

The Calotte Academy 2009

“Environmental Politics and Industrial Development”

Inari, Finland / Kirkenes, Norway / Murmansk, Russia

May 28 – June 1, 2009

Final Report

This is the final report on the Calotte Academy 2009 “Environmental Politics and Industrial Development (in the Eurasian North)”, which took place in May 28 – June 1, 2009 in three locations in Finland, Norway and Russia. The report includes first, a short description of the Calotte Academy 2009 and its activities, and the organizers; second, the lecture diary on the Calotte Academy 2009 by Justiina Dahl (student of the University Lapland) as a substantial description and discussion on the theme and sub-themes based on the presentations of the Academy 2009; third, the abstracts of the presentations; and final, the program and schedule of the entire Calotte Academy 2009.

Themes and Structure

The main theme of the Calotte Academy 2009 (CA2009) was “Environmental Politics and Industrial Development (in the Eurasian North)”. The main theme consisted of the sub-themes and discourses on the ‘politicization’ of the environment and environmental politics, environmental degradation and conflicts, environmental security and environmental protection, and on the other hand, the utilization of natural resources, transportation and industrialization, such as mining, and their socio-economic / societal impacts.

As usually the Calotte Academy 2009 was a travelling symposium with 24 speakers (scholars, scientists, policy-makers, businessmen and other experts) and an audience of 25-35 persons in each location in three countries and regions. In each location there was both a public session with expert presentations and open discussions, and an academic workshop on drafts of a book project for researchers and graduate / post-graduate students.

Integrated Workshops

The Calotte Academy has recently also acted as a workshop for the Nordic-Russian research project, *Northern Eurasian Geopolitics* as well a sub-forum for the Northern Research Forum (NRF). Consequently, the Calotte Academy 2009 included workshop sessions for the NEG project and the NRF Theme Project Group on Climate Change – Northern Security.

Back-to-back to the 2009 Academy in each location there was also a workshop session of the book project *Climate Change and Human Security - From a Northern Point of View*. The book will be published by University of Ottawa Press, Canada and edited by Lassi Heininen and Heather Nicol (Trent University, Canada). It is based on the presentations of the Calotte Academy 2008 “Climate Change Defining Human Security”, which took place in May 22-26, 2008 in Inari, Finland, in Kirkenes Norway and in Murmansk, Russia.

The Calotte Academy 2010

There is a tentative plan that the Calotte Academy 2010 will be organized as a travelling symposium in Apatity (and possibly in Murmansk), Russia in Kirkenes, Norway and in Inari, Finland. The Academy 2010 will start in Apatity, where the sessions will be organized back-to-back to the 5th International Scientific Conference, “The North and the Arctic in the New World Development Paradigm - Luzin Readings 2010” in April 8-10, 2010 by the Kola Science Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences.

Organizers

The Calotte Academy is cooperation between regional and national institutions and sub-national governments coming from Finland, Norway and Russia. Consequently, the 2009 Academy was co-organized by Municipality of Inari, the Saami Educational Centre, the Learning Centre of Calotte, the Faculty of Social Sciences at University of Lapland and Thule Institute at the University of Oulu (from Finland); the Barents Institute and Bioforsk Soil and Environment in Svanhovd (from Norway); and the Murmansk Humanities Institute and the Institute of Economic Studies at the Kola Science Centre (from Russia). The planned Kolari-Pajala session “Socio-economic impacts of mining” on the Finnish-Swedish border was cancelled due to an overlap of seminars on mining in Kolari and Pajala.

Further Information and Contacts

For further and more detailed information of the Calotte Academy 2009 - please contact with the chairman of the Calotte Academy, Dr. Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland, E-mail: lassi.heininen@ulapland.fi and Tel. +358-40-734 7417

For more detailed information of the program and arrangements in each location:

- in Inari - please contact with Anne-Marie Kalla, Municipality of Inari, E-mail: anne-marie.kalla@inari.fi and Tel. +358-40-723 0697;

- in Kirkenes - please contact with Svein Helge Orheim, Barents Institute, E-mail: svein@barinst.no or post@barentsinstitute.org and Tel. +47-78977050;

- in Murmansk - please contact with Mikhail Smirnyakov, Murmansk Humanities Institute, Russia, E-mail: smirnyakov@mginet.ru;

The Final Reports of the Calotte Academy in 2005-2009 you can find in the NRF web site: <http://www.nrf.is/Books&Publications>

Calotte Academy 2009: Lecture Diary

by Justiina Miina Ilona Dahl

Student of International Relations, University of Lapland, Finland

Climate change is an issue closely associated with my master's thesis because it is the phenomenon behind the changing environmental conditions in the North, which are leading to the changing and already changed dynamics in the relations between the eight Arctic states: "Governments are worried about their national security and sovereignty", as was stated in the draft of "Climate change as a challenge for human security in the North-an introduction" by Lassi Heinen and Heather Nicol.

In my thesis I wish to analyze this changed situation of increased worry over security, sovereignty and other issues dealing with the Arctic area at the level of the state; hence concentrating on one of the oldest fields of international relations: diplomacy. As international relations and politics in general are nowadays an interesting and complex bundle of actors, looking only at the information provided by the states themselves would however give an obscured and narrow outlook on the issue. This is why establishing an understanding over the processes and debates that are going on within the states themselves and between actors in different fields is an important part of the back round research to be done for my thesis. For this purpose the Calotte Academy provided me with an excellent opportunity. Participation in the Inari and Kirkenes sessions gave me an overview of not only the current developments within the Arctic states themselves but as well of the related projects and research of other scholars and scientists that touch base with my own interests and studies.

The United States and Canada: Cooperation or conflict?

According to Heather Nicol from Trent University, Canada the public discussion over the Northern areas in Canada has taken a turn upwards to a more traditional state security and state-level direction where there is an increasing role of state and federal government in environmental legislation as well. "State security has high-jacked other environmental security issues after the 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States", stated Nicol in her presentation in Inari.

