

# **New Geopolitical Challenges, Risks and Threats to Europe's Critical Infrastructure**

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# **Agenda**

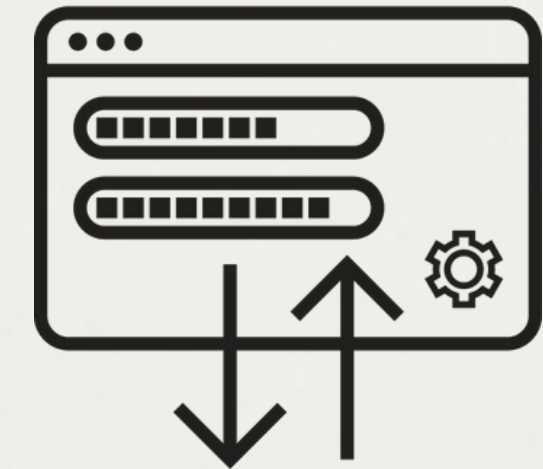
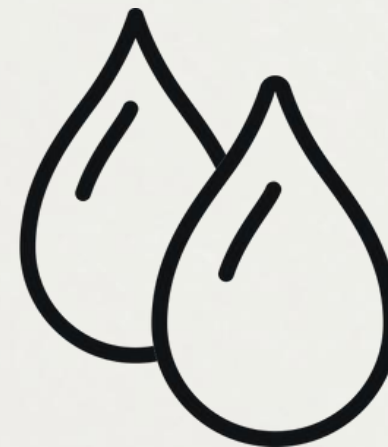
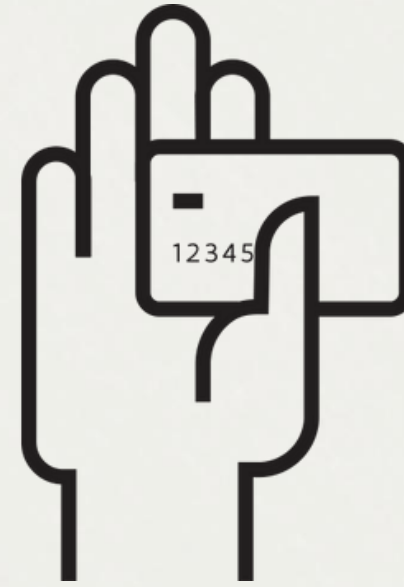
**Definitions**

