

Russia Intercepts Swedish Spy Plane Over Baltic, Posts Video Footage

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Russia's Defense Ministry has published video footage of its fighter jets intercepting a Swedish reconnaissance plane over the Baltic Sea.

Russia and NATO countries have increasingly [scrambled](#) their jets to [intercept](#) each other's aircraft in recent years. Military think-tanks have [warned](#) of growing Russian-NATO airspace interactions as tensions at their borders are on the rise.

The Russian Defense Ministry's video released on Wednesday [shows](#) a Sukhoi Su-27 Flanker fighter jet approaching what it says is a Swedish surveillance plane.

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"The Su-27 crew approached the airborne target at a safe distance, identified it as a Swedish Air Force Gulfstream, which was flying without a transponder turned on," the ministry said.

It said the fighter jet returned to its home airfield after escorting the aircraft from the Russian border.

Meanwhile, the Swedish Defense Forces [accused](#) Russia in a statement on its website of violating its airspace on Jan. 19. It is unclear if the two incidents were related.

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