# Scottish CND AGM

## November 14, 2026

# NORDIC SITUATION OVERVIEW

Naiset Rauhan Puolesta

*Women for Peace - Finland*

**Ulla Klötzer**

- **Women for Peace – Finland**
- **Active in Global Women for Peace United Against NATO – GWUAN**

Global Women for Peace United Against NATO


Iceland
Norway
Finland
Sweden
Denmark

# Finland’s NATO-membership April 2023 - NATO's border to Russia doubled - 1.300 km (830 m)

## As NATO member, Finland could have nuclear weapons 965 km (600 m) from Kremlin



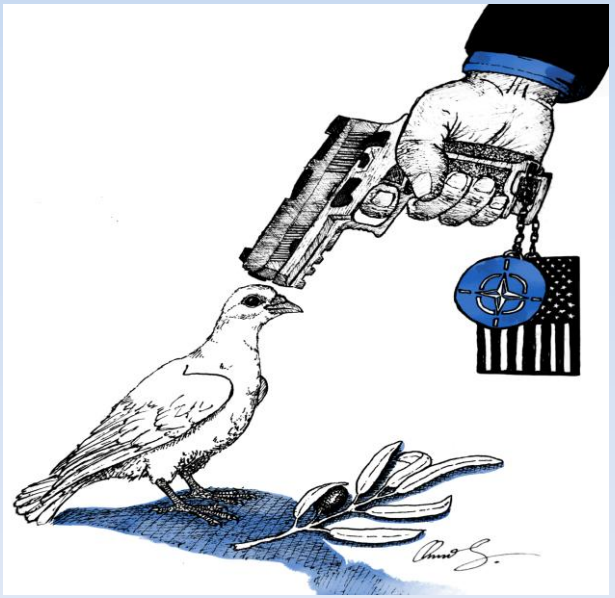
- **Denmark and Norway – founding members of NATO -** April 1949 - 8 countries – 32 countries 2026

- **Finland becme the 31st NATO member April 2023** – no open and honest debate about obligations, consequences, nuclear weapons.

  The political elite used the

  **Ukraine war as a trigger**

- **Sweden joined March 2024**



## MIKKELI – HQ Northern European Ground Forces

- (Decision 2024 - Completion by the end of 2027)
- Under Joint Force Command Norfolk/Virginia
- Staff members from Finland + various allies. Aim ab. 50 people in peacetime.
- **Ab. 100 km from Russian border**

## ROVANIEMI – HQ (FLF) Forward Land Forces

- Half of tasks shared by Finnish and Swedish personnel. Rest done by other NATO countries.




- FLF troops stationed from time to time ab. thousand soldiers. More in exceptional circumstances

## MIKKELI – HQ Northern European Ground Forces

- (Decision 2024 - Completion by the end of 2027)
- Under Joint Force Command Norfolk/Virginia
- Staff members from Finland + various allies. Aim ab. 50 people in peacetime.
- **Ab. 100 km from Russian border**

## ROVANIEMI – HQ (FLF) Forward Land Forces

- Half of tasks shared by Finnish and Swedish personnel. Rest done by other NATO countries.




- FLF troops stationed from time to time ab. thousand soldiers. More in exceptional circumstances

## SWEDEN - 21.8.2025

- NATO to establish in **Enköping** a so-called **Joint Logistics Support Group Headquarters (JLSG HQ)**—under Joint Force Command Norfolk (JFC)
- Swedish battlegroup based in **Boden** supports FLF Finland




## DENMARK

- **2.7.2026 -** a new NATO signal battalion HQ headquarters will be located in **Haderslev**
- **3.7.2026** - Denmark command of NATO's regional special operations HQ for the Arctic and North Atlantic in **Aalborg**

## NORWAY

- **Joint Warfare Centre** (**JWC**) – NATO establishment HQ in **Stavanger**
- October 2025 - NATO opened Combined Air Operations Centre (CAOC) in **Bodø**

# 47 Nordic US bases - DCA

**Dec. 2023**

- **Finland 15**
  (border 1.340 km – 830 mi)
- **Sweden 17**
- **Norway 12**
  **With possibilities for more**
  **+ earlier installations**
- **Denmark 3**



# Kaliningrad and St.Petersburg isolated in the Baltic Sea = NATO lake

- **Used by approx. 2,500 civilian vessels per day. One of the world's busiest seaways**

