

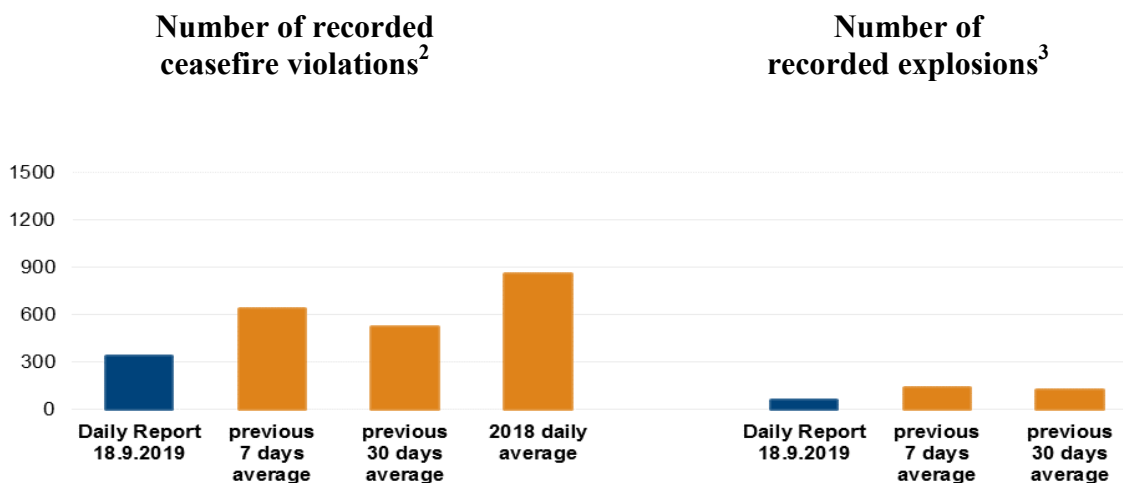
Daily Report 221/2019

18 September 2019¹

Summary

- Compared with the previous reporting period, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and no ceasefire violations in Luhansk region.
- Inside the Stanytsia Luhanska disengagement area, the Mission saw workers from government-controlled areas placing concrete plates under the broken section of the bridge and workers from non-government-controlled areas repairing the metal section of the bridge.
- The Mission monitored adherence to the ceasefire to facilitate repairs to and the operation of essential civilian infrastructure, including water pipelines repairs between Zolote-3/Stakhanovets and Popasna.
- Restrictions of the Mission's access continued, including at checkpoints in Petrivske, restricting SMM's access to its camera, and near Verkhnoшыrokivske, all in non-government-controlled areas.*

Ceasefire violations¹



¹ For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Chermalyk was not operational.

² Including explosions.

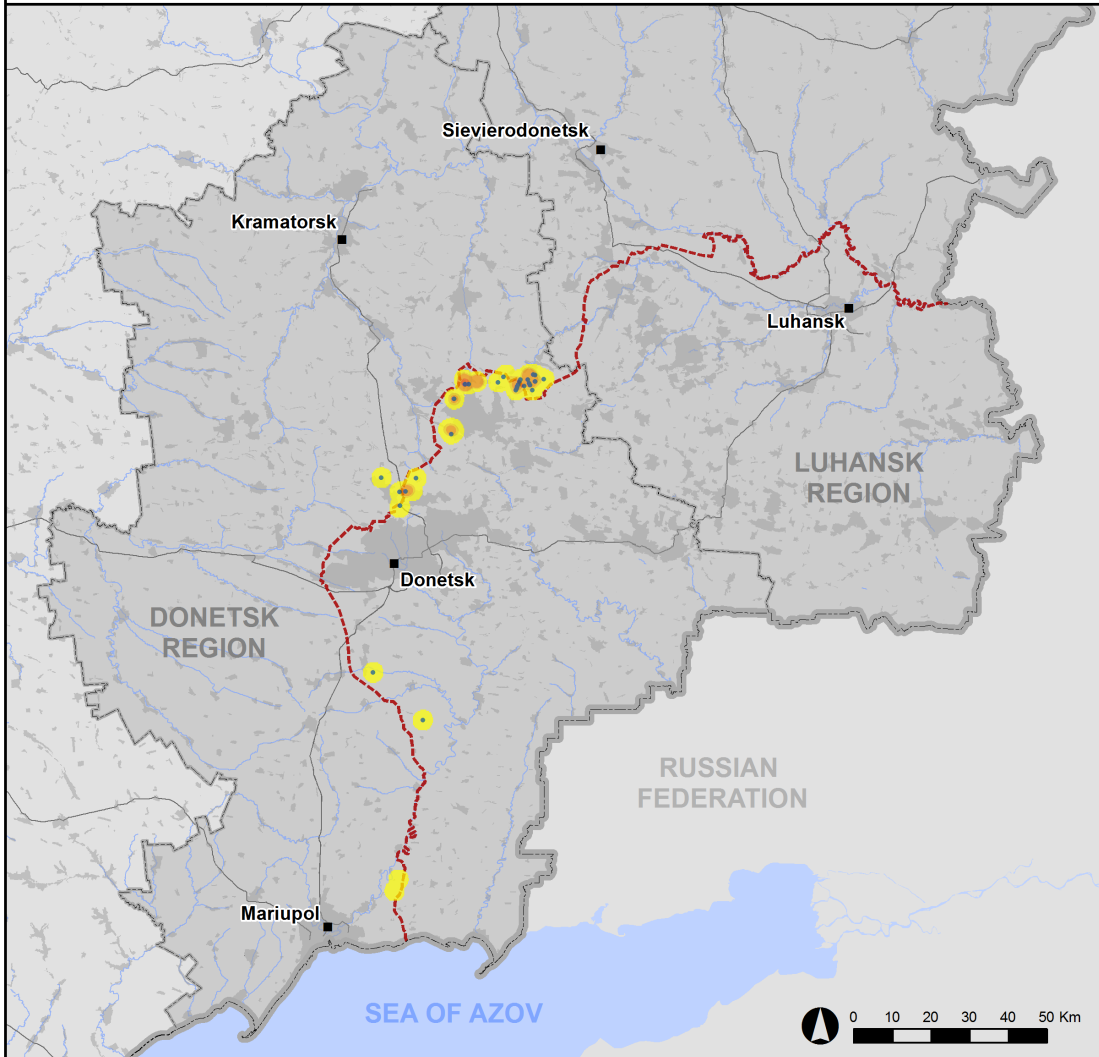
³ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



