
ON THE FRONT LINE OF EUROPE'S STANDOFF WITH RUSSIA'S SANCTION-BUSTING SHADOW FLEET

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BBC News (19 November 2025)

Jessica Parker and Ned Davies

Out on the western Baltic, a coastguard officer radios a nearby, sanctioned oil tanker.

"Swedish Coastguard calling... Do you consent to answer a few questions for us? Over."

Through heavy static, barely audible answers crackle over from a crew member, who gradually lists the ship's insurance details, flag state and last port of call – Suez, Egypt.

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