



# 2018 Calotte ACADEMY

***‘Discourses on the Arctic – (inter)disciplinary theories and  
methods of Arctic research’***

*in Rovaniemi and Inari (Finland), in Neiden and Kirkenes (Norway), and in Apatity  
and Kirovsk (Russia)*

*June 3-10, 2018*

**TN on Geopolitics and Security**



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## **Preface**

The 2018 Calotte Academy, arranged in June 3 – 10, 2018, consisted of lively academic and expert discussion on current and interesting Arctic topics, some outdoor activities, singing and dancing, and traveling through the Barents Region, from Rovaniemi via Inari, Neiden and Kirkenes, Nikel, Murmansk and Apatity, and back to Rovaniemi.

In 2018 this annual, travelling scientific gathering and doctoral school took an explicit focus on discourses on the Arctic, and disciplinary theories and methods of Arctic research. Several topics - such as power of map-representations, the frontiers as nation-maker, Arctic as a pop phenomenon, indigeneity and at the crossroad of western & indigenous epistemologies, protesting insecurity, from information to cyber society, local-community-based research – were presented by 48 speakers from all over the Arctic region and Europe in the 11 sessions of the event.

More important than figures, though related to them, is the added value of the “Calotte Academy style” (that after each presentation there is, at least, the equal time allocated for open discussion) which lies in its explicit aim to create an alternative model for conventional academic conferences and other gatherings in which the time allocated for genuine discussion often remain very limited. This principle, which makes the Calotte Academy a sort of academic ‘school of dialogue’, was again highly implemented in the sessions of this year’s event with hundreds of questions, comments, supporting and counter-arguments — a lively academic debate between different theoretical approaches.

Inspired by this, or the flourishing spring outside, participants also expressed their skills in photographing, languages, singing and dancing, climbing on mountains and swimming in icy waters. These activities are not necessarily mentioned in the program, but they are an important part of the nature of a travelling and dialoguing symposium.

Finally, it is my great pleasure to thank all the participants for their interests and high motivation to attend, and their valuable contributions – their presentations and active participation in discussions – for the event, as well as their session reports for this Final Report. Special thanks go to my fellow members of the Steering Group – Laura Olsen in Inari, Ludmila Ivanova in Russia, Anne

Figenschou in Norway – and Gerald Zojer and Jussi Huotari as the co-coordinators of the 2018 Academy, as well as to Yulia Zaika in Russia, for their valuable contributions in preparations and implementation of the event.

I would also like to thank the co-organizers of the Academy - Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Lapland, Sámi Educational Institute, Barents Institute, Luzin Institute for Economic Studies, Khibiny educational and scientific station of Faculty of Geography at Lomonosov Moscow State University, and NRF-UArctic joint Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security. Finally, warm thank-you goes to our sponsors – Nordic Council of Ministers (Arctic Co-operation Programme 2015-2017), International Arctic Science Committee and the City of Rovaniemi – who made it possible to implement the program and concept of the 2018 Calotte Academy with grants for young researchers.

On behalf of the Calotte Academy Steering Group

Prof. Lassi Heininen

## **About the Calotte Academy**

The Calotte Academy is an annual travelling symposium and international forum in Europe's North Calotte region, designed to promote interdisciplinary discourse and the interplay between senior and young researchers and to foster academic and policy-oriented dialogue among members of the research community and post-graduate students as well as a wide range of other northern stakeholders. It is a "school of dialogue" and participatory by nature with an idea to share knowledge and experiences with communities. On the other hand, it is an interdisciplinary brainstorming meeting to bring researchers and other experts from different fields, regions and countries together for to discover innovations and new methods and to inspire international research projects as well as plans and applications.

## **Theme of the 2018 Academy**

The theme of the 2018 Academy is 'Discourses on the Arctic – (inter)disciplinary theories and methods of Arctic research'. The focus is inspired by the substantial, multidimensional and multi-theoretical discussions and debates on perceptions of the Arctic in the 2017 Academy's sessions (see, Final Report of 2017 Calotte Academy at <https://calotte-academy.com>). This overarching theme 'Perceptions of the Arctic: Rich or Scarce, Mass-scale or Traditional, Conflict or Cooperation?' started a new thematic phase emphasizing discourses, premises, paradigms and methods. The 2018 Academy continued it by having the main focus on discourses on the Arctic, as well as interdisciplinary theories and methods of Arctic research.

The Academy discussed Arctic issues and discourses in the context of the regional and globalized Arctic theoretically and holistically from many angles and disciplinary approaches, from academic and policy-oriented ones — including exploration, exploitation, shipping and aviation, infrastructure, tourism — and from the perspectives of past(s), present(s) and future(s), and from global, or international, Arctic and local contexts in the European Arctic.



## About the Procedures

The Calotte Academy is structured so that there are academic sessions with scientific presentations and brainstorming discussion in each location, as well as a public session, based on invitations, in one or two of the locations. Since dialogue and application of science are the most important goals of the Calotte Academy, it is recommended to remember and apply the open-ended nature of a dialogue and how to cross disciplines, sectors and other borders. A fundamental precondition for this is to have time enough for questions, comments and open discussion as well as enough patience for listening to others' argumentation. Following from these principles, the sessions will be structured so that each presentation will be allocated altogether 30-35 minutes out of which **12 minutes (maximum)** will be reserved for the presentation and the rest for questions and comments, and open discussion.

The 2018 Academy is also an interdisciplinary brainstorming meeting for scholars and other experts from different fields and disciplines all over the circumpolar North to discover innovations and new methods and to make plan and possible applications for international research project(s): in the Calotte Academy sessions themes and content of further Calotte Academies will be brainstormed, as well as those of other events of the TN on Geopolitics and Security.

After the Calotte Academy, a Final Report including the abstracts, and main findings, highlights and ideas for potential research questions and projects of the 2018 Academy's sessions will be produced (see Final Reports on previous Calotte Academies at <https://calotte-academy.com>). The Report will be written by the presenters / participants who will choose the themes and sessions which they want to report on during the Calotte Academy tour.

<https://calotte-academy.com>

## Session reports

### MONDAY, June 4:

University of Lapland, Rovaniemi

#### Session 1: “Perceptions and Discourses on the Arctic”

(Rapporteurs: Clemens Jöbstl & Ayonghe Akonwi Nebasifu)

- Danko Aleksic  
*Is the “Far North” too far? - The Arctic from the Perception of the Western Balkan Countries*
- Helena Wegend Lindberg  
*A ‘convenient truth’: the enabling power of map-representations in a changing Arctic*
- Natalia Loukacheva  
*Understanding Perceptions of the Arctic: Legal Studies, Geo-politics and International Developments*
- Florian Vidal  
*The Arctic as a culture pop phenomenon*

As part of Northern Thematic Network for Geopolitics and Security, Calotte Academy held in June 2018 – gathering PhD students and activists to freely discuss and brainstorm on issues of Arctic from scientific perspective. On Monday 4 June, opening session at University of Lapland introduced multi-national discourse on perceptions of the arctic based on presentation from: Danko Aleksic (Serbia), Florian Vidal (France), Helena Wegend Lindberg (Norway), and Natalia Loukacheva (Russia). Four themes included; Western Balkan perceptions; map-representativeness; influence of Legal Studies, Geo-politics and International Developments; and culture pop phenomenon.

Danko Aleksic was showing a picture of the former Yugoslavian countries and how the topic of the Arctic has no place in recent security strategies. Only Croatia wants to work on its own Arctic strategy in the upcoming years. Also in the last five years only two master theses and one PhD thesis were written about this area. The most present figure in the perception of Arctic discourse is the one of Vladimir Putin, perceived by the serbian media as the strong leader, who fights against western allies in the north, and as the dangerous aggressor by the more Nato integrated countries like Croatia. Overlooking the security strategies as a whole, Aleksic still sees the distrust of the former enemies of the wars in the 90s as the main concern.

The discussion went on to concentrate on the lack of Arctic strategies among the countries and their different approach to Russia as one of the Arctic powers. Mainly Serbia is under the influence of the Russian Federation and even sold his national energy company to Russia, making it absolutely dependent on Russian imports.

Helena Wegend Lindberg pointed out how common maps are prolonging the power structures in the Arctic discourse. The mostly used Mercator-projection doesn't show the north pole in a realistic way. Furthermore, most of the used maps don't show the sea ice at all, making it already a place for neoliberal fights over resources and shipping routes.

The discussion showed, that even literature about any region starts with the looking on the maps of prementioned places. Google maps was taken as an example of modern technology that also does not show the sea ice at all, although this would possibly change the discourse about climate change in the north.

Natalia Loukachevas presentation concentrated on the legal circumstances under which the „Arctic Race“ takes place and how its reasons are mostly the geopolitical fight for undiscovered resources and future shipping ways. The following discussion turned to some prominent points like the Ilulissat Declaration of 2008 and its strengths and weaknesses. Also the question, whether international law is really settled, especially concerning the status of the sea ice area, was raised. The legal framework of „Search and Rescue“ missions and how still unmapped sea ground can be regulated was also mentioned.

Florian Vidal showed a very light-hearted overlook of the perception of the Arctic of the last decades in western pop culture, mainly concentrating on movies, tv-shows, commercials and belletristic literature in which he portrayed the changes of the image the Arctic went through until nowadays. The evolution of the North Pole from being a dangerous place for man to being endangered by human induced climate change was one of the aspects in the discussion afterwards. The question of the definition of what is „western culture“ also came up. Inari, being the centre of Sami movie culture was mentioned as well, making it an origin of Arctic culture created by an Arctic indigenous people.

On a critical note, understanding of Arctic from legal terms has both international influence and geopolitical interests. For instance, Oslo District Court ruling in January 2018 that allowed granting licenses to companies for offshore drilling, though met with resistances and appeals. Commentaries again focused on the neoliberal tendency for using legal frameworks and maps to explore natural resources. However, noted that, there are international provisions such as UN convention on law of the sea addressing such ambiguities. Lastly, from a standpoint of “pop culture”, external images of arctic are hugely evident in entertain industry (movies, cartoons, books). The example of Arctic Predator and Arctic Blast, which reinforces notion of “darkness and cold”. However, audience suggested extending this study to viewpoint from arctic nations. Conclusively, it was an introductory session touching across a variety in both concept and narratives about the arctic. This intend laid a start-up point for further sessions and discourses for the entire week.



During Rovaniemi session (Photo by University of Lapland).

## Session 2: “The Calotte Academy as a method of research supervision and learning” (Rapporteur: Giuseppe Amatulli)

### Introduction by Lassi Heininen and round table discussion

In this first brainstorming session, prof. Lassi Heininen explained how the Calotte Academy has evolved since its first edition in 1991, underlining the fact that it is more than just a PhD summer course. Actually, the Calotte Academy can be considered as a method of doing research. However, notwithstanding the achievements of the Calotte Academy, due to some conflicts within the University of Lapland, the Calotte Academy has been often classified as an excursion or a trip; not as a way of learning. Prof. Heininen strongly stressed that the Calotte Academy is a travelling scientific symposium, as well as a doctoral school, which aim is to address Arctic-related issues with a critical and open-minded perspective. It is a “school of dialogue”, an alternative model for learning in a different way.

The Calotte Academy has been shaped through the years according to some fundamental principles, such as: inter-disciplinarity and trans-disciplinarity; inclusivity and participatory approach, together with a good sense of flexibility. Only in this way it has been possible to promote a different way of conducting academic research. During its existence, many things happened in the Arctic and many things changed. In particular, with the speech of Gorbachev in 1987 and after the collapse of the Soviet Union, new paths to develop research and cooperation in the high north have been opened. The 1st edition of the Calotte Academy took place in 1991 and it has been hosted in several

locations such as Inari, Kirkenes, Murmansk and Apatity; and in some years it has even reached Tromsø and Kiruna.

As regards the topics, starting with security and sustainable development, the Academy has evolved during the years. In the 1st phase, the Calotte was a platform for international research projects. The 2nd phase saw the Academy becoming an international seminar for regional and local decision-makers and media. In the 3rd phase, it was a NRF sub-forum for regional and local decision makers and in the final phase (the current one, 4th) the Calotte can be seen as a summer school for PhD candidates and early-stage researchers. Hence, there have been 25 editions of the Calotte Academy, with participants coming from 25 different countries and more than 1000 presentations since the first edition, which have resulted in several publications and open-access reports.

Therefore, someone may wonder what is the secret of this Calotte Academy, how it has been possible to have it every year since 1991. What it is possible to say is that in order to realise a successful event, such as Calotte Academy, you need to have good ideas and expertise; in addition of an everlasting curiosity. Of course, it is important to have proper venues and platforms and good connections within the Academia (in this sense it is necessary to take into mind that the values of Academia must be always respected). Money is not the most important thing, although it may help at some stage...but the most important thing in order to succeed is to be able to take the risk and be able to learn from previous failures!

