

Daily Report 17/2020

22 January 2020¹

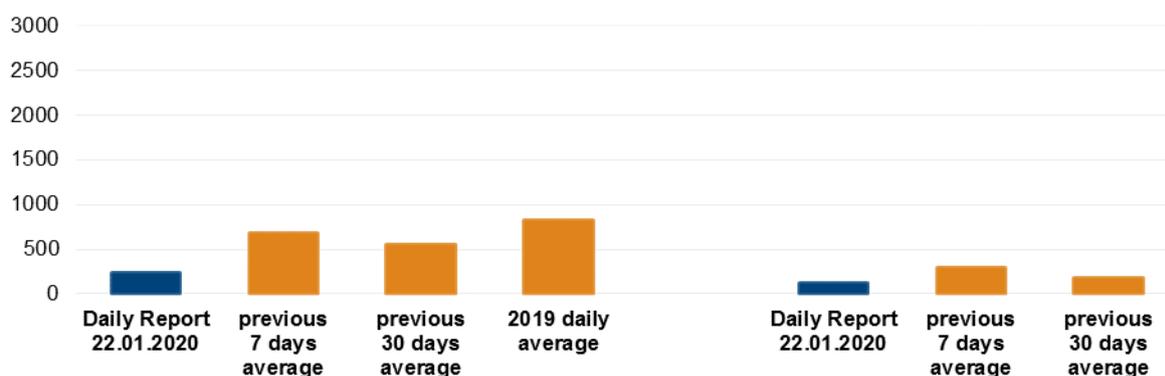
Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and fewer in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the security situation at the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM saw mines near Hnutove, Pyshevyk and Vesela Hora, some for the first time.
- It monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the drilling of water wells and maintenance to critical civilian infrastructure.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at checkpoints of the armed formations near Zaichenko, Sosnivske, Novoazovsk, and Prymorske, all in southern Donetsk region, as well as close to the disengagement area near Petrivske.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³

Number of recorded explosions⁴



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 21 January 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time. During the reporting period, the SMM camera on the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote was not operational.

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

³ Including explosions.

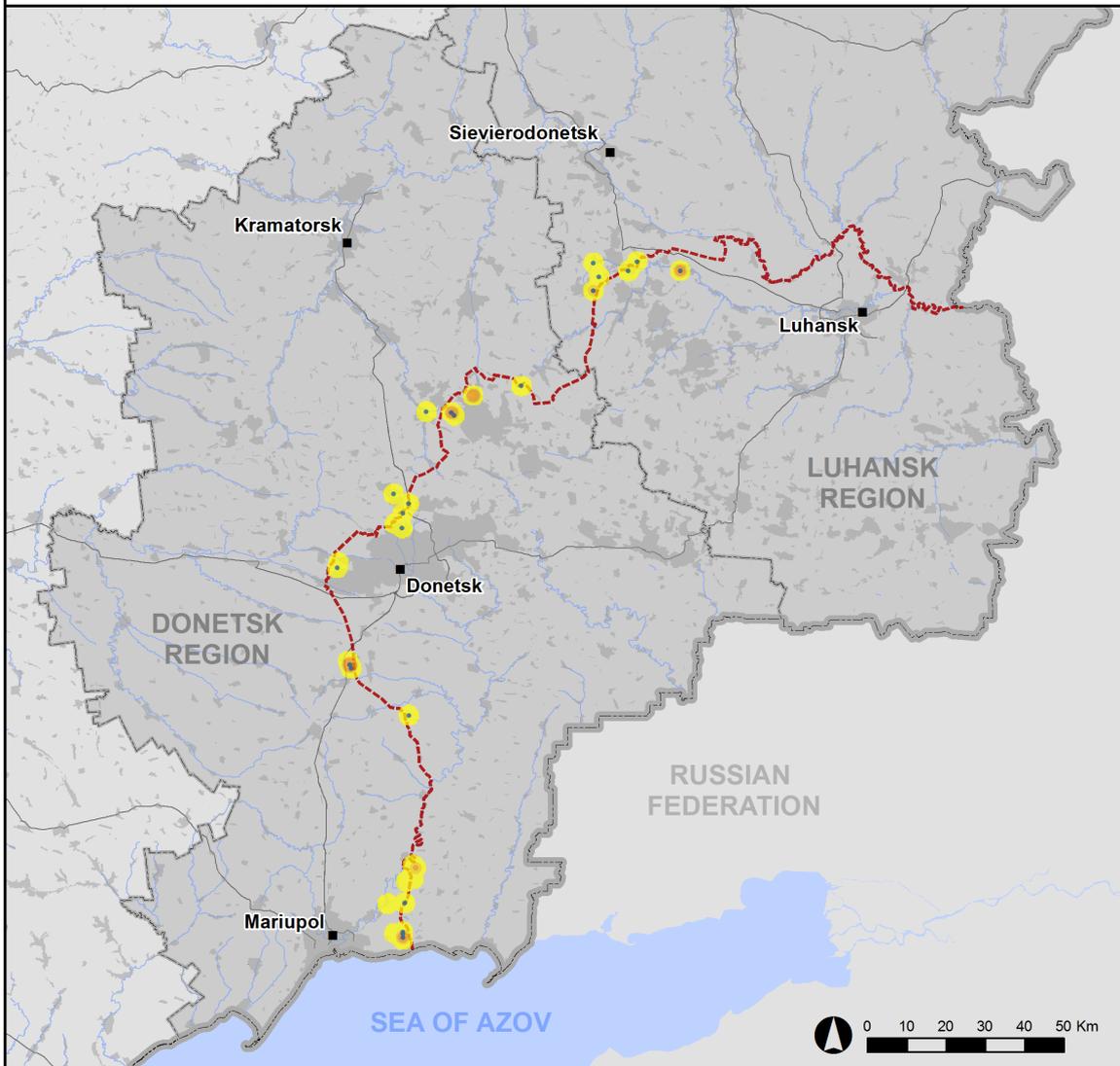
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