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

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 17 September 2019



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.

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Created: 18/09/2019

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded more ceasefire violations, including, however, fewer explosions (about 55), compared with the [previous reporting period](#) (about 80 explosions). The majority of ceasefire violations, including the majority of explosions, were recorded at easterly and southerly directions of Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk) and in areas east of Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations during the reporting period.

Stanytsia Luhanska disengagement area

On the afternoon of 16 September, inside the disengagement area, the SMM saw three vehicles belonging to the State Emergency Service (SES) of Ukraine and a crane loading tree trunks onto a truck, respectively about 25m and 50m west of the road, about 600m north of the broken section of the bridge. Five workers from government-controlled areas with a crane and a tractor were placing concrete plates under the southern side of the broken section of the bridge (see [SMM Daily Report 17 September 2019](#)).

On the same afternoon, the SMM saw a member of the armed formations burning firewood and black smoke rising from an area along the riverbank about 100m south-west of the broken section of the bridge. The SMM also saw two workers from non-government-controlled areas placing two cylinders (gas and oxygen), into a formerly brown container which had been painted grey, on the eastern side of the southern edge of the metal section of the bridge. The SMM also saw a truck unloading steel angles near the grey container. Six members of the armed formations with a crane, an excavator and a mini-van loaded concrete slabs and dug out tree stumps in an area on the eastern side of the broken section of the bridge.

On the afternoon of 16 September, the SMM saw that a golf cart continued operating between the Ukrainian Armed Forces entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) and the broken section of the bridge and back. A Ukrainian Armed Forces officer of the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) told the SMM that the shuttle bus was discontinued as it could damage the newly laid asphalt on the road.⁴

On the morning of 17 September, the SMM saw SES members wearing protective gear, with shovels, sticks and a metal detector checking areas east of and under the broken section of the bridge, and other SES members checking an area on the eastern side of the road, respectively about 70m and 80m north of the broken section of the bridge.

On three separate occasions, the SMM saw a crane and workers from government-controlled areas unloading 11 concrete plates from three trucks and subsequently laying four of them in two stacks under the broken section of the bridge.

The SMM also saw two stacks of ten concrete slabs about 50m east and two concrete slabs about 15m north of the broken section of the bridge. The SMM saw four SES members with a

⁴ The Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) was established in September 2014 by Ukraine and the Russian Federation. Each posted a representative to jointly head the Centre and a staff of officers from the Ukrainian and Russian Federation Armed Forces to be co-located in defined sectors of Luhansk and Donetsk regions. In December 2017, Russian Federation Armed Forces officers withdrew from the JCCC and departed Ukraine. ⁵ Disengagement is foreseen in the [Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware](#) of 21 September 2016.

ladder fixing a camera on a telegraph post west of the road, about 15m north of the broken section of the bridge.

