

Scandinavia’s “Media Investigation” on Russia’s Alleged “Sabotage Plans”: Intended to Distract from Sy Hersh’s Nord Stream Report?

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Scandinavia’s fake news about Russia was released at this particular point in time and specifically included the claim that Moscow is considering acts of sabotage in NATO-controlled waters so as to distract from Hersh’s report and revive the false story that the Kremlin blew up Nord Stream. Just like the New York Times’ report from last month, this latest one from a collection of Northern European media outlets is therefore also nothing more than an information warfare provocation.

A joint “[media investigation](#)” by the Scandinavian countries of Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden just claimed that Russia has been using at least 50 civilian ships to spy on the North Sea for the past decade in speculative preparation of possibly carrying out acts of sabotage sometime in the future. Kremlin spokesman Peskov [denied](#) these allegations and accused those countries of trying to distract from last September’s [Nord Stream terrorist attack](#).

Russia uses civilian boats to spy in the North Sea, joint report says

Moscow's invasion of Ukraine increases fears about the vulnerability of Europe's critical infrastructure.



According to experts and intelligence officials, these reconnaissance missions could be a first step toward sabotaging critical infrastructure | Carl Court/Getty Images

Screenshot from Politico

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **Seymour Hersh** cited unnamed US administration sources to [report](#) in early February that Biden personally authorized that attack, which most folks already figured but it was nevertheless extremely newsworthy for this to come from someone as reputable like him. Around a month later, the New York Times (NYT) [ran a story](#) claiming to have uncovered the alleged culprit, which they said was a rogue group of people who weren't connected to any government.

[“The US’ Latest Disinfo Campaign About The Nord Stream Terrorist Attacks Was Preplanned”](#), however, since the argument can compellingly be made that the US planted the seeds of an alternative narrative to rely upon as a backup plan in the event that the truth started leaking out like it did in Hersh's report. It's within this context that the Scandinavian states' "media investigation" was published, thus extending credence to similar concerns that it's also nothing more than a distraction from that journalist's work.

After all, those outlets claimed that Russia has supposedly been spying on the North Sea through these means for the past ten years, and it's extremely unlikely that they suddenly stumbled upon relevant "evidence" in support of that conclusion at this particular point in time. Rather, they were almost certainly fed this information by those countries' intelligence services, with possible input from NATO as a whole and/or its US leader.

It's unclear whether there's any truth to their report, but it wouldn't be surprising if there's at least a kernel thereof since it's a clever way to spy on the NATO-controlled North Sea. That, however, doesn't mean that this was being done in speculative preparation of possibly carrying out acts of sabotage there sometime in the future. This part of their report was

probably included purely to revive the completely ridiculous narrative that Russia was the one responsible for the Nord Stream terrorist attack.

Whatever the purpose of Russia's alleged spying in those waters may have been, it's highly unlikely to have concerned sabotage except as an absolute last resort in the event of a conventional war with NATO. The reason behind this assessment is that only a state-level actor or a false flag "non-state" one connected to a state actor is capable of carrying out such acts, especially in waters that are completely controlled by and under the total surveillance of that US-led bloc, and doing so would be an act of war.

It's with this in mind that Peskov's denial should be taken seriously since it's unrealistic to imagine that Russia is plotting impending acts of sabotage there that it would definitely be caught committing red-handed in the fringe scenario that this is attempted. This doesn't mean that Moscow wasn't possibly spying on NATO's naval activities in the North Sea, but just that this wasn't done for the purpose of plotting sabotage except as an absolute last if it ever formally went to war with that bloc.

Considering this, Scandinavia's fake news about Russia was released at this particular point in time and specifically included the claim that Moscow is considering acts of sabotage in NATO-controlled waters so as to distract from Hersh's report and revive the false story that the Kremlin blew up Nord Stream. Just like the NYT's report from last month, this latest one from a collection of Northern European media outlets is therefore also nothing more than an information warfare provocation.

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