

# CROSSING THE CONTACT LINE:

## October 2019 Snapshot

- The movement across the contact line at Stanytsia Luhanska EECP\* was suspended on October 11 around 12:00 due to a bomb threat call. Police and SES staff immediately evacuated civilians from the EECP, its service zones and the objects listed in the call. No explosive objects were found in the thorough inspection. The EECP resumed operation after 15:00.
- On October 28 the CMU Resolution №815 was postponed for 30 days due to the concerns it raised among civilians and humanitarian actors. According to the Resolution, children under the age of 14 must have international passports to cross the contact line.
- Individuals applying to the CG representative at Marinka EECP complained that they applied for a permit in early summer, however their permits cannot be found in SBGS data base. It was reported that an error occurred in a file, damaging the data for June and July, so some of these permits are not displayed in SBGS data base. Such people have to re-apply to the CG representatives.
- The disaggregation of concerns expressed by respondents remained the same, however the share of respondents who did not indicate any concerns sharply increased at all EECPs except Novotroitske.
- On October 17 the second electric vehicle launched by UNHCR partner Proliska started providing free transportation services between the “zero” checkpoints at “Stanytsia Luhanska” EECP for the most vulnerable categories of people. In the reporting period 18,214 beneficiaries received transportation support. Out of them 94% are elderly persons with impaired mobility or disability, 3% - persons with children under 3 years old, 2% and 1% accompanying persons with disabilities and pregnant women respectively.

<sup>1</sup>The findings of the monitoring should not be directly extrapolated onto the entire population of NGCA residents and IDPs as not all of them are travelling through the contact line.

\*EECP – entry-exit crossing point

(N)GCA – (non-)government-controlled areas

CG – Coordination Group

SES – State Emergency Service

SBGS – State Border Guard Service

# 1,238,000 CROSSINGS



More statistical data are available on the Eastern Ukraine Checkpoint Monitoring Online Dashboard – [http://bit.ly/CP\\_Monitoring\\_2019](http://bit.ly/CP_Monitoring_2019)



**2,352**  
Individuals surveyed by R2P in October<sup>1</sup>



### Additional bus and electric car routes

were launched at Stanytsia Luhanska on October 17 by Luhansk Oblast Administration and UNHCR in partnership with Proliska respectively.

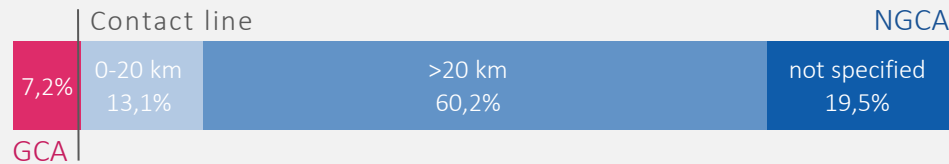


### Reconstruction

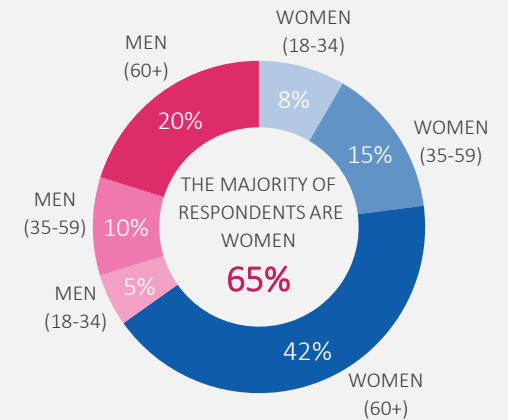
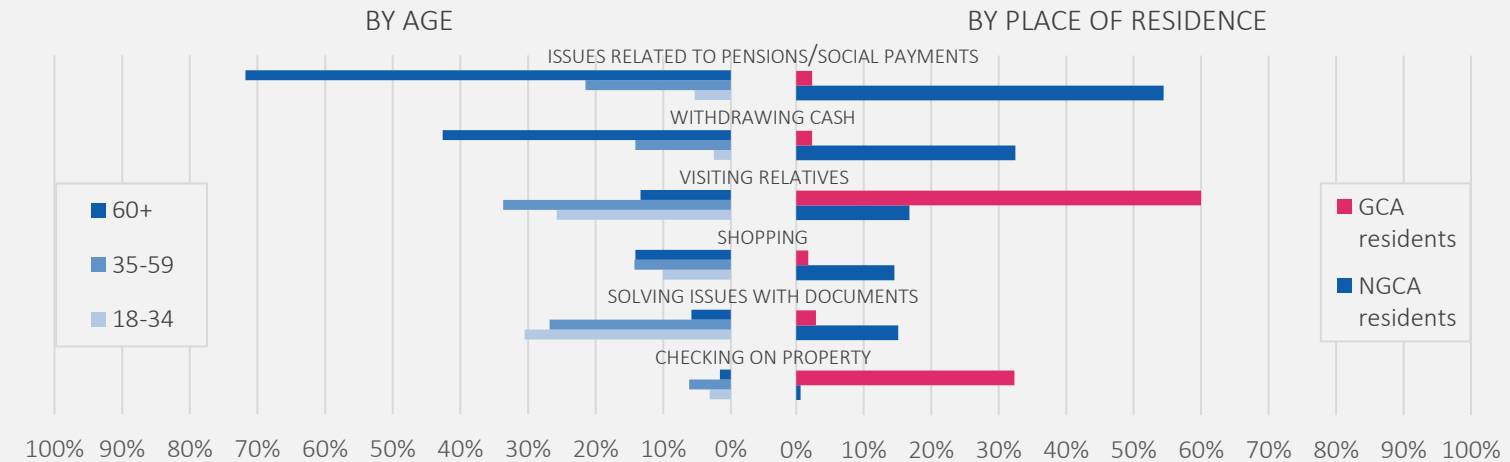
of the damaged bridge at Stanytsia Luhanska was still in progress by the end of October.

