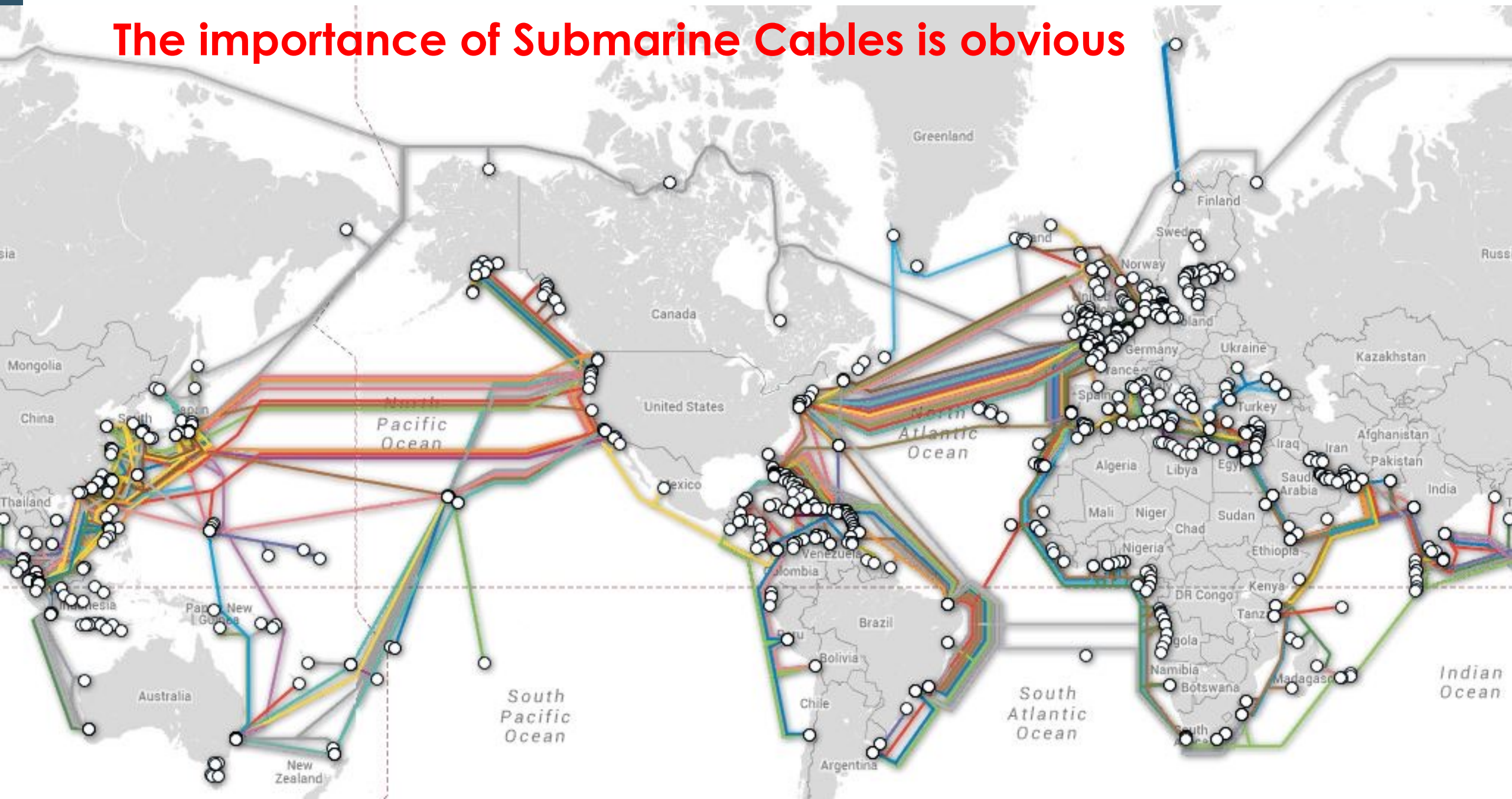


A 3D rendering of a submarine cable against a teal background. The cable is shown at an angle, with a cross-section revealing numerous white optical fibers bundled together. A copper sheath is visible around the fibers. The title text is overlaid on the upper part of the cable.

The Cloud is in the Sea

Christer E. Hammarlund
at the NDN Conference,
8 September 2026,
Luleå, Sweden

The importance of Submarine Cables is obvious



The EC Response

- **2020: Review of NIS Directive**
- **July 2022:** Submarine Cables included in the NIS 2.0 Directive
- **26 Sept. 2022:** Sabotage of Nordstream 1 and 2 Pipelines
- **Feb. 2024: Commission Recommendation on Secure and Resilient Submarine Cable Infrastructures – 2024/779**
- **Oct. 2025:** "EU submarine cable infrastructure is an essential backbone of the European Union's connectivity, economy and security of supply," said **Torsten Schack Pedersen**, Danish Minister for Resilience and Preparedness – during the Danish Presidency of the EU
- **Jan. 2026: Cybersecurity Act 2.0, COM(2026) 11 final**

My 24 years in the European Commission (1999-2023):

2000: Negotiations of a Directive in Conciliation (3rd reading)

2001: New database of business incubators in Europe (1,000 registrations six months later)

2004-2005: International roaming charges

2005-2007: Advisor to President José Manuel Barroso:

2006: Regions for Economic Change – regional programme with a budget of €375 million

2007: Energy/Climate Package – “20/20/20 by 2020”

2013: Team Leader for 1st EU-China Exchange Programme to China

2013: EU-Latin America Summit – political support for the EllaLink submarine cable

2014: EU-Brazil Summit – financial support for the EllaLink submarine cable

2016: Cybersecurity and Network and Information Security (NIS) Directive

2022: Subsea cables introduced in NIS2 Directive (after general approach)

2023: Subsea Cable Act