

Security and Emergency Preparedness in the Water Supply - Norwegian perspective

- The Threat Landscape
- New Expectations and Requirements
- The Norwegian Food Safety Authority's priorities

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The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

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By Christian Shepherd

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Civilians receive humanitarian aid and drinking water by volunteers amid Russian-Ukrainian war in Chasiv Yar, Ukraine, March 27 2023.

Ignacio Marin | Anadolu Agency | Getty Images

National Threat and Risk Assessment

Global

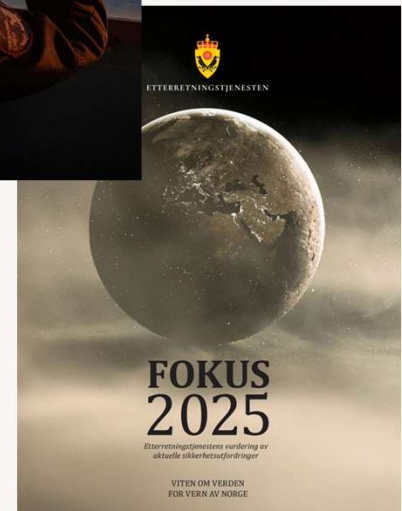
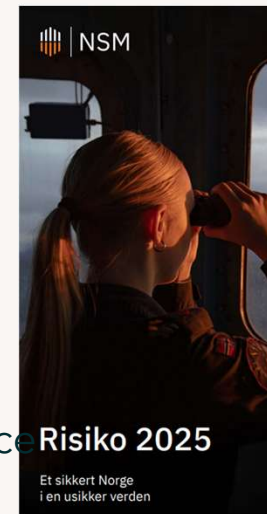
- Tensions between Russia and the West remain high
- China's position is becoming increasingly central

Nasjonal

- State Intelligence Activities, Influence, and Sabotage
- There is a likelihood of sabotage attempts targeting Norwegian infrastructure.
- Individuals in Norway will be subject to recruitment attempts.

Risk

- The Security Policy Situation Means That Norwegian Enterprises Face Serious Security Challenges
- Organizations must place greater emphasis on self-preparedness, backup solutions, and establishing robust repair readiness.
- Exploitation of new software vulnerabilities is increasing, while mobile phones, modern vehicles, and the use of artificial intelligence introduce new surfaces of vulnerability.



Kinesiske Eide om russiske kampanje over Estland. – Lande i Etter Situa Forsvarsekspert: – Kan se ut som en slags krim Estlands kampanje mot Norge

For første med artik Politiet har starta etterforskning og takker årvåkne
sannsynkrenket e innbyggere som tipser om droneobservasjoner.
året som



DRONEFORBUD: Lørdag ble det observert droner ved Ørland hovedflystasjon.

FOTO: INGRID LINDGAARD STRANDEN / NRK

Sjef for E-tjene
Haugstøyl.

JAGERFLY: Det
Østersjøen i dag.

FOTO: FÖRSVARSMAKTEN / X

e hackere
botasje
emanger

n demning i
sabotert i fire
orussiske

[Lena Erikke Hatland](#)
Journalist

+ 5 til

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over denne demninge...

We need to think completely new - We need a different competence

- New threats - deliberate actions
- "sabotage" "Recruitment attempts" !
- "Cybercrime "



Changed threat landscape and safety deficiencies at many Norwegian waterworks

- Safety culture
- Personnel safety
- Cybersecurity
- Physical security
- Dependencies

Results of a survey sent out in 2024 to just over 1000 waterworks – the results of the survey are security graded.

– Vi er bekymret

Mattilsynet har alltid hatt høyt fokus på å sikre trygt drikkevann til befolkningen, men samfunnet og truslene har endret seg slik at dette arbeidet har blitt enda viktigere enn før.

– Konflikter, krig og hybride trusler er i dag reelle farer på områder vi bare for noen få år siden så på som helt usannsynlige, sier sjefen i Mattilsynet.



