

Belarus to host Russian nuclear weapons

Vladimir Putin's plan to station tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus would mark the first time since the mid-1990s that such weapons were based outside Russia

PUTIN'S CLAIMS

- Construction of storage facility in Belarus for nuclear weapons to be complete by July

- Ten Belarusian warplanes already retrofitted to carry such weapons

- Russia to begin training Belarusian forces on **Iskander-M** systems in April

■ Putin says nuclear-capable **Iskander-M** missile systems are already in Belarus



Sukhoi Su-25: Moscow has upgraded Belarus's Su-25s to carry nuclear weapons. Belarus says it will begin domestic production

Kaliningrad
Nuclear weapons already stationed

RUSSIA

BELARUS

UKRAINE

Volkel
Netherlands

Kleine Brogel
Belgium

Büchel
Germany

Ghedi
Italy

Aviano
Italy

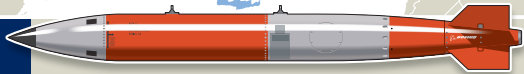
Incirlik
Turkey

■ NATO members

U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE

✈ Around 100 U.S. nuclear weapons – **B61-3** and **B61-4** airborne gravity bombs – stored in underground vaults at six bases

B61-12: Modernised version of B61 being transferred to Europe



Picture: Getty Images