



Chief of Staff, Navy Command Finland

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# Maritime Security and the Role of the Finnish Navy

Defense Attachés Accredited to Finland

15<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Turku



**Puolustusvoimat**

Försvarsmakten • The Finnish Defence Forces

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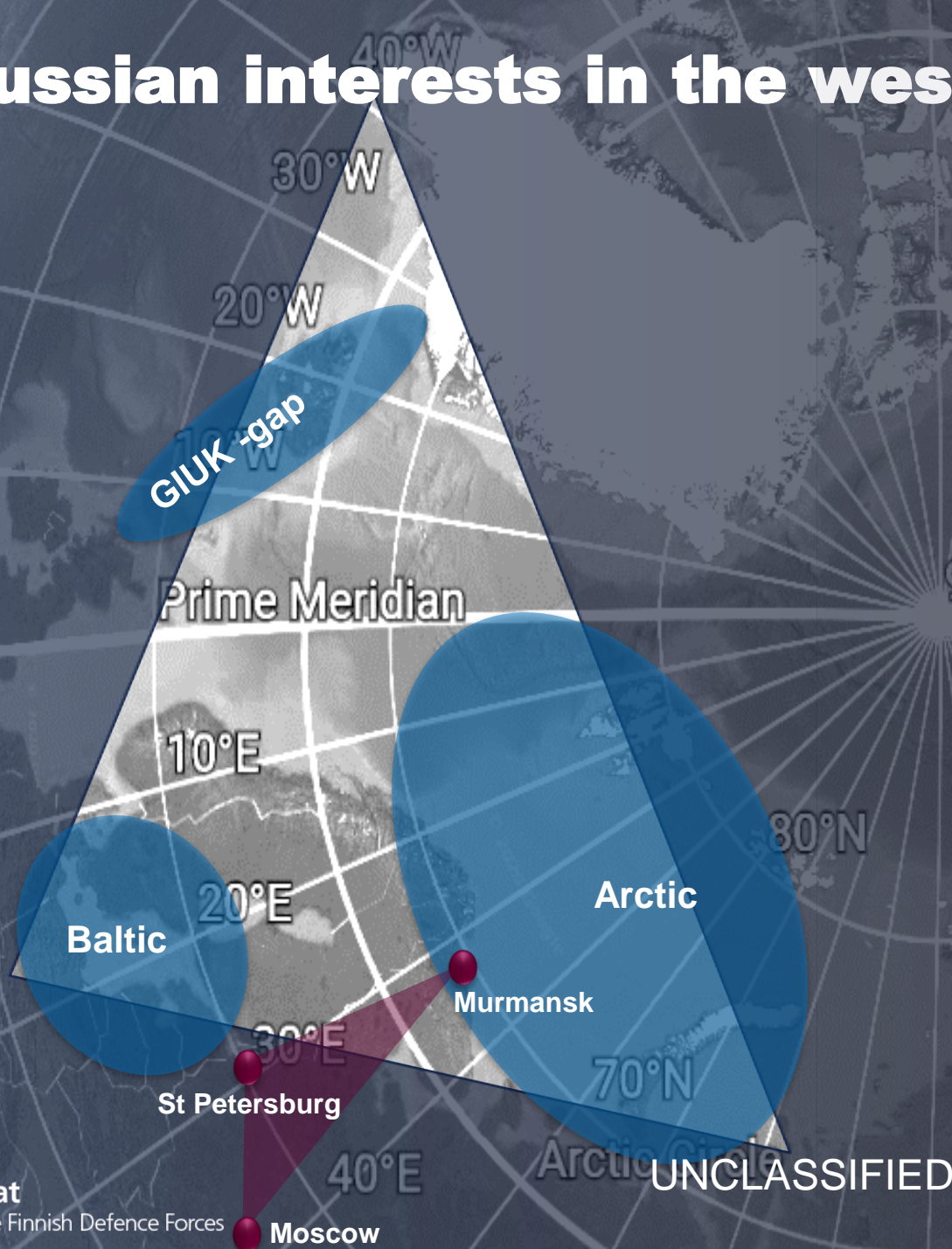
# Outline

