List of Close Military Encounters Between Russia and the West, March 2014 – March 2015

Compiled by ELN Researcher Thomas Frear, based on open sources

New incidents following the publication of ELN report Dangerous Brinkmanship, November 2014 to 12 March 2015:

Serious Incidents with Escalation Risk

Serious incidents go beyond the previously established pattern of interaction and involve close encounters of a more aggressive and unusually provocative nature.

1. Near Collision between Russian military jet and Commercial Airliner
   Date: 12/12/14
   States Involved: Sweden; Russia
   Geographical Region: Baltic
   Incident Details: A Russian military aircraft, flying without using its transponders, flies within close proximity of a commercial carrier south of Malmo. Russia has denied that the incident was a danger.
   Category: Serious. Such incidents represent a credible threat to life; Swedish Defence Minister Peter Hultqvist said "This is serious. This is inappropriate. This is outright dangerous when you turn off the transponder."[1]

2. Air/Naval Incident
   Date: Early March 2015
   States Involved: Russia; US; Turkey
   Geographical Region: Black Sea
   Incident Details: Russian fighter-bombers are using NATO warships in the Black Sea to practice attack scenarios.[2]
   Category: Serious. Such actions risk provoking a more proactive defensive response from the captains of these ships should they feel endangered.

Near-Routine incidents

Near Routine incidents are those that generally fit into the previously established pattern of interactions between Russian and Western militaries.

1. Air Incident
   Date: 02/10/14
   States Involved: Sweden; Russia
   Geographical Region: Baltic
   Incident Details: Swedish recon aircraft intercepted by Russian fighters in international airspace off Kaliningrad. Incident is described as dangerous.¹
   Category: Near-Routine

2. Air Incident
   Date: 29/10/14
   States Involved: Russia; Norway
   Geographical Region: Barents Sea
   Incident Details: Norwegian Air Force fighters intercept Russian aircraft off Finmark.²
   Category: Near-Routine

3. Naval Incident
   Date: 31/10/14
   States Involved: Sweden; Russia
   Geographical Region: Baltic
   Incident Details: Possible sighting of a Russian submarine on the outskirts of Stockholm.³ Reliant on one witness
   Category: Near-Routine

4. Air Incident
   Date: 06/11/14
   States Involved: Russia; Unknown NATO
   Geographical Region: Baltic
   Incident Details: NATO fighters intercept Russian recon plane in international airspace near Latvia.⁴
   Category: Near Routine

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5. Air Incident  
Date: 08/11/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; Canada  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** RCAF fighters intercept Russian aircraft in/near Lithuanian airspace.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

6. Air Incident  
Date: 12/11/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; Netherlands; Estonia; Lithuania  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Dutch fighters intercept a Russian transport aircraft after it intruded into Estonian and later Lithuanian airspace.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

7. Air Incident  
Date: 14/11/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; US  
**Geographical Region:** Pacific  
**Incident Details:** Russian bombers circle Guam.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

8. Air Incident  
Date: 15/11/14  
**States Involved:** France; Sweden  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** French plane intercepted “several kilometres” inside Swedish airspace. The Swedes scrambled expecting to intercept a Russian aircraft.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

9. Air Incident  
Date: 30/11/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; Norway  
**Geographical Region:** North Sea  
**Incident Details:** Aggressive manoeuvring by Russian jet near Norwegian fighter. Article includes footage.  
**Category:** Near Routine

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7 Canadian CF-18s intercept Russian jet over Lithuania *Toronto Sun*  

8 Dutch fighters intercept Russian plane over Baltic states *Reuters*  

9 Swedish media mistook French warplane that violated Sweden’s airspace for Russian *Tass*  

10 Too close for comfort: Norwegian fighter jet captures the hair-raising moment he nearly collided mid-air with a Russian MiG *Mail Online*  
10. Naval Incident  
**Date:** Late November 2014  
**States Involved:** Russia; UK; US; France; Canada  
**Geographical Region:** Eastern Atlantic  
**Incident Details:** Suspected hunt for Russian submarine off the west coast of Scotland, large number of NATO members involved is indicative of UK’s lack of maritime patrol aircraft.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

11. Air Incident  
**Date:** 06/07/12/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; Multiple NATO; Sweden; Finland  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Large (“about a dozen”) Russian formation flew out of Kaliningrad around the Baltic, only once entering an ADIZ. What is unusual is that this activity took place on both the Saturday and the Sunday.  
**Category:** Near Routine

