



Daily Report 285/2020

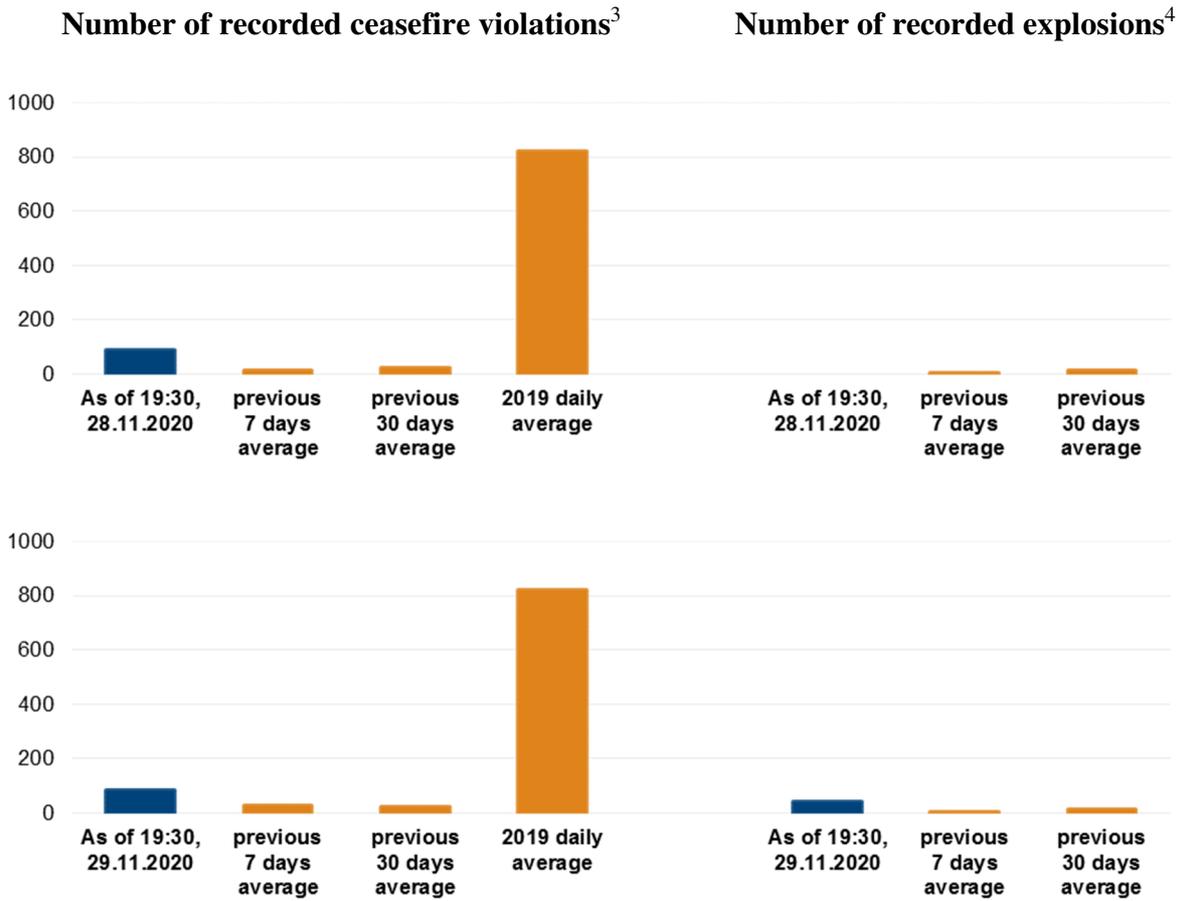
30 November 2020¹

Summary

- Between the evenings of 27 and 29 November, the SMM recorded 76 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded 24 ceasefire violations in the region.
- Between the evenings of 27 and 29 November, the SMM recorded 87 ceasefire violations in Luhansk region. In the previous reporting period, it recorded five ceasefire violations in the region.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. During daytime hours, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle spotted two people inside the Petrivske disengagement area.
- The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable maintenance to and the operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians, including at six entry-exit checkpoints and five checkpoints of the armed formations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The SMM observed a calm situation in south-east Kherson region.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted, including at a permanent storage site in a non-government controlled area of Donetsk region.*

¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 29 November 2020. All times are in Eastern European Time.

