

Poland

As of early 2026, Poland has reported intense hybrid warfare and, in September 2025, a significant and unprecedented incursion of over a dozen armed Russian drones into its airspace. These incursions, along with sabotage attempts, are viewed by officials as deliberate Russian testing of NATO defenses and Polish reactions. [1, 2, 3, 4]

Key Aspects of Attacks on Poland

- **Drone Incursions (September 2025):**
Between 19 and 23 Russian military drones entered Polish airspace on September 9–10, 2025, during a massive attack on Ukraine. Some drones crossed from Belarus, and at least three or four were shot down by Polish/NATO aircraft.
- **Sabotage and Cyber Attacks:**
Poland has blamed the Kremlin for orchestrating sabotage, including attempts to destroy rail infrastructure and conducting thousands of cyberattacks intended to disable electrical systems.
- **Hybrid Warfare Tactics:**
Poland considers these actions part of a broader Russian strategy to destabilize NATO's eastern flank through espionage, information warfare, and drone incursions.
- **Airspace Violations:**
Since 2022, multiple instances of rockets and drones entering Polish territory have been reported, creating a high risk of escalation.
- **Reaction:**
Poland has responded by mobilizing thousands of troops to protect critical infrastructure, upgrading its air defense systems, and prompting NATO to discuss enhanced surveillance. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]

Contextual Details

- **No Casualties:**
While debris has damaged property, no direct casualties from the drone incidents on Polish territory have been reported.
- **Russia's Position:**
Russia has frequently denied responsibility for some actions or has termed incidents accidental, while characterizing accusations as "Russophobia." [1, 2, 3, 4]

Implications

These actions constitute a direct challenge to NATO, putting the region "closer to open conflict than ever since World War II," according to some officials, and leading to the invocation of NATO's Article 4 for consultations. [1, 2]

Sources

1. <https://www.npr.org/2026/02/18/nx-s1-5702706/russia-hybrid-warfare-poland>
2. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soviet_invasion_of_Poland
3. <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/allied-responses-warsaw-uprising-1944>