

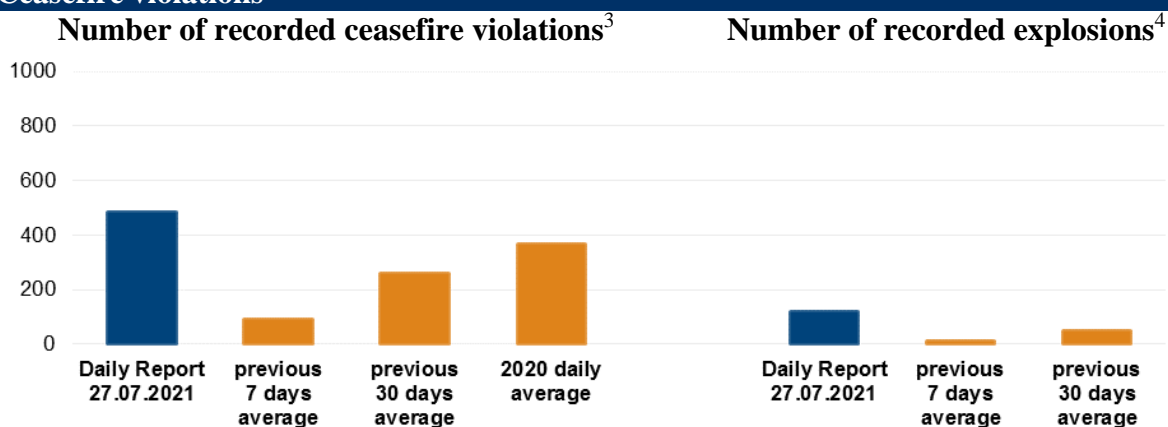
# Daily Report 173/2021

27 July 2021<sup>1</sup>

## Summary

- In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 394 ceasefire violations, including 119 explosions. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 10 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 138 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. It recorded multiple ceasefire violations, including several explosions, inside and near the disengagement area near Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission 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 SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at four checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced instances of GPS signal interference.\*

## Ceasefire violations<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 26 July 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

<sup>2</sup> For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table.

<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

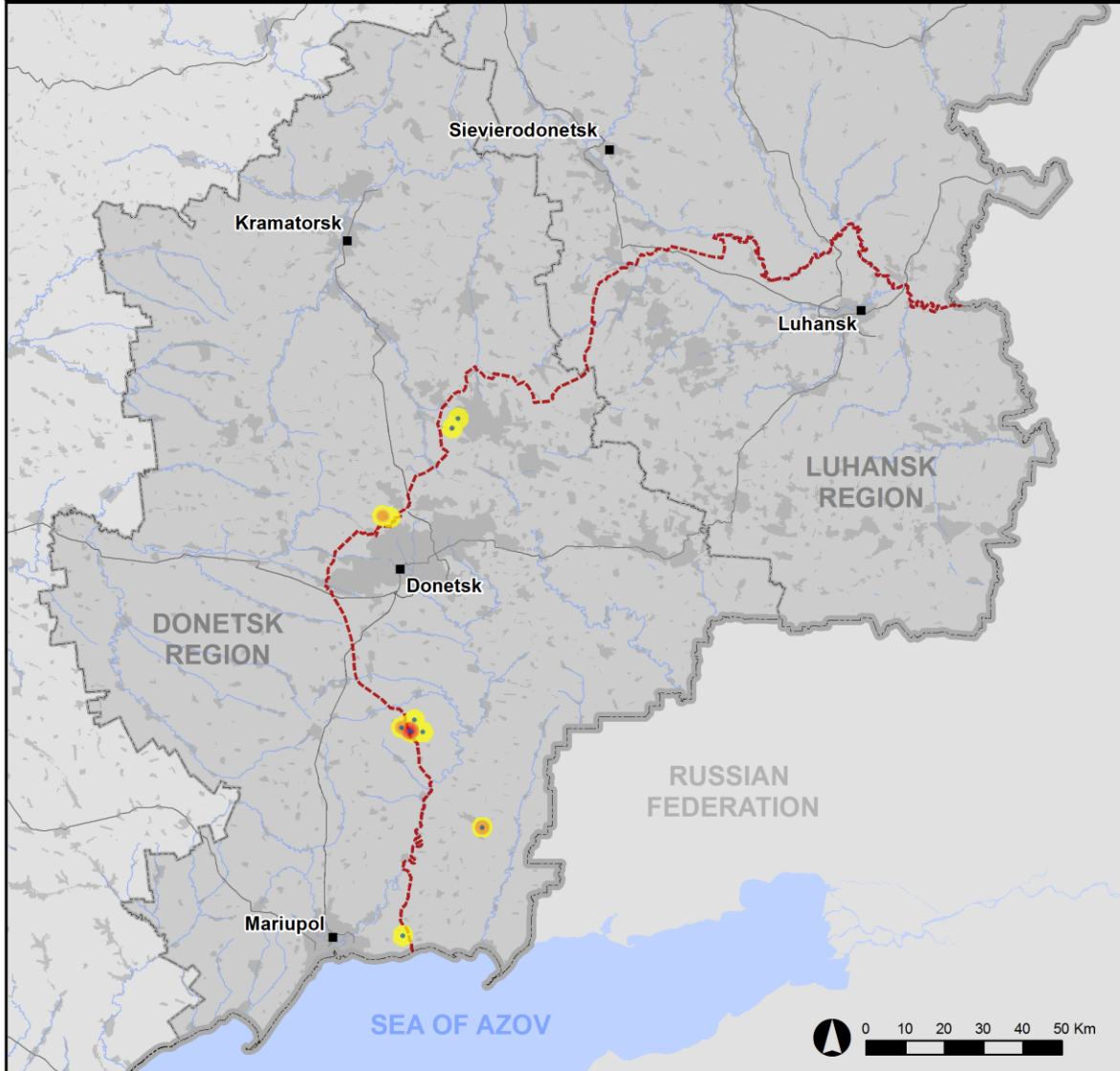
<sup>4</sup> Including from unidentified weapons.

