

**Welcome to this month's update from LETH!** As the maritime industry navigates new challenges, we're here to keep you informed on the latest developments and updates.

## Featured This Month:

[BALTIC REGION SECURITY UPDATE](#)
[Skaw passings Update](#)
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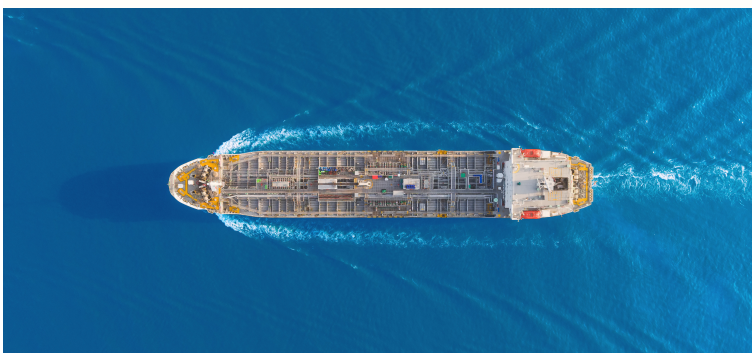
## BALTIC REGION SECURITY UPDATE

 Update from our analyst at [Guardian](#)

At Guardian, our Risk Advisory team closely monitors the Baltic risk landscape to provide our clients with valuable insights and operational recommendations.

The main driver for security concerns in the Baltic remains the Russian presence and its hybrid operations.

On October 15, the Royal Swedish Navy reported detecting and escorting a Russian submarine that entered the Baltic through the Kattegat. While the incident did not escalate, it highlights the multidomain nature of Russian activity. NATO addressed this challenge directly during Exercise Playbook Merlin 25, from 10 to 14 November, rehearsing anti-submarine warfare. At the same time, NATO officials claim that the increased military presence and surveillance directly contributed to a decrease in undersea sabotage in the Baltic.



However, Russia's primary presence in the Baltic manifests through its shadow fleet, a group of ageing and frequently uninsured vessels used to circumvent Western sanctions. An investigation by Lithuanian broadcaster LRT uncovered how Estonian- and Latvian-owned bunkering companies have been instrumental in refuelling Russian-linked shadow ships in the Baltic. In particular, the bunkering tankers Rina and Zircone have conducted hundreds of STS refuelling operations of vessels either inbound to Russia or operating without insurance. Ownership of these two bunkering tankers has been shifting between opaque entities in the Baltics and the UAE, but ultimately traceable back to European companies and individuals. This underscores the critical role that the European maritime industry has in upholding the sanction regime, highlighting the importance of due diligence in maritime operations. For maritime operators, relying on tailored risk assessments remains a critical step to ensure operational security.

## Skaw Passings Update : October 15 - November 15

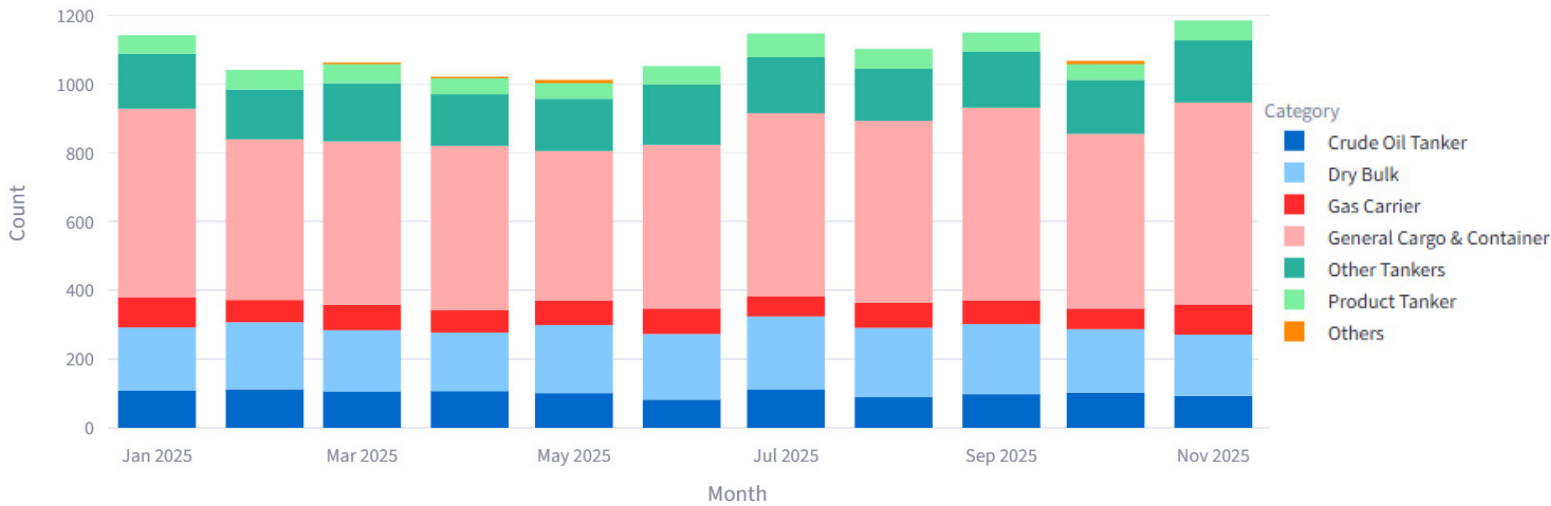
Skaw passings Per Week	Total	Northbound	Southbound	Crude Tanker	Product Tanker	Dry Bulk	Container / General Cargo	Other Tankers	Gas Carrier
Monthly Average 2025	1091	543	548	101	56	191	510	161	71
Oct 15 - Nov 15	1185 ▲	584 ▲	601 ▲	93 ▼	58 ▲	178 ▼	587 ▲	181 ▲	88 ▲

Source: Lloyds AIS, Observed Data

 If you have questions about the statistics in this article or require further information, please reach out to our team at: [denmark@lethagencies.com](mailto:denmark@lethagencies.com)



### Monthly Vessel Category Counts



## Seasonal Campaign for Embarking Crew December 2025

Throughout the 1–31 December, Leth Danish Straits will be running a seasonal campaign for embarking crew staying at Aalborg Airport Hotel in Denmark.

Seafarers who show the CrewConnect app at the hotel reception will receive a small goodie bag as a small gesture to make their travel a bit more enjoyable during December.

The goodie bag includes a small gift and a short survey. We kindly encourage seafarers to share their feedback, as this helps us continue improving the services and assistance we provide to crew during their embarkation.

We hope this little initiative brings some festive cheer to your crew before they reach the vessel.