On the morning of 17 September, the SMM saw two people wearing white t-shirts with an inscription in Ukrainian standing in the middle of the broken section of the bridge and subsequently carrying the belongings of elderly people across the wooden ramps on it (see [SMM Daily Report 16 September 2019](#)).

On the morning of 17 September, the SMM saw two members of the armed formations welding pillars on the metal section of the bridge. It observed that the previously damaged areas on the northern edge of the metal section of the bridge had been patched with welded plates of iron and repainted. The areas on the southern riverbank (immediately east and west of the metal section of the bridge) had been freshly cleared of trees. The SMM also saw seven members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) between the southern edge of the broken section of the bridge and the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the bridge.

Outside the disengagement area, on the afternoon of 17 September, the SMM saw concrete slabs and 12 members of the armed formations with equipment and vehicles operating and placing a metal container on the western and eastern sides of the road respectively, adjacent to the Prince Ihor Monument, south-east of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

The SMM saw ten workers on the eastern and western edges of the road, in the area of the Ukrainian Armed Forces EECP and continuing for several hundred meters south, pulling together severed pieces of cables from the guardrails and clamping and welding them together.

Other disengagement areas⁵

On 16 September, inside the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted two ammunition crates on the western side of road T-1316 (assessed as belonging to the armed formations).

The UAV also spotted an armoured personnel carrier (APC) (MT-LB) and a probable armoured combat vehicle (ACV) less than 20m from a civilian house inside the disengagement area and, 500m south-west, four additional revetted, sand bagged firing positions (not seen in imagery from 6 September 2019) to an existing trench running east to west, 600m south of the northern edge of the disengagement area, all assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On 17 September, while travelling along road T-1316 inside the disengagement area near Zolote, the SMM [again](#) saw a remnant of a 120mm mortar tailfin, embedded in the ground on the eastern edge of the road between positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and the armed formations. The SMM also saw that ten previously reported anti-tank mines on the north-western side of the railway bridge, as well as two anti-tank mines about 20m north of the railway bridge were no longer present. The SMM travelled south until it saw [again](#) the

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

“Barely Visible Obstacle” (MZO) stretched across the road, about 350m north of the checkpoint of the armed formations on the southern edge of the disengagement area, thus preventing the Mission from crossing through it.

In the morning of 17 September, positioned close to the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), the SMM heard and saw an undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 4-6km south-east, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within its 5km 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.

On 17 September, the Mission observed no weapons in violation of withdrawal lines (for weapons observed beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, see table below).

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

Government-controlled areas

16 September

An SMM mini-UAV spotted an armoured ambulance (MT-LB S) near a checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces on the northern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote.

Non-government-controlled areas

15 September

Aerial imagery available to the SMM revealed the presence of a new trench running north-east to south-west (not visible in imagery from 2 September 2019) for about 240m in a residential area in Petrivske, about 400m east of the disengagement’s area eastern edge. About 900m north-east of the aforementioned trench, the aerial imagery revealed a new 70m-long trench along a treeline and, about 1km further east, two new trenches (about 200 and 660m in length). About 900m north-west of the previous two trenches, the aerial imagery revealed the presence of a newly built position consisting of two trenches, both about 300m in length.

17 September

The SMM saw an almost finished bunker and about 20 people in camouflage clothing and about 12 trucks, a trench digger and several cranes digging trenches and semi-concealed earth works next to the road between Petrivske and Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk), north-east of the Petrivske disengagement area.

SMM facilitation of repairs to and the operation of civilian infrastructure

The Mission monitored adherence to the ceasefire to facilitate repairs to water pipelines between Zolote-3/Stakhanovets (government-controlled, 61km west of Luhansk) and

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

Popasna (government-controlled, 69km west of Luhansk), to power lines near Kruta Balka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Donetsk) and Holmivskyi (non-government-controlled, 49 north-east of Donetsk), to the sewage system near Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 57km north-east of Donetsk) and to enable the drilling of wells near Raivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north-west of Luhansk).

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

The Mission continued monitoring in Kharkiv, 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 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 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 14 September 2019](#)). 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 in Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), on two occasions, two members of the armed formations (one visibly armed) [again](#) denied the SMM passage, restricting its access to the camera in Petrivske.
- At a checkpoint west of Verkhnohyrokiivske (formerly, Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), on two occasions, three members of the armed formations [again](#) denied the SMM passage citing “ongoing work in the area”. The SMM saw, however, that civilian vehicles continued to cross the checkpoint.

