

# ATOMIC BALTIC

A map of the Baltic Sea region, including parts of Europe and Asia. The sea area is highlighted with a red and white checkered pattern. The landmasses are shown in a dark grey color. The background is a solid light blue.

**Atomic Threats  
In The Baltic Sea  
Region**

*- Mielno, January 26, 2015 -*

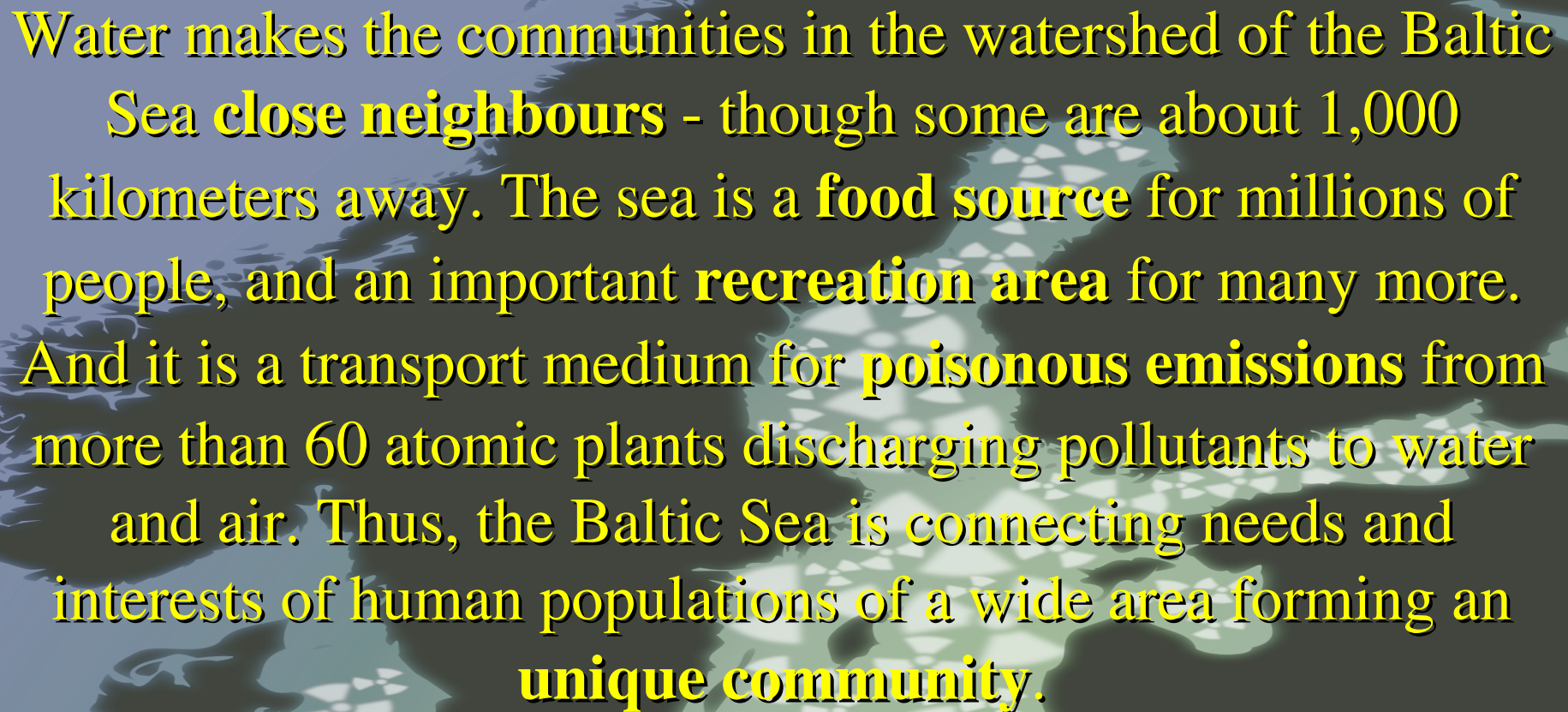
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# Baltic Sea – A unique community

