



Changing the Way Intelligence is Done

# **Energy Security Under Pressure: Managing Hybrid Threats in the Baltic Sea Region**

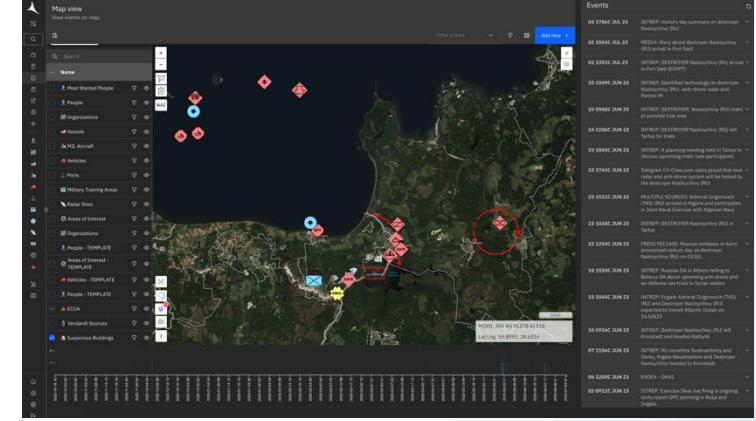
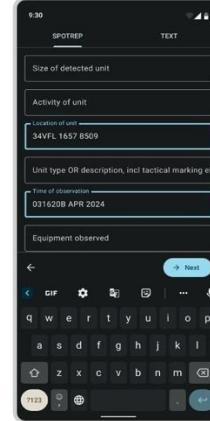
Villiko Nurmoja, co-founder & CEO

[villiko@sensusq.com](mailto:villiko@sensusq.com)

# SensusQ

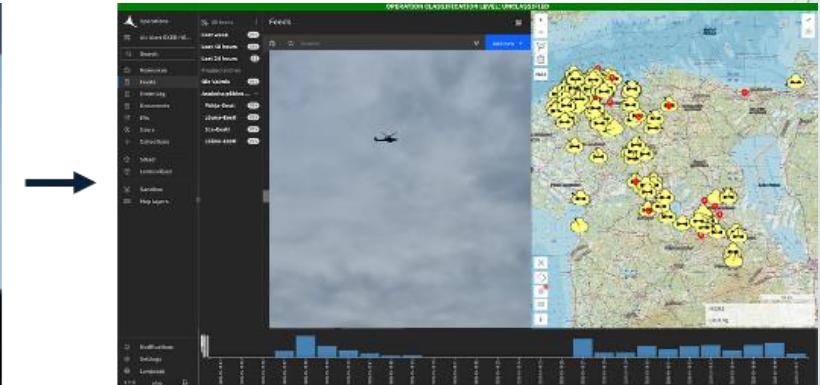
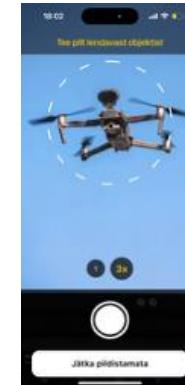
- Decision Support Solutions for National Resilience**

- Situation Awareness and Understanding
- Threat Intelligence Management
- Insider Threat Investigations
- Crisis Management



- Air Domain Awareness**

- Integrated Air Picture
- Integrated C-UAS



- Consulting and Threat Assessments**

# Who is Pulling the Strings?

Are we acting or reacting?

# HYBRID WARFARE





AP News

<https://apnews.com> › article

## Fire shuts down London's Heathrow Airport, ...



This photo



[liveuamap.com](https://liveuamap.com)

electrical si

<https://baltics.liveuamap.com> › en

## Around 30 telecom towers along Sweden's E22 highway have ...

The vessel KIWALA was used to transport crude oil and was heading to the Russian port of Ust-

Luga, sailing a



Firstpost

<https://www.firstpost.com> › explainers › france-can...

## Blackouts in Cannes, Nice: Who is sabotaging ...



26 May 2025 · In just 24 hours, two major blackouts hit southeastern France

— first in C



the-berliner.com

<https://www.the-berliner.com> › english-news-berlin

## 50,000 households without power due to fire, police suspect arson

9 Sep 2025 · A fire on two power lines in Berlin-Johannisthal, which broke out at around 03:30 on

Tuesday n



ABC News

<https://abcnews.go.com> › International › p...