Regular restrictions related to disengagement areas and mines/UXO:

- The sides continued to deny the SMM full access to disengagement areas near Zolote and Petrivske, 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 and UXO.

Other impediments:

- On 17 September, an SMM mini-UAV lost its GPS signal due to signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, on two occasions, while flying over areas near Kyrylivka (government-controlled, 76km south of Donetsk).⁷

Tables of weapons as of 17 September 2019

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites:

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapons	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
16/09/2019	1	Surface-to-air missile system (S-300)	Near Nikolske (formerly Volodarske, 97km south of Donetsk)	Mid-range UAV
17/09/2019	8	Self-propelled howitzers (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	At a train station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

⁷ The interference could have originated from anywhere within a radius of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 17 September 2019⁸

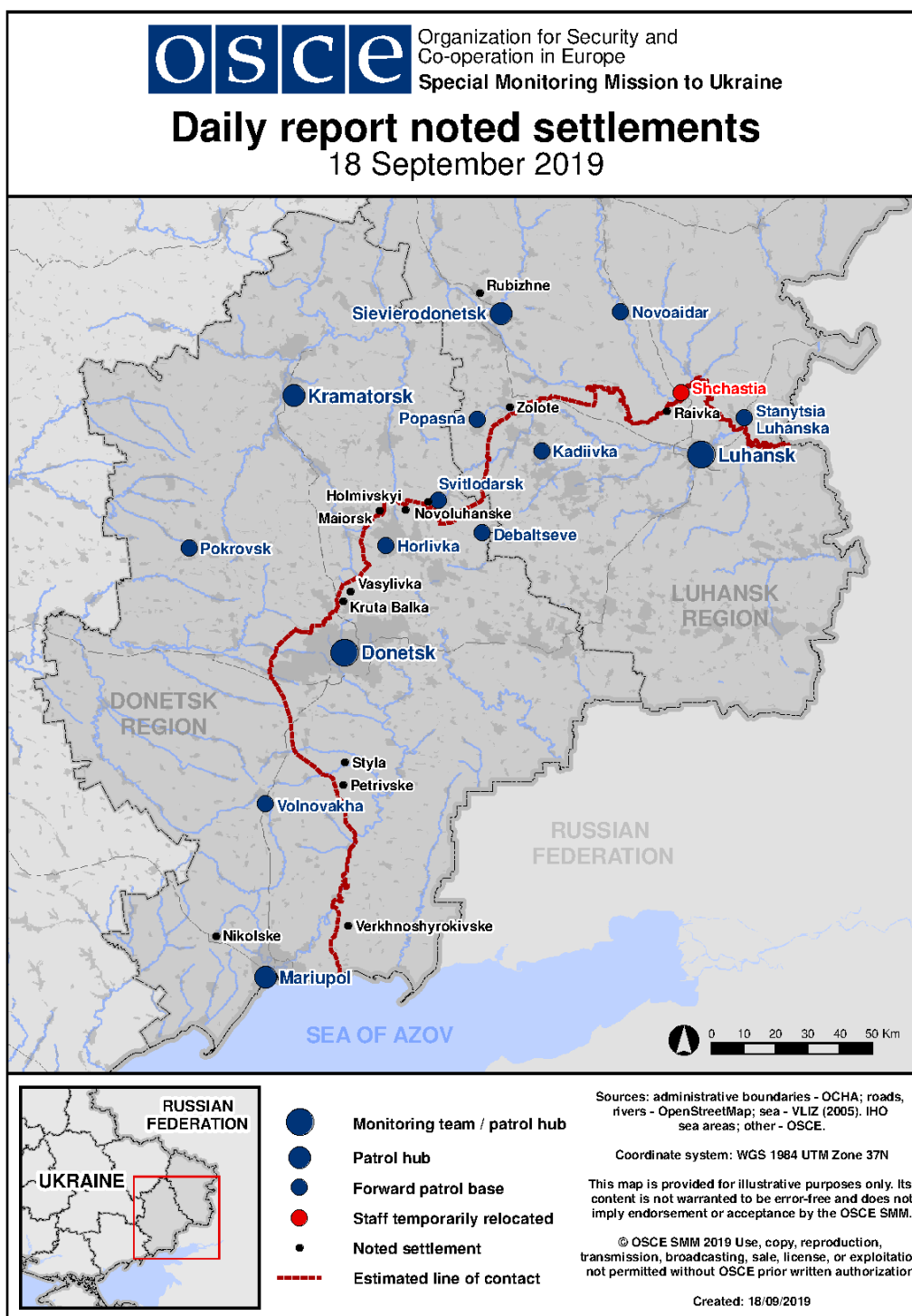
SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	2-4km SSW	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	16-Sep, 21:25
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ENE	Recorded	4	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	16-Sep, 23:43
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N	N/K	17-Sep, 03:08
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 21:56
	2-4km E	Recorded	10	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 21:57
	2-4km E	Recorded	2	Burst	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 21:57
	2-4km E	Recorded	8	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:03
	2-4km E	Recorded	4	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:04
	2-4km E	Recorded	3	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:05
	2-4km E	Recorded	9	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:07
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:08
	2-4km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:10
	2-4km E	Recorded	3	Projectile	S to N	N/K	16-Sep, 22:13
	2-4km E	Recorded	7	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:37
	2-4km E	Recorded	6	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:38
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	24	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:38
	2-4km E	Recorded	3	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	16-Sep, 22:38
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Airburst	N/K	16-Sep, 22:39
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 22:39
	2-4km ENE	Recorded	7	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:39
	2-4km E	Recorded	2	Projectile	N to S	N/K	16-Sep, 22:40
	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	S to N	N/K	16-Sep, 22:40
	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 22:44
3-5km E	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 01:03	
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Pyshevyk (government-controlled, 84km S of Donetsk)	3-5km S	Recorded	2	Projectile	E to W	N/K	16-Sep, 20:47
SE edge of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	2-3km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 11:26
	2-3km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 11:45
Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled, 30km SW of Donetsk)	3-4km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 13:05