After the introduction and the reflections about the meaning of the Calotte Academy, prof. Heininen gave the floor to those who have attended the Calotte in the previous years. Overall, everyone agrees about the fact that the Calotte Academy has been a great opportunity to meet people and stakeholders from the Arctic Region and to have new and better perceptions about the Barents area. Indeed, notwithstanding the Barents Region is part of Europe, most of the time it is not perceived like that; and many stakeholders do not have enough knowledge about the Barents Regions, its challenges and potentialities. Those who have been attending the Calotte for more than three times stated that it is interesting to experience the changes that take place in different countries year after year, according to the geopolitical situation; this is particularly true as regards Russia and especially when crossing the Russian border. In conclusion, everyone agrees about the fact that the Calotte Academy is something unusual, which gives to participants the possibility to discuss research-related topics in a lively and vibrant environment, as well as using an interdisciplinary approach, in an unconventional and original way.

### Session 3: “China and the Arctic”

(Rapporteur: Miguel Roncero)

- Karoliina Hurri  
*The Arctic Strategy of China: The discourse of climate change*
- Egill Thor Nielsson  
*China-Nordic Arctic Cooperation: Discourses on the depth of regional and bilateral ties*
- Liisa Kauppila  
*Becoming a primary node of the global economy: China, the Arctic and critical flows*
- Mia Bennett  
*How the Frontier Makes the Nation: Comparing Arctic Discourses in 20th-Century America and 21st-Century China*



Karoliina Hurri's presentation, *The Potential of Climate Change to Construct the Space of Global Climate Governance*, focused on China's role in international climate politics and its relation to the Arctic. Driven by domestic and international politics, in recent years China has changed its position regarding climate change. The country sees it now as a security threat and as a possibility for development as well as new economic activities (such as shipping). The presentation also delved into the interdependencies between geopolitical discourses and identity. Because China's position has change, it cannot use old discourses. The presentation also revised the different discourses that China has to use in different fora. In such fora (i.e. BRICS, Arctic -outside UN- as well as G-77 and BASIC frame/UNFCCC -within the UN umbrella-), China identifies itself as a near-Arctic state in its Arctic strategy, in a dynamic and adaptive manner. For instance, at BASIC climate change is seen as an inequality question (caused by developed countries and suffered by developing countries), and China's role is passive -albeit as a leader for developing countries; whereas in the Arctic context, it is seen as a global phenomenon which builds on the common future, while China's role is active (as part of the solution).

The group discussion focused on the historical view of climate politics from the viewpoint of China, the depth of the fora in which the research focuses, whether and how the perceptions or reflections of third countries change as a result of China's polyvalent positions, quantitative and qualitative aspects of discourse analyses, the level to which the same individuals take place in the fora (linked to age and gender), the evolution of Chinese discourses in the fora, the connection with other Chinese policies (e.g. development, commerce, or economics), the Icelandic-Chinese and broader China-Nordic countries relations, the central role and weight of China in particular fora (i.e., the G-77 or BRICS group).

Egill Thor Nielsson's *China-Nordic Arctic Cooperation: Discourses on the depth of regional and bilateral ties* took stock of the overall role of China in the Arctic as a partner and from the policy viewpoint. The 2017 Chinese Arctic policy sets China as the center of international commerce and trade. This policy paper identifies three main global routes, one of which is the Arctic route (to Europe). In this view, the role of China in relation to the Arctic is paramount. The policy paper focuses on cooperation to exploit the different economic opportunities; and dialogue through participation in different events and fora. Since the global wealth is expected to pivot towards Asia, the role of China will thus increase. The reactions to the Chinese policy paper were diverse, but where accompanied by an increased presence of Chinese officials in different fora all around the world. This contributes to indicate the importance that the Arctic has for China. The country is also bringing history and collective imaginary back, identifying the Arctic as a new polar/ice silk road. To turn this vision into a reality, China is already taking actions, acquiring assets and investing in the Arctic (although to a limited extent, particularly if compared to other regions such as Africa). To date, the real investment in the area is very limited, partly because of geopolitical limitations and partly because China's investment is still centered in other areas. Nevertheless, China is seeking partners in the region (mostly with the Nordic countries, e.g. Finland, Norway or Iceland). Cooperation agreements have been signed in this new sought-after cooperation framework, even if no great investments have taken place to date. Yet, the cooperation (and investment) is not only economic, but also scientific. How the Nordic countries might react to this new reality (for instance, if bilaterally or collectively) is one of the main questions to be answered in the future.

The group discussion focused on the global expansion and presence of China (and within the particular Arctic context, the proposed Arctic railway). It was mentioned that the EU seemed to be absent from the Arctic railway project. In this line, it was clarified that joint ventures are common amongst developed/rich countries, that the main investment comes nevertheless from the interested countries (Norway and Finland), and that the EU is present and participates in the railway project.

The dependency of China on international trade also pushes the country to seek policies in this regard. The differences between Russia-China and Nordic-Russia cooperation were also briefly discussed, pointing out that a possible alternative approach would be China-Russian cooperation in the Arctic (where China has invested vastly -e.g. in Yamal). Finally, the cooperation and scientific investment of China in the Nordic countries was also briefly commented.

Liisa Kauppila's presentation, *Becoming a primary node of the global economy: China, the Arctic and critical flows*, was centred on the spatial implications of China's rise and its impact/relation to the Arctic. China is becoming a great power and an economic superpower, which implies, among other changes, that a transfer of power from West to East is happening. At the same time, connectivity is becoming an ever-higher element of the global order. Kauppila's presentation focused on China's perception of its role as a global node for that connectivity. China and its immediate neighbors resemble a functional region; and the Arctic belongs to that larger functional region. All these functional regions are seen as key for China's economic and domestic relations. China-Arctic networks allows China to be better positioned to acquire resources (physical and diplomatic). This also allows China to enhance its position as a global node. The functional regionalization process is however not only led by the central government; there is a big role being played by economic enterprises. The process, with state support, takes place at three levels: 1) financial support (big or strategic), 2) diplomatic practices and 3) constant flows/company engagement (with a view to economic profits but also know-how learning and skills development). The Chinese reality vis-à-vis the Arctic is fluid, dynamic and complex, rather than rigid and following a grand strategy. The region is hence part of China's functional region strategy, which can also turn into a formal region in the future. The role of companies and domestic dynamics of nodal powers is better understood as Chinese region-building.

The following group discussion centred around how functional regions might be different from classical spheres of influence; whether these might just be a new way of (modern) imperialism; or whether functional regions might just prelude or a trigger spheres of influence later on. In fact, functional regions have a more economic approach that can trigger later on a more traditional imperialistic/political approach. The role of smallness was also noted, indicating that smaller actors (states, in this case), are not powerless and can react (for and against) Chinese strategies. The different roles and synergies between different Chinese companies were also addressed. The role of Chinese universities in the flow of information was addressed as well, as a way to complement the conclusions drawn from the economic actors.

Mia Bennett's *How the Frontier Makes the Nation: Comparing Arctic Discourses in 20th-Century America and 21st-Century China* compared the frontier discourses towards the Arctic between the 20th century US (Alaska, and how to integrate a separated territory that became America's last frontier) and the 21st century China (or how to be able to exploit economically and otherwise a relatively distant region, all culturally, spatially and historically). From the perspective of frontier mythology and discourses of territoriality, Bennet compares the Arctic discourses of these two countries and their relation to nation-building processes. The frontier, understood as the place where a country materializes its manifest destiny. To the US, Alaska was the last frontier, a place of riches and promises. Today, it is part of the US sovereignty discourse. In the 20th century, Alaska was a place to be settled, economically exploited, and politically defended. White settlers were to move to the region to bring it close to the mainland US in a process sponsored by the US government by also by private individuals. There was a sense of adventure and realization through the participation in the exploration and colonization process (the notion "use it or lose it" was early linked to Alaska). China also presents a frontier mythology focused on economic and foreign policy

expansion. To China, the Arctic frontier is not that relevant in terms of nation-building; but it is an area for expanding Chinese influence. It is not a place to own, but an area to be developed and that can bring economic advantages and profits to China. But the Arctic is also a place for research and discovery. In this sense, China depicts its scientist as polar people, in a way similar to the depiction of the pioneers. The country is also developing its capacities e.g. through icebreakers, which means that China as a tangible and perceived presence in the region. These ships also support future economic developments in terms of shipping. Yet in a sense, China seeks a polar order, an agreed regime that allows China to be and exploit the region (e.g. Svalbard) without turning it into a wild west. This narrative collides with the US vision for the region, resulting in an American narrative that sees China as a rival in the Arctic.

The following group discussion soon draw the parallelisms between China's presence in the Arctic and the Antarctic (through research stations). The notion of frontier was discussed and linked to actual settlements, that China does not have in the Arctic. In this sense, the group explored how this notion is playing in the current Chinese frontier discourse, and how does it link to the other (formal and informal) settlements that China has around the world. For China, the frontier might not be necessarily linked to settlements, but to the idea of presence (through research or economic investment). The fact that China identifies its researchers as polar people is a way to legitimize current or future claims to be present in Arctic fora/contexts. In this sense, it was discussed how China's scientific cooperation is political as much as scientific (as it is for any other country), and that scientific cooperation, research or presence-through=-cience is neither altruistic nor an innocent claim. Further parallelisms regarding nation-building discourses regarding Taiwan were also mentioned. Finally, the group discussed how China already presents differences in frontier discourses within one century.

## **TUESDAY, June 5**

Inari

### Opening session, Inari

(Rapporteur: Helena W. Lindberg)

- Eeva-Liisa Rasmus-Moilanen, rector of Sámi educational center, and Jackie Hrabok-Leppäjärvi, associate professor, University of Alaska Fairbanks Northwest Campus/Sámi educational center
- Tauno Ljetoff, Skolt Sámi teacher/reindeer herder, Sámi educational center and Eeva-Liisa Rasmus-Moilanen  
*Virtual School enables the reviving of Sámi languages*

The Sámi Educational Centre in Inari is a hub of many different types of educational practices, gathering students from Northern Finland as well as Northern Norway, Sweden and Russia. Founded in 1992, the State owned Centre's education is taught in three Sámi languages: Inari Sámi, Northern Sámi, and Skolt Sámi as well as in Finnish and Swedish. The aim is to provide education mainly for the needs of the Sámi area and to maintain and develop Sámi culture and nature-based occupations.



The topics are wide range. Language studies are important in order to preserve Sámi languages. Another topic is reindeer husbandry, learning biology and herding as well as slaughtering and packing meat in order to avoid middle men so that the income from these practices stays in the community. This includes reindeer crafts and other Sámi handicrafts, such as traditional clothing, preserving traditional usages of the whole animal, not only the meat. The Centre's adult-education and work-place practice are also important, where adults by demonstrating their skills can get formal certification or practice working along someone in the community, often an elder - combining science with hands-on learning. Additional programs are in catering, providing local delicacies in a larger scale, nursing, customer service and marketing, tourism, wilderness guiding, media and journalism in Sámi languages. Fieldtrips is central in the education, often with intergenerational groups of students with different languages (for example Russian speakers) and often in need of communicating in non-verbal ways, encouraging many ways of learning.

Jackie has also established a cooperation with the University Alaska Fairbanks to exchange knowledge between cultures with the overall goal to develop sustainable indigenous cultures with profitable economy with herding as a modern day livelihood. However, the constraints on internet infrastructure in Alaska, compared to Northern Finland, makes virtual cooperation challenging.

Tauno is born and raised in Inari. He did not learn Skolt sámi at home but finally at the Sámi Educational Centre. Currently, there are roughly 300 speakers of Skolt sámi left, most are elderly. The Skolt Sámi areas lies east of Lake Inari. In Finland there is special legislation to secure the Skolt Sámi culture and livelihood. Earlier, the language education was organised as classroom teaching but applicants were too few in 2015 and an initiative was taken to offer online-education, which is possible to combine with other occupations and adaptable with the various life situations of the individual student. Additionally, the online-students meet for one week once a year. Learning a language is dynamic. There is therefore an emphasis on learning by doing, speaking the language while fishing, reindeer herding or doing other activities, often together with native speakers. As such, language learning also includes cultural studies: fishing, reindeer herding, orthodox religion, handicrafts, foods, music and dance. Through remote access to learning languages it is also possible to discuss everyday topics between a non-native speaker and a native speaker. For example, so that the elders can be active part of the revitalisation of the language. The aim is to make Skolt Sámi a natural part of everyday life. Tauno explained that there is an attitude change going on where learning Sámi has become more popular; a generation back parents did not speak their language to their children but this is now common.

Lastly, Tauno explained the lessons learned from the online language education. The course is intensive but effective for the students. Hence, it does not suit everyone as it requires high motivation and a lot of work. He argued that the course has showed that most pedagogical solutions are adaptable to online-education. It has also helped people living outside the Sámi homeland region to maintain their connection to the living culture. Moreover, there is cooperation established for the adaptability of the online course for other minority languages, for example by taking technology and knowledge to language minorities in Russia.



