Maritime Security in the Baltic Sea: Current Challenges

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Cultivating Regional Maritime Security: Swedish-Finnish Naval Cooperation in the Baltic Sea (2015)
Co-authored with J.J. Widen, in Chapsos I. and Kitchen C. (eds.) *Strengthening Maritime Security Through Cooperation*, IOS Press

Swedish-Finnish Naval Co-operation in the Baltic Sea: Motives, Prospects and Challenges
Article under review for *Defence Studies*

The New US Maritime Strategy: Implications for the Baltic Sea region
Article accepted by *RUSI Journal*

The Maritime Convention: Panel 1

12 November 2015

Maritime security as a concept

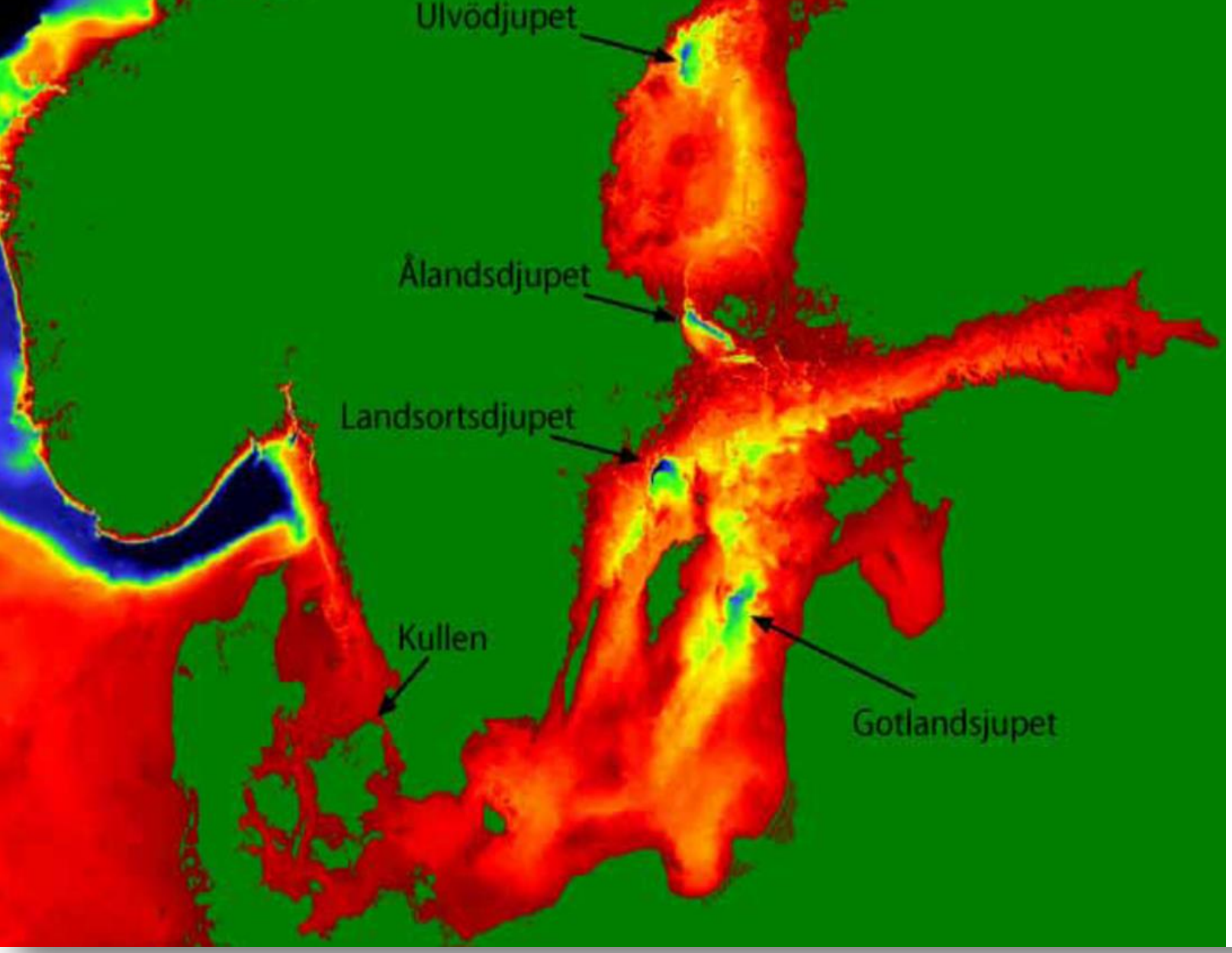
- Recent cross-sectoral maritime security strategies focus on:
  - Protection of national interests
  - Maritime resource extraction
  - Maritime trade flows
  - Maritime Governance

but they also involve:

  - Traditional sea power conceptions

The US Maritime Security Strategy

- Systemic thinking → Maritime Governance
- China: the dimensioning threat
- Combined use of MLE and Naval assets
- EEZ: subject to national jurisdiction or FON?
- Incidents might lead to military escalation
- ”A2/AD” > versus < ”All Domain Access”?