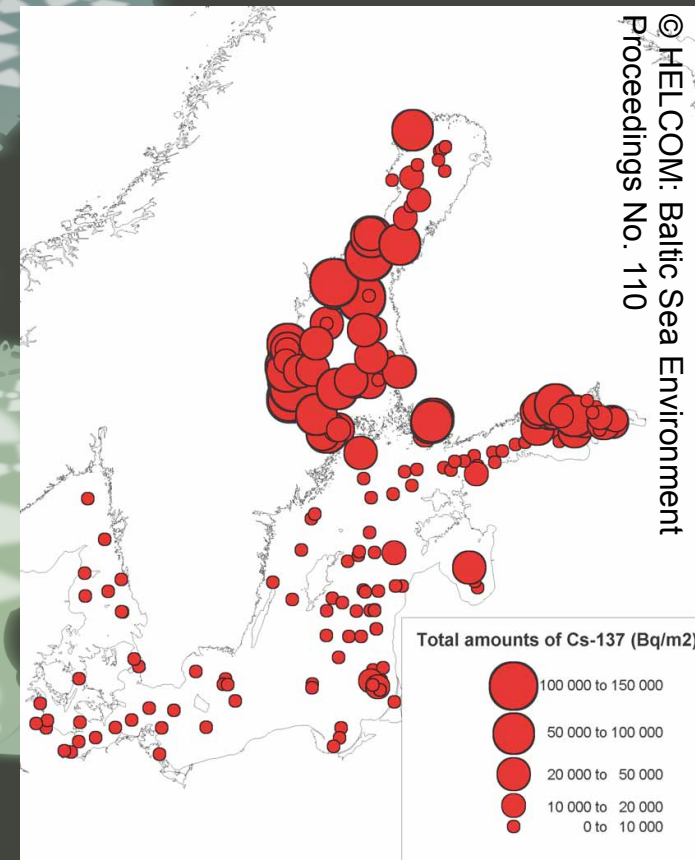
The Baltic Sea is the world's **most radioactive sea**,  
HELSINKI COMMISSION reported in 2007.

- **highest concentrations** of manmade radiation compared to other water bodies in the world, e.g.:
  - 40 times more Cs-137 than in Northeast Atlantic
  - 10 times more Cs-137 than in North Sea
  - sediments most rad.: Bothnian Sea & Gulf of Finland
- **only 1-2 % water exchange** with Atlantic per year, thus most radioactive particles remain & accumulate



Water makes the communities in the watershed of the Baltic Sea **close neighbours** - though some are about 1,000 kilometers away. The sea is a **food source** for millions of people, and an important **recreation area** for many more. And it is a transport medium for **poisonous emissions** from more than 60 atomic plants discharging pollutants to water and air. Thus, the Baltic Sea is connecting needs and interests of human populations of a wide area forming an **unique community**.

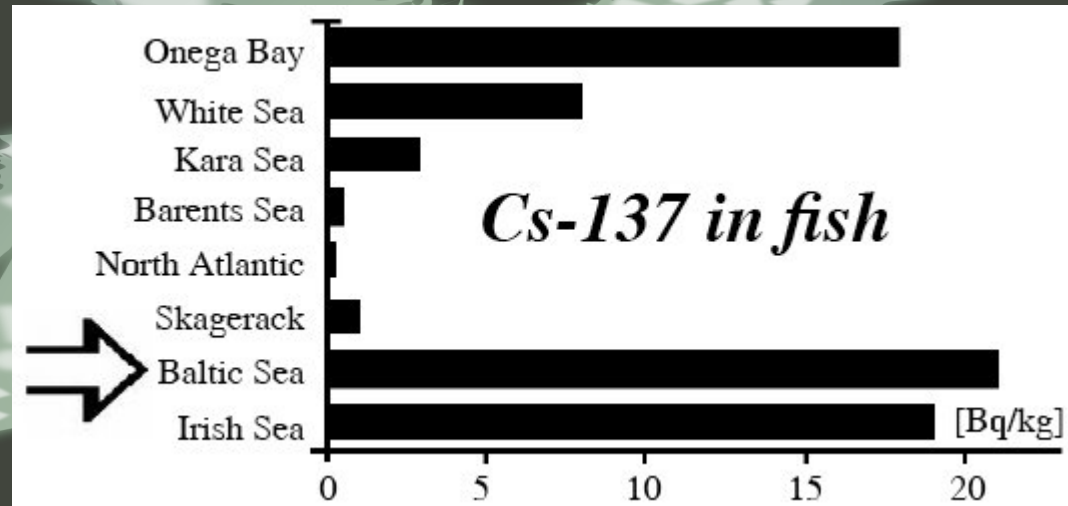
- 1980s estimated total concentrations in Baltic Sea sediments: 277 TBq Cs-137, 12 TBq Sr-90, 15 TBq Pu-239/Pu-240
- 1998 evaluation: 1,940-2,210 TBq Cs-137, 26 TBq Sr-90, 15.3 TBq Pu-239/Pu-240  
(based on reviewed data input of member states)
- early 2000s: 2,100-2,400 TBq Cs-137, 26 TBq Sr-90, 15,3 TBq Pu-239/240