Session in Inari (Photo by Clemens Jöbstl)

Session 4: “Indigeneity and Indigenous Politics”  
(Rapporteurs: Hilma Salonen & Mirva Salminen)

- Guiseppe Amatulli  
*Enhancing decision-making by expanding participation through the application of the FPIC beyond indigenous peoples: case studies from Finland, Canada and Greenland*
- Anna Varfolomeva  
*Articulations of indigeneity in two mining regions of Russia: between dominant discourses and local approaches*
- Laura Olsén  
*At the crossroads of western and indigenous epistemologies*
- Lidia Rakhmanova  
*Paternalistic tendencies in the northern communities of Russia: why do the projects "from above" do not meet the support from the perspective of the local population?*

The first presentation was given by Giuseppe Amatulli, who was looking into the conceptualisations of equality and discrimination in Swedish and Finnish legislations, as well as the tools that these legislations provide for maintaining equality. The main question in his presentation was how to ensure equality, particularly in the case of indigenous peoples. In general, equality entails a similar

social position and the same treatment for everyone. Both Sweden and Finland have a number of legislations and institutions dealing with the matter, for example, Finland has a national human rights institution and four ombudsmen that can examine equality questions, whereas Sweden does not have a designated human rights institution but two ombudsmen similar to the Finnish bodies. Yet, equality remains as something to be reached, for in many cases the Sámi people have been excluded from decision-making. Amatulli's suggestion for a possible way to manage equality better was the establishment of a Land Access Ombudsman for Sami people, following the Australian example.

Questions raised in the discussion following the presentation entailed: How would the suggested ombudsman operate in relation to political / legal decision-making? How would the divisions within the Sami community be accommodated? How the emphasis on equality of minority groups will improve the position of the people? What would be the best way to balance with the majority decision-making? According to Amatulli, each case ought to be settled according to the national legislation. Compensation policy would be an option, but there is certainty that in a democratic society, minorities' opinions is equally respected. However, ombudsman is a public official to whom people are able to complain / appeal.

The second presenter was Anna Varfolomeva. She examined the articulations of indigeneity in two mining regions in Russia: Karelia (a site close to Petrozavodsk) and Buryatia (a site close to Irkutsk). Both of these sites have a long and remarkable history of mining – the reason for choosing them for a case study. Natural resource extraction in indigenous communities is generally presented as contradictory to indigeneity. However, the question of how indigenous lifestyles are supporting / in line with mining practices deserves attention as well. The definition of indigeneity in Russian legislation refers to a small number of people who are engaged in traditional activities / lifestyles. What kinds of lifestyles and activities are considered as traditional and who can receive the status of indigenous are disputable. According to Varfolomeva, most people in Karelia have a connection to mining, and mining activities are present – either visibly or invisibly – throughout the region, whereas in Buryatia, majority of the population has no connection to mining and are even unwilling to talk about it. The presentation examined several questions from people's relationships with the mines to other indigenous professions, the environmental harm caused by the mines, and the process of defining or being defined as indigenous. It was clarified that while people have more of a relationship with these mines due to their small size, they are not considered as a part of the indigenous lifestyle since they now owned by private people from different regions. However, because of the shared history, environmental harm is not perceived as a threat. As for defining the indigenous status, the definition is characteristically vague and fluid, and may change according to how the state discourse is being interpreted. After having lived in the region for decades, people may also gain an indigenous status even though they were originally from another region. Thus, in Karelia people do not see mining as contradictory to traditional activities, but in Buryatia it is considered as a threat to traditional lifestyles. In neither of the sites, indigenous claims have been accepted on the basis of stoneworking. Nonetheless, both past and present mining activities affect indigenous claims.

In the discussion, Varfolomeva was first asked to give a further elaboration on the choice of the case study. Her research interest have moved from large-scale (Karelia) to small-scale (Buryatia) mining and communities. The official Russian claim that those involved in mining cannot be indigenous is under critical scrutiny – also because some activists are claiming that mining should be accepted as an indigenous activity. Both mines are now privately owned, which has diminished local stakeholdership. In addition, the topic of “system collaborators” i.e. necessary people like doctors and teachers who are needed in the region became discussed. Some of these people see themselves

as close to indigenous and are generally accepted by the communities. With regard to health issues, people talk about the dust, but perceive the mine still as important for the local community.

The third presentation was given by Laura Olsén. She presented her researcher's position in the crossroads of Western and indigenous epistemologies based on lessons learned from her two preceding research projects: traditional ecological knowledge and the human rights of minorities within minorities. The presentation discussed community-based participatory research (CBPR) as a method in including indigenous people in academic research projects and its challenges. The main difference between traditional Western research methods and CBPR is that CBPR begins by asking the local communities which topics should be researched. The challenges of the method include the lack of training from universities, for example the lack of ethical boards in Finland. As a personal challenge, maintaining objectivity and distance while also building trust with the community is mentioned, as well as avoiding romanticizing the indigenous knowledge. The discussion mainly centred around the topics of objectivity and distance. According to Olsén, the methodological choices one makes in the collection of traditional knowledge and its translation to language that can be used in official decision-making are of primary importance. Community-based participatory method – in which the entire knowledge production process collaborates with the communities from the definition of the problem and research questions to checking the results with the community – has proven the best solution, yet problems in grasping phenomena and discussing them further remain. Therefore, an increasing number of frameworks and methodologies are now published in indigenous studies. Yet, for example, IR does not mention indigenous issues; practices criticality mainly from the Western point of view; has no ethical research issue boards; does not always set the best premises for the indigenous research; etc. The homogeneity of Western academic community was questioned, leading to the question whether keeping a distance to one's research sources is even necessary. As for ethical boards consisting of indigenous people themselves, it was questioned whether it would be possible to balance their world view without risking that researchers would have to cut out possibly sensitive topics. Same issues are nowadays very topical in research literature of the field. She does not suggest that knowledge appreciated by the academia needs to be replaced, but that it should critically engaged with other e.g. indigenous epistemologies.

In the discussion, it was pointed out that the Western academia is not unified either, but separated and allows doing research in different ways. Epistemological choices divide research into two parts: (1) how to immerse in research and collect knowledge (2) how to interpret results. Different kinds of contracts can be created; also knowledge creation via observation. A long discussion then followed on who would be in the ethical boards and what do objectivity and distance mean in research.

Finally, Lidia Rakhmanova gave her presentation on the paternalistic tendencies in the northern communities of Russia, and why do not top-down projects gain local support. The presentation discusses identity of the Solovetsky islands residents and their lack of community sentiment. The community is characterized by its isolated location, seasonal changes, and the limited circle of social contacts. Due to their influence, there is no community in the traditional sense, but instead many micro groups. She first depicted an archipelago community, where she had carried out her field studies: a settlement occupied by a monastery from 1430s to 1920s; a prison for a special purpose between 1922 and 1939; civilian inhabitation emerging in 1940s, but also with military / maritime nature; and gradually becoming a community during the 20th century. Then she asked what culture, identity, and a way of life mean in such contexts where isolation is prevailing. According to her, there is no community – as generally understood – but migrant groups. This lack of community (identity) is a problem related to identification with history and cultural context of



the place, which intensifies individual initiative. Contrarily, a successful social action would require an aim that is meaningful to everyone – hence creating an intention to produce something to affect / change the situation. The existing societal problems such as challenges to maintain life support systems, monotony of leisure activities, and unemployment, deteriorated when the governmental support system collapsed at the end of the Soviet Union. A construction of self-uniqueness among the local people is now ongoing, but difficult. Governmental target programmes, high-level visits, restoration programmes, and new administrative positions, support this. Yet, there is an illusion of plight and scarcity created by local people, as well as a presentation of a deplorable situation by experts and stakeholders. Among the locals, a solid belief prevails that their concerns do not matter. People also have problems with identifying with the historical context of the place, meaning the gulag history or the monastery. People expect more social services from the state, and the lack of its attention has led to social apathy. Local people do not believe that everyday life problems will be solved by micro-region development, and the administration is not interested in different ideas. Getting these non-indigenous communities involved is a big challenge. The discussion was interested in possible components to common identity in the Solovetsky islands and whether it has already crossed a border to become a non-community. The presenter viewed the community as having the essential traits needed for survival, such as historical links to reindeer herding and fishing, but only with the right initiative and resources. As for the monastery, the community only has shallow connections with it, mainly via the children. However, despite previous and prevailing difficulties, people still wish to live in the islands and the families there are again growing. The discussion began with a question whether it is even possible to maintain the settlement when economic regime changes? The monks did this, but not within a neo-liberal, capitalistic way of life. At the beginning of 1990s, there was a rise of the religious community. However, when the monastery grows, it becomes more powerful and pushes other people further away. Yet, there is a dialogue because, for example, people bring their children to be baptised. Another question related to the possible changes that have taken place since the field study. Community involvement is still very low, even if several activities have been tried e.g. arts projects. How to generate engagement without expert involvement? Situational identity does not work for identity building in a long run. The presentation discussed how the principle of equality is fulfilled in practice regarding the rights of Sami people in Finland and Sweden, and what kind of practices could improve the situation. In both countries, this task is often under the responsibility of different ombudsmen, and their reports depict exclusion from decision-making processes, for example when it comes to mining sites. Mining companies operating in indigenous regions generally do not view exclusion as a problem or even a fact, mainly because the indigenous people have already been paid compensation for the land. As a solution, establishing a Land Access Ombudsman is suggested for resolving disputes between land-owners and resource companies. During discussion, it was pointed out that since the Sami people are not a homogenous community, it cannot be assumed that they would all be against mining activities, since such activities also present new possibilities. The presenter answered that while this is true, it is unlikely that anyone will be content in a situation where their opinions are not taken into account. Another listener asked how it is possible to balance minority interests with the majority opinions in the most democratic way. The presenter considered that although a fully democratic way may not exist, an alternative way (instead of just paying compensation for land owners) could and should be established.



BBQ dinner in Inari (Photo by Clemens Jöbstl)

Session 5: “Geopolitics and Exceptionalism of the Global Arctic”  
(Rapporteurs: Danko Aleksic and Florian Vidal)

- Lassi Heininen  
*Special features of Arctic geopolitics in globalization*
- Jose Miguel Roncero Martin  
*European Arctic States. Small Actors Playing Big Politics?*
- Gleb Yarovoy  
*Cross-border cooperation in the High North of Europe: from bureaucratic to social partnership?*
- Peter Kujawinski  
*North American Narratives of the Arctic, and Their Impact on Policy*

This session was dedicated to geopolitics of the Global Arctic, especially its state of affairs in the post-Cold War period. The session was opened by the presentation of prof Lassi Heininen, who highlighted significant changes in main trends. Cooperation in the Arctic has started with environmental protection issues (Ottawa Declaration 1996), whereas that time approaching trends are dominant nowadays. Global multidimensional challenges affect the Arctic today, causing that the future of the region is not in the hands of the Arctic actors only. Within the presentation, 7

megatrends and 4 scenarios were presented and opened for discussion. It has been stressed that defining common interest is precondition for fruitful cooperation, though future developments in the Arctic do depend on developments in the global arena. Important feature of the Arctic is that there are no real territorial disputes within it, so the states could concentrate on the common interests.

As the first speaker, Prof. Lassi Heininen introduced the different trends that crosses the Arctic region in the last decades. From the idea of a regional transition from confrontation into cooperation in the 1990s, he reminded that the Arctic states affirmed their commitments to “sustainable development” at that time. Also, Heininen stressed that current globalization has global impacts on the Arctic region. On the one hand the Anthropocene is at play in the region. On the other hand, the region’s future is no longer in the hands of Arctic actors alone. As a result, the Polar region under megatrends which include urbanization, demographic challenges, pollution, climate change and so on. Then, Heininen introduced four speculative scenarios on the future of the region within 2025. He established these scenarios according different factors including impacts of climate change on the Arctic ocean, rising tensions between Western countries and Russia. According to him, the worse scenario is not inevitable, since the current situation could be maintained and have a peaceful shift. In conclusion, he underlined that integrated systems assessment may stand as a tool of geopolitics analysis in the case of the Arctic.

Then, PhD Candidate Miguel Roncero Martin introduced to the participants the theoretical framework of the small countries. It applied this IR theory for the case of the Nordic countries. Roncero Martin used the case of Norway to demonstrate the interest of such theoretical vision in the international system. He described the different characteristics that embrace Small countries (or what does it mean ‘Smallness’ in IR). Among these different characteristics, Nordic countries appear to stand as law and peace lovers and net beneficiaries of international institutions. Besides, he explained that theoretical framework is currently divided by two visions: traditional and non-traditional visions. He finally interrogates the reality of this so-called ‘smallness’. Despite that the European Arctic States are defined as Small States, they fit themselves in a ‘niche approach’ which involves to find an area to exploit in order to become a world leader in its niche.

Jose Miguel Roncero Martin stressed that state sovereignty is still very important in the Arctic region, which is shared among eight independent countries. He explained that the Arctic mirrors the world theater as it is clear reflection of world politics as being stage where interests, big powers, small states, blocks, bi- and multilateral cooperation etc. are present. After insight into small states theories, it was stressed that all European Arctic states could be defined as small states (according to several criteria), but smallness does not have to mean weakness. All of them are also stable actors with high level of social and economic development, and very skilled in using alliances for own benefits. Smallness could and should be redefined in today’s world. Applying “the Niche Approach”, small states could play big politics by defining field in which every of them could lead.