12. Air Incident  
**Date:** 07/12/14  
**States Involved:** Portugal; Canada; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Multiple interceptions of Russian bombers and transport aircraft in neutral airspace over the Baltic.  
**Category:** Near Routine

13. Air Incident  
**Date:** 08/12/14  
**States Involved:** Canada; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Beaufort Sea  
**Incident Details:** Russian bombers intercepted approaching or inside Canadian IDIZ.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

14. Air Incident  
**Date:** 08/12/14  
**States Involved:** Netherlands; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Dutch fighters intercept Russian bombers in international airspace near Kaliningrad, video footage of the incident is available.  
**Category:** Near Routine

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11 UK called on Nato help in sub search [BBC](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-30398114)  
Accessed 20 February 2015

12 Russian military ramps up flights near western airspace [CNN](http://edition.cnn.com/2014/12/08/politics/russian-flights-near-nato/)  
Accessed 09 December 2014

Accessed 08 December 2014  
Dutch Air Force releases Baltic Intercept Footage  
Accessed 15 December 2014

14 Russian Bomber Planes Buzz Canada Coastline, Intercepted By Canadian F-18 Fighters [Inquisitr](http://www.inquisitr.com/1669710/russian-bomber-planes-canada/)  
Accessed 15 December 2014

15 F-16’s onderscheppen bewapende Russen (video) [Dutch Ministry of Defence](http://www.defensie.nl/actueel/nieuws/2014/12/09/f-16%E2%80%99s-onderscheppen-bewapende-russen)  
Accessed 15 December 2014
Category: Near-Routine

15. Air Incident  
Date: 18/12/14  
States Involved: Russia; Norway  
Geographical Region: Barents Sea  
Incident Details: Russian recon aircraft intercepted near Finmark

Category: Near-Routine

16. Naval Incident  
Date: Early January 2015  
States Involved: Russia; UK; US  
Geographical Region: Eastern Atlantic  
Incident Details: US surveillance aircraft cooperate with British frigate to track suspected Russian submarine activity around the western Scottish coast, this was linked with the departure of a Vanguard-class sub from Faslane

Category: Near-Routine

17. Air Incident  
Date: 19/01/15  
States Involved: Russia; Spain  
Geographical Region: Baltic  
Incident Details: Interception of unidentified Russian aircraft in international airspace

Category: Near-Routine

18. Air Incident  
Date: 23/01/15  
States Involved: Russia; Spain  
Geographical Region: Baltic  
Incident Details: NATO interception of Russian recon aircraft

Category: Near-Routine

19. Air Incident  
Date: 28/01/15  
States Involved: UK; Russia  
Geographical Region: English Channel  
Incident Details: RAF fighters intercept Russian bombers; at no point did they enter UK airspace  
Conflicting reports as to whether the bombers were nuclear armed

Category: Near-Routine

20. Air Incident
Date: 29-30/01/15
States Involved: Russia; UK
Geographical Region: North Sea
Incident Details: RAF intercept Russian bombers in international airspace
Category: Near-Routine

21. Air Incident
Date: 30/01/15
States Involved: Russia; Italy
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Russian refuelling aircraft intercepted in international airspace
Category: Near-Routine

22. Air Incident
Date: 03/02/15
States Involved: Russia; Italy
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: NATO interception of Russian aircraft in international airspace
Category: Near-Routine

23. Naval Incident
Date: 17/02/15
States Involved: Russia; UK; France
Geographical Region: English Channel
Incident Details: Russian frigate shadowed by Royal Navy warship and French surveillance assets
Category: Near-Routine

24. Air Incident
Date: 18/02/15
States Involved: Russia; Norway; UK; France; Ireland
Geographical Region: Norwegian Sea; Eastern Atlantic; English Channel
Incident Details: Russian bombers shadowed down Norwegian coast and across northern, western and southern British Isles, before being picked up by French air force at the Eastern end of the English Channel. This flightpath also caused disruption of Irish civil aviation.
Category: Near-Routine

21 ‘Only Russia’ dangerously probes British airspace, says source Euronews

22 NATO Scrambles Jets After Russian Refueling Aircraft Flies Over Baltic Sea Sputnik

23 Italian jets stop Russian warplane over Baltic The Local http://www.thelocal.it/20150203/italian-jets-intercept-russian-warplane-over-baltic Accessed 20 February 2015

24 British warship monitors Russian naval vessel through Channel Reuters


26 Russian Bombers Fly Near Ireland RFE/RL http://www.rferl.org/content/russian-bombers-ireland-26880967.html Accessed 04 March 2015
Full List of all 66 Incidents Logged by the ELN between March 2014 and 12 March 2015

High Risk Incidents

High Risk incidents are defined as those with a high probability of causing casualties or a direct military confrontation between Russia and Western states.

