

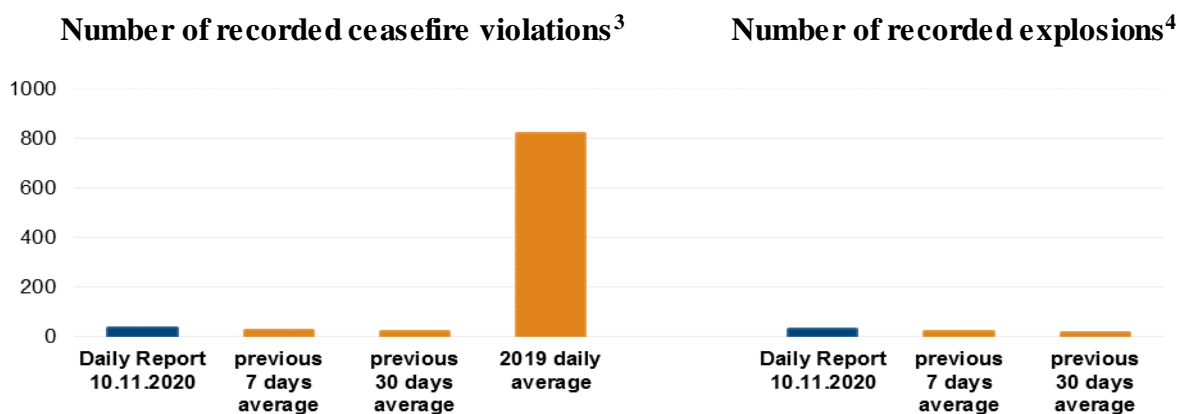
Daily Report 268/2020

10 November 2020¹

Summary

- The SMM recorded eight ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and 24 in Luhansk region. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded three ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and none in Luhansk region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 pandemic, including at entry-exit checkpoints and the corresponding checkpoints in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM visited three border crossing points in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission followed up on reports of an attack on the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Kharkiv city.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a border crossing point outside government control near Voznesenivka, Luhansk region.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 9 November 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM camera in Petrivske was not operational.

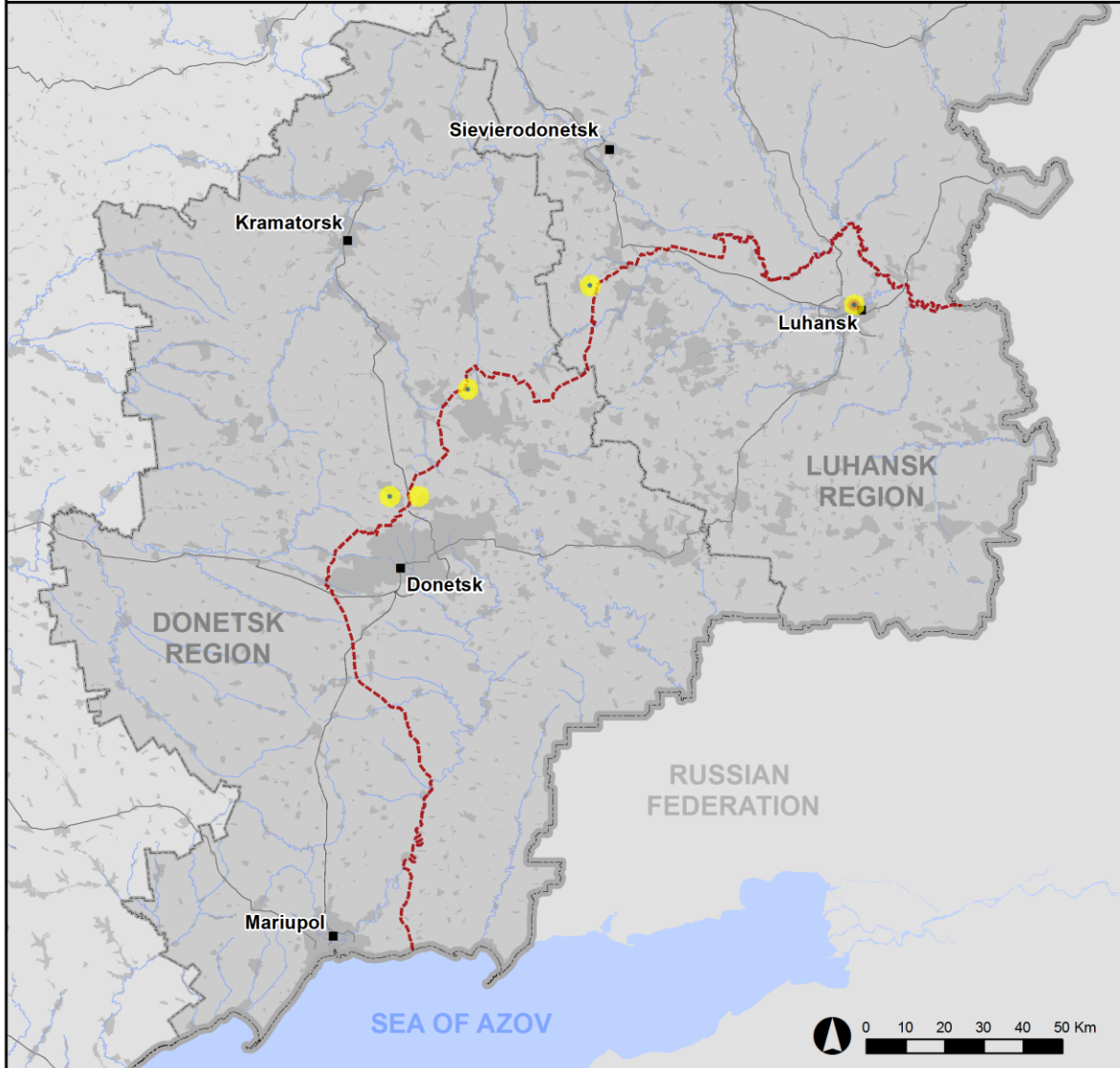
³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