Ulvödjupet
Ålandsdjupet
Landsortsdjupet
Kullen
Gotlandsjupet

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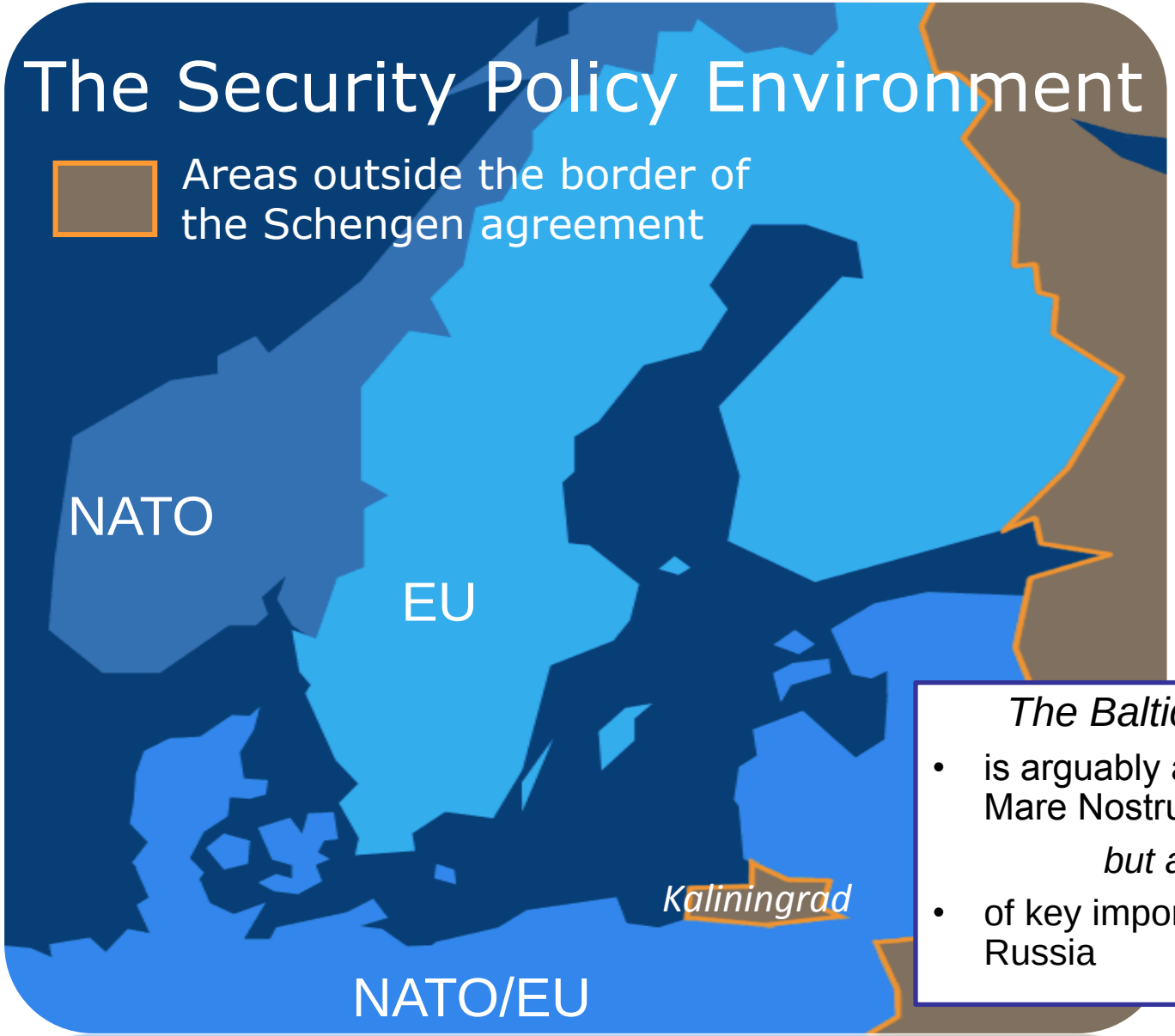
-100
-150
-200
-250
-300
-350
-400