**Role of the Flemish government**

**Role of the dredging sector**

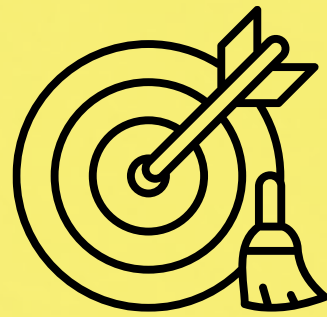
# Europe's Critical Infrastructure

# Critical infrastructure

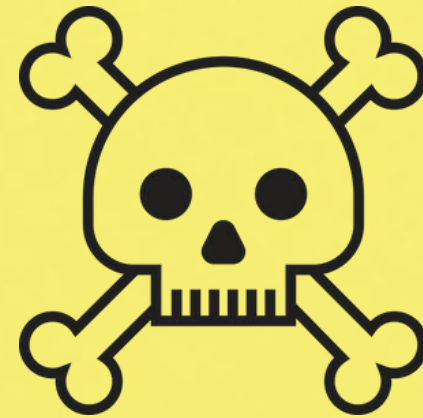


# Risks and Threats

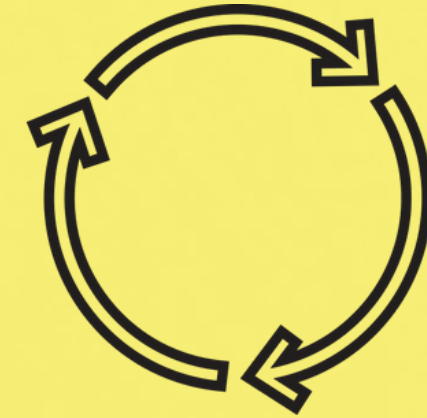
# Threats



intentional



harmful



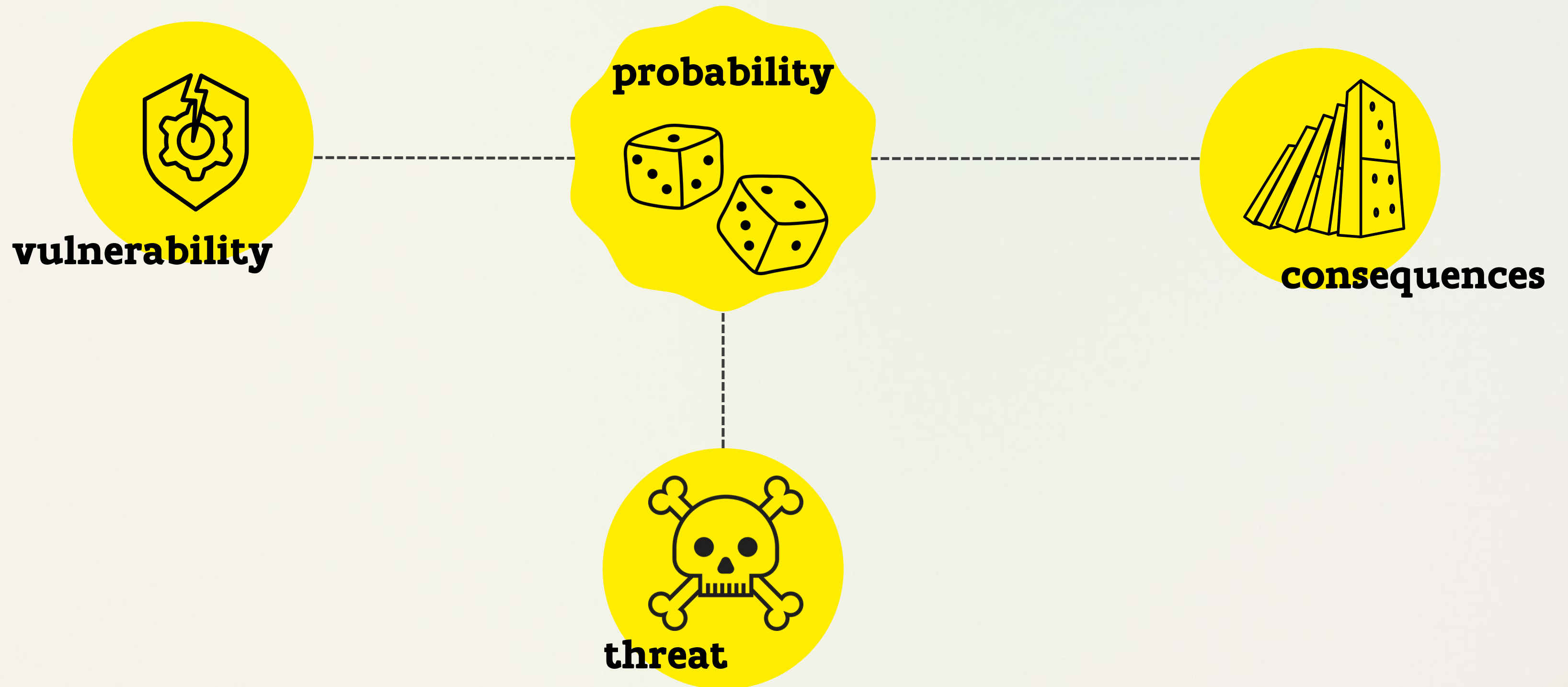
retribution

# — **Risks**

**risk = probability x impact**



# Risks



**Definitions**



# **(New) Geopolitical Challenges**

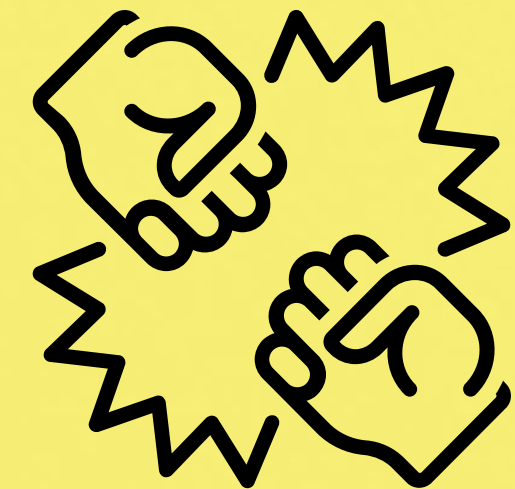
# Geopolitical challenges



climate change



tariffs



conflict

# **Role of the Flemish government**

# **The Flemish government...**



**example: Port of Antwerp-Bruges (image credit PoAB)**

**...maintains the access to  
the sea ports**



# **The Flemish government...**



**...maintains navigable  
waterways**

**example: Albertkanaal (image credits POM Antwerpen)**

# **The Flemish government...**



**example: the new lock in Terneuzen (image credits FLOWS)**

**...funds and co-funds core  
public infrastructure**



# **The Flemish government...**



**...protect citizens and  
critical infrastructure  
from climate-related risks**

example: beach nourishment along the Flemish coast (image credits MDK)



# Role of the dredging sector

“Don’t ask what the country can do for you, ask what you can do for the country” (John F. Kennedy)

# Dredging can help to...



example: construction of the Deurganckdock (image credit: PoAB)

**...built economic  
resilience**



# Dredging can help to...



**...mitigate climate  
change**

example: Sigmaplan Fort Filips - remediation and de-poldering (image credit De Vlaamse Waterweg nv)



# **Dredging can help to...**



**example: coastal protection (image credit MDK)**

**...adapt to a changing  
environment**



# Dredging can help to...

**...maintain our crucial infrastructure**



example: lock in Wintam (image credit De Vlaamse Waterweg nv)



# Dredging can help to...



example: rock installation vessels (image credit: WIRED)

**...protect our crucial  
infrastructure**

**When we unite, we build not  
just infrastructure, but  
resilience.**