



# Presov: an arson plot against a Ukrainian drone plant

*Slovak police stopped three foreign nationals before they could set fire to a Ukrainian-owned drone factory. They seized petrol mixed with polystyrene, tools, a camera and a hand-drawn plan of the plant. About seventy people were on site.*

## INCIDENT DETAILS • 5WH

**Who** Two Latvians and a Ukrainian, charged with preparing general endangerment as co-perpetrators acting on order. None convicted; who ordered it is not identified.

**What** A planned arson attack on the Skyeton drone plant, disrupted before execution. Police seized petrol mixed with polystyrene, a camera and a hand-drawn facility plan.

**Where** The Skyeton plant at Haniska near Presov, eastern Slovakia; the third arrest was in Hamburg.

**When** Detained 25 Aug 2026; two remanded by a Presov court on 27 Aug, extradition under way for the third.

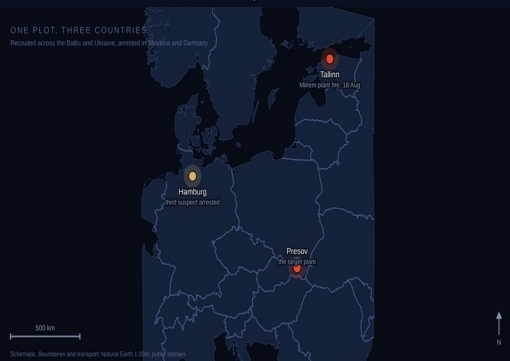
**Why** Skyeton supplies surveillance drones; its Ukrainian plant supplies Ukraine's forces. No formal state attribution; Russia's embassy rejects the allegation.

**How** A stand-off incendiary attack by recruited foreign nationals. Casualties - none.

## IMPACT

- Human: none. Had it succeeded, police assess a large-scale fire with about seventy people on site.
- Industrial: a drone line moved to Slovakia to escape missile attack, reached instead by three men with a can of petrol.
- Cost: property valued in the tens of millions of euros, and a hardening bill for every comparable manufacturer.
- Claimed responsibility: a self-described peace movement has publicly claimed the plot, supplying a motive that is not a state one.

## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS



**Spring 2024** Skyeton opens at Haniska

**18 Aug** Suspected arson at Milrem, Tallinn

**27 Aug** A peace group claims it

- 1 Production moved beyond missile range
- 2 Reconnaissance: a hand-drawn plan
- 3 Petrol and polystyrene prepared
- 4 25 Aug: arrests in Slovakia, Hamburg
- 5 27 Aug: remand, and a claim

## ASSESSMENT, LESSONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Relocation defeated the missile and delivered the arsonist - a changed threat, not a reduced one.
- The claim by an unknown peace group is novel and should be neither dismissed nor accepted.
- They are charged with acting on order, and the orderer has not been named.
- The reconnaissance was the visible part, as it usually is, and the only phase a defender has time in.