Ceasefire violations²



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

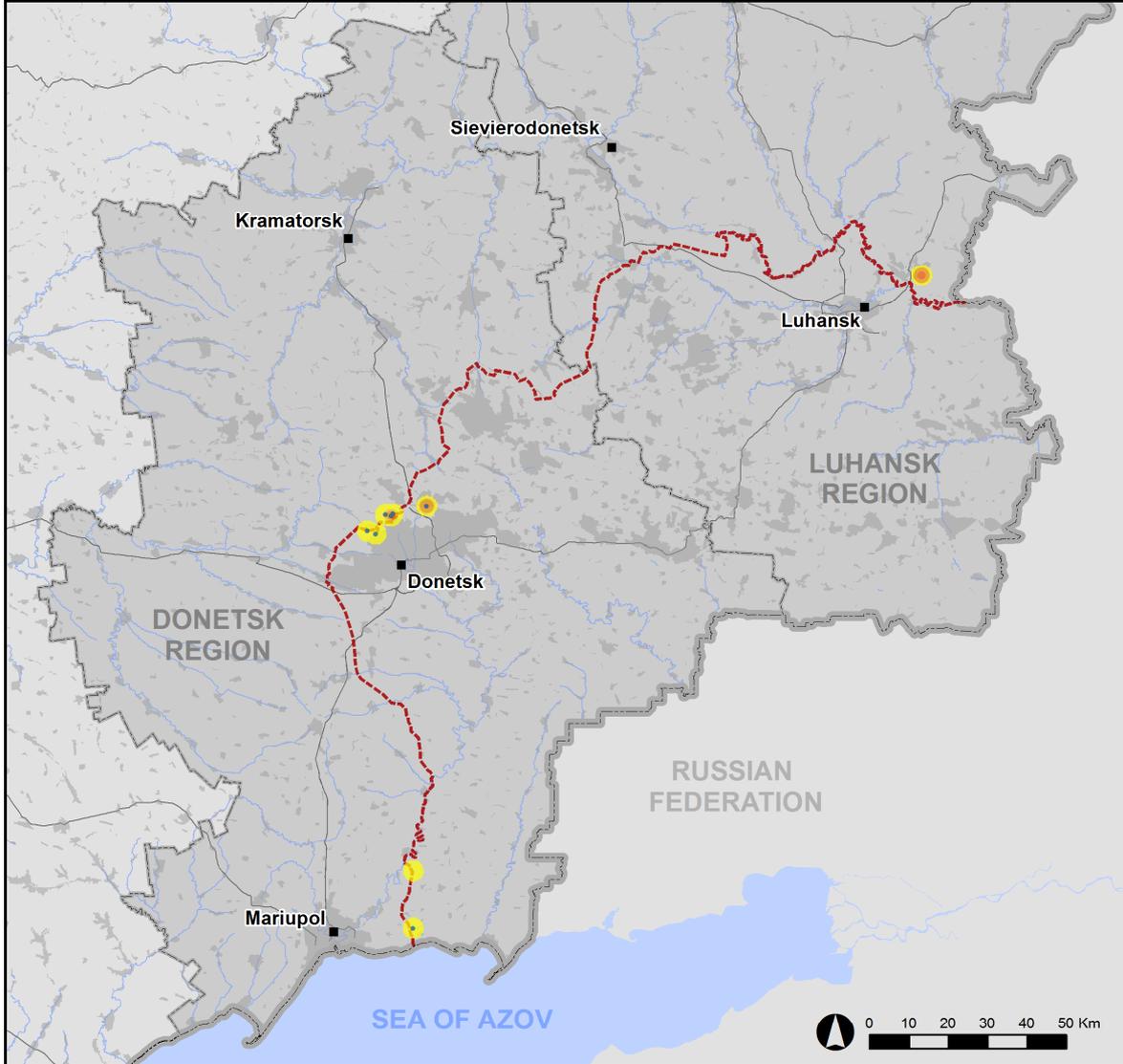
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



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

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 28-29 November 2020



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: 30/11/2020

In Donetsk region, between the evenings of 27 and 29 November, the SMM recorded 76 ceasefire violations, the majority of which occurred on the morning of 29 November, including nine outgoing explosions, at southerly directions of the Donetsk Filtration Station (DFS) (15km north of Donetsk) (see below) and 25 undetermined explosions in areas south of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded 24 ceasefire violations in the region.

