

Russian Activity Tracker 2016-2018 Methodology *November 14th, 2018*

This collaborative project between **Frivärld (Stockholm Free World Forum)** and **The McCain Institute** highlights actions attributed to Russia occurring in the Nordic-Baltic region (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia) between October 1st, 2016 and November 9th, 2018. This project is a continuation of data covering 1999-2014 and 2015-2016. Actions are visually presented in chronological order to highlight trends of Russian activity in the region.

Selection Criteria: What Constitutes an "Action" with Russian Attribution?

Political, diplomatic, economic, or military action or event directly or indirectly conducted by the Russian state including state-owned, state-controlled and state-friendly enterprises that deviates from standard peacetime procedures or routine military operations.

Categories of Actions:

- **Territorial Violation:** Military entering the territory or Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of another state without prior arrangements
- **Military Force Projection:** Military exercise, provocative or unusual deployment of forces, or dangerous action.
- **Hybrid Action:** Subversive action such as cyber attacks, information warfare, electronic warfare, blackmail, or criminal activity
- **Espionage Action:** Surveillance, reconnaissance and intelligence collection
- **Diplomatic Sanction:** Formal diplomatic action or accusation issued by the government

Methodology & Sources

- Open-source information used is from primary sources such as official statements and reports from government agencies complemented by secondary sources such as local and international media, think-tanks and academia
- Collected information is cross-referenced with other sources to ensure legitimacy
- Reports published by government agencies and think tanks highlighting attributable Russian actions are included as events occurring on the date of their publication or public release
- Sources are hyper-linked or listed with each action/event