According to Nicol the political discourses in Canada are becoming more and more influenced by the United States: There is actually a call for a broader common Arctic agenda with the United States because the Canadian Northern border is being considered by the US in a way as its Northern border as well. The Arctic Ocean is hence once again becoming an important frontier in international relations and security discussions. According to Nicol this means that Canada is now proofing its competence in security and safekeeping to the US. One example of this heated security-discussion is that the Canadian prime minister actually replaced the coast guard with the navy

This turn of events in the relations of the US and Canada is interesting because the debate of the maritime boundaries between the United States and Canada is not even close to being solved. As Willy Östreg from Ocean features, Norway mentioned in his presentation in Kirkenes, the problem is that in the Arctic Ocean the coastal state jurisdiction collides with the freedom of navigation. To the United States the freedom of navigation is top priority, and it is linked to the country's global policy because it wishes to exercise this right not only in the Arctic but also throughout the world.

To Canada there is however only one solution to the problem, and that is that the rights to the Northwest Passage are theirs even though there is no legitimate international treaty stating the situation of sea ice in international law. This means that Denmark, with whom the Canadians as well have unfinished maritime-boundary-drawing-business, the US and the European Union, whose policy is that no group or countries have sovereignty over the Arctic, are now considered threatening the very core of Canadian statehood that is to say its sovereignty.

Even though Canada has powerful opponents it is not alone in its battle over the now ice-covered but possibly in the future ice-free waters: The Canadians have a powerful ally next to their side in Russia. The Russians consider the Northern sea route, which extends over the countries extremely long Arctic Ocean shoreline, to be under Russian jurisdiction.

As the global warming and especially the warming in the Northern areas seem to be taking a more rapid turn, the questions that are related to these debates over jurisdiction and navigational rights in the Arctic (what is the legal status of sea ice? Is there enough political will for an Arctic treaty? If not how should the navigational and shipping rights in the area be solved?) are becoming topical sooner rather than later. The eight Arctic countries are not the only ones interested in the area but there are numerous other actors within the international community, governmental and non-governmental, that are keeping their eyes open for opportunities in the region as well.

The Arctic: A challenge for geopolitics

With the turn of the focus in the Arctic from bottom-up low politics to top-down high politics, the area has also become a question of high geopolitics in the Canadian as well as American foreign policy.

I have yet to look at the new Arctic agenda of Canada, of which occurrence even Nicol was not aware of at the time it came out due to the lack publicity it got, but the older one set special attention on environment, indigenous peoples and cross-boarder cooperation regarding their lives and livelihoods. Now according to Nicol any real initiatives similar to these ones are gone in the Canadian Arctic discourse. Instead of the emphasis being on co-operation within the Arctic Council, which Canada helped to establish, or on other existing circumpolar forums, the emphasis is once again on the state level and on security and sovereignty, which are among the most traditional areas of international relations and focus points of the IR school of real politik.

The 2007 Ilulissat conference between Russia, Denmark, Canada, the United States and Norway is an excellent example of the change of focus in the Arctic, where new forums are sought out to help solve issues dealing with the new high geopolitics because the existing ones are not nor are allowed to become strong enough to act as platforms for cooperation building in this new geopolitical situation.

The Arctic states are trying to find their roles in the changing geopolitical situation in the Arctic and it is interesting to see what kind of balance there will eventually be between them. For example Norway is according to Östreng siding up with its NATO allies, namely the US, and the Icelanders are creating new innovative shipping routes and systems to be considered in the future. Finland and Sweden on the other neither have an Arctic policy even though both would have something to gain in the future development of increased exploitation of natural resources within the Arctic Ocean region.

The highjacking of the security discourse

Lassi Heininen from the University of Lapland, Finland pointed out in his presentation in Inari that expanding the usage of the term “security” to other levels of human life such as food or climate gives one an opportunity to look at security beyond the traditional state/military concept. Creating and adopting new terms such as human or climate security when dealing with political issues means that the phenomena that the terms refer to have been taken up a notch in political discussion. The different security concepts bring new levels and aspects to security debates, which means more actors in different levels are involved in the discussions. These different actors bring to the discussions not only differences in viewpoints but as well in time perspectives.

As the traditional state security discourse is becoming yet again more and more dominant in the discussions over the Arctic region, the other, more distinct and boarder dimensions of security are being overlooked. Nicol pointed out in her presentation that these new definitions and levels of security such as human security, by which she means perceptions of security by individuals, don't necessarily cooperate well with the traditional state security. Take for example food security, a term, which's origins are in the Northern territories and the suffrage and lives of the indigenous peoples who live there. It used to be a dominant discourse in the Arctic debates but now as the stakes of the states have been raised to the level of high politics it is getting less attention and weight in. All different levels of security, human, state or economic, are interlinked one way or another but with the re-emergence of the dominant state-security discourse the other dimensions of security have been high-jacked and artificially pulled apart.

Security is hence a word that reflects values and deals with concerns about things that are important to people. When dealing with issues related to security the question to consider is; whose perspective is the strongest and who gets to do the prioritizing: states, politicians, industry, scientist or locals? The question can also be framed in the form of; whose or what security is the most important?

Security, safety or insecurity?

The histories behind the expansion of the security terminology are as well interesting and these new terms should not be taken as given. There is for example a big difference in connotation when using the word safety instead of security; for example when talking about nuclear safety not nuclear security, as Heininen mentioned in Inari. In the world of international relations where discourse analysis is the leading methodological choice among scholars differences like these present an interesting case study or point of view to be taken into consideration in ones own research.

Heininen also pointed out the different dynamics between using the term security instead of the opposite insecurity. The latter hardly ever appears in public discussion relating to the fields of security even though considering some situations it would actually be more accurate; like for instance when talking about climate security. This because there is no secure proof of what will be the affect of climate change to the environment not to mention international relations. In a way as the damage to the environment and climate is already done it seems a little late to talk about climate security now. Another question that rises from the term climate security is that whose security are we talking about: the climate's, nature's or human's?

Interplay between science and politics

Climate change is an excellent case study for the interplay between science and politics as Nicol and Heininen pointed out in their draft preface. If one follows the ideology of Ulrich Beck, climate change can be seen as an outcome of the risk society, where science and risk assessments have become the ultimate form of ensuring security. We are still living in a world of risk societies because the consequences of the previous generations actions are being medicated with the old remedies; the high role of technology, risk assessments and science are still being emphasized when seeking political solutions for problems.