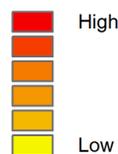


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 21 January 2020



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: 22/01/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including more explosions (about 80), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (14 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations, were recorded in areas south-south-east of Berezove (government-controlled, 31km south-west of Donetsk) and at north-westerly directions of Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk), where almost all explosions were recorded.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded fewer ceasefire violations, including fewer explosions (about 35), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 105 explosions). Almost all ceasefire violations, including more than 80 per cent of the explosions, were recorded at north-westerly directions of Sentianivka (formerly Frunze, non-government-controlled, 44km west of Luhansk) and at southerly directions of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 21 January, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) between the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk) and their checkpoint south of it.

On the evening of 20 January, the SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) recorded an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 3-5km east-south-east. On the same evening, while positioned on the northern edge of Popasna, the SMM heard 21 undetermined explosions, at an assessed range of 4-6km north-east, east, and south-east. On 21 January, while positioned on the western edge of Holubivka (formerly Kirovsk, non-government-controlled, 51km west of Luhansk), the Mission heard five undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 5-7km north-north-west. All ceasefire violations were assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

On 21 January, the Mission saw five workers from non-government-controlled areas removing vegetation near the checkpoint of the armed formations on the area’s southern edge.

Outside the disengagement area, the SMM saw an excavator digging new trenches (about 25m long) north of the disengagement area and south of a local road leading from Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk) to Zolote-4/Rodina (government-controlled, 59km west of Luhansk).

On 19 January, on the northern edge of the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), where the Mission had [previously seen](#) several piles of logs, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted two bunkers (one still under construction and not seen in imagery from 5 January 2020) joined by a 10m-long trench, all assessed as belonging to the armed formations. Inside the area, in a field on its eastern edge, the same UAV again spotted at least 12 mines (out of 40 previously observed), assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

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 21 January, at a checkpoint about 3km north of the disengagement area near Petrivske, on two occasions, an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage south towards the settlement. As a result, the SMM was unable to access its camera.

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.

Weapons permanent storage sites

At a permanent storage site in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region

21 January

The Mission noted that the site continued to be abandoned and that 82 tanks (eight T-80, 33 T-64 and 41 T-72), six mortars (2B9 *Vasilek*, 82mm) and three anti-tank guns (MT-12 *Rapira*, 100mm) continued to be missing.