- Shallow and crowded. **Can only be accessed through three narrow straits**



**Mainstream media – October 2026 – Kaliningrad**

**BBC – 1.10.26:**

- Putin warns West that **Russia is ready to use every weapon to protect Kaliningrad**
- even prepared to use **nuclear weapons** if the West tries to cut off Kaliningrad from the rest of Russia
- "not threatening anyone" merely **responding to statements by Western leaders that they are preparing for war in 2029 or 2030**

# STRATEGIC NORDIC SIGNALS TO RUSSIA

- **US F-35 fighter jets – capable of carrying nuclear weapons**
- **March 2025: For the first time as NATO Allies, Danish F-35 and Swedish JAS-39 Gripen fighter jets flew aerial combat training drills** in and around Danish airspace



- **FINLAND - February 2022: conctract for 64 US F-35 fighter jets** - 8,378 billion € + 2,920 billion € maintenance 2025-2023 – highly underestimated.

  **September 2026:** 2 F-35 delivered to Rovaniemi. Third remained stranded at **Lajes Air Base** in the Azores, Portugal, due to a minor avionics fault during startup.

  **Rest to be delivered by 2030**

- **DENMARK** has **15 F-35 fighter jets**
  **March 2025 news:** acquiring **8-10 more F-35**

- **NORWAY - April 2025:** now **operates 52 F-35**

**Source: Euronews, Atlas Institute**

**Baltic Sea countries**

1. **Poland**
2. **Lithuania**
3. **Latvia**
4. **Estonia**

5. **Norway**
6. **Denmark**
8. **Finland**
11. **Sweden**



# MAY 2025: RAIL NORDICA CROSS-BORDER RAILWAY PROJECT

- **The Nordic transport ministers -** Finland, Sweden, Norway **- signed a joint statement on military mobility and security of supply - NATO**

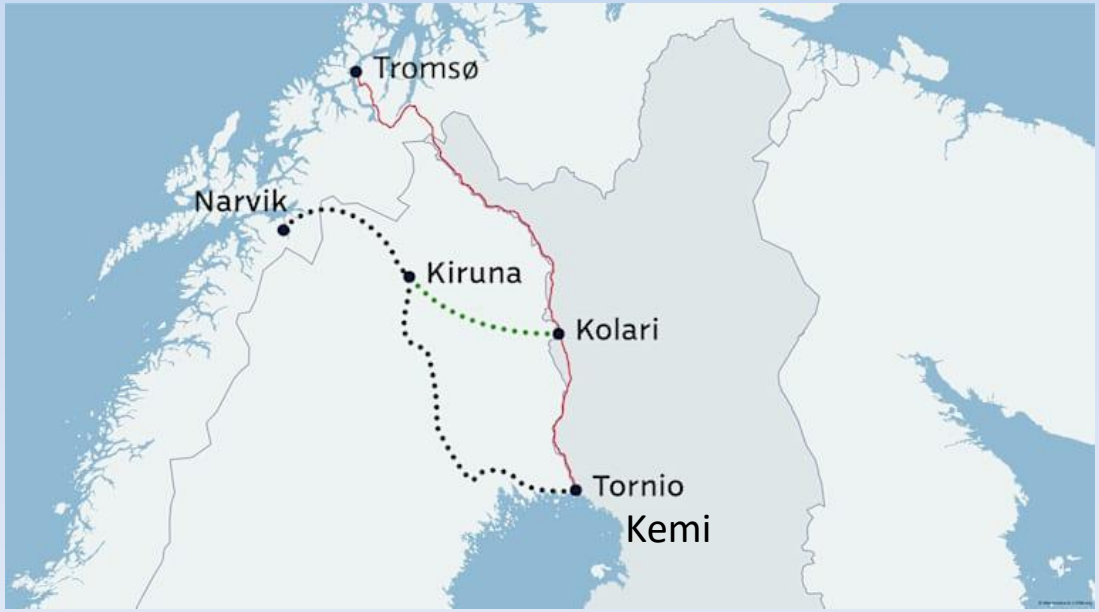
- **Finland's train tracks should be narrowed**