The share of respondents concerned about long lines significantly decreased at Stanytsia Luhanska (by 26%), Maiorske (18%) and Marinka (17%) EECPs.

## CURRENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE



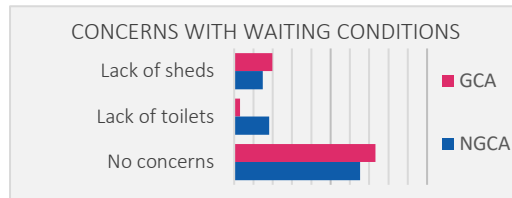
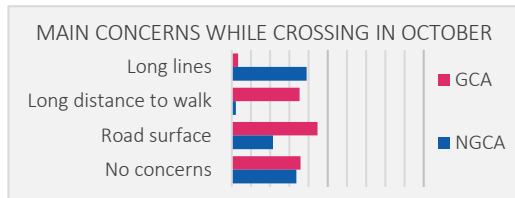
## MOST FREQUENT REASONS FOR CROSSING



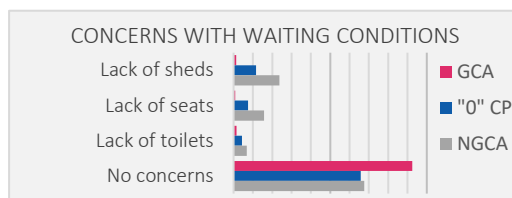
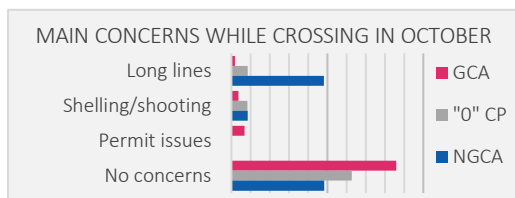
UNHCR and the NGO the Right to Protection (R2P) are grateful for the generous support provided by donors, including the European Union's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO); the Governments of Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom (DFID), the United States of America (PRM) as well as Private Citizens who are contributing funds through different UNHCR private associations such as España con ACNUR of Spain and the UNO Flüchtlingshilfe of Germany.

## CONCERNS AND DURATION OF CROSSING

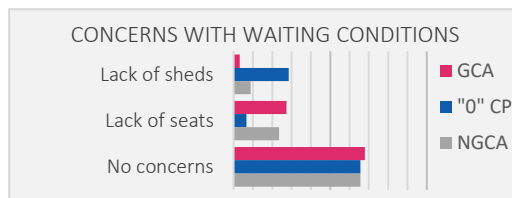
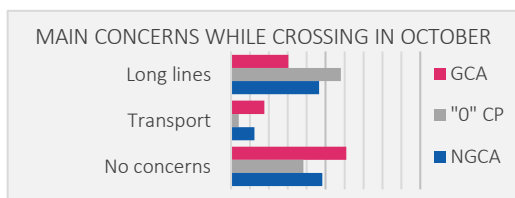
### HNUTOVE



