

Estonia Plans 150 Bunkers Along Border With Russia

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Construction on the Baltic Defense Line. **RKIK / Hendrik Tali**

Estonia plans to construct 150 bunkers along its northeastern border with Russia's Leningrad region as part of a broader Baltic defense initiative, the public broadcaster ERR [reported](#) Wednesday.

"One hundred of them will be on state land, and around 50 on municipal or private land," Estonian Defense Minister Martin Herem reportedly told lawmakers.

Herem said the government is negotiating agreements with private landowners in the northeastern county of Ida-Viru, with options ranging from compensation to long-term leases and direct property buyouts.

The installations will form the so-called Baltic Defense Line, an agreement that Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania [announced](#) in 2024 to build a series of bunkers along their borders with Russia and Belarus to defend against potential attacks.

Earlier this month, the Financial Times [reported](#) that Estonia, a nation of 1.3 million people, had pivoted toward an “active defense” strategy after studying Russia’s military tactics in Ukraine.

Under the updated doctrine, Estonia has been relocating primary combat units to towns along the border with the Leningrad region. In Narva, construction is underway for facilities that can house up to 1,000 soldiers during a crisis situation.

Kremlin officials have downplayed the Estonian troop movements near the border while asserting that Russian intelligence maintains full surveillance over NATO deployments along the frontier.

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