  - price tag could be as much as 1.5 billion

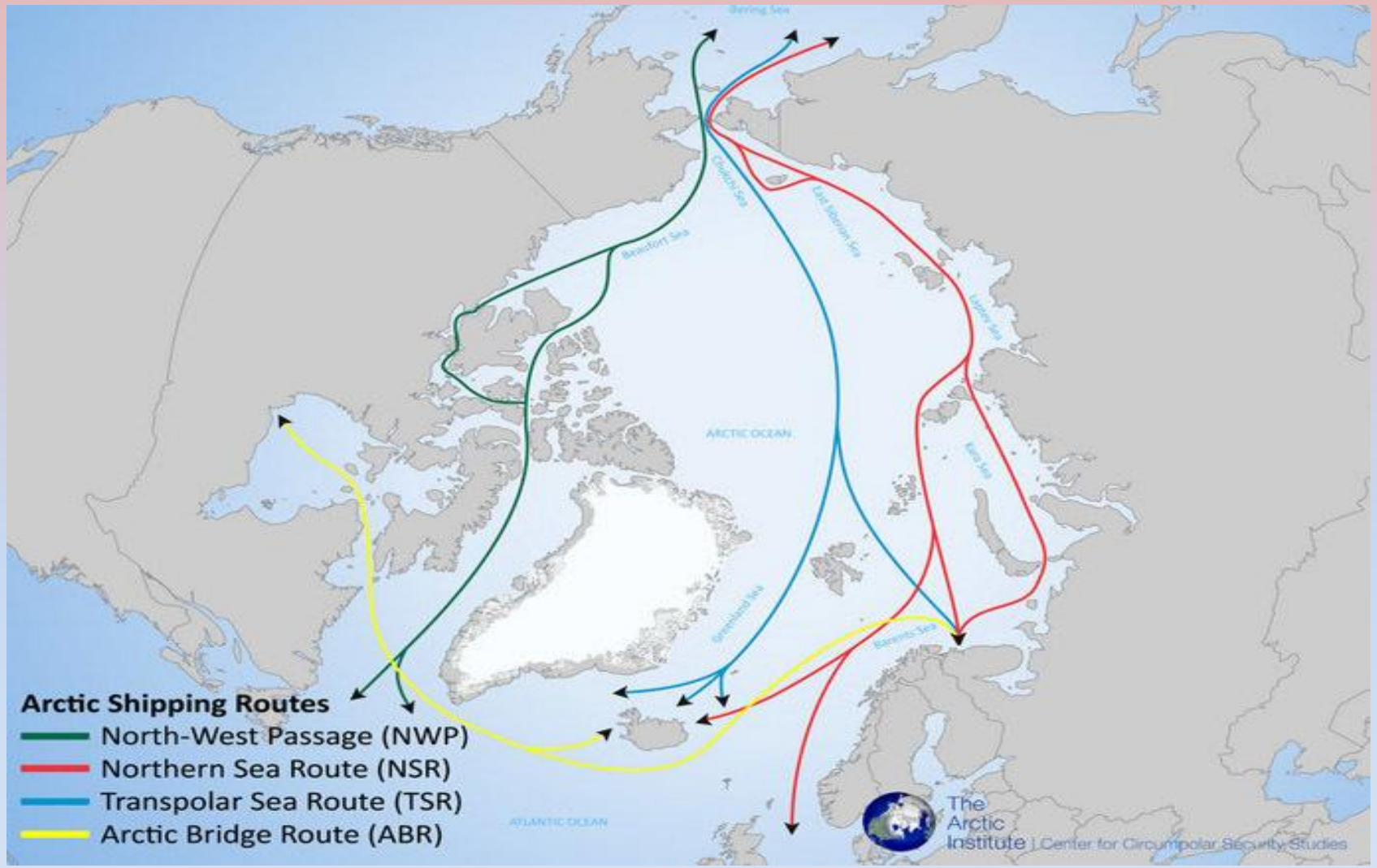
- Finnish tracks, inherited from the Russian period, are approx 90 millimeters wider than the European track gauge.