The Security Policy Environment

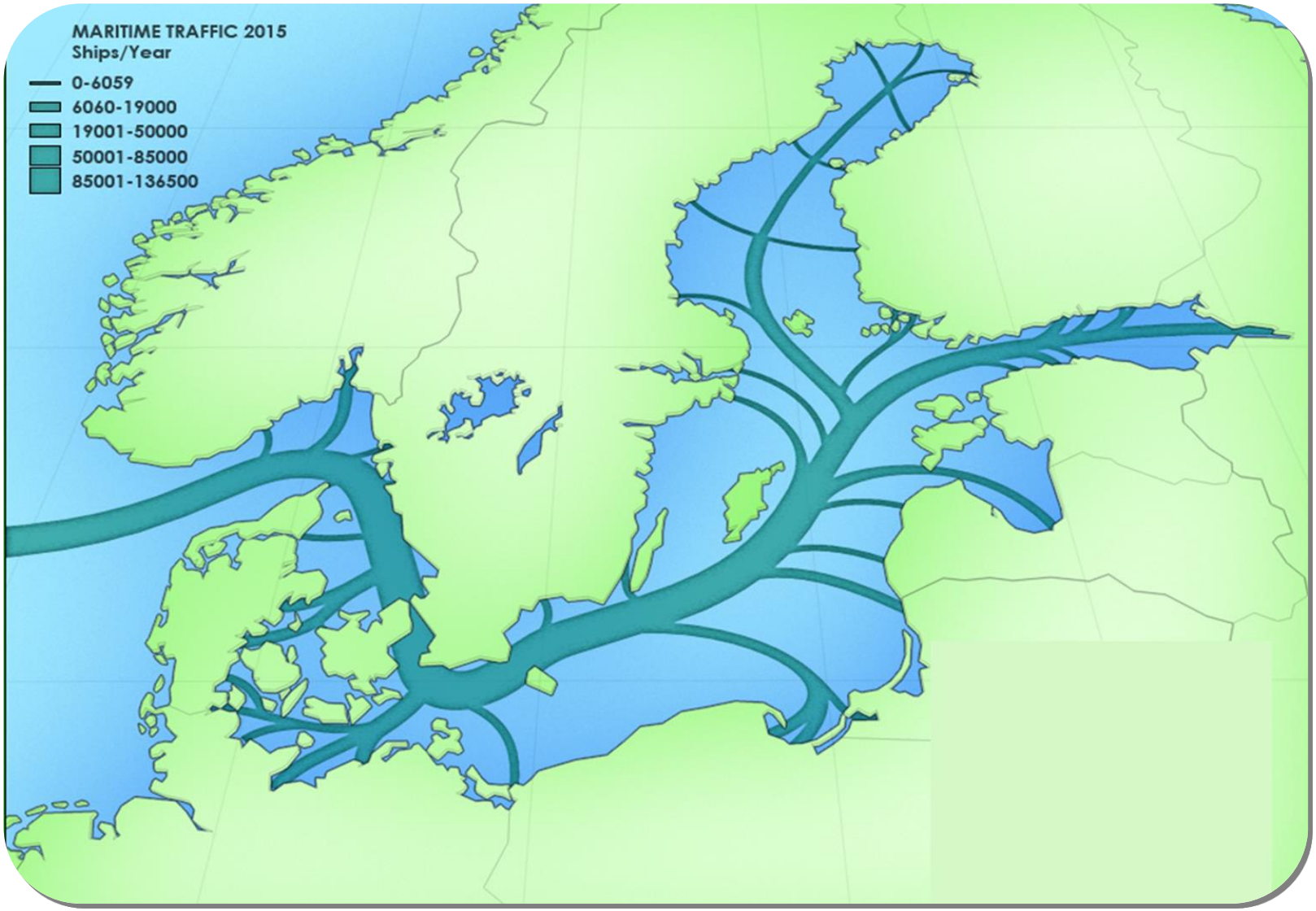


The Baltic Sea:

- is arguably an 'EU Mare Nostrum'