## NATO downs Russian drones over Poland ...

10 Sep 202...

violated by



ERR

<https://news.err.ee>



## 3 Russian fighter jets violate Estonian airspace for ...

On Friday (September 19) morning, three Russian MiG-31 fighter jets

entered Esto...



BBC

<https://www.bbc.com> › news › articles

## Copenhagen and Oslo airports forced to close ...

22 Sep 2025 · They confirmed that around 20,000 passengers were impacted by the airport closure. On Monday evening, two to three large ...



# Reasoning (from RU perspective)

- Lost sphere of influence
- Limited freedom of movement
- Restricted access to the Atlantic
- Baltic states left the Russian power grid
- Isolated Kaliningrad
- Russian minorities in the Baltic states



# The Democratic vs Authoritarian Dilemma

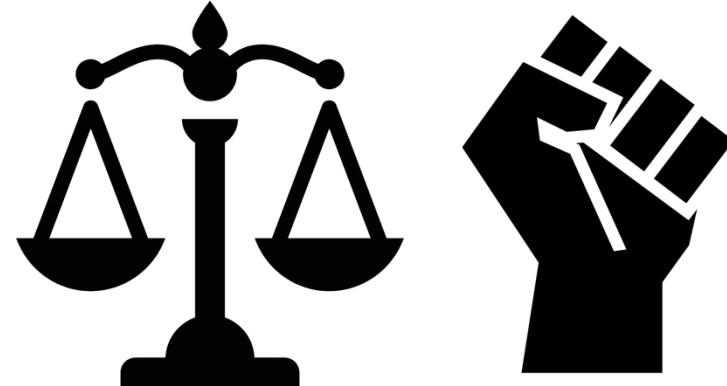
(“Saint vs. Predator” – “Values vs. Power”)

## Democratic World

- “Let’s talk first”
- Respect, compromise, consensus
- Guided by ethics and rule of law
- Seeks equality and inclusion
- Values transparency
- Works through alliances
- Competes with ideas
- Builds trust

## Authoritarian World

- “Act first – talk later”
- Fear, coercion, obedience
- Guided by power and survival
- Seeks hierarchy and control
- Values manipulation
- Acts unilaterally
- Competes through intimidation
- Exploits trust



Hybrid warfare is a type of conflict that **blends conventional and unconventional methods**, including **military operations, cyber warfare, disinformation campaigns, and economic pressure**.

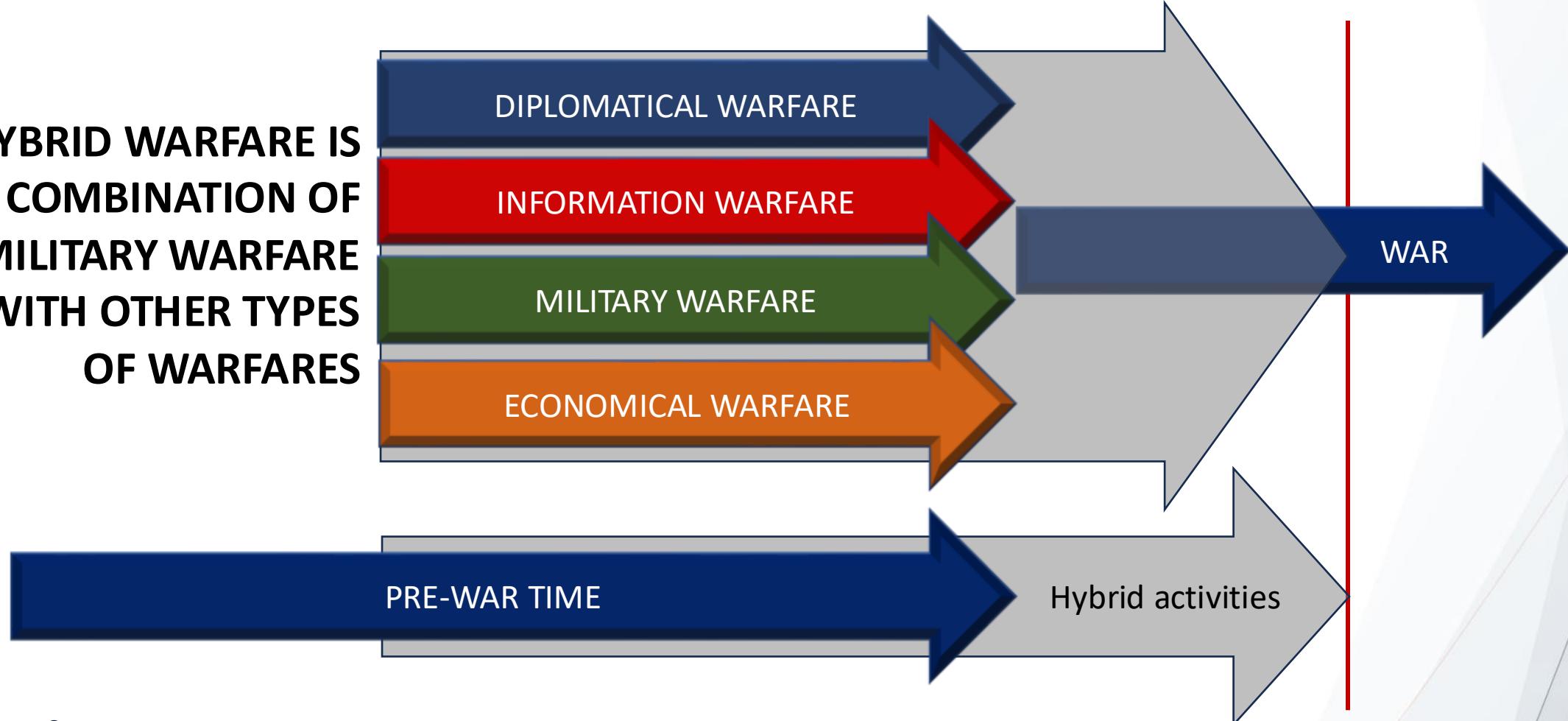
This form of warfare **is not limited to a single shape or dimension** and can **involve a mix of regular and irregular tactics** across all dimensions of war.

