisk, 55km north-west of Donetsk)	Patrol
	15	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	At a railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk)	
3/12/2021	2			Mini-UAV

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁷

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
30/11/2021	1	Probable infantry fighting vehicle	Near Troitske (30km north of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
3/12/2021	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BTR-variant)	In a residential area of Bila Hora (54km north of Donetsk)	
	2	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	In a residential area of Zolote (60km west of Luhansk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
4/12/2021	3	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)	In a residential area of Luhansk city	Patrol
5/12/2021	1	Portable battlefield surveillance radar (<i>Kredo-M1</i>)	Near Svitle (11km north of Luhansk)	

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

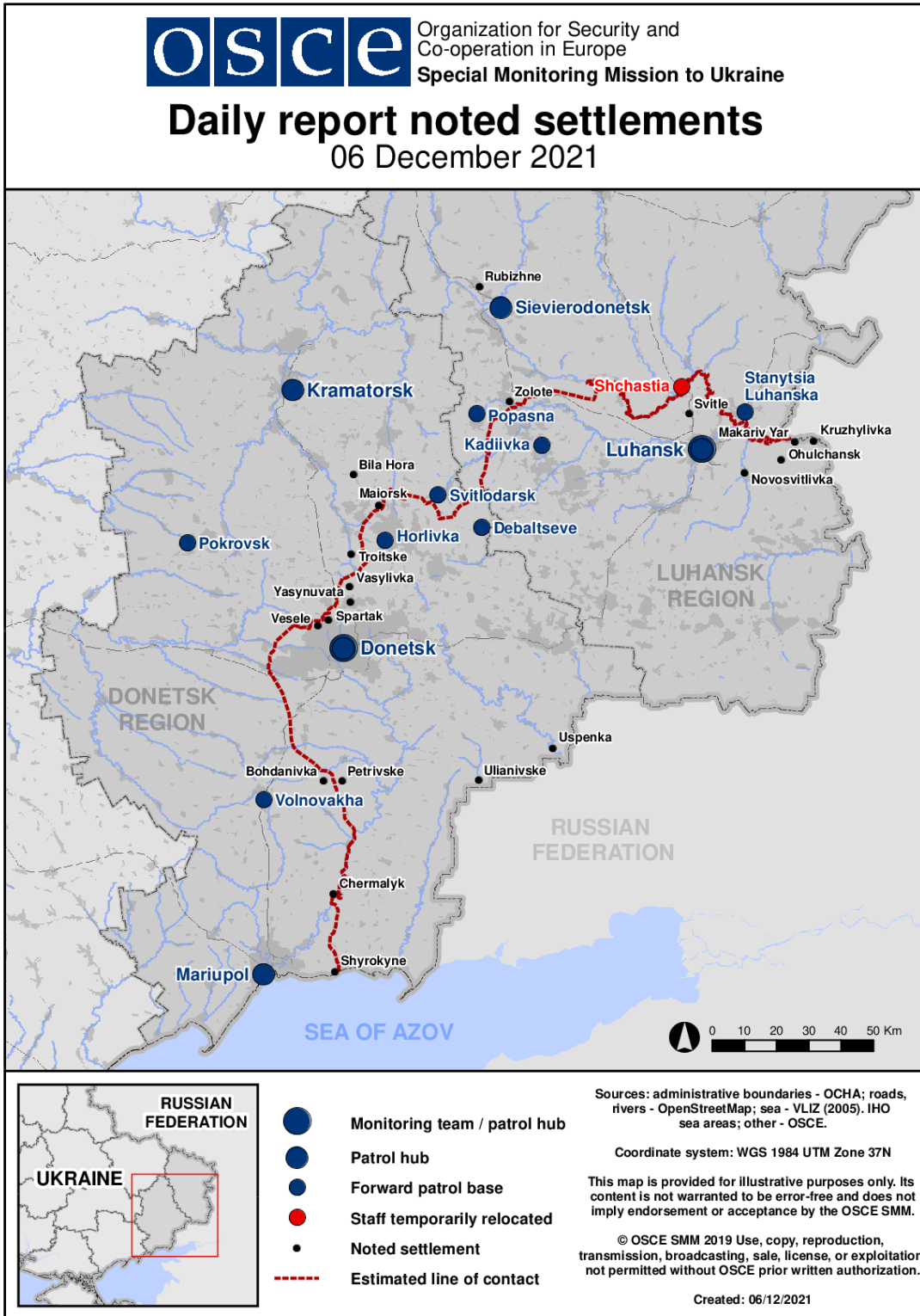
Table of ceasefire violations as of 5 December 2021⁸

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdaniivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	2-2.5km SE	Recorded	14	Projectile	WSW to ENE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	3-Dec, 19:57
	2-2.5km SE	Recorded	8	Projectile	WSW to ENE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	3-Dec, 19:58
	2-3km ESE	Recorded	4	Projectile	N to S (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	3-Dec, 22:16
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SSE	Recorded	6	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	3-Dec, 20:34
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	8	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	3-Dec, 20:35
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	3-Dec, 20:38
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	5	Projectile	NNE to SSW	N/K	3-Dec, 20:39
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	4	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	3-Dec, 21:01
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	5	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	3-Dec, 21:07
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	3-Dec, 19:45
	3-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	3-Dec, 19:49
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	3-Dec, 19:50
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	3-Dec, 19:50
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	3-Dec, 21:17
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Dec, 21:30
	5-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Dec, 21:30
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	3-Dec, 22:02
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	3-Dec, 22:11
	2-4km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	3-Dec, 22:33
	2-4km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	3-Dec, 22:33
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	3-Dec, 22:49
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	3-Dec, 22:49
	3-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	3-Dec, 22:49
SMM camera in Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km WSW	Recorded	3	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	4-Dec, 02:58
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km SSW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	3-Dec, 23:47
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	3-4km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 09:00
Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-3km S	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	4-Dec, 10:03
E edge of Holubivske (non-government-controlled, 51km w of Luhansk)	3-5km NNE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	4-Dec, 09:44
About 3km N of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km w of Luhansk)	18-20km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 12:43
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km w of Luhansk)	3-4km SSE	Heard	11	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 17:45-17:58
	3-4km SSE	Heard	6	Burst		HMG	4-Dec, 18:05-18:07
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Marinka (government-controlled, 23km SW of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	5-Dec, 01:54

⁸ 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 camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 19:16
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 19:18
	2-4km N	Recorded	6	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	4-Dec, 19:43
	2-4km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	4-Dec, 19:44
	2-4km N	Recorded	14	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	4-Dec, 19:45
	2-4km N	Recorded	5	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	4-Dec, 19:46
	2-4km N	Recorded	6	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	4-Dec, 19:47
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 21:41
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	4-Dec, 22:08
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	4-Dec, 22:17
	3-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	5-Dec, 01:20
3-5km NNE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	5-Dec, 05:43	
About 1km N of railway station in Donetsk city (6km NW of Donetsk city centre)	3-5km W	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	5-Dec, 13:07-13:08
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	5-Dec, 10:00
About 1km NE of Zalizne (formerly Artemove, government-controlled, 42km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km E	Heard	5	Shot		Small arms	5-Dec, 10:21
Horlivka (non-government- controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km NW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 20:28-20:31
	3-5km NW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	4-Dec, 20:41
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km w of Luhansk)	3-5km ESE	Heard	22	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote	HMG	5-Dec, 02:19-02:33

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions⁹



⁹ 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).