It seems that security provided by the mechanisms of the risk society has in the contemporary times just gone over a make-over term-vice turning from plain trust in technology into innovation, which is the new magic word in all public, national or international, discussion. An example of how Ulrich Beck's risk society is still present in the discussions about the future of the Arctic is Galena Baroda's introduction of the idea of floating nuclear power plants for energy production in the Russian Arctic.

Security discourses in my research

When it comes to my research it will be interesting to see how and into what extent the traditional state/ military/ sovereignty discussion is present in the official new Arctic agendas of the states and what kind of role technology and innovations play in them. As the security discussion has expanded into multiple levels of society it will also be noteworthy to see how the new areas of security are present or specialized within the agendas, and what kind of solutions to possible future threats are thought out in different

states and how these collaborate or conflict with each other. This is also where possible older Arctic agendas would come in handy as back round material to see how and if the discourses have changed in the past 5-10 years.

The debates on climate change and global warming within and between the Arctic states are also an aspect to be taken into consideration in my research as climate change is the catalyst between the changed geopolitical situation in the Arctic. It is interesting to look into this discussion because climate change is most often seen as a threat and a problem in public discussions but at the same time it is a blessing for the Arctic areas because it brings with it new, unseen opportunities and possibilities for the countries, communities and peoples in the North. This idea of the climate change as a blessing is debatable in the North though because at the same time it is a challenge for the traditional lives and livelihoods of the people who have inhabited the Northern areas for centuries.

An environmental perspective

The environment and its special vulnerability in the Arctic brings an interesting contrast to the traditional military security discussion not only because the environment and its protection were the basis from which the international Arctic cooperation started from after the Cold War, but because the natural resources in the area are according to Russian as well as American researches enormous and their extended usage would bring a threat to the environmental safety as well as food and human security in the area. The states are hence now facing the dilemma of double standards: The cooperation used to base on the politically low level environmental research and protection, but now this established cooperation is threatened to be overlooked because of economical gains and navigational opportunities that are becoming available in the area.

As climate change has politicized the environment and raised the importance of it in international relations as well as national politics it is interesting to see how it relates to the Arctic agendas and discussions of the states of the area: Will the environment hold its raised importance in the pressure of the historically high, mighty and unchallengeable security and sovereignty discourse of the states?

A new Cold War in the Arctic?

The world or dynamics between states are not the same as they were during the Cold War so going back to the times of confrontation and *détente* are highly unlikely even though the political discourse regarding the Arctic has changed in the past years to remind the one of these times. What might lead to confrontations however are the different environmental standards in Russia of those in the other Arctic countries as Mikhail Kalentchenko from the Murmansk Marine Biology Institute of the Kola Science Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia, pointed out in his presentation in Kirkenes. There is for example a requirement for damage assessment of future projects in Russia but no uniform methodology or guidelines of how to do this. Kalentchenko went as far as calling the implementation of environmental law in Russia flexible and selective. There is extensive environmental legislation in Russia but as it seems to be in Russia's case quite

often there is no way to implement it. One of the reasons for these problems is according to Kalantchenko the state of the free press in Russia. According to him if something happens in Russia the officials and people involved normally bury the incident in contrary than for example in Norway where people would know about the happening very fast.

International cooperation in Russia can hence be at times frustrating for the foreign counterparts but despite of this there is still a lot of interest in investing in the industrial development of the Russian Arctic. Norwegian firm Statoil, which was present in the Kirkenes session as well, is an excellent example of this interest. Bendikt Henriksen from Statoil emphasized in his presentation in Kirkenes that Norway wants to be Russia's strategic partner in the North when it comes to industrial as well as social relations. Norway's focus is hence spread out into not only supplier-relations but as well education and environment. As Russian gas is expected to move more offshore from the 98% onshore production of today the Norwegians wish to share their experience with the Russians in regards of offshore oil exploitation. Björn Frantzen from Bioforsk, Norway also pointed out that if Kirkenes would become an international shipping port for Russian oil, then the qualified people to work within this industry would not be all found locally. There is hence an opportunity for cross-boarder cooperation at the local level as well.

The Arctic has then a possibility of becoming an international forum for peaceful international cooperation and the Northern areas the opportunity to become more an active center rather than a burden periphery in the states that they are a part of. There is however a long and unstable road to be walked until this actually could become a reality but it is encouraging to see that there is at least at the local level political will to try to establish this. The same can be abided to Finnish Lapland as well because even though the state doesn't have an Arctic agenda it doesn't mean that the local level actors would not be interested in cross-boarder cooperation such as for example a railroad extending from Salla to Kandalacha as the Lappish politician and Finnish M.P. Janne Seurujärvi mentioned in Kirkenes.

In the history of the Arctic international cooperation the local non-governmental level has proven to be influential and important in the past: The states were in fact not the first ones to politicize the Arctic, but the established institutional initiatives, such as the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy, which later lead to the formation of the Arctic Council, by the states were actually based on the politization processes started up by concerned individuals, communities and non-governmental organizations in the area. This is an example of how from different interests in one area or regarding one issue can come out different solutions and possibilities, which then in the best case lead to a situation where there are both- and -solutions note one-or-the-other ones. This is why, even though having multiple actors and levels present in decision-making in international as well as national politics can complicate and delay things, it is still important to have all these levels present in the discussions because these discussions and can then lead into fruitful solutions that the actors involved could not have come up to on their own.

The untellable future of the Arctic

Climate change brings with it insecurity as Heininen pointed out in Inari. This insecurity of what the future brings with it is present in the developments in the Arctic eight's international relations regarding the area. As Annika Nilsson from Stockholm Environmental Institute, Sweden pointed out, the strong political discourses that some of the states are becoming to have on sovereignty and security base on the decline of the sea ice. What kind of consequences this decline will have on the Arctic ecology, weather or if the Northern sea route or the Northeast and –west passages will actually be navigable at all in the future are questions that no one has a definite answer to. The Northern areas however will meet the effects of the climate change first, and the Arctic will hence be a laboratory for not only natural but to social and political sciences as well.

