



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

15 October 2021

The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia provides a forum for the study, promotion and debate of defence and security issues.

Dispatches is a weekly collection of news of interest, including posts to social media by the Institute. Links to articles are checked at the time they are put into *Dispatches* but may be unavailable at a later date or in some countries other than Canada.

Everyone is encouraged to submit links and other content to be included in *Dispatches*. Submissions and feedback are welcome anytime. Email to RUSINSDispatches@gmail.com. Comments to articles can be from members or non-members of RUSI(NS). Any comment in *Dispatches* is the sole opinion of the author and does not necessarily represent the views of the Canadian Department of National Defence or other government department, the Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia.

If you wish to receive *Dispatches* at a different address (i.e., not your work address), please inform RUSI(NS). Past editions of *Dispatches* may be requested by contacting RUSI(NS).

Events:

To list an event in *Dispatches*, email RUSI(NS) by noon Thursday. RUSI(NS) events are by invitation. If you are interested in attending and have not been invited, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com. RUSI(NS) events may be cancelled at short notice – email RUSI(NS) if there is a question of an event occurring.

There will be no RUSI(NS) Remembrance Dinner 2021.

20 October, Wednesday – RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Dr Sarah Lockyer, on the “The Casualty Identification Program: Identifying the remains of Canadian soldiers from the First and Second World Wars and the Korean Conflict.” 1300-1500. Via Zoom. Attendance will be limited. To register, email RUSI(NS) with RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker 20 October 2021 Registration as subject line. See: <https://rusi-ns.ca/event/distinguished-speaker-20-october-2021/>.

21 October, Thursday - USNORTHCOM, USEUCOM, USINDOPACOM and the Center for Arctic Security and Resilience, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Arctic eTalk Distinguished Speaker Ambassador Michael Mann, European Union Ambassador for the Arctic, speaking on "The European Union and the Arctic: A Discussion of the EU's New Arctic Policy." 1200 EST. Via Zoom. To register: https://alaska.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_woIJuKhiSPKS_un4ilhNBw. See more at end of *Dispatches*.

23 October, Saturday - Edmonton United Services Institute, 700 (City of Edmonton) Wing RCAF Association and Royal Alberta United Services Institute Symposium "Unmanned Vehicles in War and Peace." 0830-1600 Edmonton time. See: <https://rausi.ca/info-events/upcoming-events/rausi-event/eusi-2021-security-and-defence-symposium>

Georgetown University Wargaming Society (GUWS)
@GUWargaming 14 Oct tweeted: Oct 26, 6PM: How can #wargaming be used to bridge the gap between the academic and policy worlds? Or between civilian experts and military practitioners? Benjamin Harris & Suzanne Freeman from @MIT_SSP will discuss how.
(Crossing a Virtual Divide: Civ-Mil Relations & Wargaming as a Teaching Tool
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/crossing-a-virtual-divide-civ-mil-relations-wargaming-as-a-teaching-tool-tickets-163707727219>)



**Crossing a Virtual Divide:
Civ-Mil Relations and
Wargaming as a Teaching Tool**

27 October, Wednesday – RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker RAdm Brian Santarpia, Commander Maitime Forces Atlantic. The topic of his presentation is “Royal Canadian Navy – Globally Deployed for Strategic Effect.” 1300-1500. Via Zoom. Attendance will be limited. To register, email RUSI(NS) with RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker 27 October 2021 Registration as the subject line. See: <https://rusi-ns.ca/event/distinguished-speaker-27-october-2021/>

Recent Publications:

Except where otherwise indicated, publications are available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

RUSI(NS) Comments "The Rohingya – An Open Letter to Canadian Policymakers" by Jay Heisler, 5 August 2021,
<https://rusi-ns.ca/rohingya-refugee/>

RUSI(NS) Position Paper “The RCAF and Canada Need a Bomber Squadron – A Large Water Bomber Squadron”, 30 July 2021,
<https://rusi-ns.ca/water-bomber-squadron/>

RUSI(NS) Post “Policing and the Pandemic”, 26 July 2021,
<https://rusi-ns.ca/policing-and-the-pandemic/>

RUSI(NS) Presentation “Arctic Special Operations” by Brigadier-General SR Satterfield, 21 July 2021,
https://rusi-ns.ca/arctic_special_operations/

Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association *On Watch*, 6 October edition
https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=e04e142c-cbc1-4bdf-b101-38caed2183ee

Edmonton United Services Institute President’s *ENews*, October 2021.