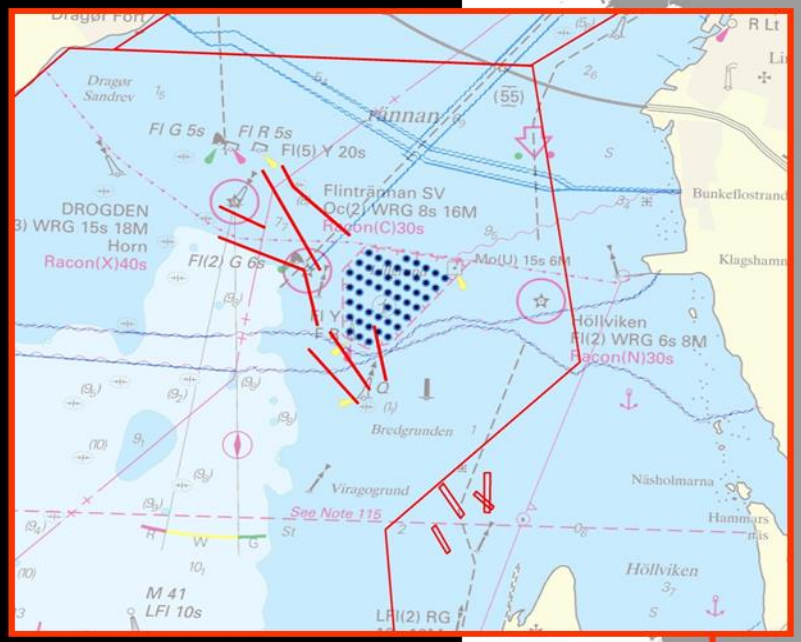
but also

- of key importance to Russia


MARITIME TRAFFIC 2015
Ships/Year
0-6059
6060-19000
19001-50000
50001-85000
85001-136500