All the eight states, that have territory in the Arctic, have something to gain as well as something to loose with the new, developing environmental situations in the area. Of the smaller states Iceland and Norway as well as Denmark/Greenland have been on top of their game for the past years creating and seeking possibilities to get involved in the development of the area. Finland and Sweden on the other hand have been directing their emphasis in their international politics elsewhere and have not defined any real Northern policies for themselves as of now. The United States has been directing more resources as well as emphasis into the Arctic lately coming up with an actual Arctic agenda in 2009. Russia and Canada have both been active in their Northern areas for quite some time now.

Despite these recent developments the Arctic seems to still be in the sidelines of international relations and foreign affairs. However if the global warming keeps on affecting the Arctic in the same rapid phase as it has been doing for the past few years the focus of the world is bound to be directed more and more Northwards not only because there are still many unanswered questions regarding the rule and operationalisation of the area such as the sovereignty over sea ice as well as to how, to what extent and by whom the usage of the natural resource in the area and operation of possible sea routes should and will be done. These are all questions to be solved in the international forum but in what platform; state to state, Arctic Council, some new international organ etc. remains still unanswered.

A few words to the end

Even though my future master's thesis will most likely focus on the Arctic states' Arctic agendas this doesn't mean that these are the only documents and aspects to be taken into consideration within the research: Even if a state has a specialized Arctic agenda it doesn't mean that this is what they will follow in their actual politics. The ongoing development of the Arctic touches base with so many levels and fields of international politics that familiarizing oneself with the ongoing political debates in the Arctic countries is a necessity. There is also the fact that even though the Arctic spreads onto the territories of eight countries there are a lot more countries and parties interested in the future development of the area.

What is also important in regards of my own research as well is the understanding of the Arctic studies in different fields of sciences. As the discussions relating to climate change are an excellent example of interplay between science and politics so are the discussions relating to the future development of the Arctic; there are questions relating to international law, economics, natural sciences etc. that are all part of the palette from which the picture of international relations of the Arctic is being painted, and leaving these aspects out would result into an incomplete unfinished picture, which is not what I want my master's thesis to be like.

Abstracts of Presentations

Thursday, May 28th at Jeera in Inari, Finland

Public Session: *'Politicization' of the Environment, and (International) Environmental Politics*

Introduction to the Theme and Work of the Calotte Academy 2009

by Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland, Finland

Abstract

Environmental “awakening” started in the 1960s in many parts of the globe as a moral protest against belief in progress based on economic growth and modernisation. The environment has also been ‘politicized’ with the main idea that “the very different factors, which include the human environment and determine its quality, have become as targets of political disagreements and conflicts”. Since the “politicization” of the environment is a process, it needs, even requires, actors, either individuals together or communities or lobbies, who are conscious, concern and will act by themselves, and convince the others. And if actors, then there are also interests, different interests, and consequently, conflicts of interests, and interplay between different actors. Indeed, there is much public (local, domestic, regional, international and global) concern about a state of the environment and increased demands for enhanced environmental protection. This is also the case in the North in general and in particular in the North Calotte. In northern regions environmental awakening started in the 1980s by non-state actors (e.g. Indigenous peoples’ organizations and environmental movements) and was followed by the arctic states which signed the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy in 1991. At the early-21st century the circumpolar North, or the Arctic, is an environmental linchpin with a critical role in global environmental issues. All this explain why environmental politics, particularly together with industrial development, is the main theme of the Calotte Academy 2009. Even more understandable the main theme is, if we take another kind interpretation that contrasts (due to competition and conflicts of interests) usually come with alternatives which means that “both – and” is more fruitful than “either – or”. In consequent, this needs, even requires, both the interplay between politics and science, and open discussion between different stakeholders, which is the main aim of the Calotte Academy.

Rapid Reframing of Arctic Climate Change

by Annika E. Nilsson, Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden

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Abstract

Cold climate has made the Arctic region unique compared to many other parts of the world. The accompanying ice and snow and their impacts on the environment has

attracted scientific attention from outside the region for over a century and played a major role in images of the circumpolar North region as inaccessible and pristine. Reality is more complex and harbours experiences ranging from indigenous traditional livelihoods to large-scale resource exploitation with severe ecosystem damage. In global politics, the Arctic has gone from being a resource base to an arena for East-West military tensions, further to providing a human face to the consequences of pollution and climate change, and most recently back to being seen as an important resource base for actors far outside the region, at the same time as calls are being raised about protecting the unique environment of the region. While the Arctic is not doubt changing, political images of the region appear to change at an even faster rate and are also interacting with the physical, ecological and social changes. Taking a starting point in these interactions - between the social and the natural world and between the Arctic region and global political dynamics - this presentation will discuss ways to understand the recent rapid reframing of Arctic climate change. It will analyze to what extent old and new ways of conceptualizing global politics are useful for understanding the Arctic today and what they may say about the future role of the circumpolar North in a global context.

New Mechanisms for Cooperation Development in the North - a case study of the “North-Centre”

by Igor Shevchuk, Foreign Relations Officer, Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences

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Summary

Strengthening globalization combined with accelerated climate warming in the Arctic, which would raise the region’s economic significance in the coming 5-10 years, have boosted the growth of interest in the North. The main tasks the global community intends to fulfill in the Arctic and Polar North are traditionally defined as:

- active utilization of the region’s natural resources;
- development of the transport and border infrastructure and the IT environment;
- implementation of environmental policy, including development of protected areas;
- solution of socioeconomic problems, including preservation of traditional life styles of indigenous peoples of the North;
- full-scope utilization of the Arctic intellectual potential.

Here, integrated rather than individual handling of the issues appears more promising and valuable given the final objective – sustainable development of the Arctic and Polar North. Numerous national and international strategies and programmes are devoted to development of northern territories; a great number of projects involving thousands of various organizations and people are implemented. Regional bodies get actively involved; regional, interregional, international and cross-border cooperation networks are forming. A topical need today is integration of the activities and targets of various stakeholders interested in the development of northern territories. In addition to the work of governments, local authorities, science, non-governmental groups, international organizations and partners representing the private sector should combine their resources,

share experience and generate new “added value” for the development of northern territories. To achieve this, networks should be established with many nodes connected directly and indirectly. They are the basic element of modern societies and the key factor supporting sound mutual dependence of different individuals and territories.