# Aspects of radioactive threats

## Historic main polluters of the Baltic Sea:

- nuclear disaster in **Chernobyl 1986** (82% Cs-137)
- '60s + '70s atmospheric **atomic weapons tests** (14% Cs-137)
- **Sellafield plant's discharges to Irish Sea traceable in Baltic Sea** (4% Cs-137)



## Nuclear Power Plants in the Baltic & Barents Region



## today's polluters of the Baltic Sea:

- nuclear power plants (NPPs)
- atomic waste repositories
- uranium mining and exploration
- nuclear shipments across the sea
- other facilities

# Radiation accidents impacting the Baltic Sea region

- 1974: explosion of radioactive gases tank at Leningrad I-1 NPP (RUS)
- 1974: incident at Ringhals-2 NPP (S)
- 1974: accident at Leningrad I-1 NPP with three people killed (RUS)
- 1975: fire at Greifswald NPP (GDR/D) – INES 3
- 1975: incident at Ringhals-1 and Ringhals-2 NPP (S)



- 1975: radiation leakage over one month at Leningrad I-1 NPP (RUS)
- 1976: sabotage attempt with explosive prevented at Ringhals NPP (S)
- 1976: fire at Leningrad NPP (RUS)
- 1979: fire at Leningrad NPP (RUS)
- 1986: nuclear disaster in Chernobyl (SU/UA) - INES 7
- 1989: accident at Greifswald NPP (GDR/D)
- 1990: accident at Leningrad I-1 NPP (RUS)

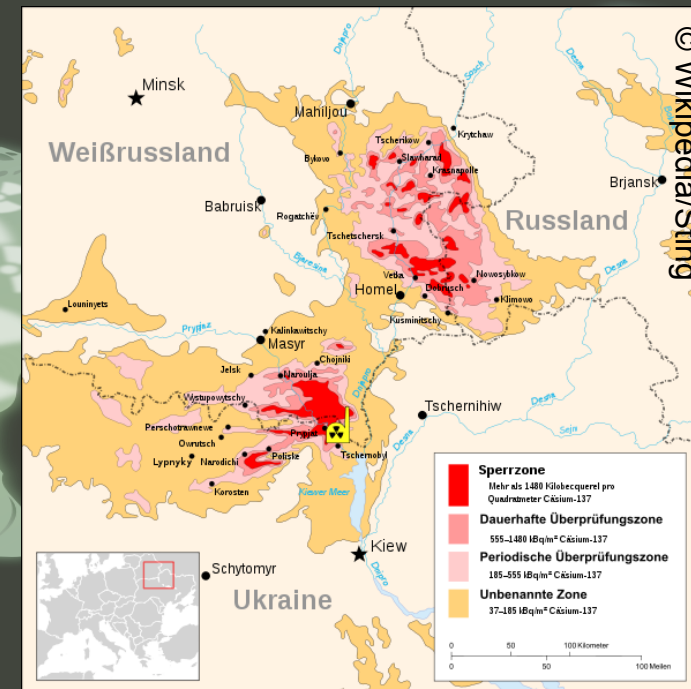
- 1991: accident at Leningrad I NPP (RUS)
- 1992: accident at Sosnovy Bor nuclear plant leaking radioactive gases and iodine (RUS)
- 1996: radiation leakage at Leningrad I NPP (RUS)
- 2000: incident at Leningrad I-1 NPP (RUS)
- 2000: radiation leakage at Leningrad I NPP (RUS)
- 2006: fire at Ringhals-3 NPP (S)
- 2006: incident at Forsmark NPP (S) – INES 2