**April 2025:** Rail Nordica cross-border railway project Finland, Sweden, Norway

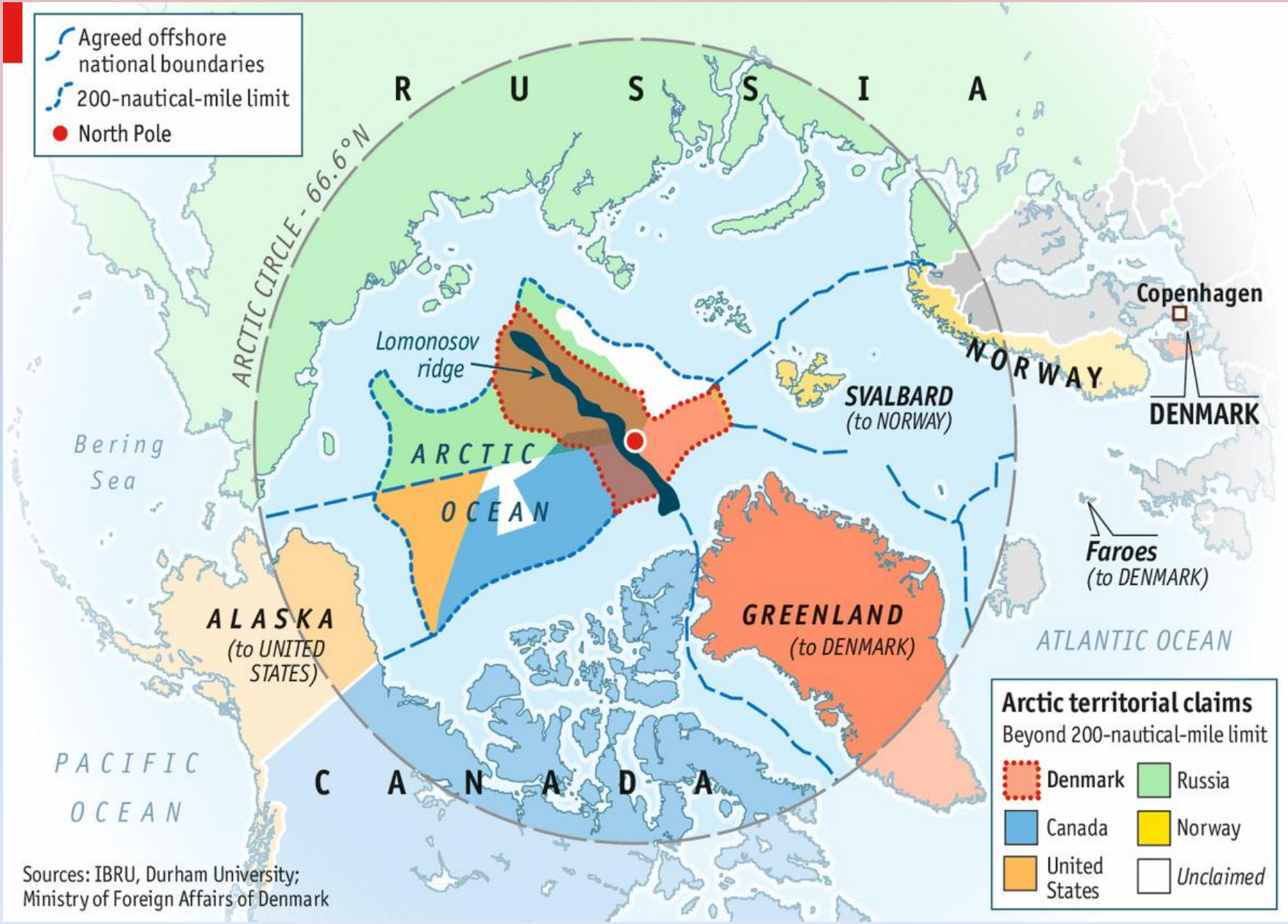
- **Close to Narvik** – **DCA – US military base**
- **Tromsø:** Olavsvern submarine base/cave able to **accommodate i.a. 3 US Seawolf submarines**
- **Kiruna**: **DCA – US military base**






**The latest scientific models suggest that a route directly via the North Pole may open as early as the 2040s**


Agreed offshore national boundaries
200-nautical-mile limit
North Pole
RUSSIA
ARCTIC CIRCLE - 66.6°N
Lomonosov ridge
ARCTIC OCEAN
SVALBARD (to NORWAY)
NORWAY
Copenhagen
DENMARK
Faroes (to DENMARK)
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Bering Sea
ALASKA (to UNITED STATES)
GREENLAND (to DENMARK)
PACIFIC OCEAN
CANADA
Arctic territorial claims
Beyond 200-nautical-mile limit
Denmark
Russia
Canada
Norway
United States
Unclaimed
Sources: IBRU, Durham University; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

# National Geographic – May 2022

## Estimations of oil and gas deposits in the Arctic

- **13% of the world's undiscovered petroleum resources**
- **30% of undiscovered natural gas resources**
- **rich in minerals**, such as nickel and copper ore.

  Mineral resources also include gemstones and rare earth elements, which are used in batteries, magnets, and scanners.

  Some of these mineral deposits are underground, while others are buried beneath the Arctic Ocean.

# LANDMINES ARE BACK

- January 2026 - **Finland's withdrawal from the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel landmines came into force**
- Finlands **decision was followed by Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland.**
- October 2026 Yle - The Finnish Defence Forces want to purchase **one million anti-personnel mines from domestic manufacturers**. Goal: production to begin in Finland 2028.