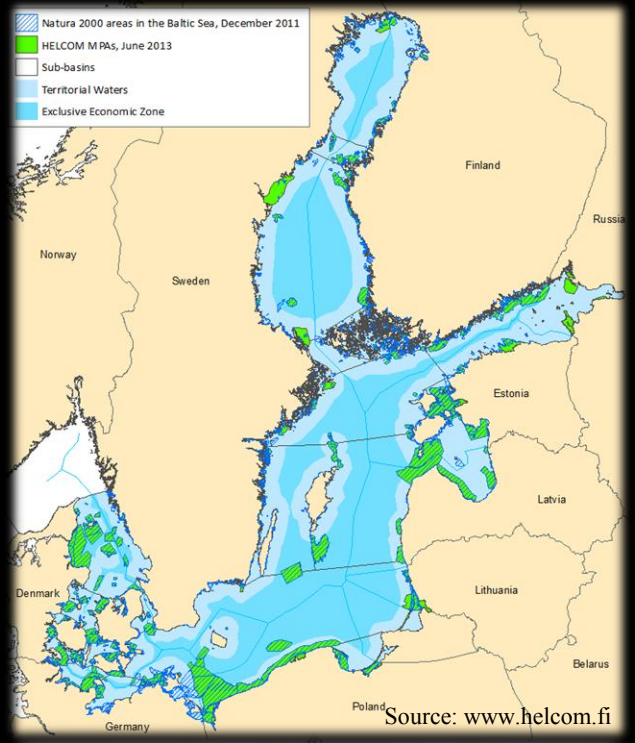
Baltic Sea Exploration

Wind power

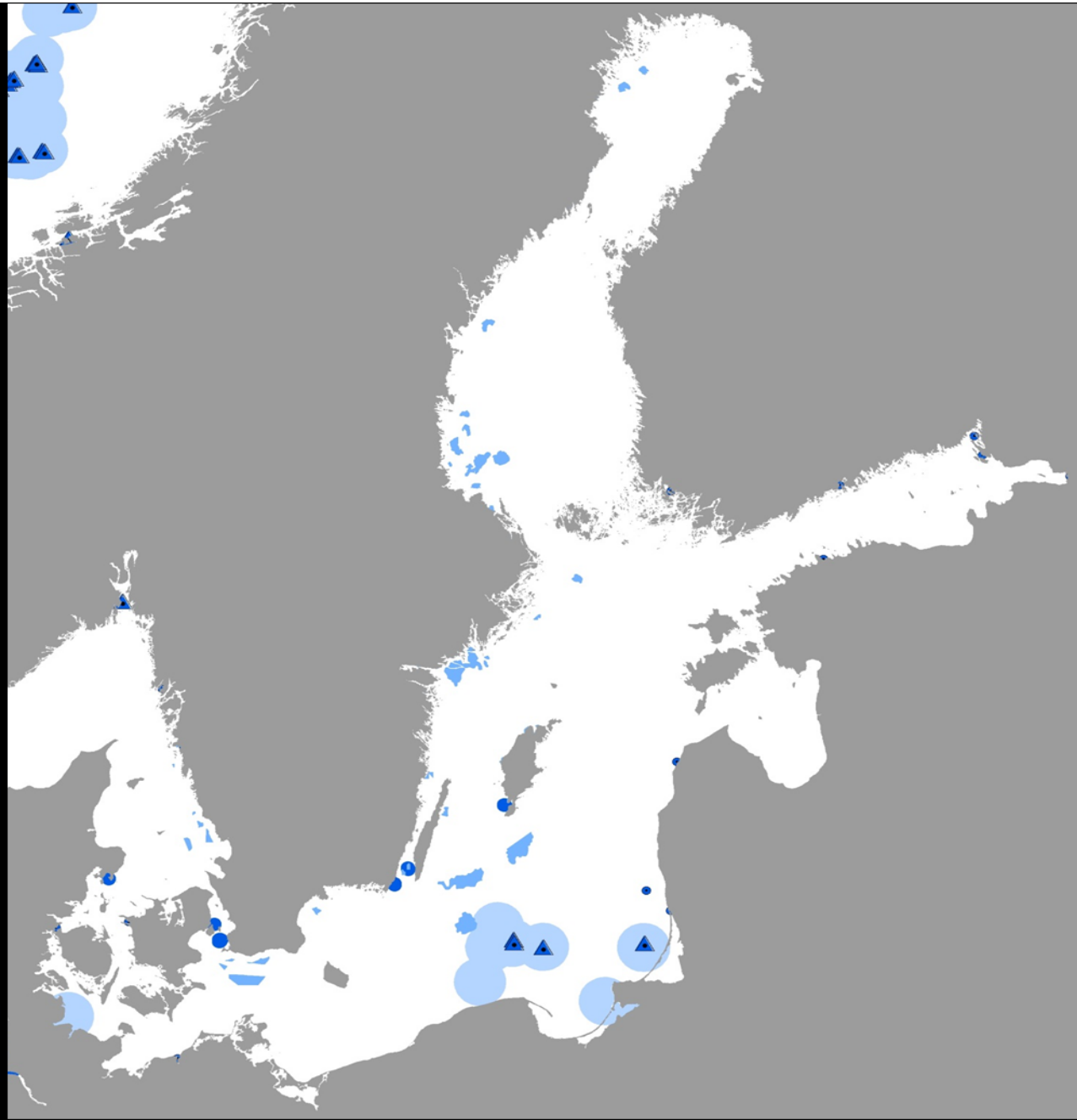


Baltic Sea Exploration

Wind power & Oil

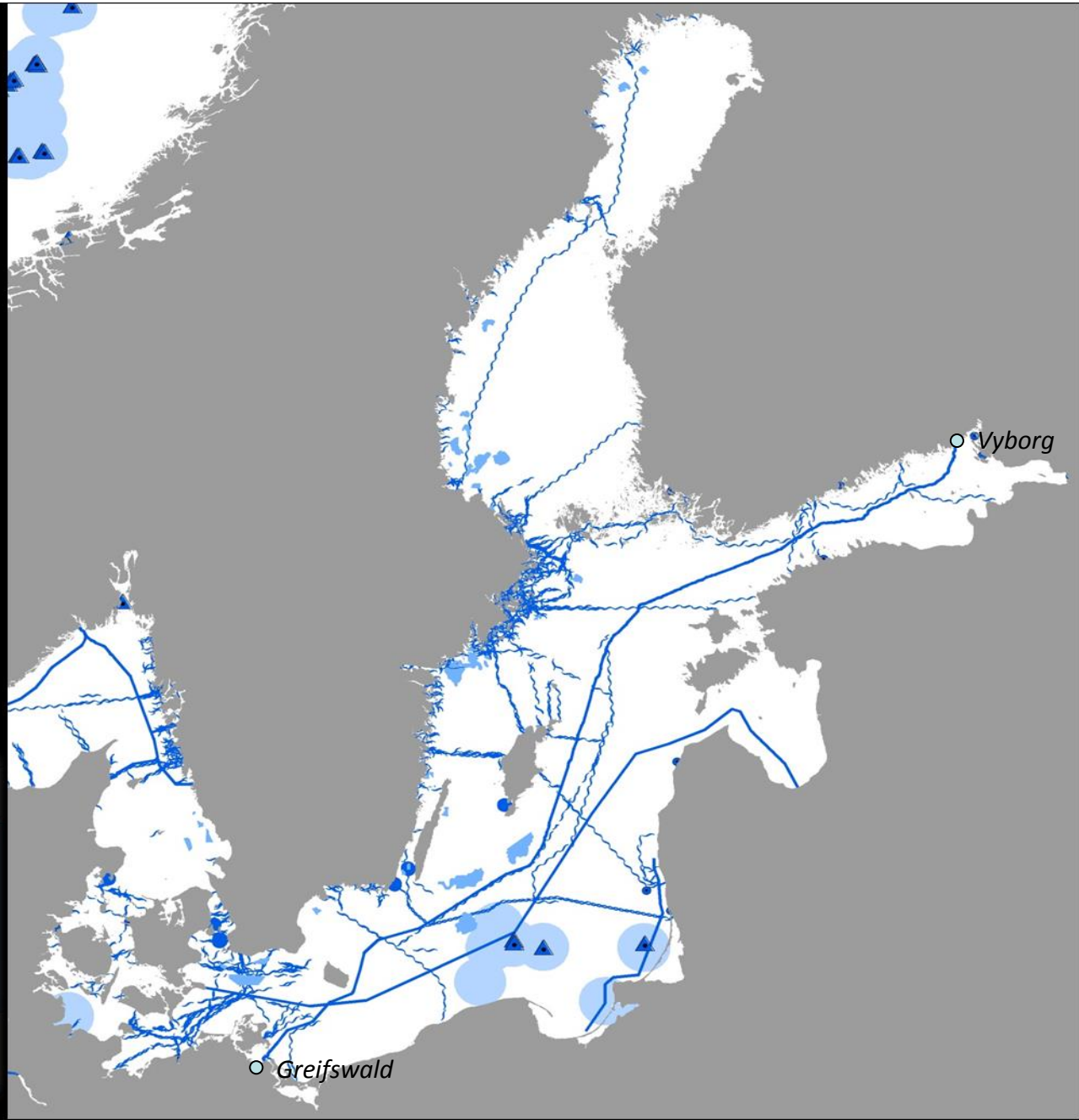


Source: www.helcom.fi



