



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

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# SensusQ

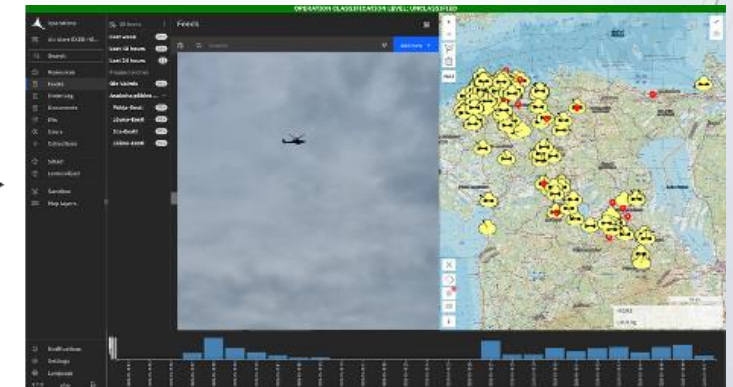
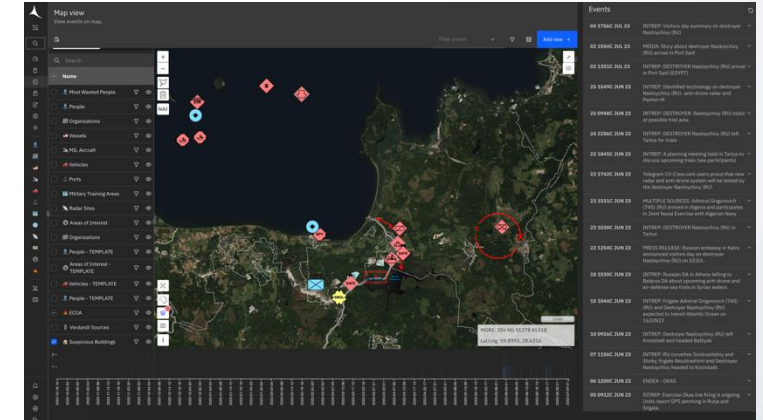
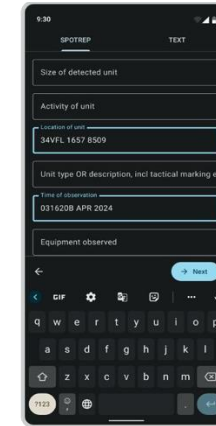
- **Decision Support Solutions for National Resilience**

- 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  
electrical st



liveuamap.com

<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-canne...

## 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

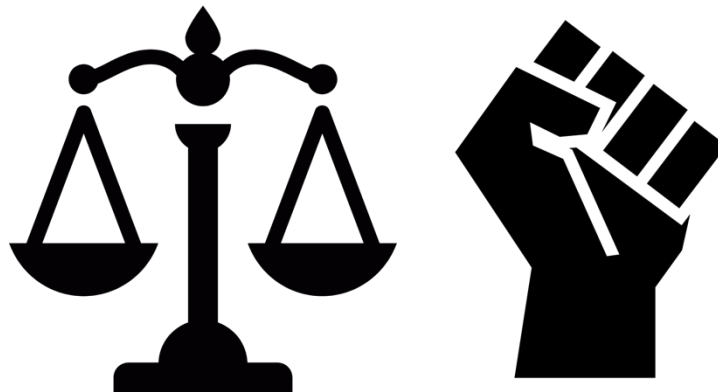
Seeks equality and inclusion

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**.