The factors mentioned above generate the basis for development and establishment of new mechanisms of network cooperation that agree with modern development trends of cooperation in the North. One of the examples of such instruments is “North-Centre”, which is a non-profit Partnership “Centre for Problems of the North, Arctic and Cross-border Cooperation”.

The overall objective of the “North-Centre” can be formulated as follows. Support, coordination and promotion of the efficiency of scientific, educational, non-governmental, youth, political and commercial organizations and bodies in their activities dealing with topical problems of the North, the Arctic and border regions through development and introduction of new mechanisms of network cooperation.

Correspondingly, the aims are the following ones

- establishment of components of the infrastructure for organizational support, methodological maintenance and technical assistance to stakeholders of international cooperation on studies of the North and the Arctic;
- promotion of common Northern intellectual space: building of knowledge, development of methods for its accumulation and dissemination;
- integration of the efforts of scientific communities of Nordic countries and NW Russia to facilitate active utilization of resources of the Arctic and the North for sustainable development;
- establishment of the environment for constructive interactions of different sectors in specific projects;
- development of new models for international intersectoral network interactions; adaptation to and application under Russian conditions of European methodology and best practices;
- development of dialogue, mutual penetration of cultures, mutual development of competencies;
- promotion of cultural traditions needed for transition of northern territories to the sustainable development mode.

The founders of the Centre are Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Science and International public youth movement “Association AWARD”. It is supported by the Government of the Republic of Karelia and the Association “Council of municipalities, Republic of Karelia”. See <http://northcentre.krc.karelia.ru> (*under development*) or www.krc.karelia.ru

Friday, May 29th at Borderland Museum in Kirkenes, Norway

Public Session: *Societal Impacts of Industrialization and Transportation, and Environmental Protection (in the Eurasian North)*

Arctic Shelf Development: Risks Associated with the Liability for Environmental Damage

by Mikhail Kalentchenko, Baltic Institute, Russia

Abstract

The plans for development of the oil and gas fields on the Russian shelf is a hot topic for international investors. The core subject is financial viability of the project. One of the points to be assessed is the financial risks associated with the environmental damage. As the projects in question fall under the Russian jurisdiction, it is worthy to take good look at legal tools available to Russian authorities in the case of environmental damage. As the hydrocarbons fields development (and related activities) falls under the category of “ultrahazardous activity” (Art. 1079 RF Civil Code) the Russian Law provides for special treatment of the damage caused by such activities. The fundamental difference between the EC Directive 2004/35/CE and the Russian Law is that an operator cannot be relieved of liability for environmental damage on the grounds, that the damage was authorized or the operator is not the faulty party. The presentation gives an overview of legal tools available for operators, which are few, to safeguard their activities with the view to long term nature of projects.

Climate Change Issue of Marine Industries Development

by Galina Baturova, Council on Studies of the Productive Resources (SOPS) at the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation and the Russian Academy of Sciences, research fellow of the Center for Scientific Support of the Maritime Board at the Government of the Russian Federation

Abstract

There is hardly to find any other topic so disputed and so increasingly alarming the community of different countries than the problem of climate change. It closely connected with discovering of adaptation strategies transforming regional social and economic dynamics to the potential consequences of such process. Under conditions our institution tries to estimate impact of climate change on sustainable development of Arctic region by elaboration of two R&D projects. The first one – “Global Climate Change and Marine Activity Development” – was started in 2007 according with Order of the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation. The second one was devoted to the Murmansk coastal zone management and elaborated in coordination with the Department of Economic Development of the Murmansk region. Both of them cover issues related to not only incredible opportunities which would be opened for the regional marine complex in case of the Arctic Ocean is cleared of ice, but also to associated new environmental risks compared to the existing ones. For example, the general trend shows that fishery conditions are getting more favorable. As well as

transportation at the Russian Arctic zone in conditions purposeful development and climate change will increase significant. Such trend is proved by the North Sea Route transportation scenarios until 2020 by volumes and structure, elaborated by our institution. At the same time the most dramatic influence of the climate change, probably, will be seen in the ecological sphere. In fact, climate change' impact will be seen faster and stronger in the Arctic Region, due to its inconsistent environment. Generally this projects show that large-scale discussion on even possibility of climate change has direct impact related to not only in economic, social, ecological, scientific life, but also to national policy, military, and finally, international relations. That's why our efforts to decide such problems are culminated in wide range of key topics for the future.

The Arctic in the Russian Media

by Lotta Numminen, The Finnish Institute of International Affairs, Finland

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Abstract

This presentation examines Russian media debate about the Arctic. The debate was analyzed from four Russian newspapers during the period of 1.1.2007-31.12.2008. The articles in the newspapers contained mainly the following issues: 1) the "ownership question" of the Arctic; 2) the Northern Sea Route; 3) the Arctic resource base; 4) The Russian expedition of 2007; 5) Military actions and planned militarization of the Arctic. The presentation will give an overview of which kind of issues were discussed, and if and how the debate has changed during the examined period. Clearly, the access to the Arctic resources and the "ownership questions" related to them were the dominating themes in most of the articles in the Russian newspapers. Debate around the environmental issues related to, for example, the Arctic Ocean was almost totally absent in the analyzed data.

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Saturday, May 30th at Barents Secretariat in Kirkenes, Norway

Public Session *Industrial Development and Societal Impacts of Industrialization (in the Eurasian North)*

Environmental Politics and Industrial Resource Development in the Canadian North

by Heather Nicol, Trent University, Canada

Abstract

This paper explores the veracity of the promotional discourses of large trans-national corporations within the Canadian Arctic, like Enkati or Diavik Mines, who make claims that they have developed new partnerships and sustainable economic and environmental development initiatives. What is the reality of the current legacy of such development upon Arctic community and peoples? Can we identify the way in which these current environmental and geopolitical discourses are embedded within new environmental and

political frameworks, and can we also assess what types of challenges or solutions they offer to chronic economic development problems within the region? Is this really a golden age of sustainability under new governance frameworks, or have such claims been overstated? It is the goal of this paper to provide some insights as to these questions.