### Map of recorded ceasefire violations

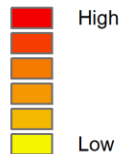


Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 26 July 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: 27/07/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 394 ceasefire violations, including 119 explosions (three impacts of mortar rounds and 116 undetermined, including 42 rounds of an SPG-9 recoilless rifle and 25 mortar rounds). The majority of ceasefire violations occurred inside and at easterly and southerly directions of the disengagement area near Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk) on the evening of 25 July and during the day on 26 July (see below) as well as in an area north-north-east of Svobodne (non-government-controlled, 73km south of Donetsk). In the latter area, the SMM recorded two undetermined explosions of an SPG-9 recoilless gun and 44 bursts and shots of heavy-machine-gun and small-arms fire, all assessed as a live-fire training exercise in the security zone in violation of the decision of the Trilateral Contact Group (TCG) of 3 March 2016 that prohibits the conduct of live-fire training in the security zone. In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 10 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. The last time the Mission did not record any ceasefire violations in the region was on [13 February 2021](#). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 138 ceasefire violations.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the TCG on 22 July 2020 regarding additional 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 46,801 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 13,627 explosions, 8,794 projectiles in flight, 262 muzzle flashes, 169 illumination flares and at least 23,949 bursts and shots).

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

While positioned inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), 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).

While positioned about 70m north of the northern edge of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), on the eastern edge of road T-1316, the Mission saw a truck, piles of bricks and three workers (male, age unknown) dismantling a fence separating vehicle traffic from pedestrians. While positioned near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the SMM saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them). The Mission again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge and inside the area.

During the evening of 25 July, the SMM camera 2km east of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) recorded four projectiles in flight at an assessed range of 1.5-3km south-east, assessed as inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske**, and one undetermined explosion, at an assessed range of 3-5km south-east, assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery. During the day of 26 July, while positioned about 1.5km north of Petrivske, the Mission heard 30 undetermined explosions at an assessed range of 4-6km south-west, assessed as inside the disengagement area. Also during the day, while positioned at two locations near the area, the SMM heard 73 explosions (three impacts of mortar rounds and 70 undetermined explosions - 40 rounds of an SPG-9 recoilless rifle, 25

---

<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.

mortar rounds and five explosions of an unknown weapon) as well as 200 bursts of heavy-machine-gun fire, all 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.

In violation of withdrawal lines, the Mission saw an anti-aircraft system in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the SMM saw two tanks in a government-controlled area of Donetsk region, in a residential area.

### **Indication of military and military-type presence in the security zone**

The SMM saw eight armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas, as well as three armoured combat vehicles in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including in a residential area. (For further information, see the table below.)

The Mission also saw an electronic warfare system (type undetermined) and a command vehicle (type undetermined) near Starohnativka (government-controlled, 51km south of Donetsk).

### **De-mining activities near Novoluhanske, Donetsk region**

Near the northern edge of Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km north-east of Donetsk), on both sides of a local road, the Mission saw about 1,000 wooden sticks (about 30cm high, partially painted red) assessed as related to local de-mining activities, some of which it assessed as recent and seen for the first time.

### **SMM facilitation of the operation and maintenance of critical civilian infrastructure**

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk).

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

In Donetsk region, the Mission observed 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 open, with people queuing to travel in both directions.

In Luhansk region, on 25 and 26 July, the Mission observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were open, with people queuing to travel in both directions.