1. Operational Environment, Russia
2. Finnish Navy today
3. Securing the Sea-Lines-of-Communication
4. Nato and international co-operation





# Russian interests in the west



- Russian political, economical and population centers to Moscow – St Petersburg areas
- The Arctic area provides an area for Russia's deterrence and also a trade route (Northern Sea Route)
- The Baltic Sea is vital for Russia's connections
- The military significance of the Barents Sea, North Atlantic, Arctic and Baltic Sea derives from the aforementioned facts

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# Vitality of the Baltic Sea for Russia

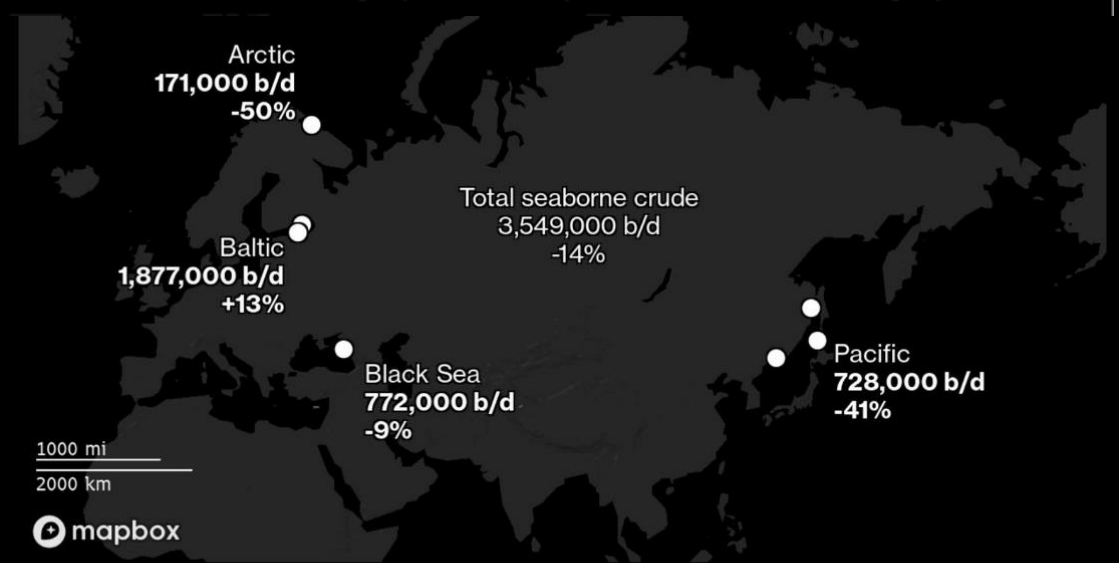
1. Oil exports from Primorsk and Ust-Luga across the whole Baltic Sea
2. St Petersburg and Kaliningrad connection
3. Imports to sustain St Petersburg and Moscow areas