Indications of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁶

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles, infantry fighting vehicles and armoured personal carriers on both sides of the contact line (for further details, see the table below).

Presence of mines near Hnutove, Pyshevyk and Vesela Hora

On 17 January, in a field about 4km north-east of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV [again](#) spotted about 40 anti-tank mines laid out in four rows and approximately 16 probable mine hazard signs nearby. About 1.5km further south-east, the same UAV spotted for the first time approximately 25 anti-tank mines laid out in a single row extending from north to south over about 150m. All of the above mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On the same day, in fields about 2.5km and about 4km south of Pyshevyk (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk), an SMM mid-range UAV spotted a total of 145 anti-tank mines laid out in rows running north to south (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 3 May 2019](#)). The UAV also spotted for the first time 75 anti-tank mines in a field about 5km south of Pyshevyk and 130 anti-tank mines in a field about 1km further south. The UAV also spotted about 130 anti-tank mines laid near and across the road leading from Talakivka (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk) to Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk) (for previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report 28 June 2019](#)). The same UAV additionally spotted 180 anti-tank mines in a field about 4km north of Pikuzy, 75 anti-tank mines in two fields about 2.5km north of Pikuzy, and 50 anti-tank mines in a field about 1.4km north of Pikuzy, all for the first time and assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

On 20 January, about 2km north-east of Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), an SMM mini-UAV [again](#) spotted four anti-tank mines (TM-62) laid across road H-21 assessed as belonging to the armed formations. The same UAV also [again](#) spotted 36 anti-tank mines (TM-62) laid out across the same road, approximately 2km north-west of the

⁶ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

aforementioned mines and about 150m east of the bridge in Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk), assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

SMM facilitation of maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to facilitate the drilling of water wells near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) and to monitor the security situation around the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

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 Package of Measures 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 20 January 2020](#)). 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 of access:

- At a checkpoint of the armed formations about 3km north of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), on two occasions, an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage south towards the settlement, citing “security reasons”.
- At a checkpoint north of Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk) and Sakhanka (non-government-controlled, 97km south of Donetsk), citing “ongoing demining activities” and risks to the “security of the SMM”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission saw a car passing through the checkpoint.
- At a checkpoint near Sosnivske (non-government-controlled, 78km south of Donetsk), a member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage towards the settlement, citing the risks due to “the proximity of the village to the contact line”.
- At a checkpoint north of Novoazovsk (non-government-controlled, 102km south-east of Donetsk), three armed members of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards Novoazovsk and Siedove (non-government-controlled, 106km south of Donetsk), citing an “ongoing special operation in the area”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission saw cars passing through the checkpoint in both directions.
- At a checkpoint near Prymorske (non-government-controlled, 76km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage towards

Naberezhne (non-government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk), citing “ongoing engineering works in the area”.

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:

- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference on two occasions, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk).

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
16/01/2020	2	Armoured combat vehicle (a BMP variant and a probable BMP variant)	Near Hnutove (90km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range
	2	Probable armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)		
17/01/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		
	1	Electronic warfare system "Bukovel-AD"		
	3	Armoured combat vehicle (two BMP variant and one probable BMP)		Mini UAV
18/01/2020	2	Mine layer (GMZ-3)		Near Bobrove (56km north-west of Luhansk)
	1	Combat engineering vehicle (BAT-2)		
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BTR-4 <i>Grom</i>)	In Pionerske (101km south of Donetsk)	
20/01/2020	4	Armoured personnel carrier (type undetermined)	On the southern edge of Shchastia (20km north of Luhansk)	
21/01/2020	1	Armoured recovery vehicle (BREM-1)	In Popasna (69km west of Luhansk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRM-1K)		
Non-government-controlled areas				
20/01/2020	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	Near Vesela Hora (16km north of Luhansk)	Mini UAV
	2	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		
	1	Anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23-2 on a military truck)		

