

## Naval exercises in Gullfaks Protected Zone without notification

The Admiral Kuznetsov cruising in the Gullfaks PZ last week.



On 11 December, a Russian naval force consisting of two Udaloy class cruisers and the flagship of the Russian Navy, the carrier Admiral Kuznetsov carried out exercises including flight operations by the Kuznetsov's SU33s while in the Gullfaks Helicopter Protection Zone. This included air operations within the Statfjord CTA (class E airspace) without communications with any air traffic or other agency. These units of the Russian Navy commenced the exercise without carrying out the procedures regarding prior notification of exercises laid out in the Russo-Norwegian bilateral agreement.

Pilots should be aware that similar exercises with flight operations by fast jets below FL100 may take place at any time and without prior notification. You should also note that you may suffer communications loss due to interference from military transmissions. Pilots are advised to be aware of this possibility and exercise extra vigilance.



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