Change of the industrial structure in the Finnish Lapland

by Esko Lotvonen, Region Mayor, Regional Council of Lapland

The topic of the presentation of Mr. Esko Lotvonen was a change of the industrial structure in the Finnish Lapland. He brought first out the period after the 2nd World War, when northern Finland was strongly industrialized. In that period industry (pulp, paper, mining and hydro power) grew rapidly in the area. Great development boom followed including growth of economy and in public sector. On these years started also growth in tourism sector. Adverse development started in the 1980's and recession ruined the employment in Lapland in years 1990-1992. Later, electronics moving to another destination areas and closing of Kemijärvi pulp mill has caused severe economic problems. However, long economic upswing in 1995-2008 healed sme-business and joining to EU gave new impetus to business, said Mr. Lotvonen. Lapland has faced structural change during these years, when public sector jobs have still decreased, tourism and experience industry have become more and more important and new Sme's have been established. In Lapland regional economy, there are two pillars that are most important in the future: tourism, experience and creative industry and business related to natural resource production and energy. During recent years, Finnish government has made new significant openings related to the role of northern Finland and Barents issues, regionalizations of state units as well as some structural initiatives in the area, said Mr. Lotvonen. To end the presentation, Mr. Lotvonen presented map of Lapland's regional structure and development zones in 2030. (Summary based on PowerPoint presentation by Niko Niemisalo)

Finland's Policy on Climate Issues and Energy

by Janne Seurujärvi, M.P., Parliament of Finland

The topic of the presentation of MP Janne Seurujärvi was Finland's policy on climate issues and energy, and he presented first Finland's position in energy and electricity consumption /inhabitant when compared to other OECD countries. In energy consumption Finland is fourth biggest and in electricity consumption third biggest consumer /inhabitant in this comparison. After that, EU's goals in environment and energy sector were presented, including reducing greenhouse gas emission 20 % from the level of 1990's and until 2050 60-80 % reduction in industrial countries. In response to this, Finnish government has made Climate and Energy Strategy 2008 that was on parliament agenda still on June 2009. According to Mr. Seurujärvi, the key conclusions in the Strategy are that energy efficiency is the corner stone, renewable energy sources play important role (wood chips, wind power, heat pumps, hydro power), more nuclear power is needed, investments needs to be made to R&D and technology and domestic energy

share is to be increased where versatility needs to be maintained. (Summary based on PowerPoint presentation by Niko Niemisalo)

Prospects of Forest Resources Use in the Murmansk Region

by Ludmila Ivanova, Institute for Economic Studies at Kola Science Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia

Abstract

Forests of the Murmansk region are the northernmost in the European Russia. Their role in the nature resource potential of the region is quite significant: 70% of the region's territory is covered by forests. The main law in this sphere – Forest Code – divides forests in three groups: protective, exploited (commercial) and reserve. Forests of the Murmansk region are only represented by protective and exploited (64.5% and 34.5% respectively). Specially protected natural areas in the region occupy 320800 hectares (2.2% of the total territory). They include three nature reserves (Laplandskiy, Kandalakshskiy and Pasvik), and lands of the Polar Alpine Botanical Garden (a research Institute of the Kola Science Centre). Industrial exploitation of forests in the Murmansk region began over 100 years ago and developed very fast for long time. In the 1960ies harvesting volumes exceeded 2 million m³. After that it was going down especially during the crisis of the 1990s. For the last years annual allowable cut in the Murmansk region remains at the level of 720.2 thousand m³. However in practice situation depends on a number of conditions, including the market situation, therefore use of the annual allowable cut does not exceed 13%. At present in the Murmansk region there are 3 large forest industrial companies, which harvest up to 80% of total timber volume, and a number of small companies. All the companies also have productions for primary timber processing. Besides timber harvesting forest resources are used for other purposes. In the Murmansk region it is first of all reindeer herding. Another important type of forest use is connected to recreation: culture, health, tourism and sports. In prospect timber harvesting volumes will hardly increase considerably due to high costs, low productivity of the forests and transport inaccessibility. Total square of forest territories used for reindeer herding traditionally do not change significantly. At the same time an obvious development has been noticed in use of forests for cultural, health, tourist and sport purposes.

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Monday, June 1st at Murmansk Humanities Institute in Murmansk, Russia

Public Session: *Environmental degradation and conflicts, and environmental protection*

'Politicization' of the Environment and Environmental Protection Influencing Northern Cooperation and Region-building

by Lassi Heininen, Lapland University, Finland

Abstract

One of the outcomes of the environmental “awakening” was that the term, “the environment” was born, and since that it has meant “the material basis for human existence, which is in a danger to be destroyed as a result of human activities”. This was followed by the “politicization” of the environment is much a process, or a chain reaction, with cumulative effects, and also needs, even requires, actors, either individuals together or communities or lobbies, who are conscious, concern and will act by themselves, and convince the others. The environmental awareness and public concern for the environment has been targeting uncontrolled industrialization and urbanization, degradation and pollution of the environment, increased vulnerability to natural and technological hazards, unsustainable natural resource extraction, as well as related political instability and social unrest. Among results are, first, the environment has become highly politicized; second, environmental politics has become a field of activity by public authorities, such as Ministries of the Environment in Nordic and European countries; third, there are environmental laws and comprehensive collections of laws dealing with the environment; and final, environmental politics became a new field of foreign policy of states and a challenging issue on the political agenda of international politics, such as Kyoto Protocol, as well the environment found its way into International Relations. When trying to solve environmental problems there are on one hand, many new challenges, such as the uncertainty of climate change and a threat of a ‘green’ trade war due to carbon tariffs, and on the other, growing willingness for ‘easy’ solutions, such as more social order by strict environmental regulations, or a faith of technology (e.g. re-engineering of the atmosphere). There is, however, “no solution to ecological problems once and for all”, but both solidarity and “think small and go local” are needed.

There was also a growing concern on a state of the environment due to long-range air and water pollution among Northern indigenous peoples and European and American environmental movements which was soon transferred into joint activity for environmental protection. This put, even pushed, the Arctic states to become aware of, and concern on, the degradation of the arctic environment, and consequently, environmental protection, particularly nuclear safety, became on the political agenda of the Arctic states and environmental politics became an important field of foreign policy. Consequently, the current institutionalized international Northern cooperation, either inter-governmental or between non-state actors, is much based on the environment and environmental protection. Further, as an environmental linchpin with a critical role in global environmental issues the circumpolar North has become a laboratory for science, multidisciplinary research on the environment and climate change, and a workshop to create and develop useful models for future action based on the international coop on environmental cooperation.