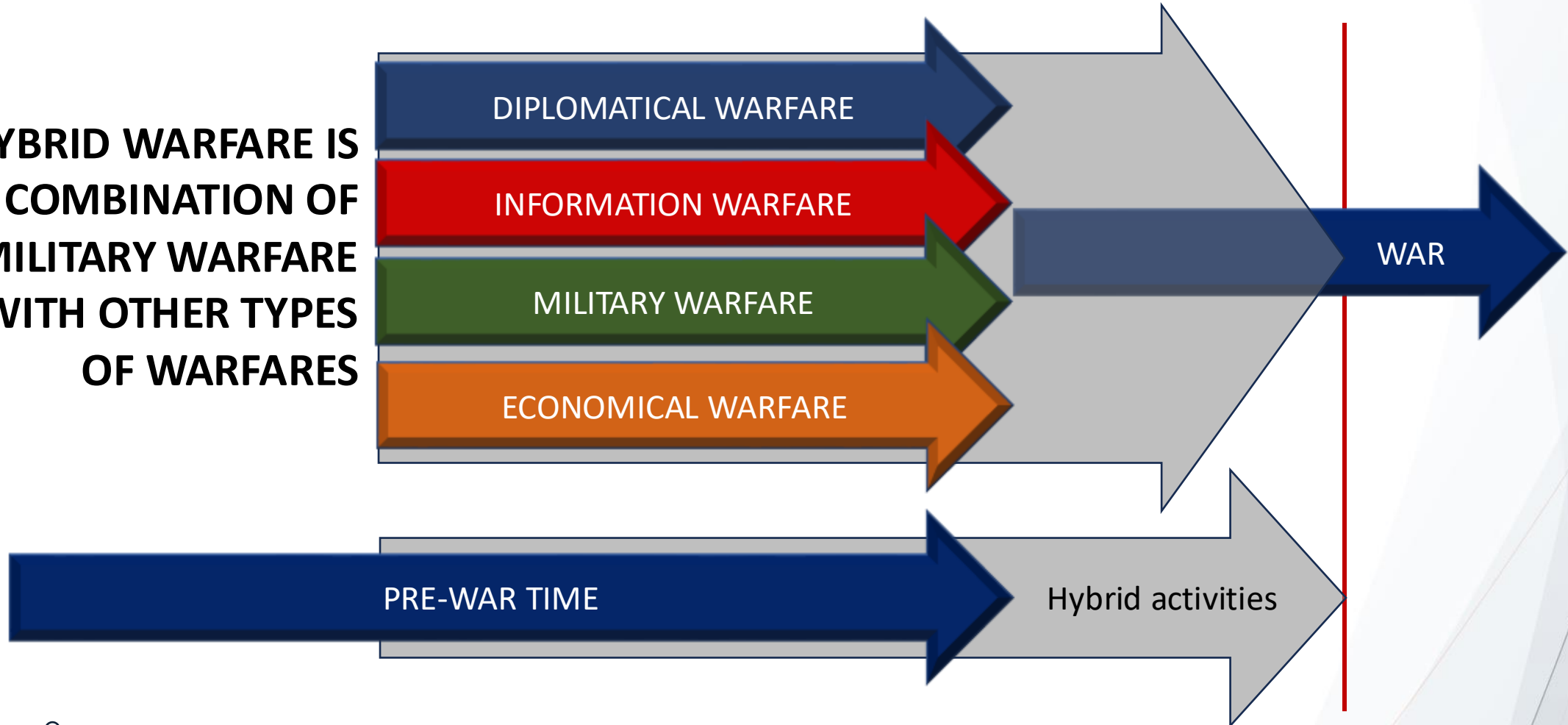
This form of warfare **is not limited to a single shape or dimension** and can **involve a mix of regular and irregular tactics** across all dimensions of war.