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 21 January 2020⁸

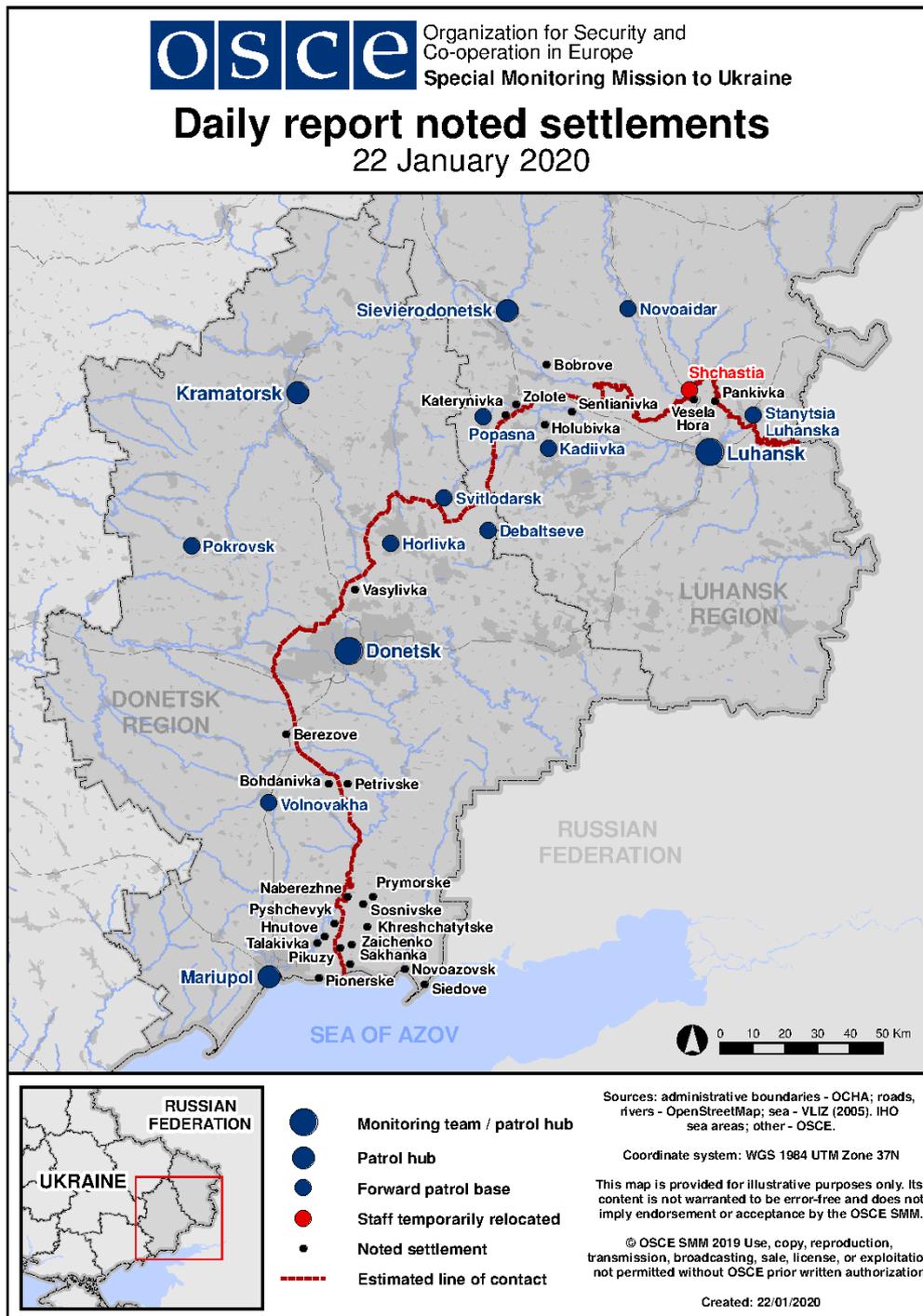
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Berezove (government-controlled, 31km SW of Donetsk)	2-4km SSE	Recorded	8	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Jan, 22:52
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	8	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	20-Jan, 23:03
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	14	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	20-Jan, 23:04
	1-3km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Jan, 23:05
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	3	Projectile	NW to SE	N/K	20-Jan, 23:05
	1-3km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Jan, 23:06
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact, subsequent to previous event	N/K	20-Jan, 23:06
	1-3km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Jan, 23:07
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact, subsequent to previous event	N/K	20-Jan, 23:07
	1-3km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Jan, 23:08
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 23:08
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Jan, 23:10
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Jan, 23:24
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	2	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	20-Jan, 23:26
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 23:30
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 00:00
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	4	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	21-Jan, 00:24
	3-5km SSE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 00:24
	2-4km SSE	Recorded	4	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	21-Jan, 00:25
	3-5km SSE	Recorded	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 00:25
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	2-4km SE	Recorded	3	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	20-Jan, 21:26
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	21-Jan, 00:15
	3-5km SE	Recorded	10	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	21-Jan, 00:55
	3-5km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NNW to SSE	N/K	21-Jan, 00:58
	5-7km SSE	Recorded	2	Projectile	NE to SW	N/K	21-Jan, 01:10
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	20-Jan, 19:02
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SSW to NNE, subsequent to previous event	N/K	20-Jan, 19:02
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact, subsequent to previous event	N/K	20-Jan, 19:02
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 19:08
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 19:31
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Hnutove (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	1-2km ENE	Recorded	3	Projectile	N to S	N/K	21-Jan, 01:57
SMM camera in Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km W of Donetsk)	2-5km E	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	20-Jan, 21:27
	2-5km ESE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:09

