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NATO INVITE SEES NORDIC STATES STEPPING UP SECURITY COOPERATION

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By LISBETH KIRK

Mutual cooperation between the eight Nordic countries for many years avoided security and defence issues - out of respect for Sweden and Finland's non-aligned status.

But times are changing. This year the Nordic Council has asked Nato's secretary general, Jens Stoltenberg, to address the annual parliamentarian assembly (2-4 November) in Copenhagen.

The invitation marks another discreet step towards more security cooperation among the Nordic countries. From not being discussed at all, it has become a main topic.

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