# April 2026/UNDP - Landmines pose growing threat to people and environment

New research shows explosive ordnance is contaminating soil and water, damaging ecosystems and threatening food sources




**ICBL June 2026**

- over 90% of mine and Explosive Remnants of War casualties were civilians 2025 – almost half of them children

# FINLAND ISOLATING RUSSIA

- **Finland closed all border crossings to Russia in late 2023 (8+ 1 rail) – June 2026 renewed closure decision**
  ( Russian speakers 1.8% of the population)

- **September 2026 - Finland finished its 200-kilometer (124-mile) eastern border fence with Russia**




**Yle 12.10.26 -** Foreign Minister Elina Valtonen calls for **total ban in EU on visas for Russian tourists**

**Nordic Defence Review – 20.10.26**

- **Sweden is undertaking its biggest military expansion since the Cold War,** ordering French frigates, American long-range rocket artillery, new air-defence systems, drones and satellites while investing heavily in its domestic defence industry.

**HS – 4.11.26 – Interview Noora Kotilainen**

(University of Helsinki researcher)

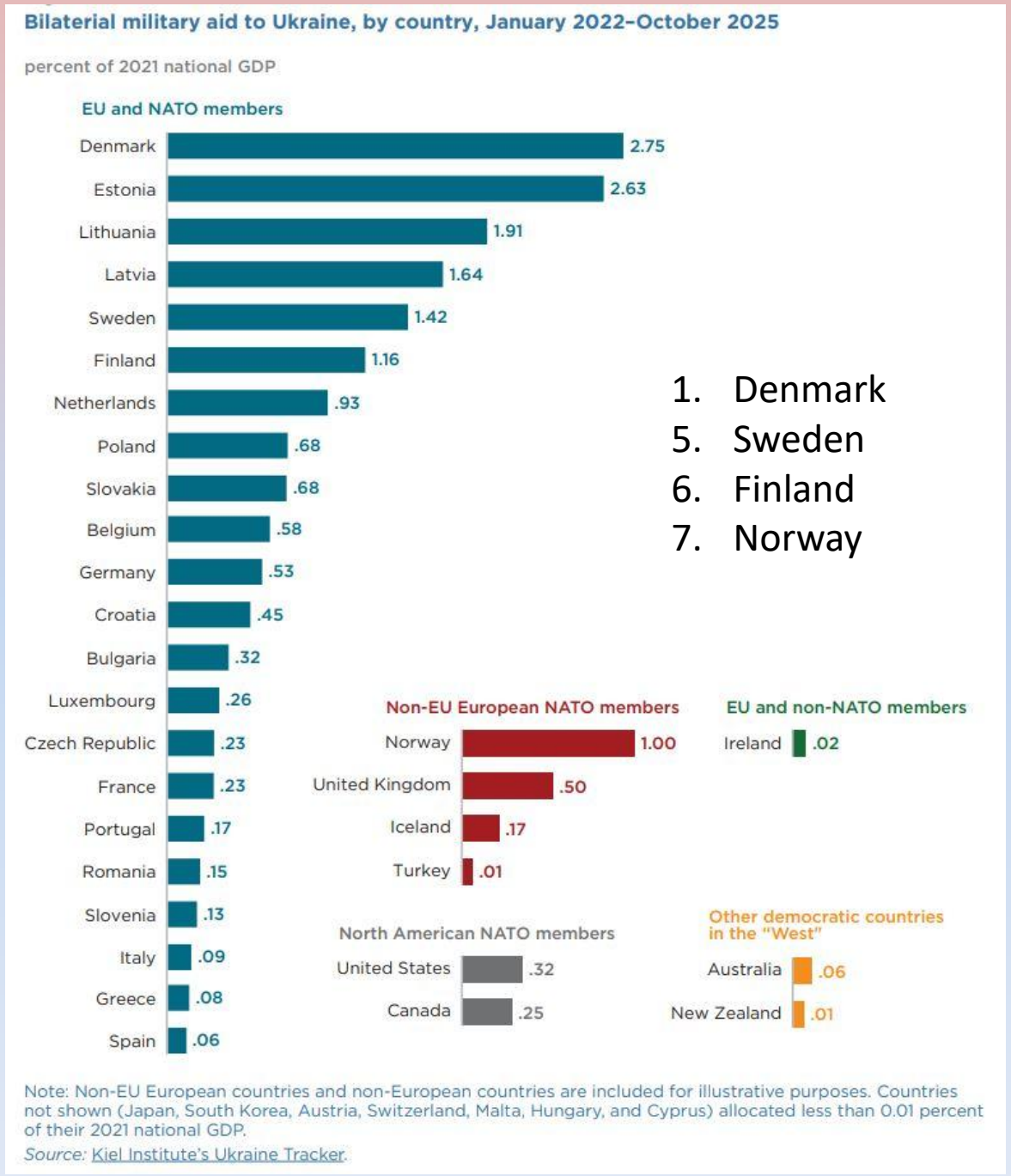
- **Finland is experiencing a war boom the likes of which has not been seen since the 1930s**

