

# Daily Report 209/2021

7 September 2021<sup>1</sup>

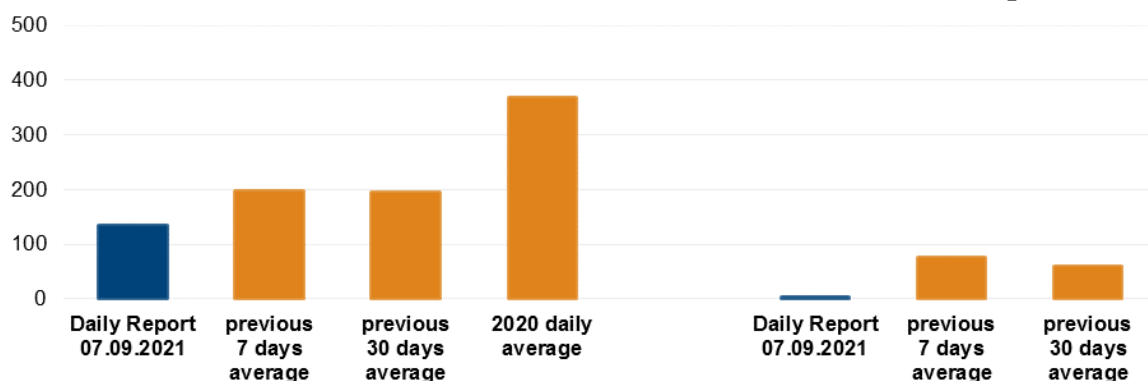
## Summary

- In Donetsk region, the Mission recorded 114 ceasefire violations, including three explosions. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 96 ceasefire violations in the region.
- In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation, an explosion. In the previous 24 hours, it recorded 31 ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localized ceasefires to enable the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at four entry-exit checkpoints and three corresponding checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM visited two border crossing points outside government control and monitored areas near the border with the Russian Federation in Donetsk region.
- The Mission monitored a gathering in Kyiv.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at two checkpoints of the armed formations in southern Donetsk region. Its unmanned aerial vehicles again experienced multiple instances of GPS signal interference. \*

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

### Number of recorded ceasefire violations<sup>3</sup>

### Number of recorded explosions<sup>4</sup>



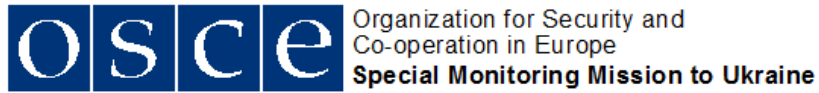
<sup>1</sup> Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 6 September 2021. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

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

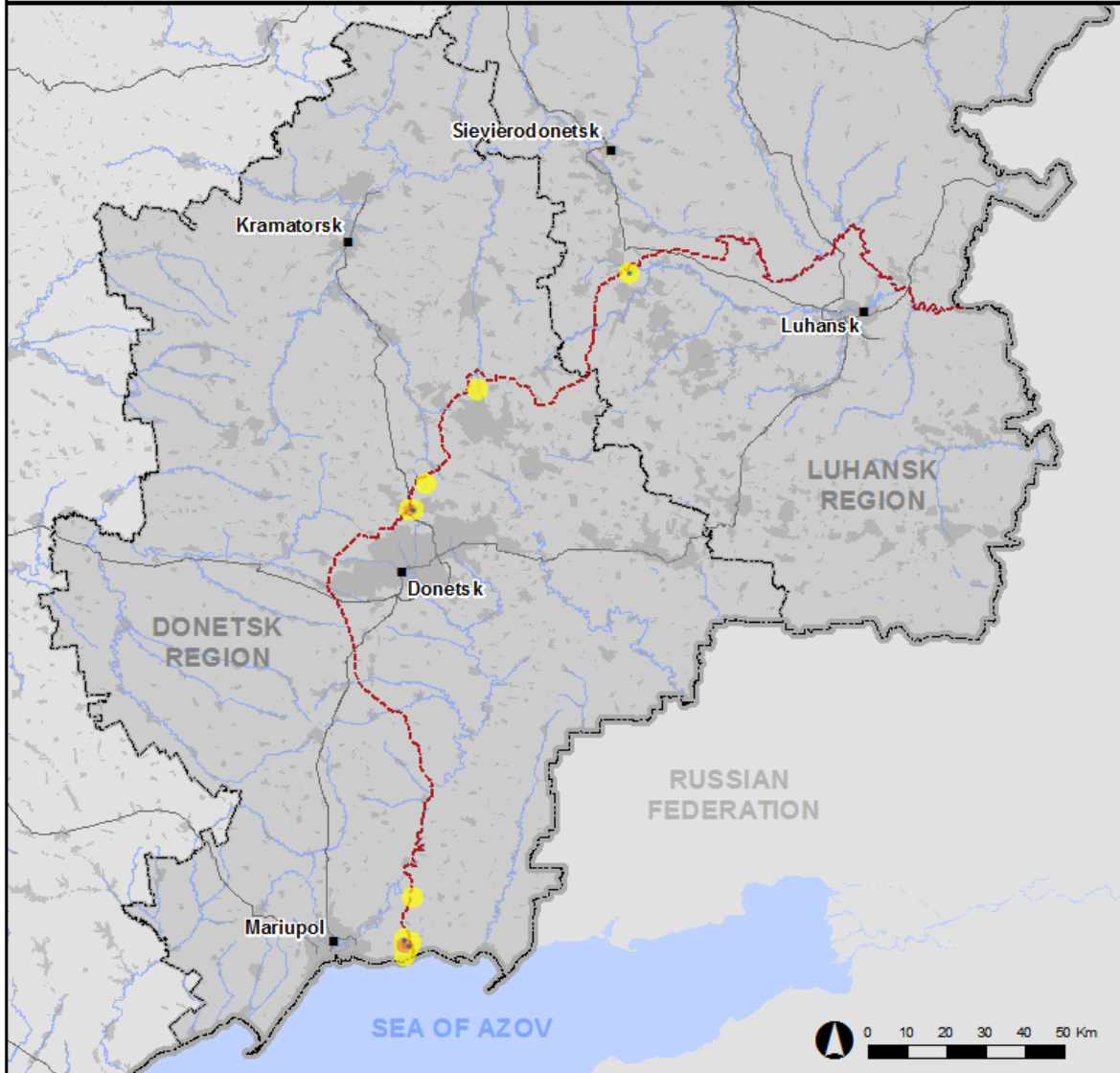
<sup>3</sup> Including explosions.