In his presentation about the cross-border cooperation in High North of Europe, Gleb Yarovoy underlined that this kind of cooperation exists in the region since 1990 and in many ways. There are examples of very successful projects, but of failures as well. Analyzing failures has led to conclusions about obstacles for more successful cross-border cooperation, among which are: problems in decision making i.e. bureaucratic partnership instead of platform for stakeholders’ involvement, long administrative procedures, different project implementation practices, different perception of criteria of successful project, etc. However, efforts in cross-border cooperation contribute to stability and mutual understanding.

Gleb Yarovoy, Assistant Professor, aimed to give a practical example of what 'exceptionalism' might mean in the Arctic region. For that purpose, he did expose the situation of the cross-border cooperation (CBC) in the Barents region, focusing on the Finnish-Russian border area. Through his presentation, he stressed the need to address some key questions: "Why it sometimes works and sometimes doesn't?" and 'Are there problems in decision-making, or CBC programs governance?'. In order to complete this research, Yarovoy argues that a theoretical framework and a policy mechanism would help to implement the participatory governance for CBC projects. During the discussion, a participant raised the situation of the CBC in the context of the Crimean annexation. According to Yarovoy, this situation did not affect the CBC as it is not viewed as strategic as the economic and financial sanctions.

The last speaker Peter Kujawinski, writer based in the USA, gave to the participants an overview on the North American Arctic narratives, both in Canada and the USA. Overall, he identified both perceptions which are introduced in various articles. He assessed that the Arctic perceptions from the media in both countries are mixed based on the identified topics (e.g. economics, climate, military affairs and so on). Notwithstanding, Kujawinski underlined if the Arctic was an opportunity or a challenge based on these mix messages identified in the North American press. Besides, he stressed the lack of knowledge of social issues ongoing regarding the Arctic people. Indeed, he explained further the poor knowledge of political framework and issues in the Arctic region. Lastly, Kujawinski recognized the multiplicity of the narratives regarding the Arctic in the US.

The session was concluded by presentation of Peter Kujawinski, who spoke about narratives of the Arctic in the North America and stressed that only small portion of both US and Canada population live in the Northern regions so practical political impact of it is very low. Also, economic wealth is not in the North today. The North is more substantially present in everyday discourse in Canada than in the US. In case of the US, majority of people are not aware about Arctic and there is no dominant Arctic narrative. That makes the Arctic as an issue which is not politicized as some other issues are, which may be considered both as challenge and opportunity.



**WEDNESDAY, June 6**  
Neiden, Kirkenes, Norway

Visit to Skolt Sámi Museum, Neiden



*During visit to Skolt Sámi museum, Neiden (Photo by Clemens Jöbstl)*

Opening session, Kirkenes  
(Rapporteur: Mia Bennett)

- Anne Figenschou, adviser, Barents Institute: *“Welcome to Kirkenes. Town, isolated village, or capital?”*
- Roman Gokkoev, Executive Officer, International Barents Secretariat
- Rune Rafaelsen, mayor of Sør-Varanger municipality, tbc.

This session took place at the Barents International Secretariat in Kirkenes, Norway. We arrived after traveling by bus that morning from Inari, Finland. Kirkenes is a large city in the region with 10,227 residents. As we learned from the session’s first speaker, Anne Figenschou, adviser at the Barents Institute, it is only 20 minutes to Russia and 40 minutes to Finland. Kirkenes’ proximity to

two countries situated within starkly different political and economic contexts – Finland, being in the European Union, and Russia, increasingly separated from the West, makes it a natural setting for facilitating international diplomacy. As such, it's little surprise the International Barents Secretariat (IBS) chose to locate itself here.

Aside from fostering diplomacy within the Barents Region, Kirkenes is also a hub for economic activity in the area. Figenschou described the city's most important sectors. The two main companies are Kimek AS, specializing in ship repair and offshore and industrial services, and AS Sydvaranger, an iron ore mining company. Trade and tourism are also important industries, and petroleum could be in the future as well. Figenschou explained that Kirkenes was established in 1906 around the AS Sydvaranger mine, which is located relatively close to the city center. Iron ore from the Bjørnevatn facility was processed and shipped out in pellet form from Kirkenes' harbor. Ninety years later, the mine ceased production, only to reopen in 2009. Yet the vagaries of global commodities circuits proved devastating here, as in 2015, 400 mine workers found themselves out of a job one month before Christmas.

Next in the session, Russian-born Roman Gokkoev, the Executive Officer of IBS, described the work of the organization he heads. Gokkoev explained that IBS was launched in Kirkenes in 1993 by foreign ministers of the member countries establishing the Barents Euro-Arctic Council: Finland, Sweden, Norway, and Russia. Later in the session, the mayor of the Sør-Varanger municipality in which Kirkenes is located, Rune Rafaelsen, described the Kirkenes Treaty/Barents Declaration as "one of the most advanced political coups," noting that it "would not have been possible half a year before or half a year after" it was signed in 1993. He elaborated, "Because then, Yeltsin said, go to Kirkenes, let the region develop. He had this vision and it was signed. And even the EU signed the Treaty by mistake."

Mistake or not, the Barents Region is the most populated part of the Arctic and one where the borders of several countries with contentious histories come together. This makes efforts at maintaining the peace all the more vital. Gokkoev explained, "Cooperation excludes all matters of security and defense, which makes it possible to continue...there are tensions in certain sectors but Barents cooperation is working more on soft values. It's more functional cooperation."

Thanks to its work, IBS has gained increasing recognition in Europe. Just one day before our session, on June 5, "Barents Day" was being celebrated in Brussels. The formal organization of the Barents-Euro Arctic Region has also grown recently, with North Karelia's membership approved this year. However, BEAR is limited to 14 regions, and Gokkoev does not foresee it extending further.

Calotte Academy student Jose Miguel Roncero Martin asked what the role of the commission was within IBS. Gokkoev responded that it works with European External Affairs, which is present in all ministerial meetings, and that the European Union also co-funds some cross-border cooperation (CBC) programs which are relevant to wider EU cooperation.

Another student asked, "What changed after the Crimea crisis?" Gokkoev responded that one issue stemming from the crisis may be a delay in CBC Programs that should have begun 2.5 years ago. More optimistically, however, he suggested, "I believe that Barents cooperation is seen as a peace-making process and it's seen as a 'Save my baby, don't kill my baby' project." He concluded, "On both sides of the region, they really value this window for dialogue between Europe and Russia."

Calotte Academy student Mirva Salminen asked about the importance of digitalization to the Secretariat. Gokkoev answered that IBS used to have a working group on digitalization but that it was transformed into a working group on transport and logistics. He also emphasized how digital

communications channels like Skype and video conferences are used for regional committee meetings. He underscored, “This is of crucial importance that we all have access to internet throughout the region. Otherwise, it will not be develop the way they want.”

Finally, we heard from Rafaelsen, the animated mayor. His municipality of Sør-Varanger is the only one in Norway that shares a border with Russia. Rafaelsen, who was born and bred in this border town, launched into a history of the dividing line. He described that it was the result of the French Revolution, during which Norway was gifted to Sweden, and explained how the treaty demarcating the border was signed in 1826 in the Norwegian capital. Rafaelsen quipped, “In Oslo at that time, which was called Kristiania, they didn’t know a thing. And they still don’t.” Rafaelsen went on to describe the impact of other major events in history, like the Crimean War from 1851-1853, on the region. Fears at that time that Russia would seize Sør-Varanger caused Sweden to cease its alliance with Russia and instead take sides with England and France. “Again, big politics plays a role up here and has consequences on other places,” Rafaelsen affirmed, reminding how global events can impact the periphery.



Session in Kirkenes (Photo by Clemens Jöbstl)

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## Session 6: “Migration, inflows and future developments”

(Rapporteurs: Anna Varfolomeva & Dimtry Varlfolov)

- Helene Peterbauer  
*When Spitsbergen Became Svalbard: Norwegian Identity Constructions in Scandinavian Literature on Svalbard*
- Clemens Jöbstl  
*Biography for the analysis of modern Arctic societies. A historical analysis of migrants to the Arctic region in the 20th century: The case of Anton Neumeier*
- Anastasiia Zarova  
*Arctic nature documented in pictures*
- Andrey Petrov  
*Arctic's 'Other Economies' and Sustainable Development: Knowledge, Creativity, and Technology in the New Arctic*

In the first presentation, Helena Peterbauer analysed the vision of Svalbard in Norwegian fiction. The Arctic island occupied a special place in country's collective imagination since the early 20th century. At the time Norway sought to define itself on the basis of independent Northern identity. The former governor of the territory Helge Ingstad produced one of the most important Svalbard-related works in 1930s. He was keen to underscore Norway's historical claim on the island and dismiss counter-claims by Russians and Islanders.

Svalbard-related fiction often displays 'Arctic chauvinism'. Norwegian men are proclaimed 'true rulers of the Arctic', who are inherently more capable than other men (and women). Recent works also develop the concept of "welfare theodicy", which reconsiders the national and cultural identity of a place.

In the second presentation, Clemens Jöbstl applies biographic method for the analysis of modern Arctic societies, in particular of incoming migrants in the 20th century. His research focuses on one specific case, that of Anton Neumeier (1910 – 2007). Born in Austria, he moved to Lapland in 1931 due to rising political conflicts in his hometown. In the North he established himself as a reindeer herder, learning both Finnish and Sami. However, what he tried escaping caught him in Finland, forcing Neumeier to leave the country at the beginning of the Second World War. Owing to his knowledge of German, he was forcibly drafted to work for Wehrmacht in Norwegian Kirkenes.

After the withdrawal of Nazi troops from Lapland in 1944 he deserted and returned to his pre-war life. In the post-war years Neumeier lived in Nunnanen close to Hetta, becoming accepted by Sami. He never married and had no children. However, Neumeier maintained an active lifestyle. He had close affinity to technology, becoming the first one to have a snowmobile in the area. By saving money, the Lapland Austrian has also travelled a lot. He went to his hometown every year, also made trips to Siberia and Pacific Ocean.

His life ended in the retirement home, to which he also donated his money. Clemens conducted on-site research in Finland, interviews in Austria and with former colleagues. He is also planning a documentary about Neumeier to be finished in 2020.

In the third presentation, Anastasia Zarova focused on Arctic nature as documented in photos. Her goal is to create a portable museum of nature, in particular of rare species and disappearing

ecosystems of the Far North. The photography is combined with GIS imagery of land units near the Russian city of Khanty-Mansiysk.

Those land units consist of floodplain, mires, forest and water. City and infrastructure are also present and highly visible. Even Khanty-Mansiysk itself, a city of 150 000 inhabitants, is closely intertwined with nature. The project highlights the differences between states of environment in various seasons and helps appreciate the beauty of the Arctic.

In the session's final presentation Andrey Petrov described the Arctic's 'other economies'. Those are the ones based not on resources, public funds or traditional activities, but on something else. As such, they are enabled not by external actors, but on internal capacities of Arctic regions and communities. Most hubs of the 'other' economies are set in urban places, where the vast majority of Arctic residents actually live. Defying 'traditional' notions, manufacturing is a large sector of economic activity.

Neither is Arctic immune to global economic trends, such as development of creative capital and knowledge economy. Those tendencies represent an opportunity for the region to develop local capacities, compatible with the notion of sustainable development. According to the Talent Index of Arctic Regions, the percentage of knowledge workers is high throughout the Arctic. Andrey Petrov mapped the evolving creating class of the Arctic by looking into geography of patents in Alaska over the past two decades. Strikingly, the outlook of inventors is becoming much more global. In past they collaborated with energy industry and its centers (such as Texas). Now the connections of Arctic inventors span the globe as they become increasingly involved in emerging industries such as gaming.

The growth of 'other' industries highlights the fact that the Arctic's main treasure are not its resources, but the region's people. Over 1 per cent of them are entrepreneurs, who can foster the growth of local economies. They represent an opportunity for local governments, which should pay more attention to them.