1. Nearly-avoided collision between an airliner and Russian reconnaissance aircraft
   **Date:** 03/03/14
   **States involved:** Denmark; Russia
   **Geographical Region:** International airspace over the Baltic Sea, 50 miles south of Malmo
   **Incident details:** An SAS 737 plane with 132 passengers taking off from Copenhagen airport and heading towards Rome narrowly avoids collision with a Russian reconnaissance aircraft due to the latter’s not broadcasting its position.²⁷
   **Category:** High Risk. Had a collision occurred, this would have caused a major diplomatic response, condemnation and further isolation of Russia. It would have almost certainly resulted in a much heavier NATO air presence in the Baltic, thus increasing the opportunity for further escalatory measures.

2. Abduction of an Estonian security service operative
   **Date:** 05/09/14
   **States Involved:** Estonia; Russia
   **Geographical Region:** Estonian-Russian Border
   **Incident Details:** Estonian security service operative captured by Russian agents on Estonian territory, the raid involved communications jamming and smoke grenades. This incident took place immediately after President Obama’s visit to the region and his repetition of security assurances to the Baltic States.²⁸
   **Category:** High Risk. Incursion into NATO member state’s territory. Possibility of using similar tactics to test the resolve on the Alliance with limited operations beyond the threshold of an armed aggression. Had the Estonian official or his colleagues resisted, fatalities on either side would have been a catalyst for further escalation.

3. Swedish “underwater activity” hunt
   **Date:** 17-27/10/14
   **States Involved:** Sweden; Russia (?)
   **Geographical Region:** Stockholm archipelago, Swedish territorial waters

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Incident Details: Major submarine hunt for prompted by reports of “underwater activity” in Swedish territorial waters. Supreme Commander General Sverker Göranson underlined that Sweden was ready to use “armed force” to bring the vessel to the surface if necessary. Russia issued denials and attempted to ridicule Swedish concerns. Major search operation stopped on Oct. 24, Swedish military stated that “foreign underwater activity” probably has taken place, with at least one unidentified vessel involved.29

Category: High Risk. Biggest anti-submarine operation in Sweden since the Cold War. May have confirmed beyond doubt more aggressive Russian surveillance / probing operations against Sweden in breach of international law. Use of force by Sweden may have resulted in casualties and cause international humiliation for Russia, if found responsible for violation.

Serious Incidents with Escalation Risk

Serious incidents go beyond the previously established pattern of interaction and involve close encounters of a more aggressive and unusually provocative nature.

1. US warship harassed by Russian aircraft in the Black Sea

**Date:** 12/04/14  
**States involved:** United States; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Black Sea  
**Incident Details:** An unarmed Russian fighter aircraft made 12 passes of the American warship the USS Cook.  
**Category:** Serious. Such aggressive behaviour, if repeated by an armed aircraft, could have resulted in the ship commander targeting the aircraft in an act of self-defence.

2. Russian fighter threatens US aircraft

**Date:** 23/04/14  
**States Involved:** United States; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Sea of Okhotsk  
**Incident Details:** Armed Russian fighter undertakes very threatening manoeuvres in the vicinity of an American recon aircraft. These involve demonstrating that the fighter is armed.  
**Category:** Serious. Such behaviour is far removed from what would be expected in a relatively routine encounter.

3. Simulated attack by Russia aircraft on Denmark

**Date:** June 2014  
**States Involved:** Russia; simulating attack on Denmark  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic Sea  
**Incident Details:** armed Russian aircraft approached the heavily populated Danish island of Bornholm before breaking off in what appears to have been a simulated attack.  
**Category:** Serious. The Danish intelligence service described the incident as “of a more offensive character than observed in recent years.” At the time of the simulation, the island in question was hosting a major meeting of Danish politicians and journalists.