⁸ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM 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 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 and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol and assessed to be the same are entered only once.

SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	3-6km NE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	20-Jan, 19:00
	3-6km NE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	20-Jan, 19:05
	4-7km ENE	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:13
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	3-5km N	Recorded	13	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	20-Jan, 18:57
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 19:02
	3-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	20-Jan, 22:00
	4-7km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:57
	4-7km NNW	Recorded	1	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-Jan, 03:29
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 05:37
	3-5km N	Recorded	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 05:56
	2-5km N	Recorded	3	Projectile	E to W	N/K	21-Jan, 17:02
SE part of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-3km SSE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 12:31
About 3km SSE of Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km S of Donetsk)	2-3km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 11:56
About 1km NW of Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 47km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km	Heard	9	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 09:36-09:45
About 1km NW of the Railway station of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km W	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 09:15
3km SE of Lomakyne (government-controlled, 15km NE of Mariupol)	5-6km N	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	21-Jan, 10:58
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 18:46-18:47
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	5-7km NW	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:40-22:47
	5-7km NW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:50
	5-7km NW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:51
	5-7km NW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:52
	5-7km NW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:54
	5-7km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:55
	4-6km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 22:56
	5-7km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	20-Jan, 23:03
	5-7km NW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 00:25
	4-6km NW	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	21-Jan, 00:26
	5-7km NW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 00:27
About 6km N of Horlivka (non-government controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km NNW	Heard	38	Burst		HMG	21-Jan, 11:32-11:34

About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	3-5km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 09:13
E edge of Zalizne (government-controlled, 42km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 11:47
SMM camera in Zolote (government-controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	3-5km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined, assessed as outside the disengagement area	N/K	20-Jan, 20:45
N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	4-6km E	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined, assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	N/K	20-Jan, 20:00-20:29
	4-6km SE	Heard	13	Explosion	Undetermined, assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	N/K	20-Jan, 20:39-21:01
	4-6km SE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined, assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	N/K	20-Jan, 21:07-21:33
	4-6km NE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined, assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	N/K	20-Jan, 21:03-21:33
W edge of Holubivka (formerly Kirovsk, non-government-controlled, 51km W of Luhansk)	5-7km NNW	Heard	5	Explosion	Undetermined, assessed as outside the Zolote disengagement area	N/K	21-Jan, 09:11-09:25
S edge of Sentianivka (formerly Frunze, non-government-controlled, 44km W of Luhansk)	2-3km NW	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	21-Jan, 10:31-10:42
	2-3km NW	Heard	2	Burst		AGL	21-Jan, 10:31-10:42
	2-3km NW	Heard	13	Burst		HMG	21-Jan, 10:31-10:42
	2-3km NW	Heard	2	Shot		HMG	21-Jan, 10:31-10:42

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 has 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 patrols in this settlement during daylight hours, as well).