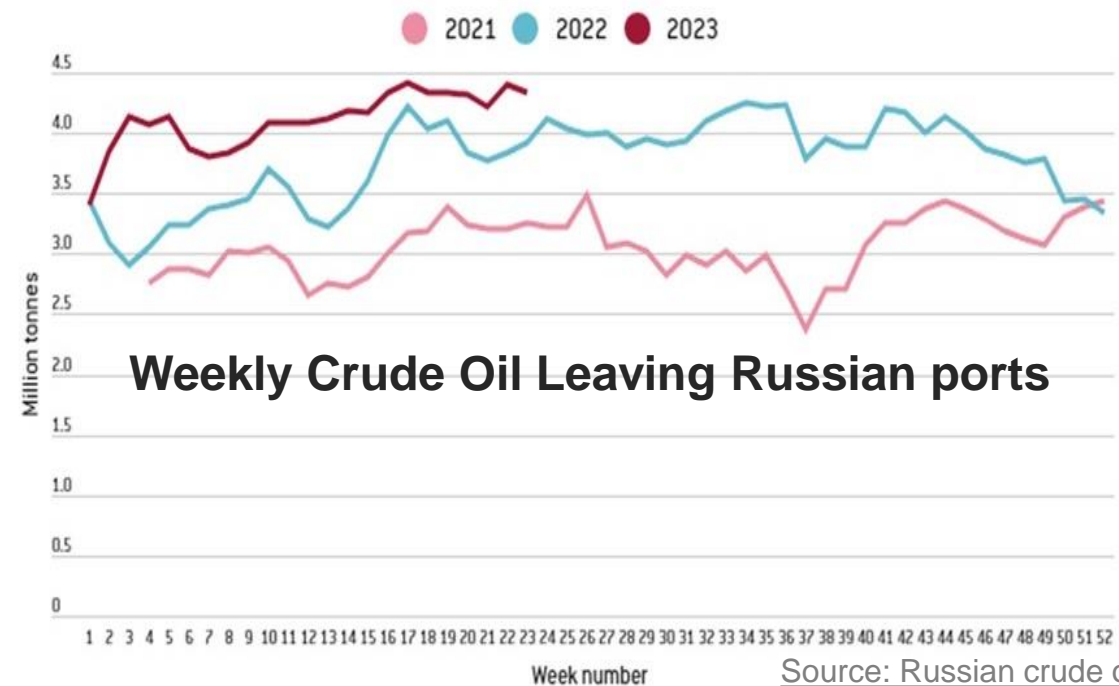
# Russia's Seaborne Crude Flows

Flows in the week ending April 29 compared with week ending April 22



Source: Vessel tracking data monitored by Bloomberg  
Note: Figures for week ending April 22 were revised; b/d - barrels a day

Bloomberg



## Weekly Crude Oil Leaving Russian ports

Source: Russian crude oil tracker (bruegel.org)

