

# NATO bolsters Russian deterrence

NATO leaders are set to give the formal go-ahead to the greatest reinforcement of collective alliance defence since the end of the Cold War, including deployment of four combat battalions of 1,000 troops each to Poland and the three Baltic states



**BATTALIONS:** Four new units, deployed on rotating basis. Backed up by *Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VJTF)* "Spearhead" of around 5,000 troops ready to move within 48 hours

## NATO Response Force (NRF):

Around 40,000 troops to follow Spearhead unit



NATO members



NATO command outposts



2. Canada



3. Germany



4. U.S.

Kaliningrad

POLAND



Bydgoszcz

Warsaw

**Redzikowo:** U.S. missile defence base to open 2018



**Suwalki Gap:** Sandwiched between Russia's highly militarized Kaliningrad exclave and Kremlin's ally Belarus, it is Achilles' heel of NATO's eastern flank – its capture would amputate alliance's Baltic states and shatter NATO's credibility



1. Lead nation: Britain