In Luhansk region, between the evenings of 27 and 29 November, the SMM recorded 87 ceasefire violations, all shots of small-arms fire which occurred on the night of 28-29 November in areas south-east of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk) (see below). In the [previous reporting period](#), the Mission recorded five 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 2,756 ceasefire violations in both Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 1,064 explosions, 83 projectiles in flight, 33 muzzle flashes, 27 illumination flares and 1,549 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

During the night of 27-28 November, the SMM recorded 87 ceasefire violations, all shots of small-arms fire in areas south-east of Stanytsia Luhanska, assessed as outside of the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska**, but within 5km of its periphery.

On 29 November, inside the disengagement area, the Mission saw members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) south of the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

On 28 and 29 November, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), the SMM saw members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), some of whom walked inside the area to about 350m north of its southern edge and then returned

On the day of 26 November, inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted two people inside a former position of the armed formations near the area’s south-eastern corner.

On 28 November, while positioned on the western edge of Petrivske, the Mission saw six visibly armed men in military-style clothing with assault rifles (AK-type), walking west on road C-051532 towards the area. On the same day, while positioned about 1.8km north of Petrivske, the Mission observed a white utility vehicle on road C-051532 about 80m north-north-west of the disengagement area’s north-eastern corner, assessed as outside the area.

On 29 November, while positioned at three locations near the disengagement area, 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.

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites, the Mission saw 24 tanks and four surface-to-air missile systems at three railway stations in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region (for further information, see the table below).

Weapons permanent storage sites*

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

29 November

The Mission noted that 13 tanks (nine T-72 and four T-64) remained missing.

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

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles and anti-aircraft guns in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (for further information, see the table below).

On 29 November, the SMM spotted an armoured vehicle moving north towards the SMM camera at the DFS.

Mine hazard sign near Verkhnotoretske and demining activities near Marinka, Donetsk region

On 28 November, the SMM saw for the first time a mine hazard sign (a white wooden board with “Danger! Mines!” written in Russian and English) on the western edge of a road in Verkhnotoretske (government-controlled, 23km north-east of Donetsk).

On the same day, about 20m north of road H-15 and about 1.5km south-west of Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), the SMM again saw four de-miners of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine using metal detectors in a field on the southern edge of Marinka.

SMM facilitation of maintenance to and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

On 28 November, the Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable demining of agricultural fields near government-controlled Hirske (63km west of Luhansk), Orikhove (57km north-west of Luhansk) and Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk).

On 28 and 29 November, the SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable railway inspection, maintenance and vegetation clearance near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk).

On both days, the Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the DFS. On 29 November, while positioned at one location near the Station, the Mission recorded 46 ceasefire violations, including nine outgoing explosions, within a 5km radius of the station.

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

Situation at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints

In Donetsk region, on 28 November, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoints (EECPs) near Marinka and Hnutove (government-controlled, 90km south of Donetsk) were operational, but did not observe any civilian traffic. On both days, it observed that the EECP near Maiorsk (government-controlled, 45km north-east of Donetsk) was operational, but did not observe any civilian traffic.

On 29 November, the SMM saw that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk) was closed. On 28 and 29 November, it further saw that the checkpoint of the armed formations near Kremiets (non-government-controlled, 16km south-west of Donetsk) was also closed.

In Luhansk region, on both days, the Mission noted that the EECP near Stanytsia Luhanska was operational, with pedestrian traffic passing through in both directions.

On 29 November, the Mission noted that the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge was operational, with pedestrian traffic passing through in both directions.

On both days, the Mission noted that the EECPs near Zolote and Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk) were operational 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 remained closed.