Macdonald-Laurier Institute Policy Brief "The need for transatlantic solidarity in the face of today’s security challenges" 31 August 2021
https://macdonaldlaurier.ca/files/pdf/20210811_NATO_solidarity_Thiele_Sannikov_Waschuk_COMME_NTARY_FWeb.pdf

Military Institute of Windsor *Communiqué*, Volume XXXIX Number 9 October 2021.

Nautical Professional Education Society of Canada Newsletter *Seatimes*, August 2021.

Royal Alberta United Services Institute Research Brief "Iranian–Israeli Drone Warfare, Diplomacy and the Alberta Connection" by LJ Howard, August 2021,
https://rausi.ca/images/edocman/research/Research_Brief_Vol_2_Iss_4_Iranian_Israeli_Drone_Warfare.pdf

Royal Alberta United Services Institute *Dispatches* October 2021
<https://rausi.ca/component/acym/archive/85-rausi-dispatches-october-2021>

Royal Alberta United Service Institute *News* October-December 2021
<https://www.rausi.ca/news/publications>

Royal Canadian Naval Association Admiral Hose Branch *Scuttlebutt*, October 2021 Edition.

Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island *Newsletter*, Volume 53, 4th Quarter - August/September 2021.

Royal United Services Institute Victoria (Australia) *Newsletter*, Volume 20, Issue 2, June/July 2021.

New: Royal United Services Institute Victoria (Australia) *Occasional*, Volume 8, Issue 6, 11 October 2021.

United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island *Newsletter*, Vol 29 No 09, September 2021.

University Naval Training Divisions Association of Canada *Gunroom Shots*, Volume 2, Issue 3, July 2021.

New: Veterans Affairs Canada *Salute!*, October 2021.

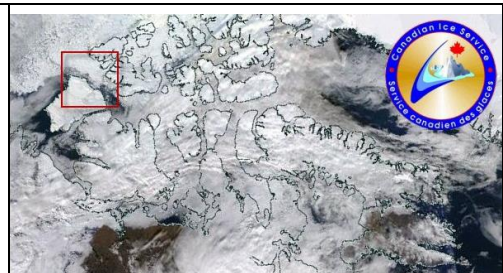
Tweeted by @RUSI_NS:

RUSI(NS) tweets may also be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something tweeted or retweeted, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

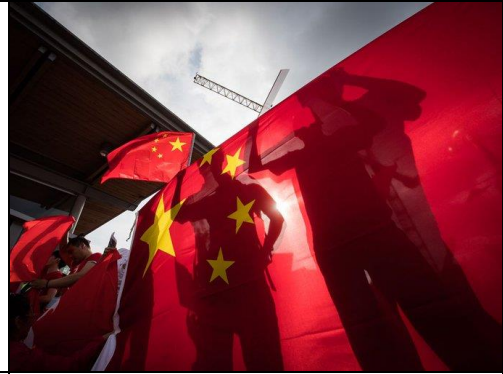
ECCC Canadian Ice Service @ECCC_CIS 7 Oct tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: We zoomed in and found the @CoastGuardCAN Amundsen on #sentinel2 #satellite ✨ imagery navigating through #ice in the high #arctic. Amazing being able to spot the Canadian red and white icebreaker 🚢 from a satellite 780km from earth! #seaice #icebreaking #EarthObservation

The tweet shows increasingly closer imagery:

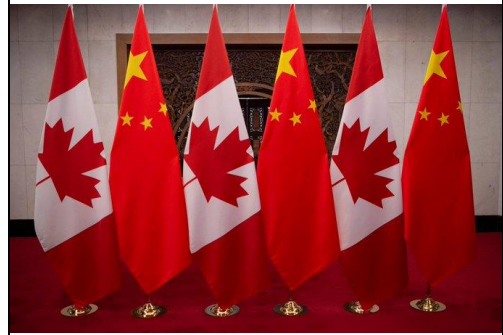
https://twitter.com/ECCC_CIS/status/1446087924878127110



CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 8 Oct tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: An #ExpertSeries interview we conducted with @cburton001 on Chinese influence operations in Canada was cited in the @financialpost.
(Diane Francis: Canada's many China failures <https://financialpost.com/diane-francis/diane-francis-canadas-many-china-failures>)



CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 8 Oct tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Replying to @CDAInstitute "Canadians should know if politically influential individuals have received benefits that could potentially influence their decision-making ability." Read Charles Burton's excellent analysis in full at our website:
(Charles Burton: Countering Chinese Influence Operations in Canada <https://cdainstitute.ca/charles-burton-countering-chinese-influence-operations-in-canada/>)



Jason Knowles @canuck_jase Oct 8 tweeted: Quality week at sea. Day sailing is actually probably harder than sailing Mon-Fri! #kingstonatsea
RUSI(NS) retweeted: When @RoyalCanNavy Harry DeWolf- & Kingston-class ships put to sea, that container at stern may be capable sensor, accommodation, research lab or even weapon. Containerization considerably adds to flexibility/capability of CAN Navy, especially patrol vessels <https://www.navalreview.ca/2021/10/hmcs-harry-dewolf-transits-northwest-passage-tests-asw-towed-sonar/>
(HMCS Harry DeWolf transits Northwest Passage, tests ASW towed sonar)



Robert Morton @Robert4787 10 Oct tweeted: Russia's weaponization of #socialmedia to attack the foundations of American #democracy demands a coherent U.S. response by #Congress. #facebook #Security #disinformation #misinformation
<https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/hybrid-warfare-and-active-measures>
(Hybrid Warfare and Active Measures)
RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker "Information Resilience: Countering Russian Propaganda and Disinformation" https://rusi-ns.ca/information_resilience/ US Department of State Global Engagement Center report "Pillars of Russia's Disinformation and Propaganda Ecosystem" <https://rusi-ns.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/DOS-GEC-Pillars-of-Russias-Disinformation-and-Propaganda-Ecosystem-Aug-20.pdf>

The U.S. Department of State logo is at the top, featuring an eagle with a shield and the words "DEPARTMENT OF STATE" and "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA". Below the logo, the text "U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE" is written. The main title of the report is "GEC Special Report: Pillars of Russia's Disinformation and Propaganda Ecosystem". At the bottom, the GEC logo is displayed, which consists of a stylized globe icon followed by the letters "GEC".

Royal Navy @RoyalNavy 8 Oct tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: 🇬🇧🇨🇦 More #RoyalNavy sailors will be trained in taking ships into challenging polar waters thanks to a new agreement with the @CoastGuardCAN. Canadian personnel will get operational training opportunities and more with the RN in return. Read more:

<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/news-and-latest-activity/news/2021/october/08/211008-canadian-coast-guard-link-up>

(Royal Navy sailors to get Canadian polar training as part of a new collaborative agreement)



Capt(N) Sheldon Gillis @HighSeasSkipper 14 Oct tweeted: "If you know another group in which you'd sooner spend your hours, you've never sailed beneath the barber pole." Barber pole MARGARET BROOKE being prepped for their stripes." @RCN_MARLANT @RoyalCanNavy RUSI(NS) retweeted: RUSI(NS) Info Note "The Navy's Barber Pole" <https://rusi-ns.ca/barber-pole/>



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia:

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Russia Wants to Establish Navy Arctic Fleet

<https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/10/07/russia-navy-arctic-fleet/>

The Canadian 'comprehensive approach' (see: "Developing a Comprehensive Approach to Canadian Forces Operations"

<http://www.journal.forces.gc.ca/vo9/no1/doc/04-leslie-eng.pdf>), including Joint Task Force North, to Arctic/Northern activities is better.



