BlackSea Technologies Demonstrates GARC Capabilities During Arctic Sentry 2026 in Norway



RAMSUND, Norway (May 12, 2026) – A Global Autonomous Reconnaissance Craft, attached to Commander, Task Force (CTF) 66, operates in Breivika Bay during Arctic Sentry 2026. Launched in February 2026, Arctic Sentry reflects Allies' collective understanding that NATO must do even more as an alliance to ensure security in the Arctic and the High North, and to further strengthen its ability to operate in the region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Brandie Nuzzi)

From BlackSea

BALTIMORE, May 15, 2026, BlackSea Technologies recently participated in Arctic Sentry 2026, a NATO enhanced

vigilance activity in the High North, demonstrating its Global Autonomous Reconnaissance Craft in Ramsund, Norway, alongside partners from U.S. 6th Fleet, U.S. Unmanned Surface Vessel Squadron 3 (USVRON-3) and the Royal Norwegian Navy.

The exercise gave BlackSea's GARC unmanned surface vessels an opportunity to operate in the far north, demonstrate autonomous surface vessel capabilities in cold weather maritime conditions, integrate with NATO partners and serve as training tools for the next generation of naval warfighters.

"Arctic Sentry proves that GARC can operate effectively in dynamic, contested maritime environments north of the Arctic Circle," said Lunsford Schock, mission director for BlackSea Technologies. "The exercise further cements our nation's military partnerships with key European allies and reflects BlackSea's commitment to preserving freedom of action at sea by delivering scalable, intelligent tools to naval forces around the world."

NATO launched Arctic Sentry in February as a multi-domain activity to strengthen the alliance's posture in the Arctic and High North. NATO has said the activity brings NATO and allied exercises, forces and capabilities together under one overarching operational approach to the region. The activity is led by Joint Force Command Norfolk, with overall strategic direction from Allied Command Operations.

U.S. Navy imagery released May 15 showed a Global Autonomous Reconnaissance Craft attached to Commander, Task Force 66 operating in Breivika Bay during Arctic Sentry 2026. The Navy identified the activity as taking place in Ramsund, Norway, and noted Arctic Sentry's role in strengthening allied security in the Arctic and High North.

BlackSea's participation underscored the role of small, scalable autonomous surface vessels in distributed maritime

operations, allied interoperability and training in strategically important waters. The demonstration also highlighted GARC’s ability to support naval forces in demanding operating environments where endurance, adaptability and autonomous capability are increasingly essential.