4. Provocative Russian action aimed at Swedish aircraft

**Date:** 16/07/14  
**States Involved:** Sweden; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic

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30 Russian aircraft flies near US Navy ship in Black Sea US Department of Defense  
31 US official: ‘Dangerous’ Russian jet fly-by was ‘straight out of a movie’ CNN  
32 Russia simulated an attack on Denmark The Local http://www.thelocal.dk/20141031/russia-simulated-a-military-attack-on-denmark Accessed 04 November 2014
**Incident Details:** Armed Russian aircraft intercepts Swedish surveillance plane conducting operations between Gotland and Latvia in international airspace, flies 10 m from the plane.\(^{33}\)

**Category:** Serious. Indicated more aggressive approach by intercepting aircraft than in previous encounters

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5. **US aircraft violates Swedish airspace in an effort to avoid Russian interceptor**

**Date:** 18/07/14

**States Involved:** United States; Sweden; Russia

**Geographical Region:** Baltic

**Incident Details:** An American surveillance plane conducting operations near Kaliningrad took refuge in Swedish air-space after being approached by Russian fighters. This evasive action took place without prior Swedish approval.\(^{34}\)

**Category:** Serious. Indicated more aggressive approach by intercepting aircraft than in previous encounters and forced the U.S. aircraft to violate Swedish airspace

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6. **Multiple breaches of Finnish air-space by Russian state aircraft**

**Date:** Late August

**States Involved:** Finland; Russia

**Geographical Region:** Finland/ Gulf of Finland

**Incident Details:** Multiple breaches of Finnish air-space by Russian state aircraft.\(^{35}\)

**Category:** Serious. Finland has already articulated that it will respond more firmly to future violations, this is already an escalation.

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7. **Canadian warship harassed by Russian aircraft in the Black Sea**

**Date:** 07/09/14

**States Involved:** Canada; Russia

**Geographical Region:** Black Sea

**Incident Details:** HMCS Toronto (frigate) was buzzed by a Russian aircraft, with the jet coming within 300 metres of the warship. HMCS Toronto locked its radar on Russian planes but took no further

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action as the aircraft were not armed. This coincided with Russian naval combat training near Sevastopol.\(^{36}\)

**Category:** Serious. Such aggressive behaviour, if repeated by an armed aircraft, could have resulted in the ship commander targeting the aircraft in an act of self-defence.

**8. Violation of Swedish airspace**

**Date:** 17/09/14  
**States Involved:** Sweden; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Two Russian military aircraft crossed into Swedish air-space south of the island of Oland.\(^{37}\)

**Category:** Serious. Su-24 bombers intentionally violated Swedish airspace possibly to test capabilities of air defence system strengthened after previous incidents. Swedish Foreign Minister described it as ‘most serious aerial incursion’ in years.

**9. Lithuanian vessel detained in international waters**

**Date:** 19/09/14  
**States Involved:** Lithuania; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Barents Sea  
**Incident Details:** Russian officers detained a Lithuanian shipping vessel in international waters in the Barents Sea, subsequently towing it to Murmansk.\(^{38}\)

**Category:** Serious. This is a clear escalation in terms of Russian provocations toward the Baltic States.

**10. Russian fighter flies “within metres” of Swedish surveillance aircraft**

**Date:** 03/10/14  
**States Involved:** Sweden; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Russian fighter flies “within metres” of Swedish surveillance aircraft, the incident is deemed “unusually provocative”.\(^{39}\)

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\(^{36}\) Aboard HMCS Toronto for ‘Operation Reassurance’ on the Black Sea CTV News  

\(^{37}\) Lithuania and Russia exchange diplomatic notes over detained fishing vessel The Lithuania Tribune  

\(^{38}\) Russian jet flew ‘metres’ from Swedish plane The Local  
Category: Serious. Collision between the aircraft would have serious repercussions for bilateral relations and increased military tensions in the Baltic area

11. Massive surge of activity of Russian aviation along NATO borders
Date: 28-30/10/14
States Involved: Russia; several NATO states involved in tracking and intercepting Russian aircraft (incl. Norway, UK, Germany, Denmark, Portugal, Turkey), Finland, Sweden
Geographical Region: North Sea, Atlantic, Baltic, Black Sea
Incident Details: In a series of developments, aircraft from NATO states and partners tracked Russian long-range bombers conducting missions over the North Sea, Atlantic and the Black Sea, as well as big formation of Russian fighter and bombers conducting missions over the Baltic Sea; all missions conducted in international airspace.
Category: Serious. Large-scale Russian air operation involving different kind of aircraft and different zones of operation, most likely conducted both to test the preparedness of NATO and partners’ defence systems against multiple threats and to signal Russia’s readiness and capabilities to confront NATO, if necessary. While no incursion into any national airspace was reported, the operation added to increased tensions along the NATO-Russia borders