- 2007: incident at Ringhals-3 NPP (S)
- 2007: incident at Forsmark NPP (S)
- 2009: incident at Leningrad I-3 NPP (RUS)
- 2011: incident at Oskarshamn-2 NPP (S)
- 2015: accident at Leningrad-2 NPP (RUS)

This is an incomplete list of incidents and accidents. Additionally for Olkiluoto NPP (FIN):  
94 x INES 1, 7 x INES 2 (1977-2008)

# Chernobyl disaster

- Chernobyl NPP unit 4 exploded April 26, 1986
- located in Ukraine, close to Belarusian border
- 500,000 people + 485 villages relocated, >500,000 victims
- biggest Baltic Sea polluter; most affected marine area
- radioactive cloud travelled north -> strong deposition



- Cs-137 first dispersed directly onto sea surface
- radionuclides came from entire drainage area and from surrounding terrestrial + coastal areas due to runoff, river discharges + coastal currents
- major radioactivity deposited in sediments
- total input from Chernobyl to Baltic Sea ~4,100-5,100 TBq Cs-137 + 80 TBq Sr-90 (1991)
- 1/2 of Chernobyl Cs-137 in seabed; strongest accumulation first 5-6 years, ongoing process

# Atmospheric atomic weapons tests

- tests significantly increased background radiation, partly single detections of bombs
- most tests carried out 1955-1958 + 1961-1962
- SU test site for instance Novaya Zemlya (130 tests)
- total depositions of weapons tests into Baltic Sea: ~900 TBq Cs-137 + ~600 TBq Sr-90 (1991)
- 1963: tests reduced; 1980: no atmospheric tests

# Reprocessing units

- relevant impacts by Sellafield (UK) and La Hague (F) plants
- discharges of effluents containing numerous radionuclides to sea; peaks in 1970s + 1980s
- inflow to Baltic Sea through Danish Straits
- currently discharges decreased considerably

# Nuclear facilities

- additional releases to Baltic Sea mainly by NPPs, fuel fabrication plants, atomic waste facilities, research facilities and military installations



# Nuclear Power Plants

- **impacts** due to discharges to water and air; accident risk, require nuclear shipments
- **in operation: 17 reactors** (FIN, RUS, S)
- **closed: 14 reactors** (D, LT, S)
- **proposed: 10 reactors** (BY, FIN, LT, PL, RUS)
  - replacements: „1“ reactor (S)
- **construction: 6 reactors** (BY, FIN, RUS)

# Atomic waste repositories

- **impacts** due to discharges to water and air; accident risk, require nuclear shipments; long-term safety issues
- **in operation:** 6 final repositories (EST,FIN,LV,PL,S) , 3 temporary repositories (D, PL, S) , 2 laboratories (S)
- **proposed:** 4 final repositories (DK, FIN, RUS, S)
- 6 unclear repositories (LT)

# Uranium mining and exploration

- **impacts** due to discharges to water and air; accident risk, require nuclear shipments
- **in operation:** 5 extraction facilities (FIN, S\*) , 1 (uranium) mine (FIN)
- **exploration:** Finland (15\*), Russia(1), Sweden (~300\*)
- **closed:** 18 uranium mines (EST, FIN, PL, S) , 1 mill (PL) , 5 mill tailings storage sites (DK, EST, FIN, PL, S)