N.L. government fumbled purchase of 2 ferries, according to new AG report

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/nl-auditor-general-ferry-report-1.6196060>

"The report, released Wednesday, raised a number of concerns related to the Department of Transportation's management of procuring the MV Veteran and MV Legionnaire ferries, which included problems with a lack of training, oversight during sea trials, concerns during the construction phases and first days of service."



"The report found the Department of Transportation had no established project management process to guide the construction of the ferries, which were built in a shipyard in Galati, Romania."

Maybe the Canadian National Shipbuilding Strategy should be expanded to include vessels of provincial and municipal governments.

And cannot Canada declare shipbuilding a strategic industry of national security concern, and require ferries to be built here (even if subsidization required)?

How thinking inside the box solved shortage of ship time for ocean researchers

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/ocean-researchers-dalhousie-university-1.6187589>

"Recent expedition used modular containers to act as labs at sea"



The Royal Canadian Navy's Harry DeWolf-class Arctic and Offshore Patrol Vessels and Kingston-class patrol vessels, with their capability to embark containers, could well serve as research-vessels-of-opportunity (RVOP, playing on the acronyms COOP and VOOP used for other naval activities).

Flying the North Atlantic Tracks

<https://aerosavvy.com/north-atlantic-tracks/>

Timely for non-aircrew to understand this all, what with misreporting on mainstream and social media about Chinese incursions into Taiwanese ADIZ and airspace.



China's Taiwan military incursions test the limits of airspace

<https://www.dw.com/en/chinas-taiwan-military-incursions-test-the-limits-of-airspace/a-59398039>

"China's recent air force maneuvers around Taiwan have caused consternation and confusion. However, there are critical distinctions to be made between rules on entering different kinds of airspace."



Headlines that confuse sovereign airspace and air defense identification zones do not contribute to maintaining appropriate relationship between states, especially major states. Just like territorial waters and international waters. Though sometimes (am thinking Chinese Communist Party-controlled media) that confusion is deliberate. Information operations.

Establishment of Military Requirements and Restrictions on International Civil Aviation

https://www.icao.int/Meetings/anconf13/Documents/WP/wp_295_en.pdf

"...an air defense identification zone (ADIZ) as 'special designated airspace of defined dimensions within which aircraft are required to comply with special identification and/or reporting procedures

additional to those related to the provision of air traffic services'."

Cued by: Steffan Watkins 📧✈️📧 @steffanwatkins 4 Oct tweeted: Replying to @BBCBlindGazza. There were no flights by the Chinese in TW airspace. The ADIZ isn't Taiwan's sovereign airspace, and you're perpetuating misinformation at best, or disinformation at worst. DWnews wrote an excellent piece explaining why that's important to differentiate:
(China's Taiwan military incursions test the limits of airspace
<https://www.dw.com/en/chinas-taiwan-military-incursions-test-the-limits-of-airspace/a-59398039>)

The Real National Security Concerns over Data Localization

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/real-national-security-concerns-over-data-localization>

"This brief focuses on the real national security implications — which have received relatively little attention — of policies that mandate certain data be stored or processed within specific geographic boundaries."

Canadian data on Chinese Communist Party-controlled corporation servers should be concern of all Canadians, especially our leaders. What does Canadian security policies say about data localization, and what should they say?



HMCS Harry DeWolf transits Northwest Passage, tests ASW towed sonar

<https://www.navalreview.ca/2021/10/hmcs-harry-dewolf-transits-northwest-passage-tests-asw-towed-sonar/>

This is very interesting, and really nice to see *Harry DeWolf* circumnavigating North America. Yes, containerized systems are the way of the future. If it has not been done already, some thought should be given to standard interfaces, e.g., electrical, communications, plumbing, etc. In 1988, I had a containerized laboratory onboard the *Roger Revelle*, a U.S. research vessel working along the California coast. Malheureusement, the crew had positioned the ventilation exhaust of the container just aft of the intake vent for the ship's system. I was venting radioactive carbon dioxide throughout the cruise....this did not go well ...