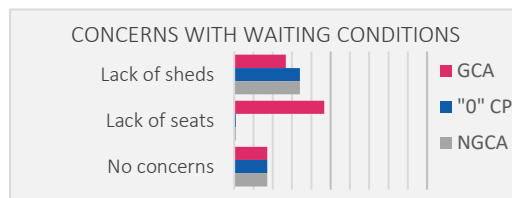
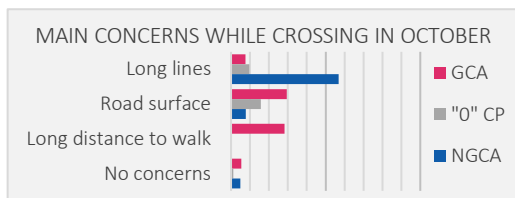
### MAIORSKE



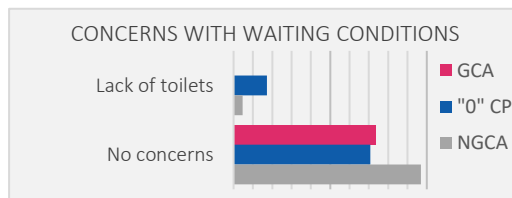
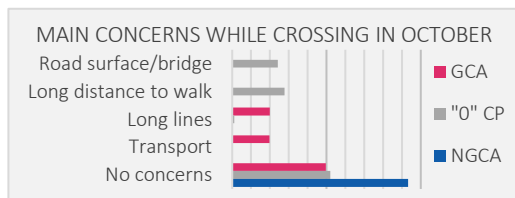
### MARINKA



### NOVOTROITSKE



### STANYTSIA LUHANSKA



## INCIDENTS AT EECPS

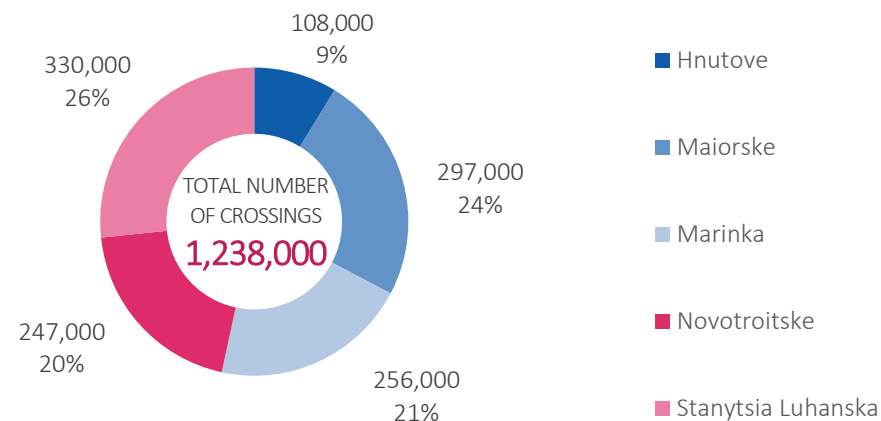
- A man at Stanytsia Luhanska EECP reported that he was approached by a person in civilian clothing and was told to show his personal belongings for an inspection. The person who conducted the inspection did not introduce himself and the man claimed to be afraid to ask.
- During the car inspection SBGS serviceman found a receipt from a gas station in Russian Federation. SBGS suspected that the car owners crossed the border illegally through NGCA. An administrative offence protocol was filed, and the car owners were denied crossing the contact line, so they had to return to NGCA.
- On October 15 during the visit to Maiorske EECP monitors met a man who was temporarily living in the SES tent. In December 2017 he was accused of spying in NGCA, arrested and recently released. He was waiting for the permit to cross the contact line. After the permit was issued, the man went to Zhytomyr oblast where he was originally from.

## ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- 77% of all respondents stated that the information provided at the EECP was sufficient, mostly at Stanytsia Luhanska (90%), Hnutove (89%) and Maiorske (88%) EECPs.
- The lowest number of the respondents who stated that their information needs were satisfied was observed at Novotroitske (55%) EECP.
- 56% of all respondents were not aware of any mechanism for raising complaints regarding the functioning of governmental entities and/or NGOs.

## NUMBER OF CROSSINGS<sup>2</sup>

The number of crossings increased by **54,000** in comparison to the previous month. Compared to the previous year (October 2018), the number of crossing decreased by **6,000**.



<sup>2</sup>General statistics on crossings are available at the UNHCR dashboard visualizing data from the State Border Guard Service. <https://goo.gl/TZbU8c>