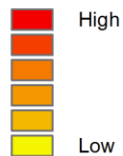
Map of recorded ceasefire violations

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

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 9 November 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: 10/11/2020

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded eight ceasefire violations, including two undetermined explosions, most of which (six burst of small-arms fire) occurred in areas north of Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded three ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded 24 ceasefire violations, all undetermined explosions, almost all of which in areas west-south-west of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations in the region.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, from 00:01 on 27 July until the end of the reporting period, the SMM has so far recorded a total of 2,144 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 759 explosions, 45 projectiles in flight, 16 muzzle flashes, 23 illumination flares and 1,301 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska**, the Mission saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), two near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk) and two south of the new span of the bridge.

During the day on 9 November, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), near the checkpoint of the armed formations on its southern edge the SMM observed three workers clearing road T-1316 from debris up to about 330m north.

On the same day, the Mission [again](#) saw a stationary white container truck with a JCCC inscription. It was parked outside the disengagement area, near its northern edge, on the side of road T-1316.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw four members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), three of whom walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned.

Outside the area, about 300-600m south of its southern edge, the Mission saw in total about 25 workers with heavy equipment clearing the ground near the fence, preparing a small construction, with a cross on top of it, assessed as a chapel. It also saw these workers painting markings on the pavement of road T-1316.

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

⁵ 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 Mission continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum.

The SMM spotted four tanks near Lobacheve (non-government-controlled, 13km east of Luhansk), in violation of withdrawal lines (for further information, see the table below).

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

On 8 November, at an airfield near non-government-controlled Luhansk city, an SMM mini unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted an electronic warfare system (RB-341V *Leer-3*) and three boxes assessed as used for storing and transporting UAVs.

The Mission also saw an armoured combat vehicle in Novobakhmutivka (government-controlled, 28km north of Donetsk) (for further information, see the table below).

Presence of mines near Holmivskiy, Travneve, Dolomitne and Petrivske, Donetsk region

On 6 November, about 1.2km north of Holmivskiy (non-government-controlled, 49km north-east of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted 11 anti-tank mines laid in two rows across a road between Holmivskiy and Travneve (government-controlled, 51km north-east of Donetsk) assessed as belonging to the armed formations (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 22 September 2020](#)).

About 800m west-south-west of Travneve, the same UAV also spotted 28 anti-tank mines laid in four rows across the same road assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 8 June 2019](#)).

Also on 6 November, in a field about 60m south-east of a road between Dolomitne (53km north-east of Donetsk) and Travneve, the same UAV spotted about 500 anti-tank mines laid in a field parallel to the abovementioned road, assessed as belonging to the armed formations (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report 19 May 2020](#)).

On 9 November, about 1.7km north of Petrivske and about 170m east of road C051532, between Styla (non-government-controlled, 34km south of Donetsk) and Petrivske, an SMM mini-UAV [again](#) spotted a transparent plastic bag filled with about 20 anti-personnel mines (assessed as PMN-2 type) lying on the ground.