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

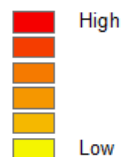
### Map of recorded ceasefire violations



## Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 6 September 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.

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Created: 07/09/2021

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 114 ceasefire violations, including three explosions (one impact and two undetermined). Almost all ceasefire violations occurred in areas north of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km south of Donetsk) and south of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk), on the night of 5-6 September. In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 96 ceasefire violations.

In Luhansk region, the SMM recorded one ceasefire violation, an undetermined explosion in an area east of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous 24 hours](#), the Mission recorded 31 ceasefire violations, the majority of which also occurred near the same disengagement area.

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 54,269 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 15,606 explosions, 10,738 projectiles in flight, 270 muzzle flashes, 221 illumination flares and at least 27,434 bursts and shots).

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

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the Mission saw two 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).

An SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over the disengagement area.\*

During the day on 6 September, while positioned on the north-eastern edge of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km west of Luhansk), the Mission heard one undetermined explosion at an assessed range of 4-5km north-west, assessed as outside the **disengagement area near Zolote** but within 5km of its periphery.

The SMM again saw the seven previously observed containers located south of the disengagement area’s southern edge and inside the area, as well as a previously reported underground structure inside the area.

Near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw five members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them).

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

### 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.

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<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.

In violation of withdrawal lines, the Mission observed 13 tanks and three howitzers, all in a training area in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region. (For further information, see the table below.)

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

The SMM saw eight armoured combat vehicles, all in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk region, in a compound near a residential area and in a training area. (For further information, see the table below.)

### **Presence of anti-tank mines near non-government-controlled Spartak and Lohvynove, Donetsk region**

On 3 September, about 1.5km north-north-east of the northern edge of Spartak (non-government-controlled, 9km north of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted 35 previously reported anti-tank mines laid across a local road, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 31 March 2021](#).)

On 5 September, at three locations about 3.5km north-west of Lohvynove (non-government-controlled, 59km north-east of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV spotted 28 previously reported anti-tank mines laid across road E-40, assessed as belonging to the armed formations. (For previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 19 March 2021](#).)

### **SMM facilitation - the operation and repair of critical civilian infrastructure**

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

The SMM also monitored adherence to a localized ceasefire to enable repairs to the roof of a sewage treatment plant near Novoluhanske (government-controlled, 53km north-east 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 traffic passing through in both directions. Near and inside the EECP, the SMM also saw a convoy of 24 covered cargo trucks and two cars, all with the flag of a European country attached to the front, waiting to move towards non-government-controlled areas. (For previous observations, see [SMM Daily Report of 6 September 2021](#).)

In Luhansk region, the SMM observed that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was open, with people queueing to travel in both directions.

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.