- War is visible everywhere in Finnish popular culture—from films to reality TV, from fashion to sports.

# NORDIC UKRAINE SUPPORT

**Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden ”Coalition of the Willing”**

35 nations, US, many European countries, Australia, Japan, New Zealand




1. Denmark
5. Sweden
6. Finland
7. Norway

# UKRAINE WAR

- The ports of Ust-Luga and Primorsk are key oil terminals for Russia's oil export infrastructure in the Baltic Sea.

- Ports attacked by Ukrainian drones spring 2026 + October

- March and May 2026 - several Ukrainian military drones entered the airspace of NATO states including the Baltic states and Finland



# Ust-Luga – March 2026



# Flight and explosion of drones in the immediate vicinity of the Sosnovy Bor nuclear cluster right at the Baltic seashore - over a dozen nuclear and radiation hazardous facilities

## Sosnovy Bor Nuclear Power Plant complex

- 80 km/50 mi from St. Petersburg - 6 million inhabitants
- 90 km/55 mi from Finnish coast







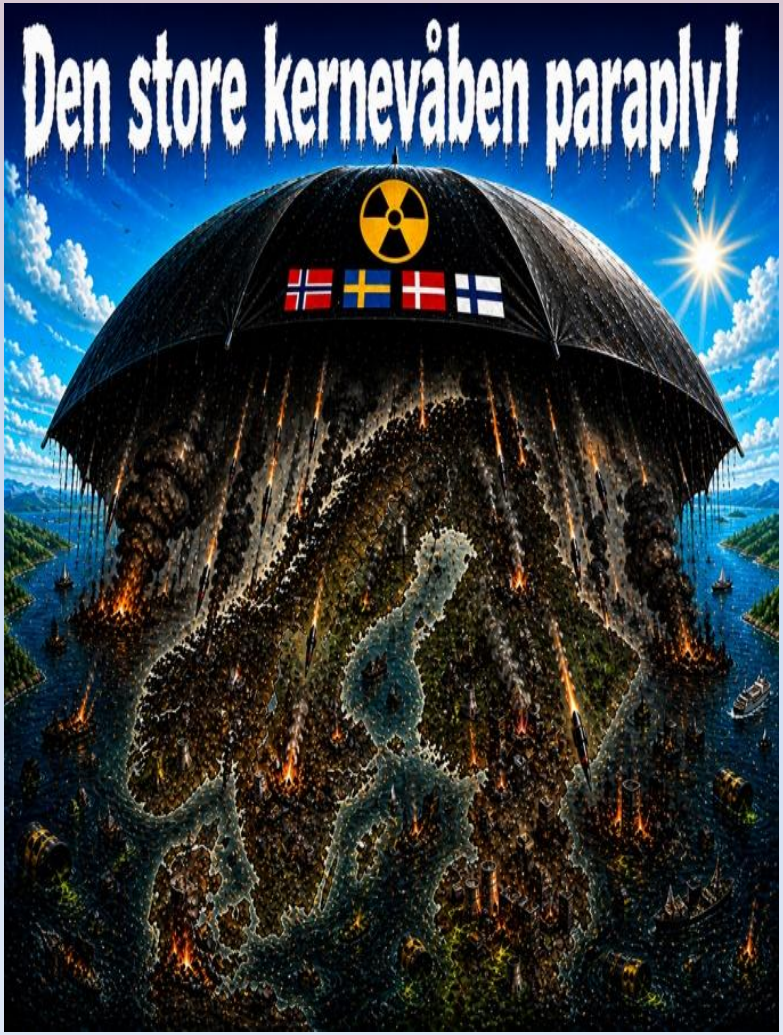

# Sosnovy Bor = 60 tones of Pu-239

Reactor 4 core at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant 1986 contained ab. **760 kilograms** (about 0.76 tons) of **plutonium-239**