On 26 July, 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**

The Mission also monitored areas near the border with the Russian Federation near Cheremshyne (59km south-east of Luhansk) and Provallia (60km south-east of Luhansk) and observed no change in the security situation.

The SMM 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 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 Coordination (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 26 July 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.*

#### Denials:

- At a checkpoint of the armed formations in Kozatske (non-government-controlled, 86km south of Donetsk), two members of the armed formations, one of whom visibly armed, denied the SMM passage north-east towards Porokhnia (non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk) on a paved road, directing them onto a secondary route, which is unpaved.
- At a checkpoint of the armed formations near Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage west towards Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk) and south towards Sakhanka (non-government-controlled, 97km south of Donetsk), citing “ongoing engineering works in the area”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing through.
- At a checkpoint of the armed formations near of Khreshchatytske (formerly Krasnoarmiiske, non-government-controlled, 86km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage west towards Verkhnohyrokiyske (formerly Oktiabr, non-government-controlled, 85km south of Donetsk), citing “the SMM's safety”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing through.

#### *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.

Delay:

- At a checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations allowed the SMM to proceed south towards government-controlled areas only after about 45 minutes of waiting, citing “technical issues with a database”. While at the checkpoint, the Mission observed civilian traffic passing through.

Other impediments:<sup>6</sup>

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over areas near Orlivka (government-controlled, 22km north-west of Donetsk).
- Two SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during three flights over areas near Mykolaivka (government-controlled, 40km south of Donetsk), during one flight over areas near Dokuchaievsk (non-government-controlled, 30km south-west of Donetsk), during one flight over areas near Varvarivka (government-controlled, 81km north-west of Donetsk) and during three flights over areas near Stepanivka (government-controlled, 54km north of Donetsk).

---

<sup>6</sup> For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interferences could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs’ positions.

## Tables of weapons

### Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
26/7/2021	1	Self-propelled anti-aircraft system (2K22 <i>Tunguska</i> )	Near Starohnativka (51km south of Donetsk)	Patrol

### Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
22/7/2021	2	Tank (T-64)	In a residential area of Memryk (33km north-west of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV

### **Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>7</sup>**

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Government-controlled areas</b>				
22/7/2021	5	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	In a compound near Zhelanne Druhe (29km north-west of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		
26/7/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near Starohnativka (51km south of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Electronic warfare system (type undetermined)		
	1	Command vehicle (type undetermined)		
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (type undetermined)	Near Nyzhnia Vilkhova (27km north-east of Luhansk)	
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
25/7/2021	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	In a residential area of Novohryhorivka (61km north-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-80)		
	1	Probable armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		

<sup>7</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 26 July 2021<sup>8</sup>**

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km SW of Donetsk)	1.5-3km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	25-Jul, 21:37
	1.5-3km SE	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	25-Jul, 21:44
	1.5-3km SE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SW to NE (assessed as inside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	25-Jul, 21:44
	3-5km SE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	25-Jul, 22:07
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	4-6km NNE	Recorded	3	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	25-Jul, 22:39
	4-6km N	Recorded	24	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	25-Jul, 22:39
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Jul, 23:20
	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Jul, 23:21
Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km W	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Jul, 20:15-20:23
	3-4km NW	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	25-Jul, 20:27-20:41
About 1.5km N of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk)	4-6km SW	Heard	30	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as inside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Jul, 10:21-10:30
	4-6km SSE	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	26-Jul, 11:53
About 2km E of Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	N/K	26-Jul, 10:08
	3-5km SE	Heard	200	Burst	Assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske	HMG	26-Jul, 10:08-10:30
	3-5km SE	Heard	7	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	Mortar (type N/K)	26-Jul, 10:08-10:30
	3-5km SE	Heard	40	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	Recoilless gun (SPG-9, 73mm)	26-Jul, 10:08-10:30
	3-5km SE	Heard	3	Explosion	Impact (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	Mortar (type N/K)	26-Jul, 10:40
	4-5km SE	Heard	10	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	Mortar (type N/K)	26-Jul, 10:52-10:58
	3-5km SE	Heard		Shot	Uncountable	Small arms	26-Jul, 10:08-10:30

<sup>8</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
	3-5km SE	Heard	8	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Petrivske)	Mortar (type N/K)	26-Jul, 11:14- 11:45
About 1km WSW of Svobodne (non-government-controlled, 73km south of Donetsk)	3km NNE	Heard	21	Burst		HMG	26-Jul, 11:20- 11:30
	3km NNE	Heard	23	Shot		Small arms	26-Jul, 11:20- 11:30
	3km NNE	Heard	2	Explosion		Recoilless gun (SPG- 9, 73mm)	26-Jul, 11:20- 11:30

### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>9</sup>



<sup>9</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).