Border areas outside government control

On 28 and 29 November, while at a border crossing point near Uspenka (73km south-east of Donetsk), for about an hour and a half, the Mission observed 21 cars (including 20 with “DPR” plates), 14 covered cargo trucks (including seven with “DPR” plates), a bus with “DPR” plates and 39 pedestrians (22 women and 17 men, mixed ages) entering Ukraine. It also observed 13 cars, four covered cargo trucks, two buses, and a minivan, all with “DPR” plates, and 39 pedestrians (26 women and 13 men, mixed ages) exiting Ukraine.

Also on both days, while at a border crossing point near Ulianivske (61km south-east of Donetsk), for about an hour, the SMM observed four pedestrians (two women and one man, mixed ages, and one child) entering Ukraine, as well as three pedestrians (two women and one man, mixed ages) exiting Ukraine.

SMM observed a calm situation in south-east Kherson region

On 27 November, the SMM observed a calm situation at checkpoints near Kalanchak (67km south-east of Kherson) and Chaplynka (77km south-east of Kherson) in south-east Kherson region.

The SMM continued monitoring in Dnipro, Lviv, Odessa, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, 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. 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:

- On 29 November, the SMM was not able to access a permanent storage site in a non-government-controlled area of Donetsk region as its gate was locked and no guards were present to open it.

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:

- On 28 November, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Kashtanove (non-government-controlled, 13km north of Donetsk).
- On the same day, an SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Uzhivka (formerly Leninske, non-government-controlled, 96km south of Donetsk).
- On 29 November, an SMM mini-UAV twice experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Kashtanove.⁷

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

Table of weapons

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapons	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
27/11/2020	2	Tank (T-64)	At a railway station in Kostiantynivka (60km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
28/11/2020	10			Patrol
	4	Surface-to-air missile system (9K37)	At a railway station in Bakhmut (formerly Artemivsk, 67km north of Donetsk)	
	12	Tank (T-64)	At a railway station in Pokrovsk (formerly Krasnoarmiisk, 55km north-west of Donetsk)	

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

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
27/11/2020	2	Anti-aircraft gun (2A13 ZU-23, 23mm)	In a residential area of Nyzhnie (56km north-west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)		
	3	Probable armoured combat vehicle		
28/11/2020	8	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	Near Romanivka (41km north of Donetsk)	Patrol
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	Near Novoselivka (31km north of Donetsk)	
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)		
	1	Combat engineering vehicle (BAT-2)	Near Vrubivka (72km west of Luhansk)	