12. Near Collision between Russian military jet and Commercial Airliner
Date: 12/12/14
States Involved: Sweden; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: A Russian military aircraft, flying without using its transponders, flies within close proximity of a commercial carrier south of Malmo. Russia has denied that the incident was a danger.
Category: Serious. Such incidents represent a credible threat to life; Swedish Defence Minister Peter Hultqvist said "This is serious. This is inappropriate. This is outright dangerous when you turn off the transponder.”

13. Air/Naval Incident
Date: Early March 2015
States Involved: Russia; US; Turkey
Geographical Region: Black Sea
Incident Details: Russian fighter-bombers are using NATO warships in the Black Sea to practice attack scenarios.
Category: Serious. Such actions risk provoking a more proactive defensive response from the captains of these ships should they feel endangered.

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Near-Routine incidents

Near Routine incidents are those that generally fit into the previously established pattern of interactions between Russian and Western militaries.

1. Maritime incident
Date: 10/04/14
States Involved: Lithuania; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Two Russian Navy vessels involved in live missile firing exercises entered Lithuania’s Baltic maritime economic zone, disrupting shipping.\(^{43}\)
Category: Near-Routine

2. Air Incident
Date: 20/04/14
States Involved: Sweden; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Russian recon aircraft observes Swedish military installations. Unclear if there was a Swedish response.\(^{44}\)
Category: Near-Routine.

3. Air Incident
Date: 23/04/14
States Involved: Netherlands; Russia
Geographical Region: North Sea
Incident Details: Russian aircraft entered Dutch airspace before being intercepted by Dutch fighter aircraft.\(^{45}\)
Category: Near-Routine

4. Air Incident
Date: 24/04/14
States Involved: United Kingdom; Russia
Geographical Region: North Sea
Incident Details: RAF fighters intercept and shadow Russian aircraft in international airspace.\(^{46}\)


Category: Near-Routine

5. Air Incident
Date: 28/04/14
States Involved: United States; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: NATO Baltic Air Policing force scrambled to intercept Russian aircraft in international airspace.47
Category: Near-Routine

6. Maritime/Air Incident
Date: 18/05/14
States Involved: United Kingdom; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: RAF fighters intercept a Russian helicopter and shadow it back to its parent corvette; the fighters perform several passes of the warship.48
Category: Near-Routine

7. Air Incident
Date: 09/05/14
States Involved: United States; Russia
Geographical Region: Eastern Pacific
Incident Details: Russian aircraft approach to within 50 miles of the Californian coast, the closest such flight since the Cold War.49
Category: Near-Routine

8. Air Incident
Date: Late May, Early June
States Involved: United States; Canada; Russia
Geographical Region: Arctic
Incident Details: Incursions by Russian aircraft into US and Canadian ADIZs in the Arctic.50
Category: Near-Routine

46 RAF fighter jets scrambled to investigate Russian planes BBC http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-27130125 Accessed 29 October 2014
47 Latvian Army Twitter https://twitter.com/Latvijas_armija/status/460860368622198784 Accessed 29 October 2014
9. Air Incident
Date: 17/06/14
States Involved: United Kingdom; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: RAF fighters intercept a Russian air formation in international airspace.\(^51\)
Category: Near-Routine

10. Air Incident
Date: 12/06/14
States Involved: Multiple NATO; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: NATO fighters intercept Russian aircraft in international airspace near Latvia.\(^52\)
Category: Near-Routine

11. Maritime Incident
Date: 19/06/14
States Involved: United Kingdom; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: HMS Montrose (frigate) sent to investigate Russian corvette in international waters near Denmark’s Baltic coast, HMS Montrose subsequently circled by Russian maritime patrol aircraft.\(^53\)
Category: Near-Routine

12. Air Incident
Date: 21/05/14-13/08/14
States Involved: Russia; Estonia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: A series of short airspace violations by Russian aircraft over the Estonian island of Vaindloo.\(^54\)
Category: Near-Routine\(^55\)