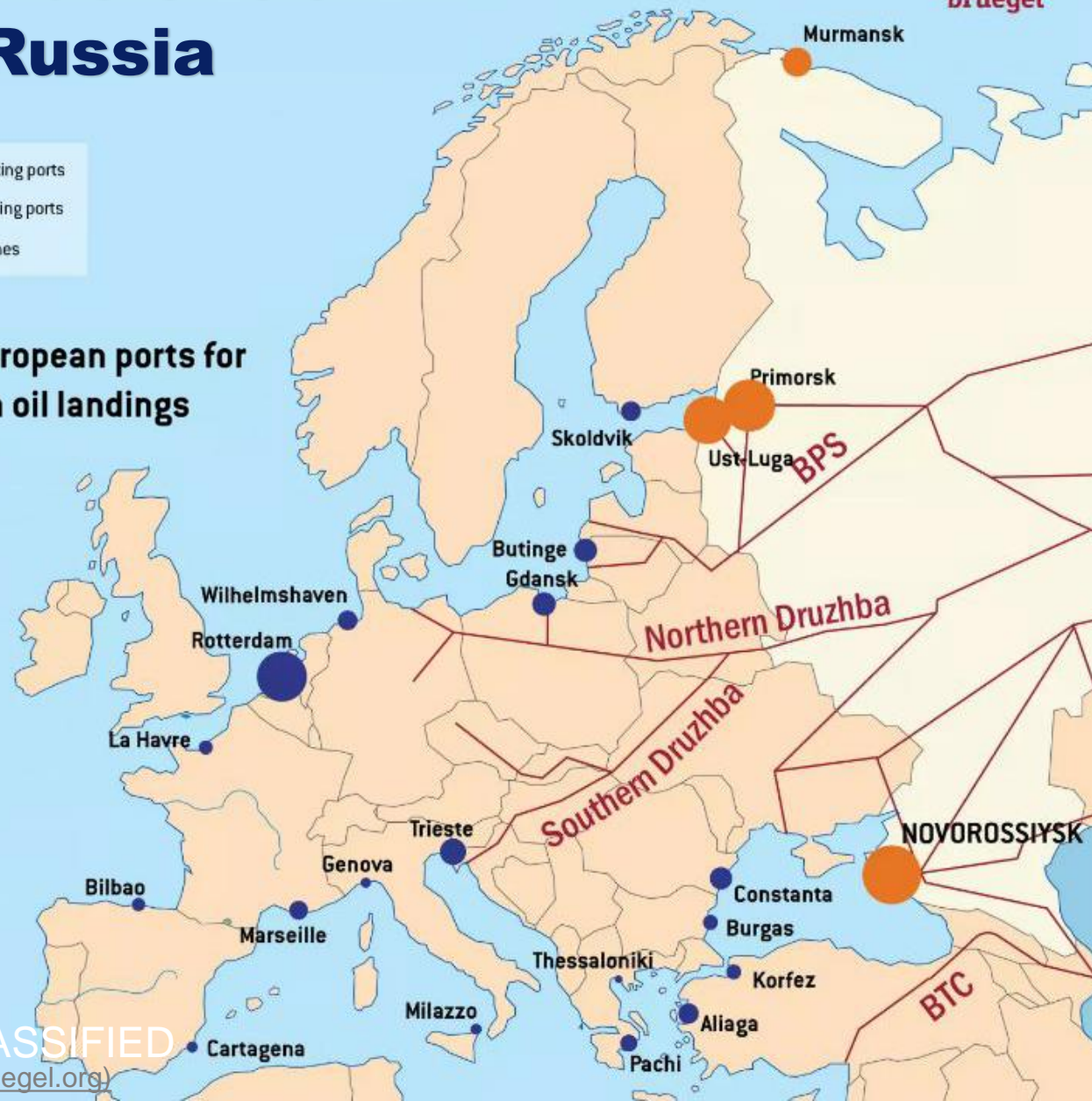
# Importance of Baltic Sea as SLOC to Russia



- Importing ports
- Exporting ports
- Pipelines

## Main European ports for Russian oil landings

Source: Bruegel



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# Maritime threats in the Baltic Sea region

**Military threat**

**Hybrid warfare**

**Maritime accidents**

**Ecological accidents**

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# THE FINNISH NAVY: TASKS

## The Maritime Defence of Finland

- Protection of territorial integrity at sea
- Protection of sea lines of communication
- Repelling attacks from the sea

## Supporting other authorities

- Traffic control
- Diving operations
- EOD
- Oil recovery

## Participation in the provision of international assistance

## Participation in international crisis management

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# Squadron 2020 (Pohjanmaa class)



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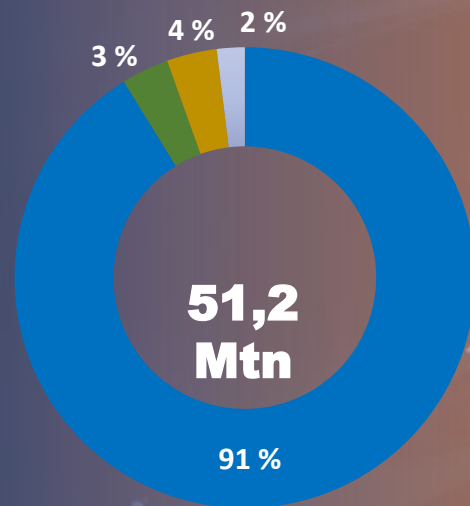
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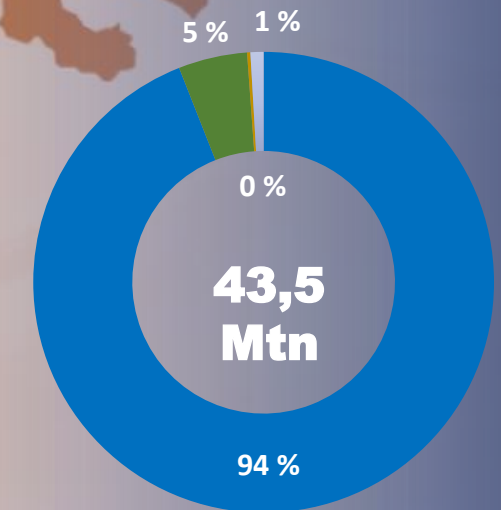
# Finland relies on sea lines of communication

