

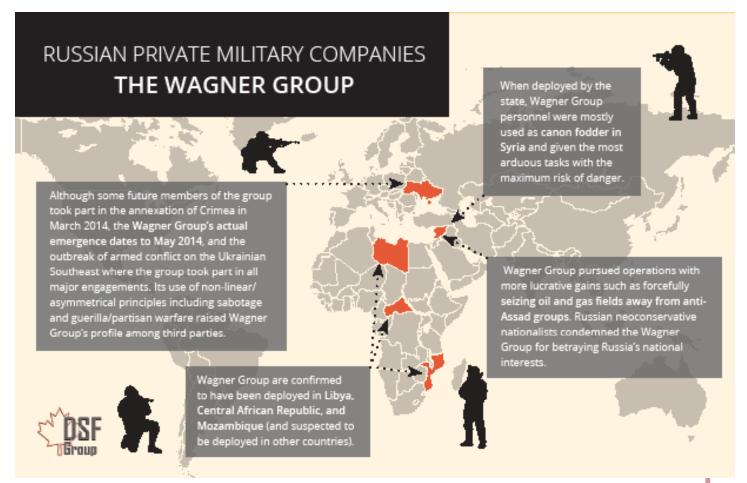
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Russia's Private Military Contractors: Cause for Worry?





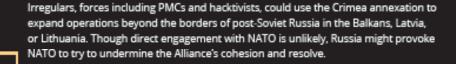


RUSSIAN PRIVATE MILITARY COMPANIES THE THREAT TO NATO





Russian Private Military
Companies (PMCs) will pose a
threat to NATO and Western
powers mainly through
distracting and disruptive
action. The following are
areas of particular concern:



In western Russia (Kaliningrad Oblast), Russian Cossacks (and other irregulars) are holding para-military exercises and take part in strategic military exercises (such as Zapad-2017). They are also trying to cooperate with pro-Russian forces in Poland.



While remilitarizing the Arctic, Russia is actively rehearsing operations with small, and highly maneuvering groups.

