

## Russia says it is prepared to open fire on foreign-flagged vessels illegally in its waters

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In a further increase in the political temperature surrounding Ukraine and Russia, a senior Russian military official said on Monday February 14th that Russia was prepared and ready to open fire on foreign-flagged ships and submarines that illegally entered its territorial waters, according to an Interfax news agency report.

Stanislav Gadzhimagomedov, deputy head of the main operational department of the General Staff, said that any such decision would, however, only be taken at the “highest level”.

Interfax quoted Gadzhimagomedov as saying that Russia was able to adequately counter the US fleet in the Black Sea and Baltic Sea, but that it but did not have enough ships and plans to do so in the far east at the moment.

All of Russia’s military fleets have been carrying out exercises in recent weeks across vast areas including parts of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and the Mediterranean