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

# What Are Hybrid Threats?

THE AIM IS TO DELAY CONVENTIONAL WAR OR SET CONDITIONS

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





# 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

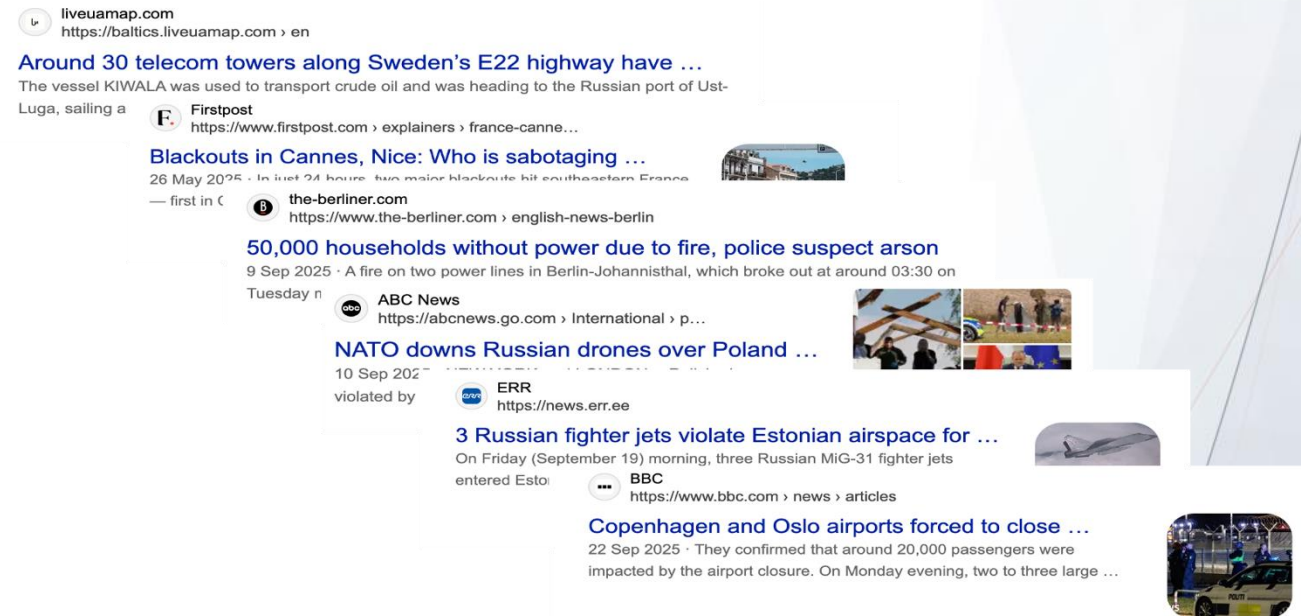
All in to achieve the goal

# Hybrid Warfare Today



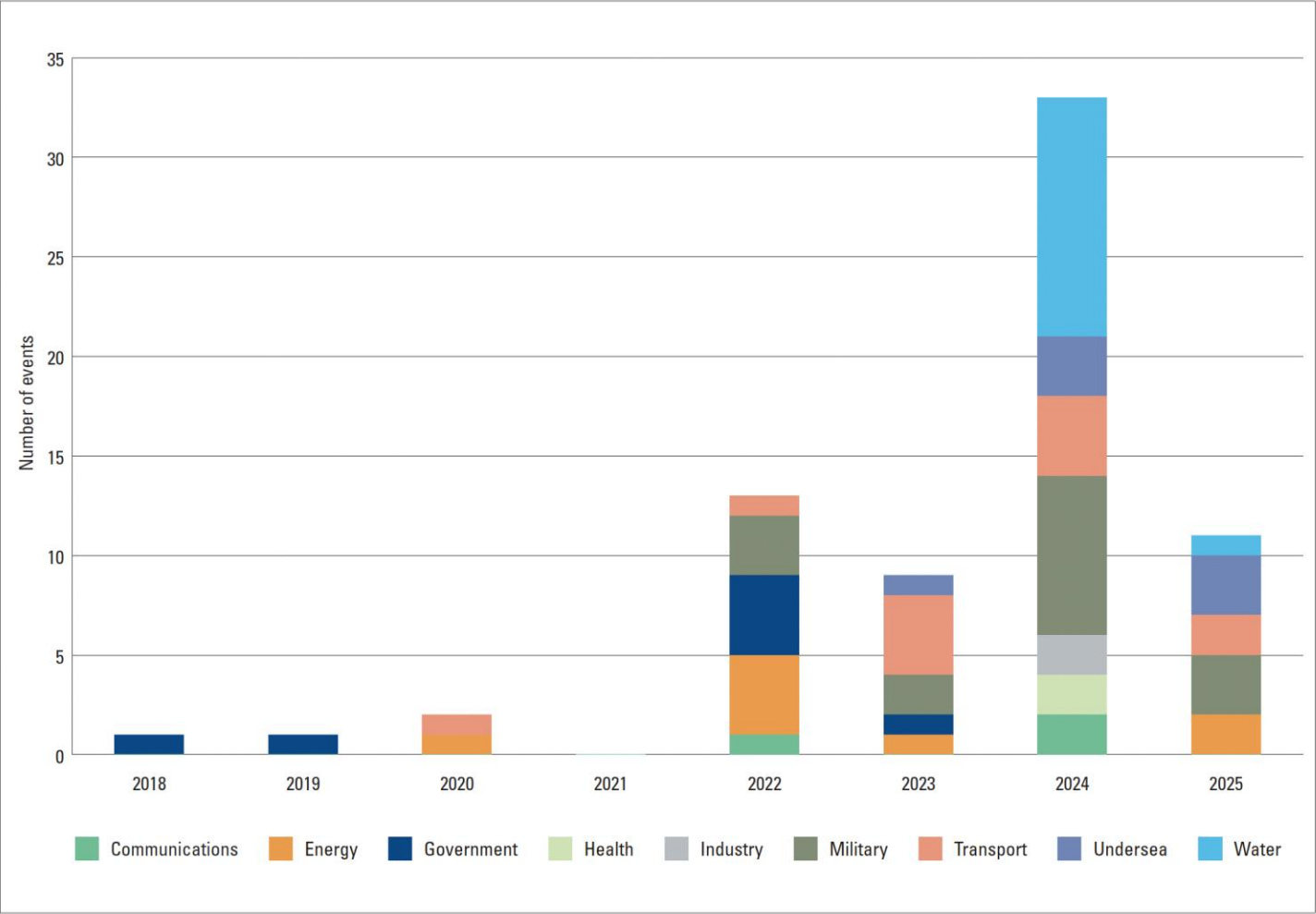
On **17 December 2021**, the **Russian Federation** presented a draft **security treaty** to **NATO** and the **United States**, stipulating that **NATO enlargement must cease** and that **NATO's military presence should be withdrawn to the 1997 lines**.