Foresight in Marine Activities of the Russian Federation

by Alexey Konovalov, Council on Studies of the Productive Resources (SOPS) at the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation and the Russian Academy of Sciences, Director of the Center “World Ocean”, Head of the Section on Public Private Partnership at the Scientific and Expert Council of the Maritime Board at the Government of the Russian Federation, candidate of technical sciences

Abstract

In the contemporary context any developmental process is in instant need of strategic forecasting support. Its basic principles include holistic and integrated approach to elaboration, decision-making and realization as well as concentration on priorities and social significance of strategic solutions. Necessity to overcome obstacles created by other strategies under conditions of global competition for marine space and resources (it determines time horizons, separation in time, coherence, staging etc.) become equally important in such process. Strategic decisions should rely on adequate estimation of new possibilities and new risks under undetermined conditions, and keep into consideration several scenarios, as well as compensative actions and alternative steps to goal achievement. In terms of such vision the analysis of regional strategies of social and economic development of Russian coastal region was carried out. It shows up typical weakness of such regional decisions include without limitation to domination of sectoral and/or branch approach as well as orientation on present-day problems and tactical objectives. Moreover it's defined by orientation on endogenous factors to the prejudice of exogenous ones. In addition over its elaboration wasn't taking into account strategic and multiplicative effects as well as system of compensative actions and alternative steps to goal achievement and so on. Strategic foresight principles and analytical results allow to determinate peculiarities of foresight in marine activities and prove necessity of creation the national foresight system and its coupling to the international analogs. Appearance of such system will promote formation of a new intercommunication network to involve all interested subjects of national marine policy (state institutions, civil society, business, science community) in decision-making as well as global vision for the future based on conceptions, ideological values and strategic objectives divided by all subjects of national marine policy. So, partaking on today's solutions and actions means construction of the favorable conditions for the future.

State on Environmental Protection in North-West Russia

by Galina Kharitonova, Institute for Economic Studies at Kola Science Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences

Abstract

North-western Federal District is one of the seven administrative federal districts of the Russian Federation with the centre in St. Petersburg. It includes ten regions, of them Republics of Karelia and Komi, Murmansk, Arkhangelsk and Vologda regions are referred to northern regions of the country. These regions are similar by their economic structure (with prevailing of extraction of minerals), by socio-economic challenges and by strategic development directions. Also these regions are similar by their nature-climatic conditions and ecosystems. This allows to compare environmental situation and efficiency of nature protection measures within the northern macro-region in order to work out a single environmental policy and its harmonization with the policy of BEAR. Compared to further south regions of the Russian Federation environmental situation in northern regions of the European part of the country is more favourable. Therefore federal policy in the field of environmental protection is oriented to less environmentally

favourable regions of the country. At present a number of specific nature management and environmental problems are typical for North-western regions of RF. Many of them are of global and international character as North-western regions of Russia are frontally open to the World Ocean or have a common border with foreign countries. Specially protected nature territories of northern regions of RF are a specific ecological buffer for growing of local ecological crises to regional ones. Bogs occupying 40 and more percent of total area of northern regions can be considered as a source of fresh water in case of ecological catastrophes from many regions of the country. As a result of intensive extraction of minerals during over 80 years in northern regions of the Federation billions tons of mining wastes have been accumulated. During the economic crisis evaluation of consequences of economic recession for ecological safety of the region is especially interesting. Ensuring of ecological safety is not included in the list of priorities of the anti-crisis program of the RF Government for 2009. It is highly probable that the Government will refuse realization of the planned measures on improvement of the economic mechanism of nature management and strengthening of control-inspection activities over infringements of the environmental law as an indirect measure to support export-oriented resource companies. Also not unfounded are apprehensions that mining and mining-metallurgical companies will reduce nature protection activities in order to minimize costs. In this connection mutually beneficial international cooperation (especially that within BEAR) in the sphere of environmental protection is very important under the economic crisis conditions.

Natural Resources Conservation as a Basis of Public Welfare

by Alla Trotsenko, Murmansk Humanities Institute, Russia

Abstract

Mining always results in natural resources exhaustion and has a strong impact on the public welfare. The negative influence of that is not just the environmental degradation but exhaustion of mineral resources as well. The main goal and at the same time main challenge in achieving maximal social welfare is trying to build up a ecosystem that enables to increase the income from using natural potential and to direct it to the welfare of the whole society, not just a specific mining company. Mining industry together with the other units involved has to provide maximum preservation of wildlife or to compensate the society for the environmental and economic damage caused by mining and utilization of natural resources.

Pomor Zone - Designing a Barents Special Economic Zone

by Urban Wråkberg, Research Director, Barents Institute, Kirkenes, Norway

E-mail: urban@barinst.no

Abstract

The Foreign Ministries of Norway and Russia are having advanced talks on launching a special northern cross-border zone, called the Pomor Zone, in which customs, trade and labour regulations will be relaxed, and where joint programmes will be undertaken

aiming to improve maritime logistics, infrastructure and industrial, public and social collaboration. The Pomor Zone will be part of the Barents Region, a wider Scandinavian-Russian region of collaboration which has been functioning since 1993. The Scandinavian and Kola Peninsulas, and the borderlands at Kirkenes-Pechenga-Murmansk, are relatively sparsely populated, but here you find the homelands of the Sami indigenous people. Outside the coast is the Barents Sea, with some of the World's most productive fishing grounds. The region contains vast resources of valuable minerals. Given the on-going recession the mining industry of Kola and Northern Scandinavia are providing a number of crucial raw materials to the international market. Finland/Sweden, and thus the European Union, are related to this and thus the policy of the EU Northern Dimension. It has many interesting components by which to build further European-Russian partnership. The huge off-shore gas deposit of Shtokmanovskoye in the Barents Sea is believed by many to be the kind of new Russian gas resource needed to supply the European market by the North Stream Baltic Sea pipeline now under construction. Shtokmanovskoye is in the planning and initial building phase of utilisation, under a consortium led by Gazprom and including the French Total and Norwegian Statoil-Hydro corporations. A prospective Pomor Zone and its harbour(s) may come to play a crucial role in opening the Barents off-shore industry, but also in promoting maritime transport and industrial clustering in the mining, metallurgical industry and in fish farming and processing. The name Pomor Zone refers to the early days of Scandinavian and Russian industrialisation when trade was intense in the far north and people, skills and business-ideas were able to move cross-borders. Add knowledge of modern technology, environmental management and social development and this may be the Pomor Zone. The presentation will take-stock of developments made so far and considers the results of so-called scenario research on the future of the Barents Region.