It's Not Misinformation. It's Amplified Propaganda.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/10/disinformation-propaganda-amplification-ampliganda/620334/>

From a neutral (depending on your perception of faith) start, "propaganda gradually acquired a secular meaning - information with an agenda, deliberately created to shape the audience's perception of reality. The term also took on an antidemocratic connotation: Propaganda's intent was to circumvent a citizen's reason, to propel (them) via deceit or chicanery toward belief in a particular cause."



The Government of Canada definition of propaganda is: "Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view." Propaganda is not inherently bad. It is who uses it and how it is used (both depending on your point of view and objectives) that can make it 'bad.' It becomes a label to make a point against, a label of, another party. (Terminium <https://www.btb.termiumplus.gc.ca/tpv2alpha/alpha-eng.html?lang=eng>)

Propaganda has been included in a number of recent articles about Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) influence activities (IA) domestically (Terminium; influence activities: "integration of designated information-related capabilities in order to synchronize themes, messages, and actions with operations to inform Canadian and global audiences, influence foreign audiences, and affect adversary and enemy decision making.") Whether the word was chosen by the reporters or headline editors, they are professional and know the word can be emotionally loaded. Use of the word is really only valid (just news being reported) if the reports to which the reporters refer actually use propaganda as an objective of CAF IA.

Propaganda is routinely practiced by all sectors of society, using traditional and modern media. From the article: "To adapt to the new propaganda, the public must first learn to recognize it."

Other Sources:

#military police

'Civilianization' of military justice system a 'slippery slope,' warns former judge advocate general Cathcart
<https://www.hilltimes.com/2021/10/13/civilianization-of-military-justice-system-a-slippery-slope-warns-former-judge-advocate-general-cathcart/322673>

#strategy

The Objective Value of Clausewitz

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2016/5/17/the-objective-value-of-clausewitz>

#warfare

Warfare in the post-digital era

<https://wavellroom.com/2021/10/05/warfare-in-the-post-digital-era/>

#wargaming

You Think It's a Game? What Video Games Can—and Can't—Teach About Strategy and History

<https://mwi.usma.edu/you-think-its-a-game-what-video-games-can-and-cant-teach-about-strategy-and-history/>

Other:

Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

O Canada

The Canada Pension Plan has apparently invested more heavily in mainland Chinese enterprises despite the current meltdown of the Chinese economy and the changes to China's legislation regarding foreign investment, etc. No investment is safe in China at the present time under President Xi. It seems that there are still those who are still thinking that China will evolve and that these changes will not affect the long term world economy and China's role within that context. Investment at the present time seems foolish and there are increasing indications that China's situation will deteriorate further due to

structural changes and the withdrawal of foreign companies to safer locations including India and Vietnam.

Canada also has sold nearly 4m tons of coal to China without questions. It seems more than hypocritical to lambast our own oil and gas industries while providing an even more polluting form of fossil fuels to an adversary to burn and pollute.

There has been no decision on Huawei by the Canadian government; something that should have been a “no brainer.” It is increasingly clear that the liberal democracies are realizing that China under its present government is not a safe partner. The “Two Michaels” are home but more than 100 Canadians still languish in Chinese jails. Huawei executives have been found guilty of espionage in European countries. Certainly Canada is no exception to Chinese espionage as was found in the demise of Nortel and near demise of Blackberry.

The National Post had an article by Terry Glavin 13 October 2021 stating that Ambassador Dominic Barton has to go because of his almost obsequious support of the CCP regime instead of looking out for Canadian interests. Ambassador Barton also seemed to be implicated in less than up front actions as a businessman for McKinsey. He was hardly a suitable choice to replace John McCallum. It is likely that he was able to accomplish little and apparently was more interested in how China was squandering its “soft power” in using hostage diplomacy rather than the fate of the “Two Michaels” or any other Canadian. Mr Glavin’s article is worth the read and if even half true should result in Mr Barton’s removal. It is not expected to have any effect and we will likely continue to have an highly unsuitable ambassador in China.