Hybrid warfare – conducted by **state or non-state actors** – are typically tailored to **remain below obvious detection and response thresholds**.

# What Are Hybrid Threats?

**HYBRID WARFARE IS  
COMBINATION OF  
MILITARY WARFARE  
WITH OTHER TYPES  
OF WARFARES**

THE AIM IS TO DELAY CONVENTIONAL WAR OR SET CONDITIONS



# Escalation matrix in the Hybrid Warfare

## Confrontation phase

Demands, positions, statements

## Hybrid phase

Numerous simultaneous activities

Normally: diplomacy, economy, information, legal, but diversion, terrorism are used also

## War

All in to achieve the goal

# Hybrid Warfare Today



**On 17 December 2021, the Russian Federation presented a draft security treaty to NATO and the United States, stipulating that NATO enlargement must cease and that NATO's military presence should be withdrawn to the 1997 lines.**

**In 2022, The full-scale invasion started in Ukraine**

liveuamap.com  
<https://baltics.liveuamap.com> en

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Firspost

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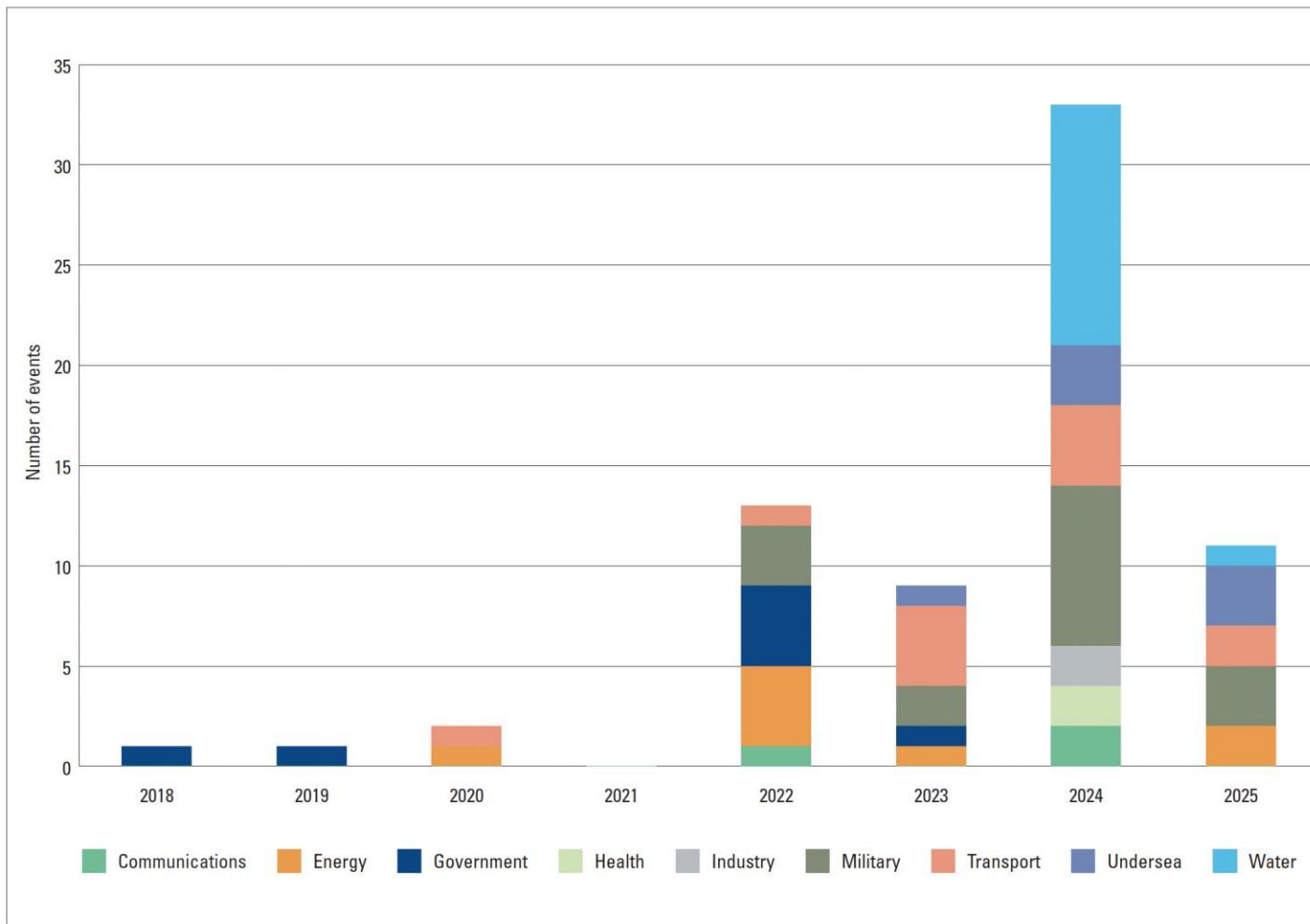
Confrontation Phase

Hybrid Phase

?