Baltic Sea Exploration

Wind power &
Oil & Cables &
Pipelines



Exploration: Risks from military activities

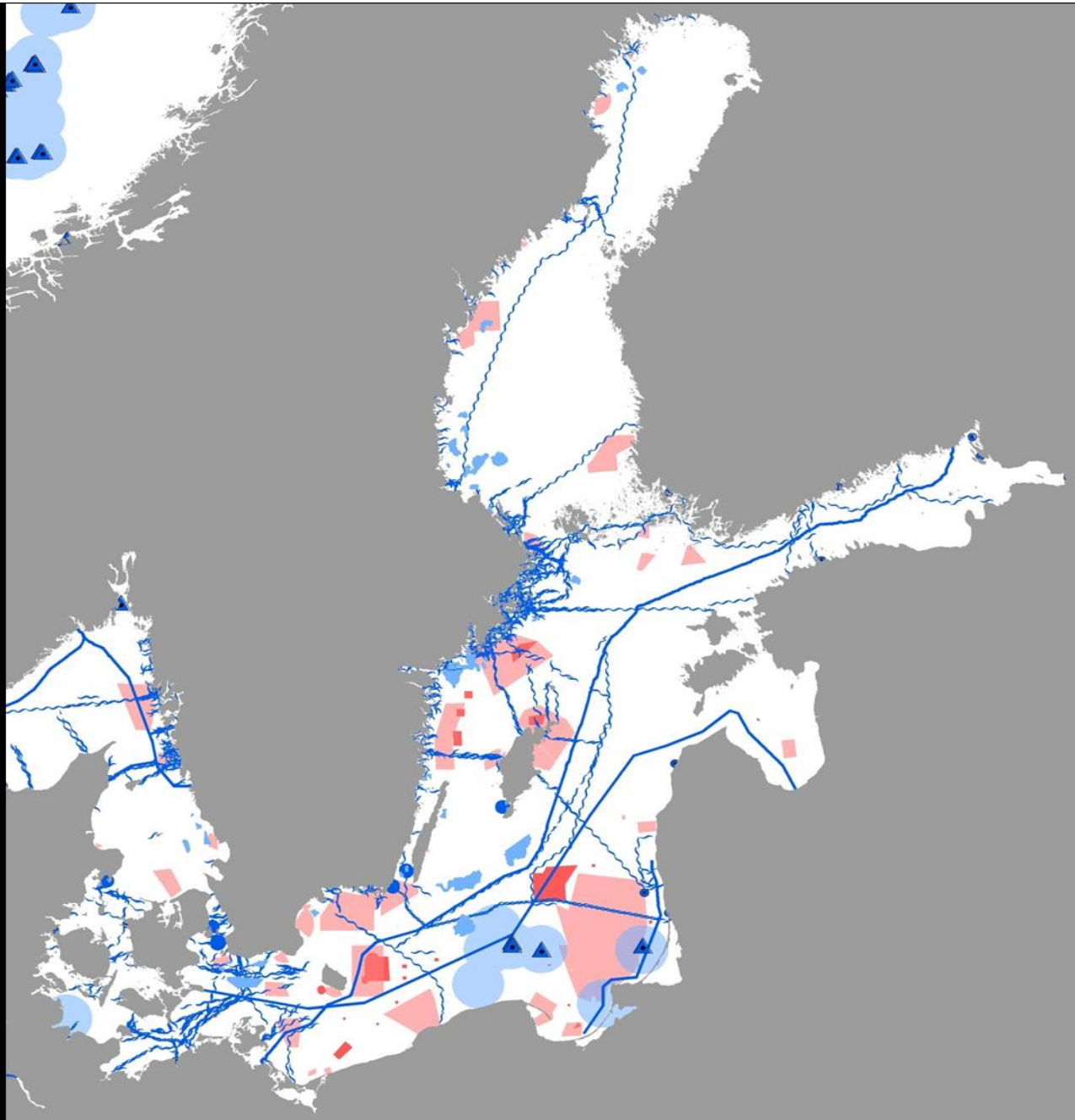
Wind power & Oil &
Cables & Pipelines &
Dumping areas