SMM facilitation of repairs to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable construction work south of the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (see above), north of Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk), and near Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), south of the bridge in Shchastia.

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

About 200m north of the former checkpoint of the Ukrainian Armed Forces on the northern edge of the bridge in Shchastia, the Mission observed in total 22 workers conducting works on booths, welding a metal structure, reportedly for a bus stop, as well as drilling the asphalt, reportedly to install a traffic barrier.

About 3km south-east of the bridge, at the checkpoint of the armed formations, the Mission saw about 30 workers with heavy machinery and equipment constructing a metal roof, reportedly for a vehicle inspection booth, installing fences and road signs, cleaning the asphalt, putting lamps on electrical poles, as well as installing air conditioning and electrical cables on booths assessed as for future use as document control points.

The SMM also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable railway inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk); maintenance of road T-1316 near Zolote – north, inside and south of the disengagement area – and of road H-21 south of Shchastia; and demining of road T-1316 near Zolote, of road H-21 near the bridge in Shchastia and of agricultural fields near Hirske (government-controlled, 63km west of Luhansk) and Orikhove (government-controlled, 57km north-west of Luhansk).

About 3km north-north-west of Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw 11 workers with heavy equipment conducting maintenance of road T-1316.

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. During the day on 9 November, while positioned about 1km north-west of the railway station in Yasynuvata, the Mission heard six ceasefire violations, all shots of small-arms fire, assessed as within a 5km radius of the DFS.

Border areas outside government control

While at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) for about 60 minutes, the Mission observed 20 cars (including ten with “DPR” plates), three covered cargo trucks (including two with “DPR” plates) and one woman (in her twenties) entering Ukraine. During the same time, it observed 40 cars (including 19 with “DRP” plates), one covered cargo truck and a bus with “DPR” plates, as well as six pedestrians (one woman in her twenties and five men in their thirties and forties) exiting Ukraine.

While at the pedestrian border crossing point near Ulianivske (non-government-controlled, 61km east of Donetsk) for about 35 minutes, SMM did not observe any pedestrians entering or exiting Ukraine.

While at a railway station near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, 65km south-east of Luhansk), for about ten minutes, the SMM saw no trains.

After about two minutes at a border crossing point near Voznesenivka, a member of the armed formations told the SMM to leave the area.*

Measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (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 operational.

While at the EECP from 09:00-11:20 and from 11:50-13:45, the Mission saw three buses, 12 cars and 60 people (29 women and 28 men, mixed ages, and three girls) entering government-controlled areas, and a bus, three cars and an elderly woman traveling in the opposite direction.

While at the checkpoint near Olenivka from 08:25-11:25 and from 12:50-13:30, the Mission saw a bus, an ambulance, five cars and 30 people (20 women and eight men, mixed ages, and a girl and a boy) traveling towards government-controlled areas and four cars and 14 people (eight women and four men, mixed ages, and a girl and a boy) traveling in the opposite direction.

In Luhansk region, the Mission noted that the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska remained closed.⁷

Attack on the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Kharkiv city

The Mission followed up on reports of a 7 November attack at the Consulate of the Republic of Azerbaijan at Yaroslava Mudroho Street 7 in Kharkiv city.

On 9 November at the consulate, the Mission saw three small holes in the glass door of the main entrance and three similar holes in a window on the left from door, all assessed as fresh and caused by small-arms fire. An employee of the consulate told the SMM over the phone that police had initiated an investigation into the incident. On 7 November, a police representative (man, in his fifties) told the Mission that a criminal investigation under Article 296 Part 4 (Hooliganism with use of weapons) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine had been opened in connection with the incident.

The SMM continued monitoring in 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 Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination

⁷ Notice about the EECP's temporary closure from 15 October to 31 October 2020 was published on the website of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 13 October. On 28 October, the Ukrainian Armed Forces published on their official Facebook page that the temporary closure of the EECP had been extended until 15 November 2020.

(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.

Denial:

- At a border crossing point near Voznesenivka (formerly Chervonopartyzansk, non-government-controlled, 65km south-east of Luhansk), a member of the armed formations told the Mission to leave the area two minutes after arrival of the patrol.