# The Scale of Russian Sabotage Operations Against Europe's Critical Infrastructure

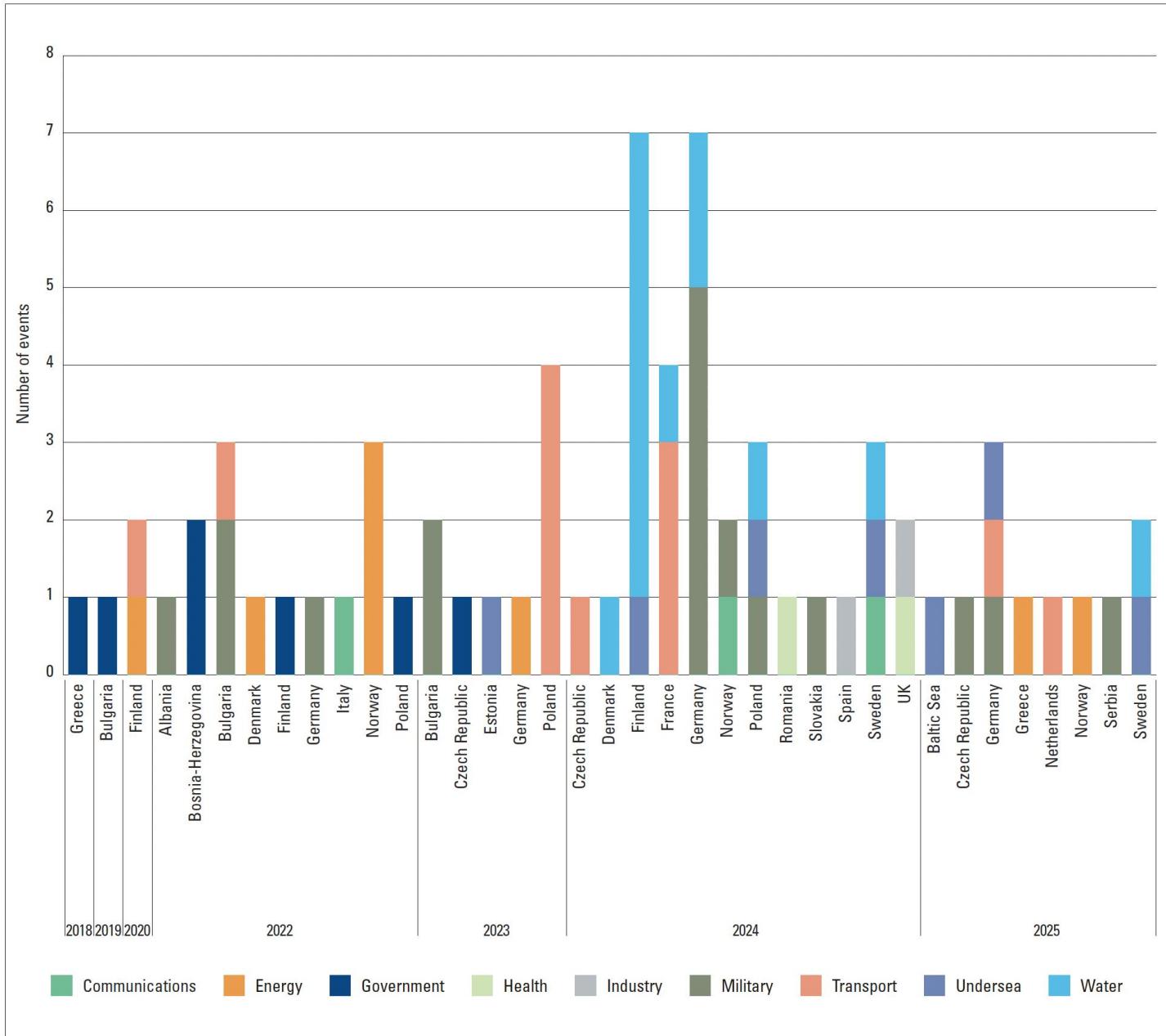
Figure 0.1: Frequency of Russian hybrid-warfare activity across Europe, January 2018–June 2025



Map 0.1: Methods of Russian hybrid-warfare activity across Europe, January 2018–June 2025



Figure 1.1: Russian hybrid-warfare activity by country and year, January 2018–June 2025



# Will RU attack the energy infrastructure of the target country?

- Yes/no/maybe?
- At what scale?
- When & how?
- Directly? Indirectly?
- “3-days” war vs. long conflict

- Scenarios:
  - Long term influence?
  - Destructive shock?



# COA 1: Influence & Engineered Dissatisfaction

- **Purpose:**

- Long-term hybrid pressure to **erode trust** and **inflate dissatisfaction** through energy-price manipulation and perception of scarcity.

- **Intent:**

- Exploit social divisions → weaken confidence in authorities → push narratives favouring reconnection with external (Russian) energy sources.

- **Means:**

- **Information operations** & influence networks
- **Cyber / insider** disruption of energy supply
- Targeted “**accidents**” & supply-chain friction
- Amplified **media debate** on prices & reliability

- **Effect:**

- Chronic instability → public anger → policy hesitation → delayed energy reforms.

# COA 2: Destructive Shock (X–30 Days)

- **Purpose:**
  - Short, high-impact campaign to **cripple electricity supply** and **paralyse national response** during crisis or mobilisation.
- **Intent:**
  - Mass outages → obstruct defence logistics & communication → divert resources to emergency recovery.
- **Means:**
  - Coordinated **sabotage** & **cyberattacks** on key nodes
  - **Physical damage** (lines, substations, backup plants)
  - **Drones, fires, insider** action, violent **protests**
- **Effect:**
  - Power availability ↓ 60–70 % → critical services fail → panic & political pressure.

# How to get better?

- Physical Protection & Supply Security
- Cybersecurity & Digital Resilience
- Decentralisation & Flexibility
- Communication & Public Resilience
- International Cooperation & Support
- Legal & Policy Framework
- Special Focus Areas: like Ida-Virumaa vulnerability in Estonia

**Resilience isn't redundancy – it's adaptability.**



# Who is Pulling the Strings?

# HYBRID WARFARE



WARS ARE CAUSED  
BY UNDEFENDED  
WEALTH.



Ernest Hemingway  
*American author and journalist*  
QuoteHD.com (1899-1961)

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