Imports  
(%)



■ Maritime ■ Road ■ Railroad ■ Others

Exports  
(%)



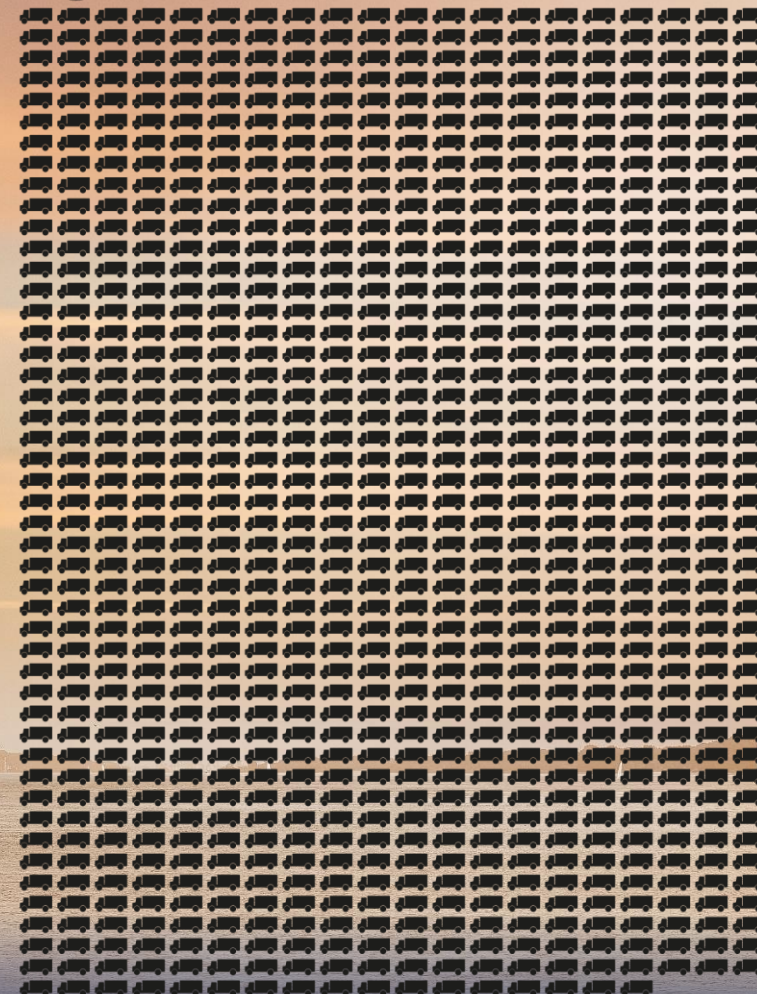
■ Maritime ■ Road ■ Railroad ■ Others





# SLOC - Case 1500 TEU ro-ro ship

Source: Österlund, Bo (2019) Suomen meriliikenteen  
huoltovarmuudelle asetetut tavoitteet ja niiden toteutuminen,  
Sotatieteiden väitöskirja  
Kuva: Pexels







# Securing the Sea-Lines-of-Communication

1. Maintaining the Maritime Traffic's operational prerequisites
2. Operational management of Maritime Traffic
3. Protecting the SLOCs (= task for the Finnish Navy)

**TRAFICOM**  
Finnish Transport and Communications Agency

**Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency**

**FINNPILOT**

**Fintraffic**



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# Finland's integration Nato





# Integration of Finnish Maritime Defence w/ NATO Collective Defence

## FIN Navy starting points



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