#### Session 7: "The Environment and Security"

(Rapporteur: Gleb Yarovoy)

- Will Greaves  
*Protesting Insecurity: Securitization and Resistance to Environmental Change and Natural Resource Extraction*
- Ayonghe Akonwi Nebasifu  
*Environmental measures for Cross-border Cooperation in the Trans-boundary Inari-Pasvic River Basin: A Sociological Perspective*
- Jussi Huotari  
*The Barents Sea and the evolvement of energy security*

The first speaker, Will Greaves covered the topic of grassroot (first of all, but not only, by indigenous people and environmental NGOs) protests against different infrastructure projects in the Arctic, namely protests by Greenpeace in Russia and the UK, in Gallok, Sweden, on Clyde river and against TransMountain Pipeline Canada. Although these grass-root protests are rather numerous and strong, nation states disregard the voices of indigenous people and activists in their Arctic strategies. Will presented his own interpretation on how these protest activities might be considered

by both academicians and politicians in the framework of securitization. He insisted that the “traditional” ideas of Copenhagen school should be revisited, or deconstructed, by considering indigenous people in the Arctic as securitizing actor, nation states' decision-makers as securitizing object, and

protests as physical (“bodies against the operation of power”) representation of securitizing moves. The main issue during the discussion was if Copenhagen School's theory of securitization may ever be a theoretical basis for such a research. Although the traditional interpretation of securitization process does not allow to consider indigenous peoples and environmental activists as securitizing actors, Will's reinterpretation of Copenhagen School ideas is a great example of scientific entrepreneurship as his research approach will only promote the social relevance of science.

The second speaker, Ayonghe Akonwi Nebasifu presented the results of research devoted to study of trilateral cross-border cooperation between Russia, Finland and Norway on environmental measurements and pollution of Inari-Pasvic transboundary river. He first analysed the threats to terrestrial ecosystems and problems with air quality due to SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from smelters, situated on the Russian side, in Nikel and Zapolyarny single-industry towns (e.g. vegetation died on 1 to 29 km from the respective smelters), threats to marine ecosystem produced by e.g. hydroelectric power plants etc. However, he also considered positive developments in both “Russian” and “European” parts of Arctic. For example, 2017 was “ecology year” in Russia, when 9 out of 450 containers of nuclear submarine fuel were released from the Barents sea; according to reports, during the last years emission on SO<sub>2</sub> in Murmansk region dropped by 20%; Norway recycles 96% of plastic waste and wind energy production in Finland substantially grows up. However, the further trilateral cooperation in the context of the Barents Euro-Arctic Region, as well as in Arctic council taskforce should be continued.

The follow-up discussion showed that there is a lack of partnership in the processes and projects of cross-border cooperation. For example, such an established and trusted NGO as “Bellona” is not involved in the Inari-Pasvik river project.

Finally, Jussi Huotari analysed energy security in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region in the framework of geopolitics-security-environmental nexus. Jussi proposed several dichotomies, which are relevant in the analysis of energy security issues in the BEAR. These dichotomies include “producer vs customer”; “transit states” (e.g. Russia vs Ukraine); “economic vs environmental vs human security” etc. Also, taking into account the future developments, “4 As” of energy security have to be considered: availability, accessibility, affordability and acceptability of energy resources.

The follow-up discussion was concentrated around the question, proposed by the author, i.e. “Is, or will be, or could be the BEAR new (energy) Eldorado?” There are some factors, which favors this idea (geopolitical stability, huge resource potential, ice-free sea, new transport routes, great global demand etc.). However, many participants were rather critical to this idea, stating that environmental issues should be taken into account more seriously, and that environmental narrative shall be dominative narrative in security issues in the Barents region.

**Thursday, June 7**  
Neiden, Kirkenes, Norway

Session 8: “Digital Arctic”

(Rapporteur: Willfried Greaves)

- Henri Wallén  
*From information society to cyber security: Quantitative methods for text analysis*
- Mirva Salminen  
*Discourses on the digitalising Arctic*
- Gerald Zojer  
*Open Source Software Solutions as a Contribution to Human Security in a Digitalised Arctic*
- Daria Shvets  
*International legal regime of submarine cables: the Arctic experience*
- Evgeny Zarov  
*GIS technics, field survey and lab approaches to the Arctic research (Taz peninsula example)*
- Sander Goes  
*Wise-guy, outsider or trespasser? The EU’s different roles in the development of the European part of the Barents region.*

This session focused on the effects of an increasingly society, specifically in the Arctic but with global implications, as well. The first presentation was by Henri Wallen from the University of Lapland titled “From Information Society to Cybersecurity”. The topic of this presentation was not specific to the Arctic, but instead outlined a research project that applies new methods of computer-assisted content analysis to the study of Finnish documents related to cybersecurity between 1996-2016. The project examines how particular discourses are reflected in those strategic documents at different points in time, and thus identifies the discursive shift from ‘information society’ to ‘information legalization’ to ‘cybersecurity’. The presentation showed the findings from a preliminary sample of 19/80 documents to demonstrate the three methods used to analyse the data: inverse document term frequency (a form of descriptive statistics), N-gram models for term co-occurrence (correlation structure), and topical modelling with latent Dirichlet Allocation, which is a method of unsupervised machine learning that allows for latent topics in the text to be found and visualized. The goal of using these methods is to automate the data analysis and minimize manual analysis, allowing for a larger sample of documents to be examined more efficiently since the large models produced by this data are computation heavy. The interpretation of the findings happens after the modeling has been performed, and requires substantial, in-depth knowledge of the subject matter.

In addition to questions about the statistical methods employed, Wallen answered questions about the expected findings of the project and their social significance. He noted the findings demonstrate changes in vocabulary and framing of developments in the digital domain. Whereas the concept of the ‘information society’ with expectations of world becoming flat was huge in the 1990s, it

gradually began to disappear as what we previously thought of as the information society became normal and no longer needed a special vocabulary. In the mid-2000s, the discourse changed as ‘information security’ became common at the national level, with the first strategic document in Finland released in 2004. Wallen suggests this tells us something about the changes in society, with development of technology coming first and security concerns only entering the discussion later on. The discussion of digitalization crept into the discourse gradually, with different discourses reflected at different points in time and in different government branches; for example, whereas information security discourse focuses on the organization’s job to do something about it, cybersecurity discourses reflects the securitization of the digital space. Using the methods developed in this project, Wallen suggests we can test hypotheses about changing discourses of digitalization against a larger dataset. It was also observed during the questions that this method enables much faster processing of data, resulting in faster publishing that might contribute to the neoliberalization of the university through faster turnaround time and economic benefits. While not necessarily something to approve of, it is a reality of digitization.

The second presentation was by Mirva Salminen of the University of Lapland on “Discourses on the Digitalizing Arctic”, which addressed a multidisciplinary cyber framework for the promotion of human security in the European High North. She indicated that the Arctic is seen as a region in need of development, but those decisions are imposed on the region from the outside. The goal of this project is to empower people in the region themselves in the contexts of their everyday lives by replacing information security/digital information with the individual as the referent object to be secured and the as the subject securing the smoothness of everyday life. This project asks: what kinds of discourses exist? Where? Led by whom? Who is not present? What do the discourses say, what are they silent about? Are the discourses becoming more coherent or not? What kind of impact are they presumed to have? Salminen outlined five sets of data used in this project: 1. US and Finnish Arctic Council chairmanship programmes and documentation available online; 2. the Arctic Economic Council’s documents, especially on Arctic broadband; 3. existing research literature on digitalization in the Arctic (very scarce); 4. the related articles of the Independent Barents Observer; 5. the websites of two main Arctic subsea cable operations Quintillion and Cinia. Putting material and discursive practices together, and using data from sources that address a number of audiences not those concentrating on expert technical knowledge, Salminen asks what does digitalization in the European Arctic look like on the basis of these documents?

The findings identify multiple thematic groupings, including: infrastructure (including connectivity and data centres); regional economic development; (lost) entrepreneurial opportunities; improved (public) services based on customer choice; e-health; industrial automation (automatization); smart traffic and logistics; people’s skills and awareness (need for improvement); and technical cybersecurity threats and large scale breaches. Overall, security is to a large extent missing from the discussion, even though digitalization of people’s identification, for example, affects all critical functions in a society. People are seen as users and consumers, and Arctic communities as objects of development. Although security is a catchword that makes people take an issue seriously, many aspects of the digitalizing Arctic are in flux at the moment, and privacy issues exist at many different levels: technical level, state level, and an international human rights level, as reflected in the recent EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) policy.

The third presentation was an overview of a new project by Gerald Zojer of the University of Lapland on “Open Source Software Solutions as a Contribution to Human Security in a Digitalizing Arctic”. He emphasized that digital technologies are already very present in the European Arctic, and that digital society is real, though less so in Russia and in the North American Arctic. In the



Nordic countries, digital tools are used for personal and business purposes, and in traditional activities like fishing and reindeer herding. At the same time, there has been the growth of national digitalization agendas, with regional (sub-state) strategies and interregional agendas resulting in the securitization of cyberspace. Common features of these different levels is that they are still somewhat state-centric; cyber-security strategies follows a traditional security approach, the state is the main referent object, they are techno-deterministic (seen as benefiting people, with little question of negative impacts, or what of people who can't or don't take part in digitalization). There is very little reference to regional context for opportunities and challenges.

Zoer suggests that digitalization affects all spheres of human security in the Arctic: economic (new businesses, opportunities); community (staying in contact, language practice); environmental (less travelling, higher energy and resource demand); food security (hunting and gathering efficiency, information sharing); political (enables political participation, civil society collaboration), health (telemedicine), personal security (duress alarms, SAR, first aid). Going forward, this project intends to look at the impacts of digitization on reindeer herding in Lapland. Some aspects to be studied include GPS tracking leading to: increased efficiency (economic security) and less travel necessary (environmental and health security), improved livestock control (food security), impact on culture and identity (community security), and negative impacts on cultural knowledge of not being on the land. Gerald also predicts that future use of drones to help drive/herd reindeer will mean less use of ATVs, resulting in fewer accidents and less damage to local ecosystems, and that herders replaced by automation in the reindeer industry may be able to find other ways of being involved through technology. An important additional consideration is whether the software used to support these digital activities is proprietary or open source code. Zoer argues that buying proprietary code is a 'black box' where, by design, you don't know what it's doing. By contrast, open source code can be used and changed, creating greater transparency because individuals know what the code is doing and decrease their dependence on large software companies. Overall, he argues that promoting open source software may help to improve the human security of people in the Arctic region due to the greater control and opportunities for ownership of technology, local creation of value, cultural continuity, and possibilities for pan-Arctic cooperation. The question session produced a lively discussion, and a general agreement that whether or not digitalization is a positive development for human security in the Arctic will ultimately be determined by communities themselves, which must judge the positive and negative aspects of the trade-offs that are involved.



Session in Kirkenes (Photo by Clemens Jöbstl)

**Friday, June 8**  
Kola Science Centre, Apatity

Session 9: “Regional Development of the Russian Arctic”  
(Rapporteurs: Daria Shvets & Egill Thor Nielsson)

- A. Chapargina  
*The investment processes and savings activities of the population of the Russian Arctic: is there a connection?*
- Maxim Gutenev  
*The development of the Northern Sea Route as a strategic goal of the Arctic policy of Russia*
- Dmitry Kurnosov  
*No Divides in Permafrost – Applying Political and Legal Methods to Minority Representation in the Russian Arctic*
- Svetlana Tuinova  
*The dynamics of global and national factors in Russian Arctic*
- Larissa Riabova  
*Local community based research in the Arctic – the Russian perspective*

The session was held at the Kola Science Center in Apatity and was started with the welcoming words by Larissa Riabova and Ludmila Ivanova – research staff at the Luzin Institute for Economic Studies KSC RAS. The first report by Anastasia Chapargina was dedicated to the economic situation of the local population in the Arctic, its income and savings in terms of the investment activity in the region. Anastasia showed that high savings do not necessarily lead to investments in the Arctic because in contrast to other Russian regions, the investment climate in the Arctic is different and the potential for investments is lower. Though the income of local population in the Arctic is relatively high, the investments in the local economy are not high though. As a result, the savings of local population do not significantly impact the economic growth and investment activity in the region. The discussion started with the explanation that savings of local people are not organized and have no definite structure. That is why it is not the main factor of investments and the population is not involved in the process. The investments in the region are mainly made by big corporations and holdings. It was followed by the question whether the savings structure is different for indigenous and non-indigenous people. The population makes savings but hold them for purposes other than investing in the local economy. Finally, the question was addressed to the methodology of research. In order to count the savings of the population the statistical state's data such as salaries, taxes, and expenses were used.

The second presenter Maxim Gutenev addressed the role of the Northern Sea Route (the “NSR”) for the development of the Russian Federation. The emphasis was given to the advantages which the NSR gives in terms of safety, navigation, and transportation. The Russian government treats this area as an important tool for the development of the Russian economy because of the natural resources located there. The government announced the increase of transportation volume in this region up to 80 million tons of goods. The interest to use the NSR was also expressed by several other states. However, Maxim presented the point of view that there are several problems relating to the realization of this plan. There are barriers for foreign companies such as long-term perspective of investments, high costs, and environmental matters as well as the policy and legal matters relating to the NSR. Because of this reason some companies may be skeptical about investing in the development of the NSR. Finally, Maxim proposed several solutions on how to overcome these barriers. In particular, by cooperation with foreign partners, soft diplomacy, explanation of existing rules, development of a comprehensive plan for implementation, etc. The discussion started with the role of Polar Code in the use of the NSR. The Polar Code established certain rules for the protection of the marine environment and not all the companies are able to follow its requirements when planning their activities in the Arctic. However, it was mentioned that the Polar Code, in fact, is more liberal than the Russian Federation national legislation applicable to the NSR. The discussion then turned to the matter of security and safety, and how it is defined in the context of the NSR. In particular, on the recent meeting in Saint Petersburg it was discussed that there should be a special agency established for being in charge of the NSR. The next question was devoted to the digital infrastructure along the NSR. There is currently GLONASS system (analogue of GPS) exists and several satellites are planned to be used in order to provide the telecommunications. Finally, the discussion ended with the constructive criticism of the plans to develop the NSR addressed in official statements and documents as well as promoted by other researchers.