Vyborg

Greifswald

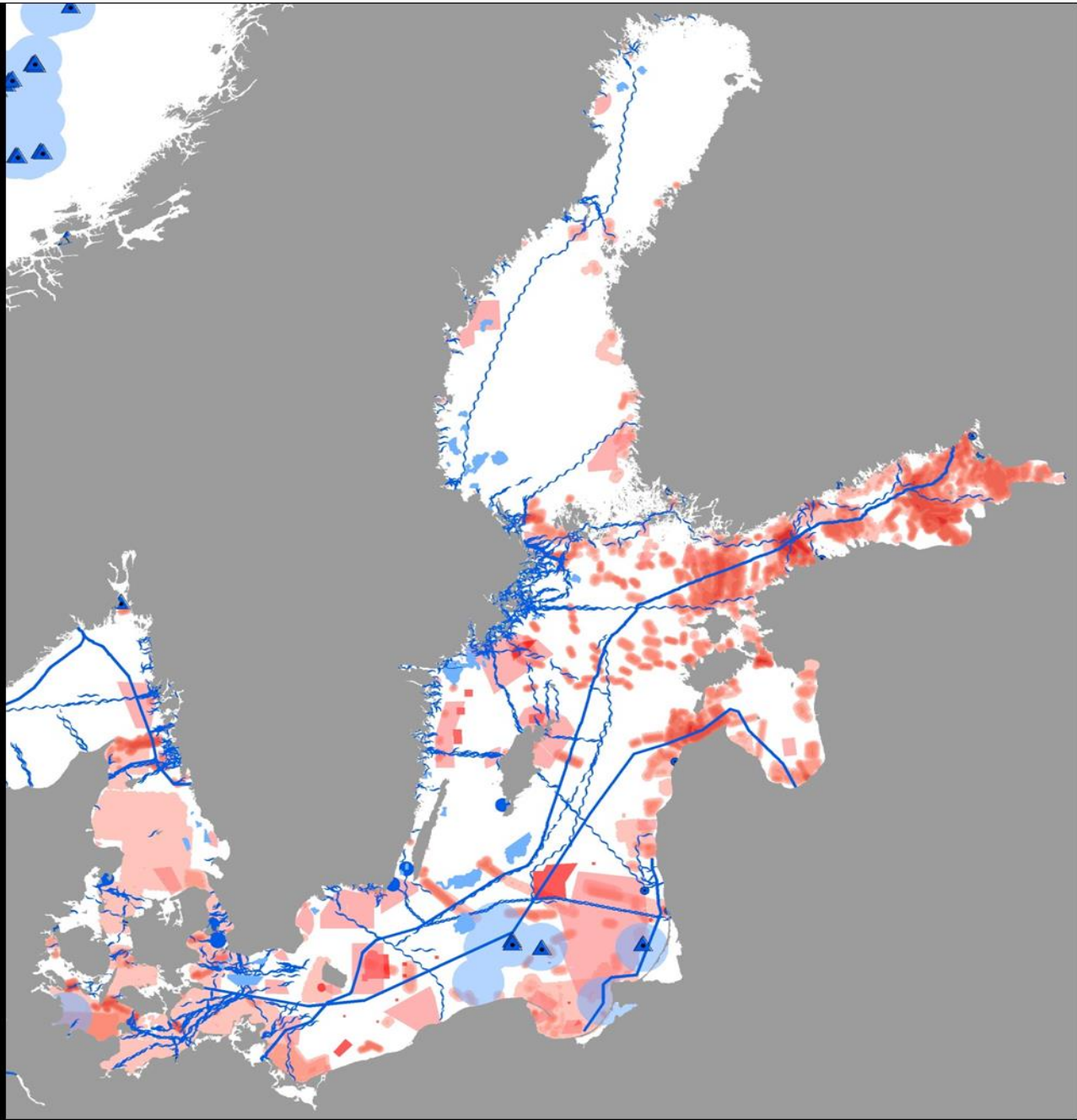
Exploration: Risks from military activities