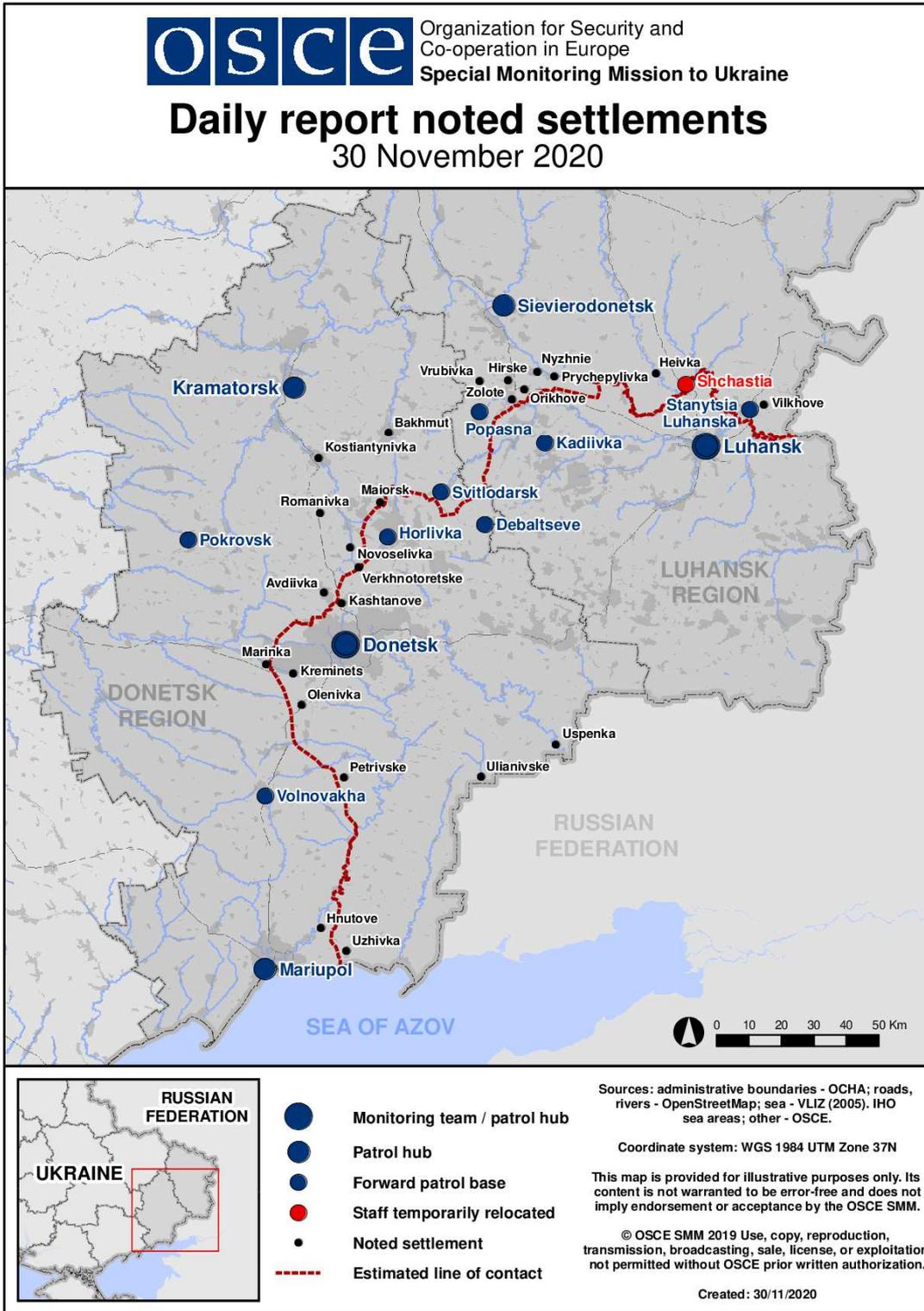
⁸ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 29 November 2020⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
E edge of Stanytsia Luhanska (government-controlled, 16km NE of Luhansk)	2-5km ESE	Heard	87	Shot	Assessed as outside the disengagement area	Small arms	28-Nov, 01:47-02:10
SMM camera in Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km S of Donetsk)	3-7km SSE	Recorded	2	Projectile	SW to NE	N/K	28-Nov, 20:38
SMM camera at Oktiabr mine (non-government-controlled, 9km NW of Donetsk city centre)	3-5km W	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Nov, 23:14
	1-3km WSW	Recorded	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	28-Nov, 23:29
SMM camera 1km SW of Shyrokyne (government-controlled, 100km S of Donetsk)	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Muzzle flash		N/K	28-Nov, 23:18
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Projectile	W to E (subsequent to previous event)	N/K	28-Nov, 23:18
	5-7km NNE	Recorded	1	Explosion	Impact. Subsequent to previous event	N/K	28-Nov, 23:18
About 700m WSW of Yasynuvata railway station (non-government-controlled, 16km NE of Donetsk)	1-3km ESE	Heard	9	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	29-Nov, 09:56
	1-3km ESE	Heard	7	Burst		Small arms	29-Nov, 10:00-10:06
	1-3km ESE	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	29-Nov, 10:12-10:15
	1-3km ESE	Heard	7	Burst		Small arms	29-Nov, 10:12-10:15
	1-3km ESE	Heard	6	Shot		Small arms	29-Nov, 10:15-10:30
	1-3km ESE	Heard	1	Burst		Small arms	29-Nov, 10:15-10:30
	1-3km ESE	Heard	10	Shot		Small arms	29-Nov, 10:32-10:35
About 1.5km SSE of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km S	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	29-Nov, 10:58-11:03
About 2km S of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km N of Donetsk)	3-5km S	Heard	11	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	29-Nov, 11:05-11:08
	3-5km SSW	Heard	4	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	29-Nov, 11:40-11:50
	3-5km S	Heard	6	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	29-Nov, 11:40-11:50

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).