The presentation by Dmitry Kurnosov was devoted to the participation of indigenous minority groups in the elections to local governments. Dmitry explained that some regions have special quotas reserved for the indigenous people in local parliaments. The example of elections in the Caucasus region was given in contrast to the indigenous people on the high north. While in the Caucasus region the elections were successful and the dominant driven factor was the ethnicity, on

the high north the number of voters was so small that no seats were allocated to indigenous people in the local government. Though the European Court of Human Rights expressed the position that the right to vote is a political right of the indigenous people, the instrument of quotas in the local government which could be a decision, in this case, was rejected by the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation. The idea supported by the Supreme Court is that quotas could apply as a remedy for discrimination, but nobody was discriminated in this case. Finally, the conclusion was given where Dmitry specified that currently, northern indigenous people's representation in local governments exist without a well-developed legal framework. The discussion started with the comparison of the Caucasus and Arctic regions and it was emphasized that the Caucasus had different conditions in the implementation of the voting rights. Then, a suggestion to develop a research by adding the Yamal and Taimyr regions was given and also Tatarstan and Bashkortostan were mentioned in this context. It was followed by a question about other minority groups in Russia and why the choice was done in favour of the Caucasus and Arctic regions. Dmitry approached the issue of indigenous people representation from the legal point of view and chose those regions having quotas for the representation of indigenous people in their national legislation.

The next presentation was given by Svetlana Tiunova and was devoted to the local economic development in the Arctic in terms of energy projects. The emphasis was given to the concept of the "blue economy" promoted by Gunter Pauli. Several examples of the blue economy were given. In particular, in the local scale such as, for instance, growing mushrooms using the garbage for agricultural purposes. After this, the Russian Federation's attitude to the blue economy was discussed. In the documents on the energy security of the Russian Federation the following controversial trends could be identified: cooperation or isolation, private or state control of the business, market-driven or administrative economy. It appears that the Russian Federation does not have a long-term strategy on this. On the opposite, only short-term goals are followed. Currently, there are several energy projects taking place in the Arctic including the nuclear power station, there are nuclear ships and some other energy infrastructure is coming soon. In conclusion, it was said that in order to be able to develop the energy infrastructure in the Arctic the Russian Federation shall be open for cooperation with other countries involved as well as take joint decisions on energy issues. The discussion started with the clarification of the concept of the blue economy and giving more examples of it. It was emphasized that extra investments in the development of the Arctic must be done by large companies but in the Russian realities money often come abroad instead of investing to the local communities. During the discussion, some similarities were found in the economic situation of small towns in Austria. Finally, the last question was addressed to the nuclear plants, whether it is really a progressive and innovative technology. It was clarified that nuclear energy is not something unusual and the place for it is reserved in the Arctic. It provides necessary facilities for people living there and is needed for supporting the Northern Sea Route.

The final presentation in this session was given by Larissa Riabova. The report was dedicated to the research of the local communities in the Arctic from the Russian perspective. The general concept of the "community studies" has many definitions and is applicable in many social sciences as a method of research. It utilizes quantitative and qualitative approaches, in particular, interviews, networks and remote sensing. From the perspective of applying community studies methods to the Arctic communities among the challenges the following were mentioned: allocation of local interest, receiving consent from people to be interviewed, ethical issues, privacy, need of permission from the local authorities, misunderstanding and selective reporting such as highlighting only positive or only negative things. Then the development and changes in the concept of the community studies were given. At the end of the presentation, it was mentioned that there is still a

controversy whether the community studies can apply to the local level while traditionally they are associated with state and regional levels in the Russian social science. Among the lessons learned it was specified that the Russian social science in community studies lacks a theoretical background in the circumstances of different approaches with foreign colleagues, and comparative networks between states contribute the knowledge more than studies within one particular state. The first question was about the impact left on the local communities and how to prevent the situation when researchers are not welcomed anymore. It was emphasized that researchers shall be cautious about local people and try to increase the comfortability. It was followed by the discussion whether it is important or not to be from the same culture or speak the same language with local communities. It was concluded that it depends on the concrete research but in any case, a researcher shall keep the objectivity. Finally, the concept of trust between the researcher and local people elaborated by Rachel Botsman was evaluated in the context of the Arctic, its applicability to the local communities and information security.

**Saturday, June 9**  
Kola Science Centre, Apatity

Session 10: “Energy Solutions for Russian Arctic”

(Rapporteur: Laura Olsén)

- Anastasia Gasnikova  
*Factors of Energy Supply in the Arctic Regions of Russia*
- Hilma Salonen  
*Renewable energy solutions for Russian Arctic off-grid settlement: network of distances and dependencies*
- S.A. Berezikov  
*Structural Changes in Industry of the Russian Arctic Regions*

The tenth session started with the presentation Fuel supply solutions in off-grid areas of Sakha Republic: Networks of influence and dependencies given by Hilma Salonen from the University of Helsinki, Finland. Salonen discussed about the networks of energy supplies in the Russian Arctic and especially in the region of Sakha Republic. The usage of renewable energy sources has increased recently but also traditional sources are still used. Salonen approaches her topic through networking analysis and has created a network map based on her previous studies. The conversation after the presentation touched upon e.g. questions concerning the road infrastructure during different seasons and different energy producers. When it comes to production of renewable energy, the markets are open also for the private companies, even though the number of private enterprises is lower than state owned companies. Suggestions to view also the relationships inside of the network was raised.

The second speaker of the sessions was Anastasia Gasnikova from the Luzin Institute for Economic Studies KSC RAS, Russia. The title of the presentation was Factors of Energy Supply in the Arctic



Regions of Russia. In her presentation, Gasnikova viewed the factors impacting on the energy supply in the Russian Arctic. Main factors listed in the presentation were: natural resources factors, economical factors, social factors, technological factors and ecological factors. Different factors are interconnected and the dynamics between different levels from global to regional vary. In the conversations afterwards, also the institutional and political factors were discussed. The differences within the region of the Russian federation e.g. in infrastructure between south and north seem to create challenges.

The last presentation of the session Structural Changes in Industry of Russian Arctic Regions was given by S.A. Berezhikov as well representing the Luvinsky Institute for Economic Studies KSC RAS, Russia. Berezhikov focused in his presentation on structural changes in the Russian Arctic regions between mining, manufacturing and energy sector. Despite of some changes, mining is still keeping its strong position in the region. After the presentation especially the reduction in the manufacturing sectors were discussed. In general, the session gave a good overview of the recent energy developments in the Arctic regions in Russia.

#### Session 11: “Russian Discourses on the Arctic”

(Rapporteurs: Kaoliina Hurri and Evgeny Zarov)

- Alexander Sergunin  
*The Russian discourse on human security in the Arctic*
- Ludmila Ivanova  
*Marine Plastic Pollution in the Arctic: origin, status, costs and incentives for Prevention (international project MARP)*
- Anna and Valentina Maretskaya  
*Strategic directions of agricultural policy in Murmansk region*
- Elena Klyuchnikova  
*The reasons of changing migration strategies in the small Arctic towns (Apatity, Kirovsk, Murmansk region)*
- Alexandra Smirnova  
*Russian problematique in activities of Finnish and Norwegian peace organizations*

The last presentations of the Calotte Academy 2018 were held in session 11 on Saturday 9th June in Kola Science Centre, in Apatity. The theme “Russian Discourses on the Arctic” covered topics about human security, marine pollution, agricultural policy, migration and peace organizations. Professor Alexander Sergunin (St. Petersburg State University) discussed the concept of human security from the viewpoint of different Russian foreign policy schools: Globalists have a broader understanding of human security than neorealists or neoliberals as they attempt to cover all seven dimensions of human security mentioned in the UN definition from 1994. All in all, the security dimensions can be identified on the regional level but the concept of human security is new for the Russian political discourse especially on the federational level. However, Sergunin highlighted the potential of human security for gradually gaining a momentum in decision-making as well. The

discussion tackled the possible differences between Russian and Western schools and noted that the schools are international by nature. Hence, it is difficult to not to result in the same conclusions. Sergunin also noted several policy schools of the conception: neorealism, neoliberalism, globalism containing sustainable development and postpositivism with the next generation – social constructivism and post-colonial sub-schools. There are some barriers to embedding the human security concept to Russian security policy (for instance anti-globalism). In questions and comments there was a discussion about attending of the speaker and the possibility of the Russian discourse being applied to the European practice. The speaker indicated a political preferences to the globalism and neoglobalism. And he mentioned that European discourse is more divers then Russian one and its conclusions are sometimes completely different.

Ludmila Ivanova (Senior Researcher, Luzin Institute for Economic Studies) presented the outcomes of the marine plastic pollution project MARP organized in 2016-2018 in participation with Norway, UK and Russia. It is important there is not only scientific partners are included but also industry like fishing company. Plastic production and consumption have increased resulting in growth of plastic pollution. According to the latest research, microplastic poses even more dangerous threat, for example, to animals' organs than previously anticipated. The project included workshops, fieldwork and a survey for the fishing industry distributed in 2018. The preliminary results showed a difference in the answer coverage between Norway and Russia and revealed awareness for the illegal dumping. Nonetheless, the regional fishing industries identified themselves not to be the only guilty ones for the pollution. The conclusion and discussion urged the need to strengthen the knowledge base and awareness in the future, in addition to, establishing recommendations for the fishing industry.

Researchers Anna and Valentina Maretskaya (Luzin Institute for Economic Studies, Kola Science Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences) have investigated the agricultural policy of Murmansk region. It is divided in 3 areas: economic, ecology and society. The objective was to understand the strategic directions in social, economic and ecological issues necessary to effectively develop the policy. The main documents guiding the development are identified as State program of the Murmansk region for the period of 2014-2020 and the socio-economic development strategy for 2020 and 2025. The discussion focused on the quantitative data about the region between 2012 and 2016 and the impact of inflation and sanctions on the numbers. The import of selected products to the region had increased by nearly ten percentages to 89%-96%.

Elena Klyuchnikova explained the modern changes in migration strategies in the small Arctic towns. Apatity was used as an example. About 35% of the population was moved since 1991. A survey was carried out with the main aim to define differences about migration reasons in 2013 and 2015 years. In 2013 it was easy to find 22 respondents. All agreed that mining is important for the people. The main reason for migration was related to worrys about the economical crisis and migrants. One of the reason was that PhosAgro policy has been changed since 2010 and city financial support went down. In 2018 it was extremely difficult to find respondents. 2 focus-groups were used. Most of the students plan to move after their defence. They see now a perspective there. The old generations are not enthusiastic about their future. Most of the people did not like to discuss anything related to the PhosAgro company. In the Soviet time workers were placed on the top of hierarchy. Now it is flipped up. It was mentioned that it is the same problem for whole world. Population of small towns goes down.

In the final presentation Alexandra Smirnova told her vision of the Russian problematic of Finnish and Norwegian peace organizations. She told about a concept of peace, different organizations activities and their location. Also it was presented several examples of peace organization from the past (USSR, Finland, Norway examples). Additionally NATO was examined a critically. The discussion was opened with questions about the opinion of peace organizations in Russia about current aggression. There were some group protests but the peace organization disappeared in the 1990s. But 2 soldier organizations (like Soldier's Mothers) exist, and they relate mostly to human rights. Generally this topic started to develop in the 1980s but it was found much earlier. The speakers are oriented mostly on the evolution of violence. The question was raised about the opinion to the fake protests. It is relevant, because it is used only for the creation of negative public opinion. Social media plays important role there.



## Abstracts in Alphabetical Order

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### Is the “Far North” too far? - The Arctic from the Perception of the Western Balkan Countries

During the last few decades, the Western Balkan (WB) region was an arena for outrages conflicts. It has also been a scene on which several historical “hard security” breakthroughs took place: the first ever NATO “out of area” intervention (in 1995), the first ever NATO’s use of force without the UNSC approval (in 1999), the first ever mission conducted within the European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP) as well as the first ever military mission in the history of the EU conducted under the Berlin Plus Agreement. Legacy of the recent history is still present: the region is composed of states with very low level of mutual trust while some parts of the region may still be considered as “frozen conflicts”. Notwithstanding, the WB region is very “introvert” in perceiving security.

Taking into consideration the present situation and security dynamic in the WB region, this paper is aimed to answer if the WB countries are interested in the Arctic region (especially in its security aspects) and in what scope. It will provide an analysis of the national security and foreign policy strategies of the WB countries as well as political and public discourse, trying to identify the Arctic related issues. The paper will also provide an analysis of contexts in which the Arctic is present in press in the WB region.