### **Border areas outside government control**

While at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk) for about 15 minutes, the Mission observed ten cars (including eight with “DPR” plates), three minibuses (including two with “DPR” plates, all carrying passengers of mixed genders and ages) and 30 people (15 women and 14 men, mixed ages, and one girl, about six years old) entering Ukraine.<sup>6</sup> During the same time, it also saw six cars (including four with “DPR” plates), two covered cargo trucks and 12 people (five women and five men, mixed ages, and a girl and a boy, about seven years old) exiting Ukraine.

While at a border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk) for about 35 minutes, the SMM observed one man (in his sixties) exiting Ukraine.

The SMM also monitored areas near the border with the Russian Federation close to Vilkhivchyk (formerly Novopetrivske, 78km east of Donetsk) and Manych (76km east of Donetsk) and observed no change in the security situation.

### **Gathering in Kyiv**

In Kyiv, in front of the Embassy of the Russian Federation at 27 Povitroflotskyi Avenue, the Mission saw 120 people (mixed genders and ages), some of whom were holding banners critical of the government of the Russian Federation and of recent events relating to the detention of a number of Crimean Tatars. The SMM observed the presence of eight law enforcement officers and a calm situation.

The Mission continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro and Chernivtsi.

### **\*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 1 September 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 near Nova Marivka (non-government-controlled, 64km south of Donetsk), an armed member of the armed formations denied the SMM passage south towards

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<sup>6</sup> According to decisions in 2014 by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, operations are officially designated as suspended at these and other border crossing points located outside government control.

Shevchenko (non-government-controlled, 69km south of Donetsk), citing “the Mission’s safety”. While at the checkpoint, the SMM saw civilian traffic passing through.

- At a checkpoint near Zaichenko (non-government-controlled, 93km south of Donetsk), two armed members of the armed formations denied the SMM passage south-west towards Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk), citing “engineering works in the area” and “the Mission’s safety”.

*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:<sup>7</sup>

- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during one flight over areas near Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk).
- SMM mini-UAVs experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, during ten flights: three times over Sentianivka (formerly Frunze, non-government-controlled, 44km west of Luhansk), and once over the disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), over Stanytsia Luhanska, and over areas near Malynove (government-controlled, 19km north-east of Luhansk), Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), Tsvitni Pisky (non-government-controlled, 11km north of Luhansk), Khoroshe (non-government-controlled, 36km west of Luhansk) and Petrovenky (non-government-controlled, 40km west of Luhansk) respectively.

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<sup>7</sup> For cases of probable jamming and jamming mentioned in this section, the interferences could have originated from anywhere within the radius of tens of kilometres from the UAVs’ positions.

## Table of weapons

### Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
5/9/2021	3	Self-propelled howitzer (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	In a training area near Novoselivka (37km north-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	13	Tank (probable T-72)		

### **Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone<sup>8</sup>**

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
<b>Non-government-controlled areas</b>				
5/9/2021	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	In a compound near a residential area in Debaltseve (58km north-east of Donetsk)	Mini-UAV
	7	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	In a training area near Novoselivka (37km north-east of Donetsk)	

