

## NATO Warships Conduct Arctic Training to Strengthen Alliance Readiness

August 5, 2025

— Categories: Defence & Security



NATO warships have completed joint training exercises in Arctic waters as part of Exercise Joint Viking 2025, a multinational operation held in the Norwegian fjords. The exercise brought together vessels from Belgium, France, the Netherlands, and Norway under the alliance's Standing NATO Maritime Group 1, focusing on high-intensity warfare drills in challenging cold-weather conditions.

The warships conducted a series of exercises, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, and replenishment-at-sea operations. These drills were designed to strengthen interoperability between allied navies and enhance readiness for operations in the High North, an increasingly strategic region due to climate-driven changes and growing geopolitical tension.

Norwegian air and ground units joined maritime forces in the exercise, enabling realistic simulations of joint operations across multiple domains. The training aimed to mirror future deployment scenarios where air, sea, and land assets must coordinate under extreme Arctic conditions.

Military officials highlighted that the presence of NATO forces in the region demonstrates a clear commitment to deterrence and defence. With melting ice caps opening new maritime routes and external actors such as Russia and China showing greater interest in the Arctic, alliance commanders emphasised the need for persistent naval capability in the region.

Exercise Joint Viking has become a fixture in NATO's operational calendar, reflecting the shift from occasional cold-weather training to routine northern deployment. Officials described the exercise as an essential part of preparing for rapid crisis response and ensuring the alliance can defend its northern flank against emerging threats.

As regional tensions in the Nordic and Baltic areas continue to rise, NATO's naval posture in the Arctic underscores its collective defence commitment and readiness to operate in one of the world's most demanding environments. The exercise not only demonstrated allied

capability but also reinforced the importance of unity and adaptability in securing NATO's strategic interests in the High North.