

# NATO set to triple Baltic air defences

NATO is stepping up air patrols over its Baltic allies – Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia – amid tensions with Russia over Ukraine

*U.S. F-15 Eagle*



## BALTIC AIR POLICING MISSION

Responsibility shared by NATO air forces since 2004, as Baltic countries lack capability to police their own airspace



**U.S.:** Responsible for current four-monthly rotation period.

Number of patrolling **F-15** jets boosted from four to 10. **KC-135** refuelling tanker also deployed

*Three nations taking over patrols from May 1. Aircraft increased to 12 – three times usual number*



**Poland:** Will contribute four **MiG-29** fighters



**Denmark:** Four **F-16** jets, with two more on standby



**Britain:** Sending four RAF **Typhoon** aircraft



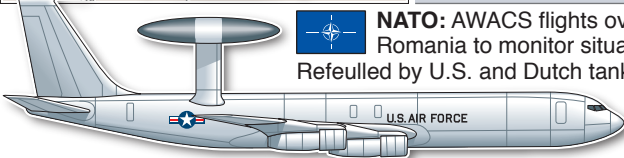
**France:** Offering four **Rafale** or **Mirage** fighters for May-August period. Will probably conduct training flights over Poland. AWACS reconnaissance plane also offered



**Germany:** Offering six **Eurofighters** – likely to be used from September-December when Portugal takes over patrols



**NATO:** AWACS flights over Poland and Romania to monitor situation in Ukraine. Refuelled by U.S. and Dutch tanker aircraft



*E-3 Sentry  
AWACS*