Wind power & Oil &
Cables & Pipelines &
Dumping areas &
Exercise areas



Exploration: Risks from military activities

Wind power & Oil &
Cables & Pipelines &
Dumping areas &
Exercise areas &
Former mined areas

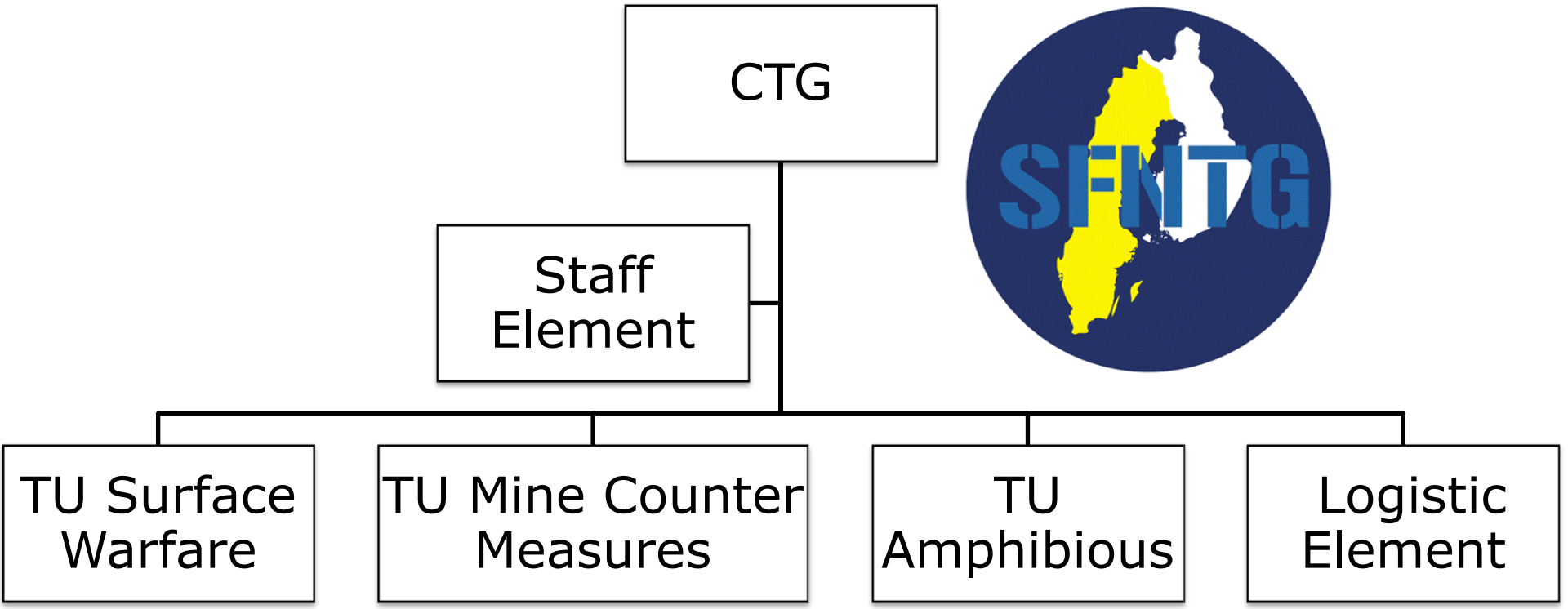


Russian conduct: inducing maritime insecurity

The Russian interference with the *NordBalt* project

Maritime Security in the Baltic Sea is built through regional co-operation

The Swedish Finnish Naval Task Group



Conclusion

- Maritime Security: Increasingly important
- Maritime Safety considerations are superimposed by Russian challenging and aggressive military conduct
- Air or maritime accidents could escalate into military violence
- Building Maritime Security in the Baltic Sea region requires a co-operative and comprehensive effort in which the navies are assigned leading roles