The Halifax Chronicle-Herald published a story 13 October that states that the Canadian Chinese population was bombarded by a large number of stories in the Canadian Chinese language press that were outright disinformation. As we have seen, a large percentage of the Canadian Chinese language press receives funding by various ways by the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) United Front. The stories provided extensive misinformation about various issues. The main takeaway from the first group asking for Mr O’Toole’s resignation was because of the Conservative party’s strong anti-CCP policy within the party platform. The problem is that there was no scrutiny by security forces as to what is apparently a successful CCP influence activity program. As Canadians we should be extremely concerned by CCP influence at any time, let alone during an election. No meaningful moves have been made to eliminate the possibility of foreign influence such as has been done in Australia and New Zealand.

China

China continues to send aircraft to the Taiwanese Air Defence Identification Zone (ADIZ) in fairly large numbers. Taiwan has maintained a calm approach, alerting its missile defence forces but not necessarily scrambling aircraft, thus preventing a possible incident. President Xi once again reiterated that Taiwan will be re-united with China peacefully but again has not ruled out a military option. President Tsai responded that Taiwan would not be bullied and that the only people who can determine Taiwan’s fate are the Taiwanese people. Taiwan would remain true to its democratic ideals and not be forced into an authoritarian regime. President Xi had toned down his rhetoric to exclude the mention of force. At the same time, operating in the region is a multi-national fleet consisting of ships from the US, UK, Japan, New Zealand, Canada, the Netherlands, plus others from time to time, and which includes aircraft carriers USS *Carl Vinson*, USS *Ronald Reagan*, HMS *Queen Elizabeth* and JMSDFS *Ise*. Would this cause concern to CCP leadership? Probably. There have been several other large-scale exercises including many local countries, all of which plainly are aimed at China and its actions. It is hard to say whether this will cause any long term changes in China’s behavior.

China continues to have major economic issues caused by a series of circumstances. The first is fairly radical changes to the financial regulatory system which provides the party with more control over private firms. Second, action against data transfer out of China to foreign countries will be more strongly regulated. Third, a major crackdown of major entrepreneurs in education, data transfer, sales, property management, entertainment and the financial industries. Nature has been less than kind and extensive damage has been done throughout the country due to unusually heavy rains coupled with a deteriorating water control system. Most importantly, corruption within the party and infighting between various factions within the CCP itself have led to less than stellar performance in the economy.

China is still undergoing major power shortages which have affected 22 out of China's 23 provinces, five autonomous areas, two special administration areas and five large municipalities for a total of 34 different but administratively similar entities. Reports state that this has led to a shutdown of many industries causing wide-spread layoffs throughout the country and subsequently resulting in wide-spread demonstrations by those affected.

Small time investors who invested in property development firms have also caused major disruptions to the CCP's desired stability as many of these smaller investors have been wiped out by recent defaults in China's over heated property markets. It is expected that several large developers will fail in the coming weeks.

Lastly on China, the Indian press has reported that there has been a possible attempt on Xi's life by an insider who had been affected by new financial regulations. There is only one source - is it possible? The answer is yes as the CCP is not monolithic and tends to have various factions all vying for key leadership positions, so the idea that someone may try to kill Xi is always a possibility. But in this case, it is suspected it may be more smoke than anything. Still there are now many folks who are not happy with the present state of affairs caused by Xi's "reforms."

Russia

Russia continues to fumble the Covid virus pandemic with daily cases now trending towards 30k per day with nearly 1000 people dying each day. Around 40% of Russians are fully vaccinated with Russia's own disinformation campaign coming back to bite them as many do not trust the Russian government. President Putin has also stated that he will not impose a national level loc down thus compounding the issue. Russia's actual numbers are suggested to be vastly under-reported. It does not bode well.

The Russian president also blamed the actions of the EU for the current gas shortage in Europe. It is suspected that he is delaying or slowing gas shipments as a way of pressuring the EU to open Nord Stream II. Increased prices work in Russia's favour as oil and gas sales fuel Russia's economy to a large extent.

Mr Putin also gave an address to new members of the Duma from the most recent cynical sham election. One has to admire the brass of the man to try to spin this as anyways legitimate.

Recent studies show that about 300k Russians have left the country permanently every year since 2016. Most are young with a university education. A further 10m Russians live overseas but return from time to time. The report also suggests that one in five Russians would like to leave the country for other countries. Russians are therefore voting in other ways, with their feet to greener pastures.