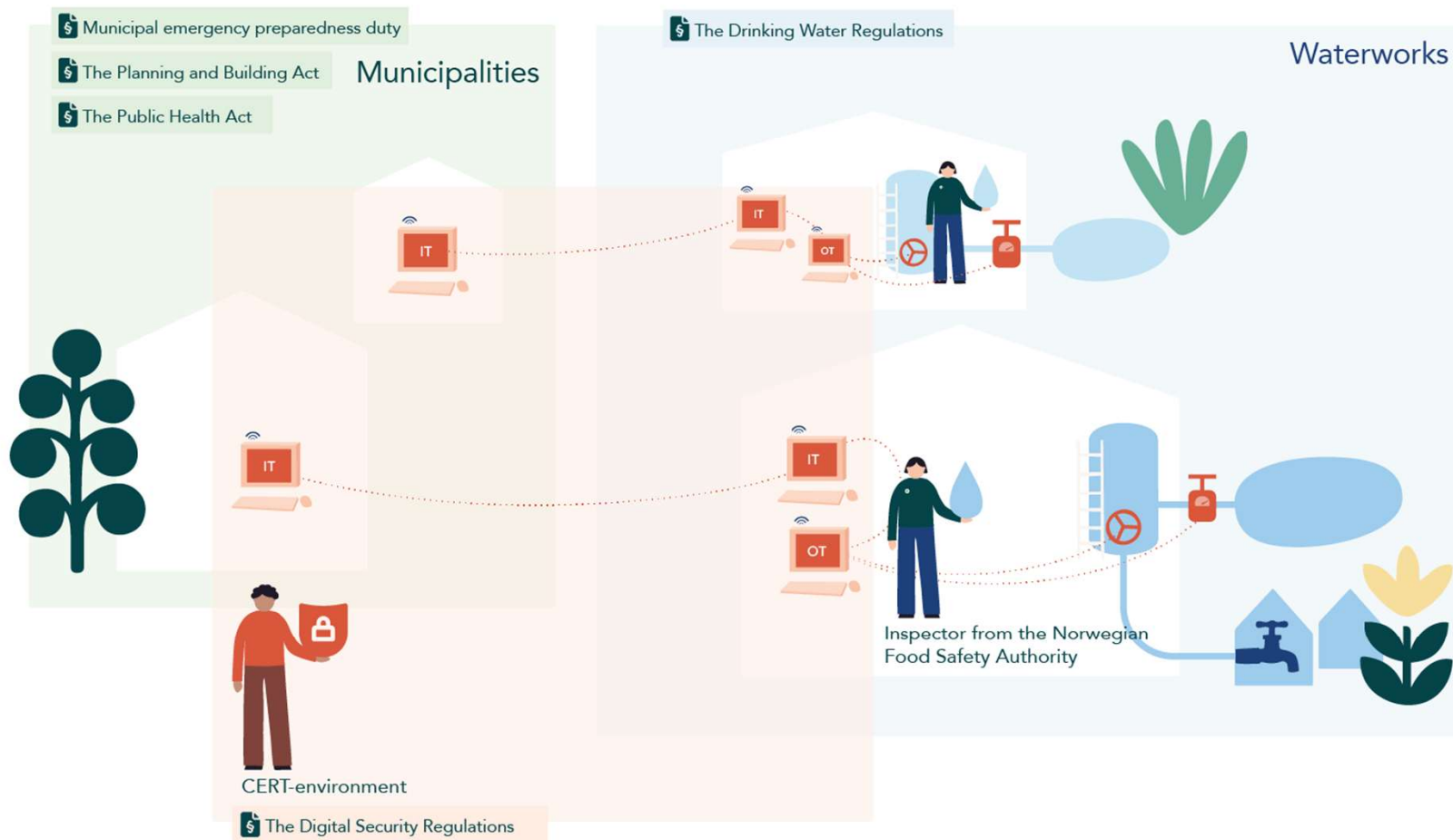
REELL FARE: Godal i Mattilsynet er bekymret for utfordringene rundt drikkevannet. Foto: Christrémy Berrefjord / TV 2

The regulatory framework for handling of new security threats - deliberate actions"

- Norwegian Food Act - Drinking Water Regulations (DWD)
- Norwegian Security Act
- Different regulations related to emergency preparedness in municipalities
- Data Protection Act (NIS 1)
- *New - Basic Security Act*
- NIS2 CER



Overview of the most important regulations that directly or indirectly govern data security in the water supply sector in Norway.



The Security Act and The Health Preparedness Act are not included in this overview.

Explanation of abbreviations:

IT: Information Technology. IT security is primarily about protecting data and information.

OT : Operational Technology – The use of hardware and software to monitor and control physical processes, devices, and infrastructure. OT security focuses on securing physical processes and systems that are critical to the operation of an organization.

CERT is the same as SRM

CERT: Computer Emergency Response Team – a coordinating unit for information security and synonymous with:

SRM: A sector-specific response environment

Water supply in total defence - article 3

"In order more effectively to achieve the objectives of this Treaty, the Parties, separately and jointly, by means of continuous and effective self-help and mutual aid, will maintain and develop their individual and collective capacity to resist armed attack" (Article 3, NATO Charter)

- At the 2023 Vilnius Summit, Allied Leaders reiterated the Alliance's commitment to strengthening resilience as an essential basis for credible deterrence and defence
- At the 2024 Washington Summit, Allies pledged to build on efforts to strengthen national resilience by integrating civilian planning into national and collective defence planning in peace, crisis and conflict

Seven baseline requirements

- *Resilient food and water resources: ensuring resilient supplies that are safe from disruption or sabotage*
- **The Norwegian Food Safety Authority shall maintain and carry out its social mission in peace, crisis and war, until otherwise decided**

Emergency preparedness in the water supply

- ***Increased requirements for adaptability - rapid change in the risk and threat picture***
- Relevant areas that need to be analysed and understood to a greater extent
- Climate change
- Supply chains related to intermediate goods
- **Intentional actions**
- **Armed conflict**
- Coordination and cooperation
- Vulnerable subscribers
- **Armed forces**

Existing - guidance document - drinking water regulation

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We do not expect the contingency plan to take into account a sudden, unforeseen and marked increase in the number of users, such as military troop movements or a larger number of refugees.

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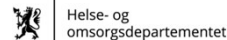
The Norwegian Food Safety Authority's main priorities for drinking water supply in 2025

- Hazard mapping, contingency plans and exercises
- Raw water quality and water treatment
- Security of supply and alternative drinking water supply
- Protection of drinking water sources in zoning and land-use plans



National Committee for Water Supply Preparedness

- Water supply - one of six risk areas
- Further develop the prerequisites for good emergency preparedness work in the water supply
 - Review risk, vulnerability and emergency preparedness analyses of the drinking water supply
 - Scenarios, planning assumptions and exercises
 - Advisory to the Health Emergency Preparedness Council



Thank you for your attention.