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### **Giuseppe Amatulli**

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### Abstract resources: enhance equality to promote Sami people’s rights in the Finnish and Swedish context

The enjoyment of human rights in Nordic countries should not be taken for granted. Indeed, there may be cases in which indigenous people can experience various extent of discrimination, due to their personal situation, characteristics, etc.

By analyzing the concept of equality and discrimination within the legal framework of Finland and Sweden, Giuseppe Amatulli aims at exploring whether human rights are perceived as resources in the two Nordic countries. The analysis focuses on three important rights that Sámi

people living in the Arctic part of the two countries, as well as outside their homeland (Sápmi), should enjoy. Precisely, the right to receive education in their native language, the right not to be discriminated in work places and the right to be included in decision-making when their lands and resources are at stake will be analyzed.

By exploring the existing legislation and the role that National Human Rights Institutions and the Ombudsmen have in the two countries, the chapter aims to demonstrate that Human Rights Institutions and the legal framework of the two Arctic countries can be seen as important “abstract resources”. Thus, such resources can be fundamental in order to face present and future human rights related challenges, while enhancing Sámi people’s rights by contributing to shape a modern and lively human rights legislation.

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## How the Frontier Makes the Nation: Comparing Arctic Discourses in 20th-Century America and 21st-Century China

Why are certain societies drawn to creating frontier imaginaries, and why do some regions like the Arctic persist as frontier spaces in such imaginaries? This research seeks to trace national visions and imaginings of the Arctic across time and space to understand the narratives, metaphors, and stories that are used to (re)create frontier imaginaries. I compare the frontier imaginaries of two major powers: America in the 20th century and China in the 21st century. While the United States was seeking to develop Alaska and pursue northerly military and economic ambitions from the late 1800s to the postwar period, China is now promoting a global vision of an Arctic region that the country’s government would like to help sustainably develop. Comparison of these two national imaginaries about the Arctic illustrates the constancies embedded within projects of frontier-making despite taking place in two different time periods and countries. A comparison of these two national narratives also indicates that rather than countries “making” the frontier, it is, in fact, the frontier that helps make the country, whether it is America trying to be a nation that lives up to its project of frontier expansion and manifest destiny or China striving for recognition as a global power. A richer understanding of how the frontier helps make the country rather than the inverse helps explain why some spaces persistently remain, in national imaginings, underdeveloped and subjected to outside designs for improvement even if their development and connectivity to the rest of the world actually does change. I argue that for countries to have ambitions beyond their borders, they must always have a frontier.

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## Structural Changes in Industry of the Russian Arctic Regions

The study discusses the problems of structural changes in the industry of the arctic regions of Russia. To this end, an analysis of structural shifts in the extractive and manufacturing industries, as well as in production and distribution of electricity, gas and water, has been conducted. The study period is from 2005 to 2015, the base year is 2005.

The analysis showed structural changes in gross value added in mining, processing industries, as well as in production and distribution of electricity, gas and water in the northern and arctic regions. The performed calculations are evidence of the preservation of structural disproportions in the industry of arctic regions, manifested in the increase in the share of minerals with a simultaneous decrease in the share of processing industries and shares of electricity, gas and water production.

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## The investment processes and savings activities of the population of the Russian Arctic: is there a connection?

Stable socio-economic development of the region needs significant amounts of investment resources. Today the finding of these resources is particularly relevant. In the Arctic regions of Russia the problem of finding the investment resources is exacerbated by the fact that the regions are separate from the economic centers of the country, have poor transport infrastructure, high level of working-age population outflow, underdevelopment of social and financial infrastructure, high cost of living and increased expenses for life support. In the context of geopolitical tension, unstable economic situation and budget deficit, it is necessary to mobilize domestic regional sources — population savings.

The study of the volume and structure of savings, as well as the population income, showed that the following pattern is observed in the Arctic regions: savings increasing is connected to periods of rising income, and vice versa. The saving activity of peoples in the crisis year of 2014 was at its lowest level since 2010. In Russia and the Arctic regions (with the exception Chukotka and Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Districts), there was a maximum decline in the population savings and a maximum decline in the incomes of peoples. But the savings activity of the population has recovered in all regions, except for the Chukotka Autonomous District in 2015. The population has changed the consumer model to a savings model. Savings model, on the one hand, is a cause of further consumption reduction, and on the other hand, it allows savings to become a resource for future investment growth.

With regard to investment activity, this indicator tends to decline (the exception of 2015) in Russia. A mixed picture emerges in the Arctic regions of Russia. That is possible to observe "bouncing" changes of investment activity. The Arctic regions are not distinguished by high

investment activity of the population. The average of investment activity of the population was almost twice lower than the Russian average for 2010-2015.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that the regions with low investment activity of the population have more favorable state of the investment processes and vice versa. For example, the Murmansk region has high investment activity of the population and the lowest indicators of fixed capital investment.

Thus, the savings and investment activities of the population in the Arctic regions do not have a tangible impact on the investment process. Population savings of the Arctic regions of Russia remain unclaimed, but a possible internal resource of

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### **Anne Figenschou**

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### **Welcome to Kirkenes. Town, isolated village, or capital?**

Kirkenes is the administrative center of the municipality of Sør-Varanger. There are 10227 residents in Sør-Varanger, while in Kirkenes there are approximately 4000 inhabitants. The people in Kirkenes live in a borderland, 20 minutes from Russia, and 40 minutes from Finland. Kirkenes has status as a city. Some would refer to Kirkenes as a town, someone would call it an isolated village. Others again, claim Kirkenes is a capital. The capital of the Barents Region. To start with the beginning, mining industry is an important part of Kirkenes' history. Kirkenes was built around the mine AS Sydvaranger in 1906. Consequently, parts of the mine industry are located in the middle of the city center. Iron ore from Sydvaranger in Bjørnevatn was processed and shipped out as iron pellets from Kirkenes in 1906. The production ceased in 1996 and reopened in 2009. Yet again, the mine was declared bankrupt in November 2015. 400 workers suddenly found themselves as unemployed, four weeks before Christmas. Along the years, industry has been of vital importance to Kirkenes. In 1993, the location also became crucial to Kirkenes, as it was informally recognized as the capital of the Barents Region. Border crossing activities became more and more common. In 2010, Russia and Norway ratified the Treaty on Maritime delimitation and cooperation in the Barents Sea and the Arctic Ocean. It took 40 years to agree on the border at sea. Cooperation was doing great. In 2012 border residents were granted a visa free regime –we may travel without visa in the border area. Desiring to facilitate development of contacts among people as an essential condition for the sustainable development of economic, social and cultural cooperation. 2014 however, became a turning point. Russian military actions in Crimea caused reactions and again counter reactions. Sanctions followed, and so did political tension. The political climate makes it more important than ever to continue dialogue and maintain the people to people contact.

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## Factors of Energy Supply in the Arctic Regions of Russia

Arctic zone of Russia as a whole has considerable energy resources. However, some regions face serious problems with energy supply. Organization of energy supply in the Arctic regions is determined by different factors. Natural-resource factors mean the existence of the energy resources of different types (fossil fuel resources, hydro power resources, alternative energy resources) on the territory. Group of economical factors includes demand for energy, profitability of using local energy resources or delivering resources from other regions, economic efficiency of building energy facilities (power stations, transmission lines, enterprises specialized in extraction and processing fossil fuels). In this regard, it would be necessary to take into account that costs of production are higher due to severe conditions (low temperatures, long heating period, the significant differences in temperature during the year, strong winds, and others), and energy intensity of the economy is higher in the Arctic regions. Social factors are associated with the important social role of energy supply. That is why the decisions of construction of new energy objects or delivering fuel resources to the remote Arctic areas can be made even in the case of their economic inefficiency. Technological factors mean availability of energy technologies. Used technologies must be reliable in severe climate conditions. Ecological factors mean the necessity to consider the ecological restrictions. Any activities in energy sector must not cause unacceptable damage to the Arctic environment. All the factors work together and determine the organization of energy supply in the Arctic regions.

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## Wise-guy, outsider or trespasser? The EU's different roles in the development of the European part of the Barents region.

The EU outlines in its Arctic policy that it is in the world's and not only the region's interest that the Arctic is governed in a sustainable, prosperous, safe and stable manner. EU's interest in Arctic governance has an economic and environmental incentive in addition to the fact that two of its member states have territories in the Arctic. The aim of my presentation is to illustrate how the European Union (EU) is influencing, or trying to influence, the development of the European part of the Barents region. I intend to do this by discussing the different roles of the EU in their attempt to exercise influence in Arctic governance. Analyzing EU's Arctic policy documents from the end of the 1990s enables us to frame several discourses each emphasizing what kind of role the EU plays, or has the potential to play in Arctic governance. The following discourses will be discussed: 1) the EU as an active partner in the establishment and implementation of international norms, 2) The EU as a regulator in enforcing EU legislation, 3) The EU as observer of intergovernmental bodies outlining Arctic policy, and 4) The EU as bestower of knowledge and scientific research.

Attention will also be given to the lack of sound strategies among many member states in addition to other more urgent challenges such as Brexit, refugee crisis, financial crisis etc. taking EU's focus away from Arctic questions.

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## Protesting Insecurity: Securitization and Resistance to Environmental Change and Natural Resource Extraction

As the circumpolar Arctic region has experienced increased interest in natural resource extraction - including oil, gas, and minerals - it has also become the site of acts of protest and resistance to many of these industrial projects. Across the region, civil society actors, including NGOs, activist groups, and Indigenous governments and organizations, have expressed their views that continued resource extraction poses serious threats to local environments, the global biosphere, human health and wellbeing, and Indigenous identities and cultural practices. Faced with continued support for natural resource extraction by state and sub-state Arctic governments, non-state actors opposed to these projects have increasingly employed a range of protest and resistance tactics to impede resource extraction activities.

This paper examines protests against natural resource extraction in the Arctic using the tools of securitization theory, which is an analytical approach that explains how security issues become socially constructed. Drawing on contributions to securitization theory that emphasize non-verbal and unwritten ways of expressing insecurity, it argues that protests are examples of physically performed, or 'bodily enacted', security claims that are undertaken by non-state actors when they are unable to have their spoken or written arguments about the threats of resource extraction and human-caused climate change accepted by the state or other powerful actors. In this respect, protests are not merely an expression of dissenting views within a society; they can also function as ways to identify security threats and sources of danger that states and other powerful actors refuse to acknowledge or effectively respond to. This argument is supported with evidence from three recent cases: the Greenpeace 'Arctic 30' protestors in Russia's northern waters in 2013; the Gállok protests against new mines in northern Sweden, also in 2013; and protests against the Canadian territory of Yukon's decision to allow mining in the Peel River region against the objections of the region's Indigenous peoples. This paper thus contributes to understanding the nature of security and insecurity across the Arctic region, and the strategic behaviour of non-state actors trying to limit further damage to the natural environment and affected human communities.

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## The development of the northern sea route as a strategic goal of the arctic policy of Russia

The abstract is devoted to assessing the development prospects of the Northern sea route (NSR). In the article the author examines the main concerns of international investors and partners about the commercial viability of the NSR. The author proposes to deliberately and systematically implement the strategic objectives for the Arctic development, to create a comprehensive plan for the implementation of measures aimed at the development of forecasts for the development of the NSR. Despite the considerable international interest in the Russian Arctic from potential foreign partners and investors, there are also great concerns about the commercial viability of the NSR. For example, in the foreign shipbuilding and shipping companies who would be interested in the development of the NSR, there is no single point of view about the prospects of this transport corridor. Single point of view about prospects of development of the NSR there is also the foreign researchers of the Arctic. In the issue of active use of the Northern route has a lot of the issues that should be considered. The main problems today are political, economic and internal corporate barriers. One of the main vectors of development of the NSR in the twenty-first century should be the development of cooperation with foreign partners, aimed at the harmonization of rules and regulations on the using of the Northern sea corridor, as well as comprehensive work on improving its reputation and image.

Due to the recent climatic changes, the development of the North sea route can become quite promising. Navigation will be possible throughout, as well as in the coastal zone. There is a chance that, with due attention to this transport corridor in the future, it can become one of the main cargo routes on earth, and the process of hydrocarbon production in the Arctic in connection with the melting of ice will be much easier. One of the main vectors of the development of the NSR in the XXI century should be the development of cooperation with foreign partners aimed at harmonizing the rules and regulations for the use of the Northern sea corridor.