# NUCLEAR WEAPONS

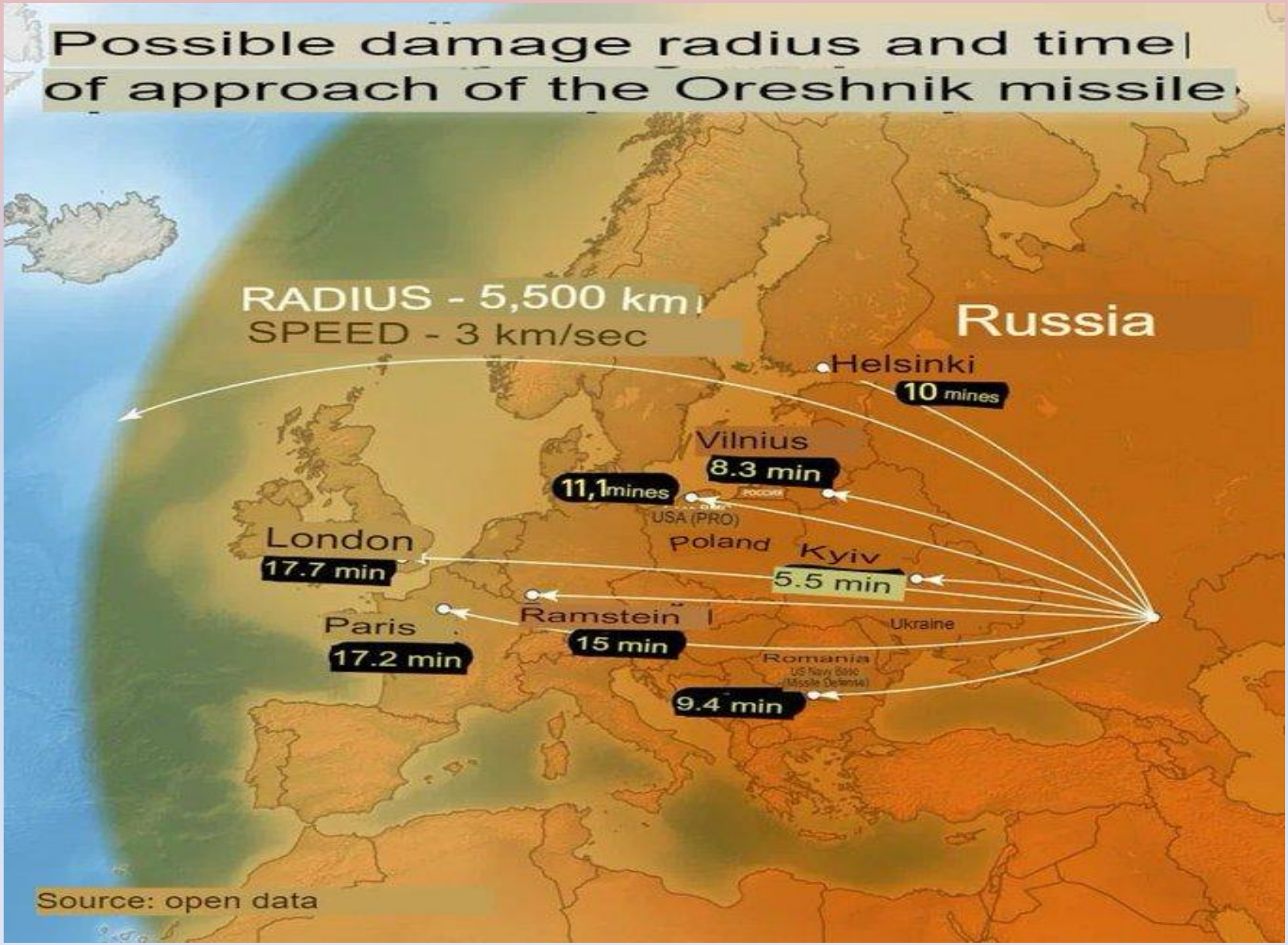
- **June 17, 2026 – Finnish parliament approved the Nuclear Energy Act. opening up for import and transit of nuclear weapons through Finnish territory**