\(^51\) Royal Air Force Typhoons intercept Russian aircraft Royal Air Force
\(^52\) UK says jets were scrambled to see off Russian planes near Baltics Reuters
http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/06/18/uk-britain-nato-baltic-idUKKBN0ET1X520140618 Accessed 29 October 2014
\(^53\) Royal Navy investigates mystery Russian warship in Baltic The Telegraph
\(^54\) Russian planes straying into foreign airspace Posttimes
\(^55\) Vaindloo Island is situated in the Gulf of Finland and falls under the air traffic control system of St Petersburg rather than Tallinn. This, combined with an increase in air traffic due to military exercises in Kaliningrad (most of the violations are by transport aircraft), may explain the violations.
13. Air Incident  
**Date:** 01/08/14  
**States Involved:** Poland; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Polish fighters of the NATO Baltic air-policing mission intercepted Russian aircraft flying near Estonia air-space.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

14. Air Incident  
**Date:** Early August  
**States Involved:** United States; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Arctic  
**Incident Details:** Several Russian incursions into the Alaskan ADIZ.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

15. Maritime Incident  
**Date:** 07/08/14  
**States Involved:** United States (?); Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Barents Sea  
**Incident Details:** Anti-submarine forces of Russia’s Northern Fleet expel and American submarine from the Barents Sea. The US denies its submarines were operating in the area.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

16. Air Incident  
**Date:** 28/08/14  
**States Involved:** Unknown NATO; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** No details beyond aircraft type except that incident took place over the Baltic.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

17. Maritime/Air Incident  
**Date:** August/September  
**States Involved:** Russia; Finland  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic

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**Incident Details:** Russian naval and air units interfered with the course of a Finnish research vessel on two occasions.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

18. **Air Incident**  
**Date:** Early September  
**States Involved:** Russia; Canada; US  
**Geographical Region:** Northern Atlantic  
**Incident Details:** Russian strategic bombers near Canada practice cruise missile strikes on US. The Russian aircraft stayed outside of Canada’s ADIZ but this is still a provocative move in light of the NATO summit. Cruise missiles launched from the Labrador Sea would have in range Ottawa, New York, Washington, Chicago, and the Norfolk Naval Base.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

19. **Air Incident**  
**Date:** 11/09/14  
**States Involved:** Canada; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Canadian interception of Russian aircraft in international airspace.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

20. **Air Incident**  
**Date:** 17-18/09/14  
**States Involved:** United States; Canada; Russia  
**Geographical Region:** Arctic  
**Incident Details:** Russian jets entered the ADIZ off the coast of Alaska (officials say such incidents happen around 10 times a year) on two separate occasions, once on the evening of Wednesday 17th Sep (USA ADIZ) and once on the morning of Thursday 18th Sep (Canadian ADIZ, Beaufort Sea). The Russian planes were intercepted by American and Canadian fighters. These incidents coincide with Ukrainian President’ Petro Poroshenko visit to Ottawa and Washington.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

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60 Finland says Russian navy interfered with Baltic Sea research vessel Reuters  

61 Russian strategic bombers near Canada practice cruise missile strikes on US The Washington Free Beacon  

62 Canadian fighter jets intercept Russian military aircraft in Baltics National Post  

63 Six Russian fighter jets intercepted off Alaska BBC  
21. Air Incident
Date: 19/09/14
States Involved: United Kingdom; Russia
Geographical Region: North Sea
Incident Details: RAF shadow Russian aircraft in international airspace.64
Category: Near-Routine

22. Maritime Incident
Date: 29/09/14
States Involved: Latvia; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Latvian forces observe Russian warship operating 14 miles from Latvian territorial waters; article observes that Russian jets and warships have been detected 173 times near Latvia’s borders as of September 1.65
Category: Near-Routine

23. Air Incident
Date: 02/10/14
States Involved: Sweden; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Swedish recon aircraft intercepted by Russian fighters in international airspace off Kaliningrad. Incident is described as dangerous.66
Category: Near-Routine

24. Air Incident
Date: 20/10/14
States Involved: Lithuania (Canadian CF-18); Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Baltic Air Policing interception of Russian surveillance Il-20 aircraft in international airspace.67
Category: Near-Routine

25. Air Incident
Date: 21/10/14
States Involved: Estonia (Portugal); Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic

64 RAF Typhoons scramble to long-range Russian bombers The Telegraph

65 Russian navy ship spotted near Latvian waters The Baltic Times


67 NATO intercepts Russian jets over Baltic Sea Mail Online http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-2801825/NATO-intercepts-Russian-jets-Baltic-Sea.html Accessed 29 October 2014
**Incident Details:** Baltic Air Policing (Portuguese F-16) intercepts Russian Il-20 surveillance aircraft which entered Estonian airspace next to the island of Saarema for about a minute.68

