



SF CUSTOS GLOBAL SPECIAL REPORT

## **The Ukraine war and NATO's eastern flank: risks for infrastructure, the Baltic Sea and companies**

# **S.F. Custos Global Reach LTD.**

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**Title:** The Ukraine war and NATO's eastern flank: risks for infrastructure, the Baltic Sea and companies

**Publication date:** 2026-06-26

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## **Executive summary**

The war in Ukraine remains a military conflict with direct consequences for NATO's eastern flank. For companies, the risks are not an abstract return to bloc politics. They are concrete: infrastructure, Baltic Sea traffic, energy, logistics, data links, insurance and personnel movement.

Source facts: the reviewed specialist material addresses the military situation in Ukraine, the Baltic Sea after Sweden and Finland joined NATO, and risks to critical infrastructure. Claims about specific sabotage incidents or submarine activity are not treated as fact unless the source base supports them.

SF Custos Global assesses the eastern flank as a persistently elevated risk environment for companies with sites, transport routes or personnel in north-eastern Europe.

## **Key points**

- Source facts, SF Custos Global assessment and unconfirmed signals are separated.
- Unsupported hard probabilities are not used.
- Business relevance is assessed through personnel, travel, infrastructure, contracts, insurance and supply routes.

- The report is designed for decision makers who need a practical operating picture, not a political essay.
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## **Source picture and analytical assessment**

Concrete risk areas

Ports: Baltic ports matter for military mobility, energy supply, trade and repair chains. Increased military use can place pressure on civilian capacity.

Energy: energy infrastructure remains both a target and a pressure point. Risk can come from physical attacks, cyber incidents, market moves and political countermeasures.

Logistics: roads, rail lines, ports and border crossings on the eastern flank can be strained by exercises, movements, inspections or incidents.

Data links: subsea cables and nodes are security-relevant. Individual incidents require careful sourcing, but data connectivity remains a material risk category.

Insurance: political violence, war exclusions and transport insurance can differ by region. Companies should not wait for a loss event before reviewing coverage.

Personnel movement: travel to border regions, port cities and military-relevant areas requires a separate risk assessment.

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## **Actions and early warning indicators**

Companies should map exposure along the eastern flank: sites, personnel, data links, energy dependencies, logistics routes, suppliers and insurance policies.

Early warning indicators include increased military movement, new travel advisories, disruption at ports or energy sites, confirmed cyber incidents against infrastructure, well-sourced anomalies around subsea cables and changes in insurance conditions.

SF Custos Global recommends avoiding exaggeration around hybrid risk. The important distinction is simple: confirmed incident, reasoned SF Custos Global assessment or unconfirmed signal.

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## **Selected sources**

- FDD / School of War, The Strategic View From the Baltic Sea with General Michael Claesson, reviewed 23 June 2026.
  - FDD / School of War, The Risks Ahead for Ukraine, reviewed 23 June 2026.
  - USNI and maritime specialist material on the Baltic Sea and NATO eastern flank, reviewed 23 June 2026.
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## **Method note**

This report is based on open-source material and analytical review by SF Custos Global. It does not replace legal, insurance, medical or country-specific professional advice.