

Denmark Offers to Send 6 F-16 Fighters to Baltics

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COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Denmark is offering up to send up to six F-16 fighter jets to the Baltic countries, joining fellow NATO members that have pledged to boost the alliance's air patrols over Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in response to Russia's incursion in Ukraine.

Foreign Minister Martin Lidegaard said Thursday that it will be up to NATO to decide how many planes are needed to patrol the skies of the three countries, which do not have their own air forces.

NATO's air policing mission normally consists of four planes. The U.S. has already sent six extra F-15 fighters, and Britain and France have also pledged to send jets.

The Danish government's proposal needs to be approved by parliament, a formality since all but one party back it.

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