**Category:** Near-Routine

26. Air Incident

**Date:** 29/10/14

**States Involved:** Russia; Norway

**Geographical Region:** Barents Sea

**Incident Details:** Norwegian Air Force fighters intercept Russian aircraft off Finmark.69

**Category:** Near-Routine

27. Air Incident

**Date:** 31/10/14

**States Involved:** Russia; UK

**Geographical Region:** North Sea

**Incident Details:** RAF intercepts Russian aircraft approaching UK airspace.70

**Category:** Near Routine

28. Naval Incident

**Date:** 31/10/14

**States Involved:** Sweden; Russia

**Geographical Region:** Baltic

**Incident Details:** Possible sighting of a Russian submarine on the outskirts of Stockholm.71 Repliant on one witness

**Category:** Near-Routine

29. Air Incident

**Date:** 06/11/14

**States Involved:** Russia; Unknown NATO

**Geographical Region:** Baltic

**Incident Details:** NATO fighters intercept Russian recon plane in international airspace near Latvia.72

**Category:** Near Routine

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68 Fighters scrambled as Russian sypplane violates Estonian airspace Financial Times
   http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/8e28123e-5a09-11e4-8771-00144feab7de.html#axzz3GxGUDjsj Accessed 29 October 2014

69 Norwegian F-16s took some stunning pictures of Russian Su-34 fighter bombers flying off Norway The Aviationist

70 RAF intercepts Russian bomber approaching UK airspace The Guardian
   http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/nov/01/raf-russian-bomber-uk-airspace Accessed 03 November 2014

71 The Curious case of the second submarine spotted in Stockholm’s archipelago Foreign Policy

72 Nato F-16s scrambled over Baltic after Russian military spy plane spotted International Business Times
   http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/nato-f-16s-scrambled-over-baltic-after-russian-military-spy-plane-spotted-1473549
   Accessed 07 November 2014
30. Air Incident  
**Date:** 08/11/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; Canada  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** RCAF fighters intercept Russian aircraft in/near Lithuanian airspace.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

31. Air Incident  
**Date:** 12/11/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; Netherlands; Estonia; Lithuania  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Dutch fighters intercept a Russian transport aircraft after it intruded into Estonian and later Lithuanian airspace.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

32. Air Incident  
**Date:** 14/11/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; US  
**Geographical Region:** Pacific  
**Incident Details:** Russian bombers circle Guam.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

33. Air Incident  
**Date:** 15/11/14  
**States Involved:** France; Sweden  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** French plane intercepted “several kilometres” inside Swedish airspace. The Swedes scrambled expecting to intercept a Russian aircraft.  
**Category:** Near-Routine

34. Air Incident  
**Date:** 30/11/14  
**States Involved:** Russia; Norway  
**Geographical Region:** North Sea  
**Incident Details:** Aggressive manoeuvring by Russian jet near Norwegian fighter. Article includes footage.  
**Category:** Near Routine

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73 Canadian CF-18s intercept Russian jet over Lithuania *Toronto Sun*  
Accessed 12 November 2014

74 Dutch fighters intercept Russian plane over Baltic states *Reuters*  
Accessed 13 November 2014

75 Swedish media mistook French warplane that violated Sweden’s airspace for Russian *Tass*  
Accessed 17 November 2014

76 Too close for comfort: Norwegian fighter jet captures the hair-raising moment he nearly collided mid-air with a Russian MIG *Mail Online*  
Accessed 04 December 2014
35. Naval Incident
Date: Late November 2014
States Involved: Russia; UK; US; France; Canada
Geographical Region: Eastern Atlantic
Incident Details: Suspected hunt for Russian submarine off the west coast of Scotland, large number of NATO members involved is indicative of UK’s lack of maritime patrol aircraft.
Category: Near-Routine

36. Air Incident
Date: 06/07/12/14
States Involved: Russia; Multiple NATO; Sweden; Finland
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Large (“about a dozen”) Russian formation flew out of Kaliningrad around the Baltic, only once entering an ADIZ. What is unusual is that this activity took place on both the Saturday and the Sunday.
Category: Near Routine

37. Air Incident
Date: 07/12/14
States Involved: Portugal; Canada; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Multiple interceptions of Russian bombers and transport aircraft in neutral airspace over the Baltic.
Category: Near Routine

38. Air Incident
Date: 08/12/14
States Involved: Canada; Russia
Geographical Region: Beaufort Sea
Incident Details: Russian bombers intercepted approaching or inside Canadian IDIZ.
Category: Near Routine

39. Air Incident
Date: 08/12/14
States Involved: Netherlands; Russia
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Dutch fighters intercept Russian bombers in international airspace near Kaliningrad, video footage of the incident is available.

