German Foreign Minister Sees Reduced Violence in Ukraine

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German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier.

Violence in eastern Ukraine has reduced significantly since a cease-fire deal was agreed in Minsk, Germany's Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said on Monday during a visit to Romania.

"A clear beginning was made," he said, according to a Romanian interpreter. "There's a significant reduction of violence after hardships at the beginning. Today, we don't have hundreds of breaches of the cease-fire, there are not many question marks regarding it."

Russia and Ukraine have agreed to double the number of OSCE observers to 1,000 from 500 to monitor a cease-fire in eastern Ukraine, Steinmeier had said on Friday.

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