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



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

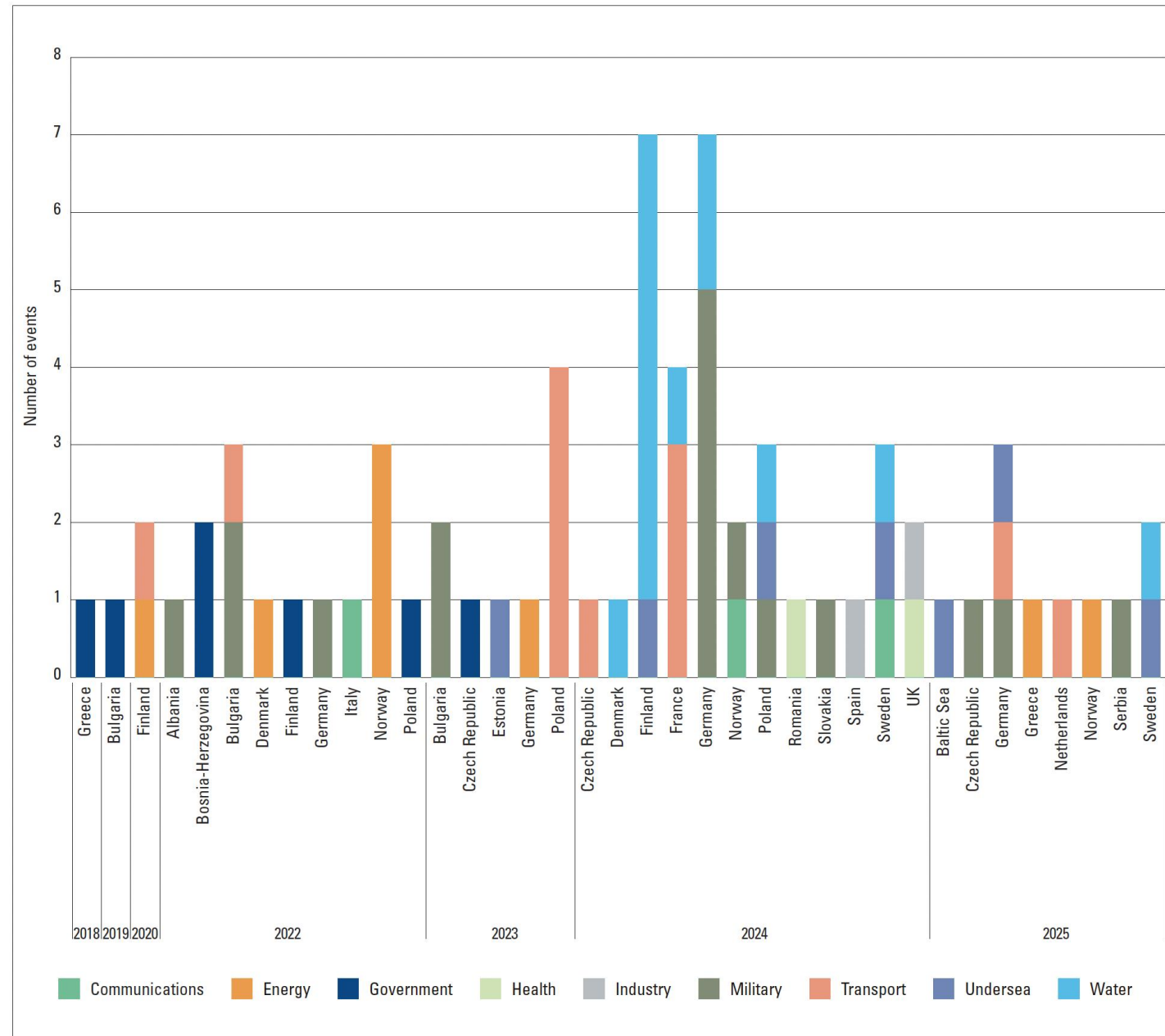
Figure 0.1: Frequency of Russian hybrid-warfare activity across Europe, January 2018–June 2025



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)*

**Are we acting or reacting?**



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