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.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
08/11/2020	4	Tank (probable T-64/T-64-BM)	Near Lobacheve (13km east of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁸

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
09/11/2020	1	Armoured personal carrier (BTR-60)	Near Novobakhmutivka (28km north of Donetsk) (for previous observation in the area see SMM Daily Report 9 November 2020).	Patrol

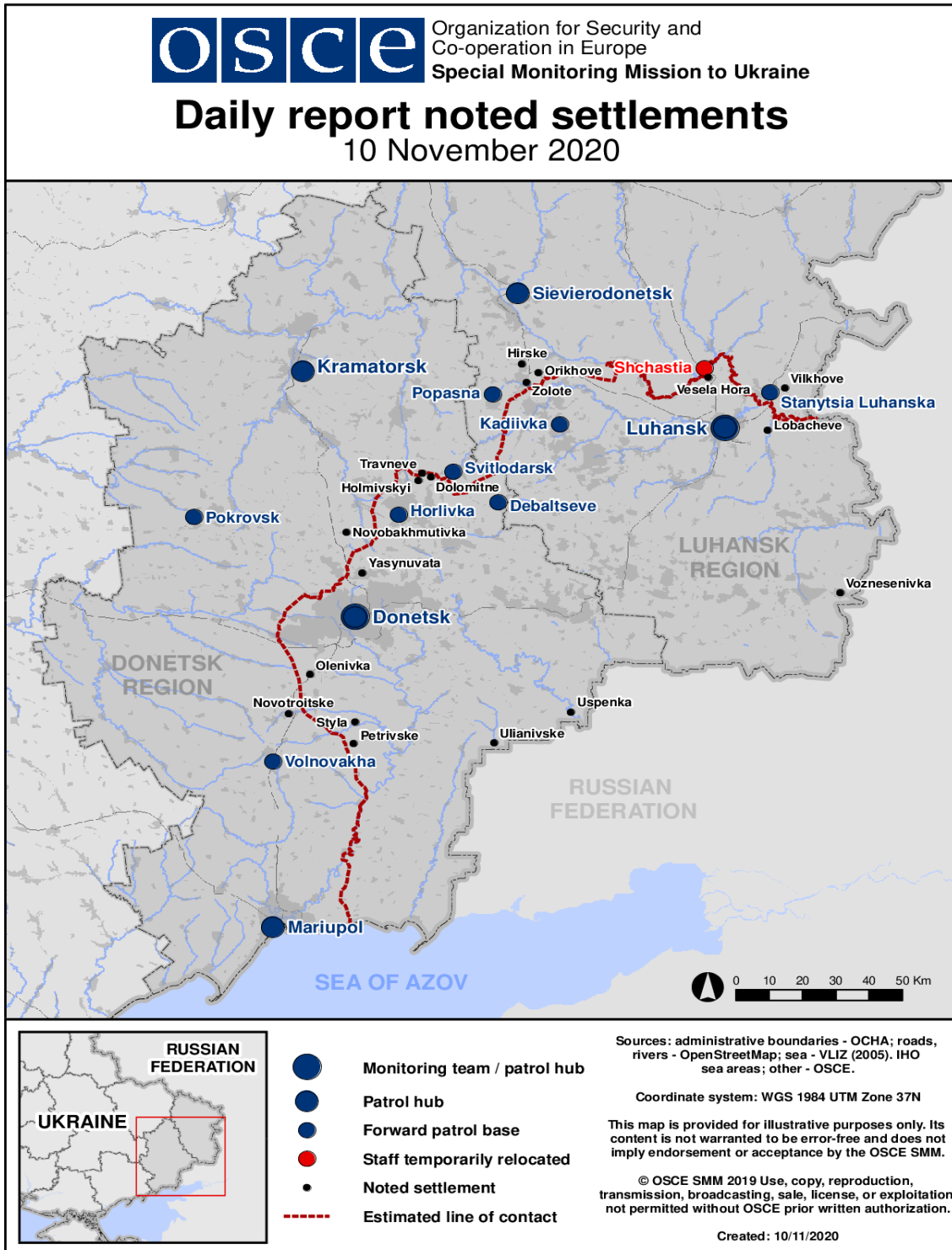
⁸ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 9 November 2020⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	1-3km ESE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Nov, 03:26
About 1km NW of the railway station in Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-2km N	Heard	6	Burst		Small arms	9-Nov, 12:32
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	5-6km SW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Nov, 13:38
100m north of the Stanytsia Luhanska Bridge (government-controlled, 15km NE of Luhansk)	10-15km WSW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Nov, 10:09-10:18
	10-15km WSW	Heard	19	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Nov, 10:27-10:53
SMM camera on N edge of Popasna (government-controlled, 69km W of Luhansk)	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	9-Nov, 18:51

⁹ 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 regions¹⁰



¹⁰ 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).