Schedule and Program

Wednesday, May 27th in Lapland, Finland

At 1 p.m. Departure from Rovaniemi to Inari

At 6:30 p.m. Welcoming Reception at Jeera (outdoors)

Thursday, May 28th at Jeera in Inari, Finland

At 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Workshop Session: *Book Project of Calotte Academy 2008*

“Climate Change as a Challenge for Human Security – an introduction”, Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland, Finland

“Regional Cooperation and International Relations – why it emerges in the Barents Region?”, Niko Niemisalo, University of Lapland, Finland

“Competing Claims in the Geopolitics of the Canadian Arctic”, Heather Nicol, Trent University, Canada

At 11.30 -12.30 a.m. Lunch (outdoors)

At 12:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public Session: *'Politicization' of the environment, and (international) environmental politics*

“Welcoming Words”, Liisa Holmberg, Saami Educational Centre and Teuvo Katajamaa, Municipality of Inari

“Introduction to the theme and work of the Calotte Academy 2009”, Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland, Finland

“Rapid reframing of Arctic climate change”, Annika E. Nilsson, Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden

“The mood swings of environmental security: state, human and ecological perspectives”, Gunhild Hoogensen, University of Tromsø, Norway

“New mechanisms for cooperation development in the North – a case study of the North-Centre”, Igor Shevchuk, Karelian Research Centre, Russian Academy of Science, Russia

At 4:30 – 7 p.m. Visit at Siida and Saami handicraft shops

At 7 p.m. Dinner at Main Campus of Saami Educational Centre

Friday, May 29th at Borderland Museum in Kirkenes, Norway

At 8 a.m. Departure from Inari (Hotel Kultahovi) to Kirkenes

At 12 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Public Session: *Societal impacts of industrialization and transportation, and environmental protection (in the Eurasian North)*

“Welcoming words”, Deputy Mayor Lisbeth Isaksen, Municipality of Sör-Varanger

“Oil and natural gas drilling in Northern seas”, Benedikt Henriksen, Statoil/Hydro

“Oil and gas transportation from North-West Russia”, Björn Frantzen, Bioforsk, Norway

“Arctic shelf development: risks associated with the liability for environmental damage“,

Mikhail Kalentchenko, Baltic Institute, Russia

“The use of trans-Arctic sea routes – definitional dilemmas”, Willy Östregren, Ocean Futures, Norway

"Climate change issue of marine industries development", Galina Baturova, Council for Studies of Productive Forces, Center of Scientific Support of the Maritime Board at the Government of the Russian Federation

“The Arctic in the Russian media”, Lotta Numminen, Finnish Institute of International Affairs, Finland

At 6 p.m. Reception (hosted by the Municipality of Sör-Varanger)

Saturday, May 30th at Barents Secretariat in Kirkenes, Norway

At 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Public Session *Industrial Development and societal impacts of industrialization (in the Eurasian North)*

“Restarting the Syd-Varanger mine – possibilities and obstacles”, Director Don Hunter, Sydvaranger Gruve, Norway

“Environmental politics and industrial resource development in the Canadian North”, Heather Nicol, Trent University, Canada

“Change of the industrial structure in the Finnish Lapland”, Esko Lotvonen, Regional Council of Lapland, Finland

“Finland’s policy on climate issues and energy”, Janne Seurujärvi, M.P., Finland

“Prospects of forest use in the Murmansk Region”, Ludmila Ivanova, Kola Science Centre, Russia

At 12 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch

At 3:30 – 5 p.m. Workshop Session: *Book Project of Calotte Academy 2008*

“Marine protected areas in Russian waters: Legal framework for climate change resilience tool”, Mikhail Kalentchenko, The Baltic Institute of Ecology, Politics and Law, Murmansk Branch, Russia

“Climate change causing changes in problem definition on security discourse(s) and paradigm(s)”, Lassi Heininen, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Lapland, Finland

Sunday, May 31st at Murmansk Humanities Institute in Murmansk, Russia

At 8 a.m. Departure from Kirkenes to Murmansk

At 5 – 6:30 p.m. Workshop Session: *Book Project of Calotte Academy 2008*

"The legal issues for the Russian environment protection: problems, development, cooperation", Anatoli Lukin, Karelian Science Centre, Russia

"Energy security as a part of human security – an approach to assessment of energy security in Murmansk Region", Svetlana Touinova, Russia

"The Ecological situation on the enterprises of Murmansk and the Murmansk region", Alla Trotsenko, Department of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Sciences, Murmansk Humanities Institute, Russia

At 7 p.m. Dinner

Monday, June 1st at Murmansk Humanities Institute in Murmansk, Russia

At 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Public Session: *Environmental degradation and conflicts, and environmental protection*

"Welcoming words", Rector of the Murmansk Humanities Institute

"'Politicization' of the environment, and environmental protection influencing Northern cooperation and region-building", Lassi Heininen, Lapland University, Finland

"Russian Maritime Strategy", Alexey Konovalov, Center "World Ocean", Ministry of Economic Development, Russia

"State on environmental protection in North-West Russia", Galina Kharitonova, Kola Science Centre, Russia

"Natural resources conservation as a basis of public welfare", Alla Trotsenko, Murmansk Humanities Institute, Russia

"Pomor Zone – Designing a Barents Special Economic Zone", Urban Wråkberg, Barents Institute, Norway

At 12 a.m. -1 p.m. Lunch

At 4 p.m. Departure from Murmansk to Inari and Rovaniemi