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

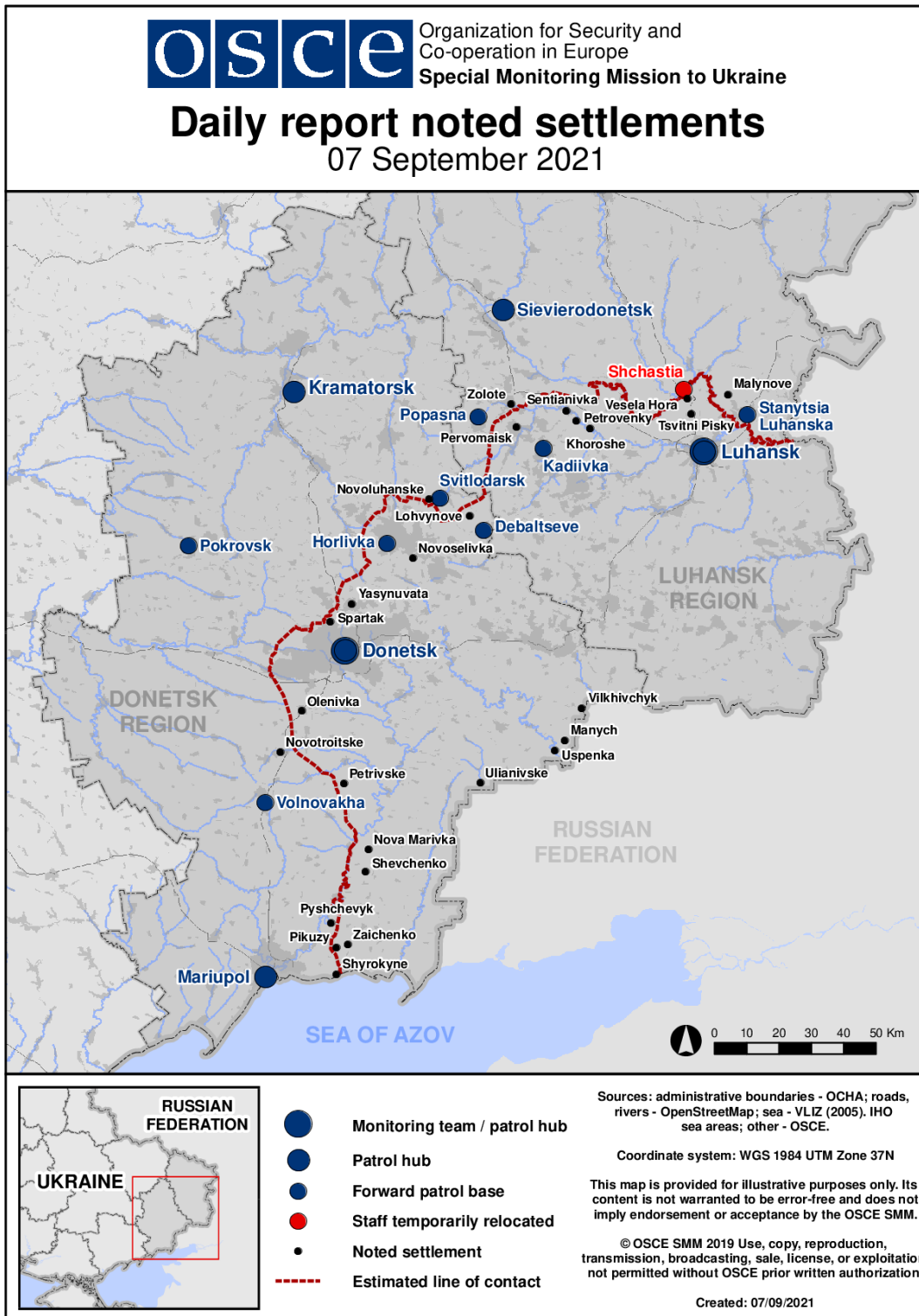
**Table of ceasefire violations as of 6 September 2021<sup>9</sup>**

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	1-2km S	Recorded	4	Projectile	W to E	N/K	6-Sep, 01:00
	1-2km S	Recorded	8	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	6-Sep, 01:00
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	5	Projectile	In vertical flight, also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka	N/K	6-Sep, 01:28
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	6-Sep, 01:28
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	3	Projectile	W to E	N/K	6-Sep, 01:28
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	2	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	6-Sep, 01:32
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	2	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	6-Sep, 01:44
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight, also recorded by the SMM camera in Avdiivka	N/K	6-Sep, 01:52
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	WNW to ESE	N/K	6-Sep, 03:46
	1-2km SSW	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	6-Sep, 03:47
	1-2km SSE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact, subsequent to previous event	N/K	6-Sep, 03:47
SMM camera 1.5km NE of Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km S of Donetsk)	4-5km E	Recorded	6	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	5-Sep, 23:39
SMM camera at entry-exit checkpoint in Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km NE of Donetsk)	3-5km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	6-Sep, 01:47
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	4-6km N	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	5-Sep, 21:12
	2-5km N	Recorded	20	Projectile	ESE to WNW	N/K	5-Sep, 22:19
	2-5km N	Recorded	9	Projectile	W to E	N/K	5-Sep, 22:19
	2-5km N	Recorded	8	Projectile	W to E	N/K	5-Sep, 22:20
	2-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	5-Sep, 22:22
	2-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	5-Sep, 22:27
	2-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	5-Sep, 23:22
	2-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	5-Sep, 23:23
	2-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	W to E	N/K	5-Sep, 23:59
	2-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	WSW to ENE	N/K	6-Sep, 00:01
	2-5km N	Recorded	7	Projectile	W to E	N/K	6-Sep, 00:06
	2-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	6-Sep, 00:07
	2-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	6-Sep, 00:09
	2-5km N	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E	N/K	6-Sep, 00:10
	2-5km N	Recorded	8	Projectile	E to W	N/K	6-Sep, 01:04
	3-6km NNE	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	6-Sep, 03:26
	2-5km N	Recorded	4	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	6-Sep, 03:27
	2-5km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight	N/K	6-Sep, 04:00
About 2.5km SE of Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km S of Donetsk)	2-4km ESE	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	6-Sep, 13:17
Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	1km NNW	Heard	1	Shot		Small arms	6-Sep, 13:35
NE edge of Pervomaisk (non-government-controlled, 58km W of Luhansk)	4-5km NW	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area near Zolote)	N/K	6-Sep, 15:40

<sup>9</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.



### Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions<sup>10</sup>



<sup>10</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).