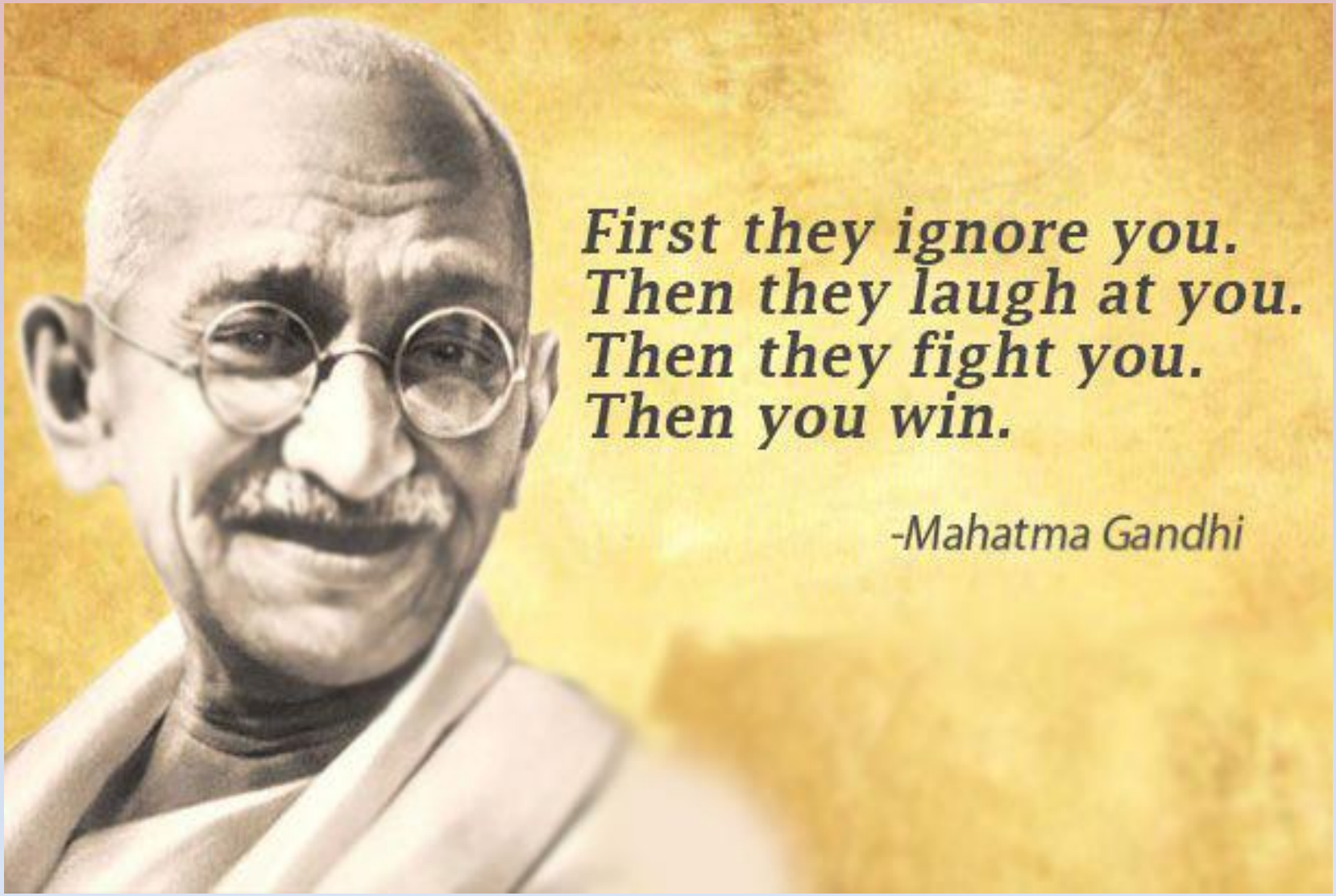
  (125-61 No: Soc.Dem, Left, Green)



# MEDUZA – 27.10.26

- President Emmanuel Macron: **“forward deterrence.” Calls for deploying nuclear-capable French Rafale fighter jets to other European countries.**
- **UK, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Greece, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark have joined the initiative.**
- The three Baltic states are not part of the project yet.
- Finland does not plan to host nuclear weapons in peacetime.
- **European officials emphasize that the new French system should supplement, not replace, the American “nuclear umbrella”** over the continent and create further strategic uncertainty for Russia.


Possible damage radius and time of approach of the Oreshnik missile
RADIUS - 5,500 km
SPEED - 3 km/sec
Russia
Helsinki
10 mines
Vilnius
8.3 min
11,1mines
USA (PRO)
Poland
Kyiv
5.5 min
London
17.7 min
Ramstein
15 min
Paris
17.2 min
Ukraine
Romania
9.4 min
Source: open data


First they ignore you.
Then they laugh at you.
Then they fight you.
Then you win.
-Mahatma Gandhi