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.

About 1km, E of Kruta Balka (non-government-controlled, 16km N of Donetsk)	3-4km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 11:45
About 1.8km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	4-6km SE	Heard and saw	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	17-Sep, 11:00
Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km NW	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	17-Sep, 09:04
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km NNW	Heard	11	Burst		Small arms	17-Sep, 09:24
	2-3km NW	Heard	10	Burst		HMG	17-Sep, 14:45
	2-3km NW	Heard	7	Burst		HMG	17-Sep, 14:48
	2-3km NW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 14:48
Svitlodarsk (government-controlled, 57km NE of Donetsk)	2-4km SSW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 19:08-19:11
	3-5km SW	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 19:09-19:11
	4-5km SW	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 19:19
	3-5km SSW	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 19:19-19:21
	4-6km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 19:25
	4-5km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 19:34
	5-6km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 19:41
	2-3km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 19:57
	5-6km SSE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 20:14
	5-6km SSW	Heard	8	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 20:20
	2-3km SE	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	16-Sep, 20:22
	2-3km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 20:42
	4-5km SSW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 20:46
	3-4km SSE	Heard	8	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 21:04
	3-5km S	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 21:05
	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 21:13
	4-5km SE	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 21:16
	3-5km SSE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 21:42-21:43
	3-4km SSE	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 21:44
	3-4km SE	Heard	4	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 21:53
	3-4km SE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 21:57
	5-6km ESE	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 22:01
	5-6km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 22:15
	2-3km ESE	Heard	1	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 22:44
	2-4km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 22:47
	2-3km ESE	Heard	3	Shot		Small arms	16-Sep, 23:08
	3-5km S	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 23:15
	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 23:29
	3-5km SE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 23:32
	3-5km SE	Heard	3	Shot		HMG	16-Sep, 23:33
3-4km SW	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	17-Sep, 06:59	
1-2km SE	Heard	35	Burst		Small arms	17-Sep, 10:02-10:05	

	2-3km ESE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 17:38
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km WSW	Heard	5	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 21:58
	3-4km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	16-Sep, 22:07
	2-3km SW	Heard	6	Burst		Small arms	16-Sep, 22:07-02:10
	3-4km WSW	Heard	12	Burst		HMG	16-Sep, 22:30-22:35
	2-3km SW	Heard	3	Burst		Small arms	16-Sep, 23:00-02:05
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	4-5km W	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 08:45
	4-5km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 11:16
Holmivskiyi (non-government-controlled, 49km NE of Donetsk)	2-3km W	Heard	18	Burst		HMG	17-Sep, 10:50
	2-3km W	Heard	26	Burst		HMG	17-Sep, 11:00-11:05
SW edge of Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km SW	Heard	2	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 11:35
	0.5-1km SW	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	17-Sep, 11:45
	3-4km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 11:53
About 5km NNE of Horlivka (non-government controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km NNW	Heard	10	Burst		HMG	17-Sep, 11:41-11:43
	1-2km NNW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 11:41-11:43
	1-2km NNW	Heard	3	Burst		HMG	17-Sep, 11:45-11:47
	1-2km NNW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	17-Sep, 11:45-11:47

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).