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Category: Near-Routine

40. Air Incident
Date: 18/12/14
States Involved: Russia; Norway
Geographical Region: Barents Sea
Incident Details: Russian recon aircraft intercepted near Finmark
Category: Near-Routine

41. Naval Incident
Date: Early January 2015
States Involved: Russia; UK; US
Geographical Region: Eastern Atlantic
Incident Details: US surveillance aircraft cooperate with British frigate to track suspected Russian submarine activity around the western Scottish coast, this was linked with the departure of a Vanguard-class sub from Faslane
Category: Near-Routine

42. Air Incident
Date: 19/01/15
States Involved: Russia; Spain
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: Interception of unidentified Russian aircraft in international airspace
Category: Near-Routine

43. Air Incident
Date: 23/01/15
States Involved: Russia; Spain
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: NATO interception of Russian recon aircraft
Category: Near-Routine

44. Air Incident
Date: 28/01/15
States Involved: UK; Russia
Geographical Region: English Channel
Incident Details: RAF fighters intercept Russian bombers; at no point did they enter UK airspace
Category: Near-Routine

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45. Air Incident  
**Date:** 29-30/01/15  
**States Involved:** Russia; UK  
**Geographical Region:** North Sea  
**Incident Details:** RAF intercept Russian bombers in international airspace  
**Category:** Near-Routine

46. Air Incident  
**Date:** 30/01/15  
**States Involved:** Russia; Italy  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** Russian refuelling aircraft intercepted in international airspace  
**Category:** Near-Routine

47. Air Incident  
**Date:** 03/02/15  
**States Involved:** Russia; Italy  
**Geographical Region:** Baltic  
**Incident Details:** NATO interception of Russian aircraft in international airspace  
**Category:** Near-Routine

48. Naval Incident  
**Date:** 17/02/15  
**States Involved:** Russia; UK; France  
**Geographical Region:** English Channel  
**Incident Details:** Russian frigate shadowed by Royal Navy warship and French surveillance assets  
**Category:** Near-Routine

49. Air Incident  
**Date:** 18/02/15  
**States Involved:** Russia; Norway; UK; France; Ireland  
**Geographical Region:** Norwegian Sea; Eastern Atlantic; English Channel  
**Incident Details:** Russian bombers shadowed down Norwegian coast and across northern, western and southern British Isles, before being picked up by French air force at the Eastern end of the English Channel. This flightpath also caused disruption of Irish civil aviation.
 
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87 ‘Only Russia’ dangerously probes British airspace, says source Euronews  
Accessed 20 February 2015

88 NATO Scrambles Jets After Russian Refueling Aircraft Flies Over Baltic Sea Sputnik  
[http://sputniknews.com/europe/20150130/1017555513.html](http://sputniknews.com/europe/20150130/1017555513.html)  
Accessed 20 February 2015

89 Italian jets stop Russian warplane over Baltic The Local  
[http://www.thelocal.it/20150203/italian-jets-intercept-russian-warplane-over-baltic](http://www.thelocal.it/20150203/italian-jets-intercept-russian-warplane-over-baltic)  
Accessed 20 February 2015

90 British warship monitors Russian naval vessel through Channel Reuters  
Accessed 20 February 2015

91 RAF jets scrambled after Russian bombers seen off Cornwall BBC News  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-31530840](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-31530840)  
Accessed 11 March 2015

92 Russian Bombers Fly Near Ireland RFE/RL  
[http://www.rferl.org/content/russian-bombers-ireland/26880967.html](http://www.rferl.org/content/russian-bombers-ireland/26880967.html)  
Accessed 04 March 2015
50. Air Incident
Date: 10/03/15
States Involved: Russia; Italy
Geographical Region: Baltic
Incident Details: NATO fighters intercept Russian fuel tanker
Category: Near-Routine

93 NATO Fighter Jets Scramble to Intercept Russian Fuel Tanker Over Baltic Sea Sputnik