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- A map of Europe is shown in a dark blue color, overlaid with a complex, light-colored geometric pattern of interconnected triangles and lines. The pattern is most prominent over the central and eastern parts of the continent.
- **proposed:** 13 mines (FIN, PL, RUS, S) , 1 extraction plant (FIN)
  - **deposits:** Finland (54\*), Poland (8), Russia (2), Sweden (13)

# Other facilities

- **impacts** due to discharges to water and air; accident risk, require nuclear shipments
- **in operation:** 3 research reactors (N, PL, RUS), 4 research & experimental sites (D, DK, PL, S), 4 other factories (FIN, RUS, S)
- **closed:** 1 military center (RUS), 22 research reactors (BY, D, DK, EST, FIN, LV, N, PL, S)
- **under construction:** floating NPP „Akademik Lomonosov“ (Saint Petersburg/RUS), 1 fusion reactor (D)

# Atomic transports across Baltic Sea

- **impacts** due to accident risk; shipments via freighters and ferry lines
- **freights** include fuel elements, nuclear waste, uranium, UF6, partly next to explosives and other hazardous material
- **hundreds of shipments** every year including hazardous cargoes

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- **ship collision hot spots: Kiel Canal (D), Skagerrak (DK), islands like Rügen (D), e.g.:**
    - 2013 „Atlantic Cartier“ fire in Hamburg – similar shipments operate in Baltic Sea
    - 2013 „Mikhail Lomonosov“ collision with sailboat near Rügen island
    - 2001 „Bugulma“ collision in Kiel Canal

# New construction overview

- **NPPs:** 10 reactors (BY, FIN, LT, PL, RUS),  
1 reactor replacement (S)
- **repositories:** 4 final repositories (DK, FIN, RUS, S)
- **uranium plants:** 13 mines (FIN, RUS, S) ,  
1 extraction plant (FIN)
- **other facilities:**  
„Akademik Lomonosov“ floating NPP (RUS),  
1 fusion reactor (D)



# Atomic policies in Baltic Sea area and anti-nuclear movements

- Estonia
- (Belarus)
- Denmark
- Finland
- (Germany)
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- (Norway)
- Poland
- (Russia)
- Sweden

# ATOMIC BALTIC campaign

**network/project of anti-nuclear groups & activists in the Baltic Sea watershed, including Austrian and Dutch organizations sharing their experiences and knowledge.**

## **Goals:**

- strengthening local anti-nuclear struggles
- connecting activists to each other
- starting up new initiatives
- supporting campaigns against nuclear business

- **ATOMIC BALTIC** network/project provides a **platform for exchange** including internet tools, updateing Skype conferences and bimonthyl working meeting:

**<http://AtomicBaltic.nuclear-heritage.net>**

- overall, **ATOMIC BALTIC** aims on **contributing to the worldwide & immediate shutdown** of all atomic facilities
- using the example of the Baltic Sea we want to **raise public awareness** and put **pressure on atomic industry & decision makers**

# Conclusions

**>60 atomic facilities** in the Baltic Sea's watershed, **risky shipments** of radioactive material and the **historic impacts** of civil & military nuclear industry pose **serious threats** on people, other beings & environment.

All atomic installations must be **shut down immediately**, new projects have to be **cancelled**. The historic legacies require consequently **safety-orientated** handling.



**Thank you  
for your attention!**

## some valuable resources:

- **BSEP110.pdf** – *Long-lived radionuclides the seabed of the Baltic Sea (HELCOM)*
- **HazardousSubstances\_MM2007.pdf** – *Towards a Baltic Sea unaffected by Hazardous Substances. HELCOM Overview 2007 (HELCOM)*
- <http://www.greenworld.org.ru>
- <http://www.wise-uranium.org>
- <http://www.nuclear-waste.eu>

## external references:

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greifswald Nuclear Power Plant](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greifswald_Nuclear_Power_Plant)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear weapons testing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_weapons_testing)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of nuclear reactors](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_nuclear_reactors)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear power in Russia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_power_in_Russia)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akademik Lomonosov](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akademik_Lomonosov)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leningrad nuclear power plant](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leningrad_nuclear_power_plant)