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## Special features of Arctic geopolitics in globalization

In spite of turbulence and uncommon instabilities in world politics, the early-21st century Arctic is with high geopolitical stability based on international, institutionalized Arctic cooperation. Behind are several common interests, which the Arctic states and Arctic Indigenous peoples share, in particular to avoid military confrontation and maintain peace and stability in the region. Further, due to the wicked problems the Arctic faces - i.e. the combination of (long-range) pollution & climate change – functional cooperation on environmental protection will be continued, as well as the transfer of the region for scientific and educational purposes to enhance sustainable development. The globalized Arctic based on intensive, international cooperation and high geopolitical stability, and having nine of the ten biggest economies involved in, is an exceptional

geopolitical space & context in world politics and IR. Among special features of Arctic geopolitics are: the region has become part of global, multi-dimensional change with significant worldwide implications - the Arctic is a tipping point for the entire EarthSystem -; Arctic security and geopolitics are combined and closely related to the environment, and final, the environment matters a lot. The presentation will describe why the high geopolitical stability seems to be resilient, even exceptional. It will analyze major common interests of the Arctic states as reasons to cause a transformation from confrontation to environmental cooperation, as well as prerequisites which made possible to start cooperation and build high stability. Final, the presentation recognizes and analyzes what might the certain special features of Arctic geopolitics in globalization, and would they have potential for to generalize as learned lessons for world politics and its power transformation.

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### The Barents Sea and the evolvement of energy security

This article addresses to the question of evolving security framework in the Barents Sea petroleum development. The Barents Sea is often portrayed as a “next frontier” for oil and gas operations underlining the aspect of future, something that actors both in and outside the region eagerly look forward to open for extraction. Thus, the Barents Sea in terms of petroleum development includes high hopes and dreams of progress. Furthermore, the framework of security is linked to the availability of resources to the benefit of global economy. In this article, I illustrate how energy security framework is on one hand constructed and on the other hand used as a part of broader narratives of modernity and further to progress in the socio-economic development. The resource extraction in the Barents Sea should hence to be examined as a part of global energy systems and production networks. Simultaneously with the increasing global energy demand concerns over the sustainability of current energy system are growing, which has partly influenced to the evolvement of the concept of energy security.

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### The Arctic Strategy of China: The discourse of climate change

From geopolitical perspective, China is an interesting key player in international climate negotiations because of its economic growth, energy demand, great CO2 emissions and rising great power status. Domestic questions like air pollution, growing class and regional wealth differentials and energy security are increasing the domestic pressure to act on climate change and influencing China's climate policy. Climate change already poses a national security threat to China which is

acknowledged for example in the latest five-year plan as stronger targets for sustainable economic growth.

Geopolitical discourses are dynamic explanatory systems which are used to justify the practices and decisions to the people and international community. As threats are often framed as approaching from outside the community, global environmental threats, like climate change, has potential to build or reinforce the inclusion and exclusion process of the community's boundaries.

In January 2018, China published an Arctic Strategy. This presentation tries to understand how climate change is negotiated on national and global level in different contexts because identity is built also within the security discourses. This presentation is interested in China's framing of climate change in the Arctic. It also attempts to compare the climate change discourses of the Arctic Strategy with the framings from other forums of China's climate policy like the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In the UNFCCC context climate change has often been produced as a geopolitical threat with inequality discourses in a dualistic worldview of developing and developed countries. This argumentation is based on developing countries' lower historical emissions which is not highly relevant within the Arctic context. It is also becoming vaguer since it has been forecasted that China's historical contribution to the global emissions will surpass that of the United States by the 2040s. However, in both contexts, UNFCCC and Arctic, China needs to justify its relative position to others. How is climate change discussed in the Arctic Strategy and does it correspond with the discourses of China within the UNFCCC context?

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### Marine Plastic Pollution in the Arctic: origin, status, costs and incentives for Prevention (international project MARP)

The Arctic is one of the least polluted areas in the world, due to limited population. However, the Arctic accumulates certain pollutants transported through air, rivers and ocean currents from distant sources. Plastic pollution is of particular concern due to its abundance, persistence and negative impact on wildlife. The growing ocean water pollution with plastic wastes requires a better understanding of the human dimension of the problem, both with respect to how human welfare is affected by marine waste, and what measures should be implemented in order to improve waste management. The Marine Plastic Pollution in the Arctic: origin, status, costs and incentives for Prevention (MARP) project is intended to deliver new knowledge on the socio-economic costs of marine waste that can be used to increase stakeholder awareness, and to identify regulations and incentives that can reduce marine pollution in the Barents Sea area.

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## Biography for the analysis of modern Arctic societies, a historical analysis of migrants to the Arctic region in the 20th century: The case of Anton Neumeier

Biography for the analysis of modern Arctic societies, a historical analysis of migrants to the Arctic region in the 20th century: The case of Anton Neumeier.

The history of a region can only be fully understood through the lives of its individuals. Throughout the field of arctic studies, quantitative research and the analysis of “big politics” determine the history of this region. Historical Arctic studies of the 20th century are no exception. The human experiences during the last decades are neglected between the pages of these statistical surveys. The single individual is lost in a sea of data and statistics.

The real history of modern Lapland cannot exclusively be told by quantitative data of population, economics and policies. The qualitative research, working with personal biographies, can help to close the gap of describing the reality of living in the Arctic region. To quote the great French historian and founder of the “Annales school”, Lucien Febvre who was focusing on regional studies: “histoire vue d'en bas et non d'en haut” (history seen from below and not from above). The proposed research aims at contributing to a closure of this gap by discussing the case of Anton Neumeier. His biography shows a specific historic relevance, giving Neumeier an out- as much as an insider-perspective of 20th century Lapland. Born in Austria, he first experienced Lapland as a foreigner who was joining a new culture. During the Nazi occupation of Lapland he was forced back into a racially defined “Volksgemeinschaft” (people's community) trying to rescue himself to his chosen Sami community, where he spent the rest of his long life.

Along the line of this case study, the proposed research will scrutinize the Microhistorical approach and its exponents Carlo Ginzburg and Charles Joyner, who tried to “ask large questions in small places” by showing the relevance of small scale investigations for contemporary development. This is important, because also today temporary and permanent migration affects the individual circumstances of people living in the area.

The exploration methods will consist of archive research, searching for literary and other remains, supplemented by interviews with contemporary witnesses.

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## Becoming a primary node of the global economy: China, the Arctic and critical flows

This presentation explores China's emergence as a ‘primary node’ of the global economy through an Arctic case study. In order to secure the critical energy, trade and information flows, China aims to alter its geoeconomic standing vis-a-vis the Arctic through what can be coined as China's functional regionalisation, a process of politico-economic engagement that repositions China in the centre of global flows. The presentation first introduces the domestic drivers of China's functional regionalisation and discusses how Chinese ideas of the necessity of economic growth,

modernisation and scientific development formulate the basis of the country's growing global outreach. It then focuses on the three different levels of China's functional regionalisation with the Arctic – the country's infrastructure investments, diplomatic practices and the level of flows, "movement" – and discusses their mutual relationship by suggesting a preliminary model. Theoretically, the presentation builds on Brantly Womack's (2014) ideas of a multinodal world order and primary nodes, and the parallel idea of flow-centric regional and global orders as opposed to territory-centric ones (e.g. Aaltola et al. 2014). Empirically, the study draws evidence from both Chinese and English-language official documents, media texts and interviews of stakeholder groups. Ultimately, the presentation sheds light on region formation in a flow-centric global system, the nature and mechanisms of China's rise and the changing politico-economic landscape of the High North – in particular in what Bennett (2014) has termed as the 'Asian-Arctic' region.

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The reasons of changing migration strategies in the small Arctic towns (Apatity, Kirovsk, Murmansk region)

Despite the vast research on migration in the Murmansk region, little is known about the influence of corporations' policy on the people decisions to leave this region. The overall picture that emerges from the literature is so: the youth moves to the big south cities to study and never comes back to the Arctic towns; pensioners also strive to move further south. The regional Universities development is offered as a solution for the first part of the problem. Mining is the main industry in the region. This study recovers some of the perspectives of the people living in the mining- based towns through qualitative interviews with 22 inhabitants of the towns Apatity and Kirvsk. These interviews were taken in the period 2013-2017, when the town-based mining Company "Apatit" was carrying out management reorganization and restructuration which resulted in reduction of privileges for its workers. The analysis of these interviews yields the inhabitants' own explanations that show people are not waiting for the retirement, which begins five years earlier in comparison with the country's southern regions, to move to the south. People in the most productive age, 30-40 years old, leave towns Apatity and Kirovsk to have time to base their life in the south. In using a largely untapped source of oral histories with the inhabitants of small Arctic towns where wellbeing depends on mining company's policy, this project will contribute to further research on similar topics.

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## North American Narratives of the Arctic, and Their Impact on Policy

Broadly speaking, the Arctic regions of the United States and Canada have very few people and little industry compared to areas further south. However, these regions have had proportionally a much more impactful role in North American media and culture. Whether it's a modern TV show such as "Ice Road Truckers", twentieth century books about intrepid explorers, or the New York Times and the New Yorker's focus on the environment of the far north, the North American Arctic is mostly portrayed as remote, difficult to survive in, and pristine. Today, the Arctic also has become the primary symbol of climate change. Because of the ubiquity of North American media and cinema, these narratives greatly affect how the world sees the Arctic.

This presentation will review narratives of the North American Arctic and how these conceptions have impacted historic and domestic policies of the United States and Canada – both domestically and internationally. It will demonstrate that these Arctic narratives represent both an opportunity to bypass traditional political/military rivalries in favor of pan-Arctic cooperation, as well as a challenge to understanding the Arctic's modern complexity.

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## No Divides in Permafrost – Applying Political and Legal Methods to Minority Representation in the Russian Arctic

My paper uses interdisciplinary methods of legal and political science to assess the application of dominant political discourse on minority representation in the eight autonomous districts of the Russian High North.

Sometimes even democratic elections can make little difference. This happens when societies are deeply divided along ethnic, religious and/or social lines. Then voting is a mere census and power never really alternates. Political science defines such societies as consociations. Sometimes only external players can change this stalemate, 'unwinding' the consociation. Those players include foreign states and the judiciary. In a federal state, the central government can be an unwinding force.

'Unwinding' was a prominent discourse in Russian politics since the early 2000s. Central authorities did not hide their suspicions of the regional leadership in minority-dominated parts of the country. They were seen as potential separatists and/or inherently backward-oriented. Consequently, federal authorities applied formal and informal means to bring them into line. As part of this broad trend, electoral legislation since 2004 allowed no special treatment of ethnic minorities in any part of the country.

The scope of my study includes the five current and three former autonomous districts (okruga) of the Russian High North. They are Nenets, Khanty-Mansi, Yamalo-Nenets, Chukotka, Evenkia, Taimyr (Dolgano-Nenets) and Koryakia. All of them now have an ethnic Russian majority



(concentrated mostly in urban centers) and a sizeable indigenous population (mostly in sparsely populated hinterland). In 1990s, most of them had special electoral rules to benefit the indigenous community, which were gradually abolished from 2004 to 2015.

In my paper, I argue that the ‘unwinding’ discourse ignored the complexities of in the Russian Arctic. Very much unlike in consociations, regional politics of 1990s was often volatile and fiercely competitive. Even formal guarantees of minority representation often proved insufficient. After the ‘unwinding’, regional authorities adopted makeshift solutions to compensate for the lack of formal guarantees. Instead of the ‘unwinding’, a more nuanced approach would benefit all the stakeholders, including the federal authorities.

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### **The power of maps in a changing Arctic**

Recent representations of the Arctic have become closely associated with various business-friendly opportunities as the land and sea ice is melting. They often represent so-called win-win solutions to climate change, also for Arctic communities. However, many of the proposed development opportunities imagined for the Arctic region will contribute to increased burning of carbon, whether it is more tourism, mining, shipping, agricultural activities, or oil and gas drilling. In my thesis I argue that maps are central in building various understandings about opportunities in the Arctic. Moreover, I argue that maps make the Arctic into an abstract space: certain maps influence how governments, businesses, and investors think about the Arctic space into an abstract space for political and/or economic gain.

I explore this abstract space making by analysing four maps that shape the current discourses about the Arctic: a world-map using the Mercator-projection; a map showing the Arctic sea-ice variations; a map showing potential oil and gas resources in the Arctic; and lastly, a kids’ map of the Arctic. These maps are not only representing reality but part in constituting it. Hence, the act of mapping the Arctic and using maps in political statements and debates becomes part of shaping Arctic discourses. I develop an analytical framework of analysing maps as discourse following Bacchi’s (1999, 2009) What’s the problem represented to be?-approach, as well as drawing on critical cartography and visual methods analysis, in order to deconstruct the four maps. Finally, I discuss how maps enable certain social visions for the future of the Arctic region while silence other visions.

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## Understanding Perceptions of the Arctic: Legal Studies, Geo-politics and International Developments

Legal issues in the Arctic, as a field of legal studies, have been deeply inter-connected and influenced by mega trends both within and outside the Arctic rim. By looking at the evolution of polar law, theoretical and methodological approaches, my presentation shall explore discourses on the Arctic from the prism of legal developments and their nexus with international relations, politics and global issues. More specifically, it shall look at the role of law in dealing with Arctic matters, the impact of geo-politics, environmental and global pressures on the state of Arctic affairs.

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## Strategic directions of agricultural policy in Murmansk region

The basic documents defining strategy and development prospects of agroindustrial complex in Murmansk region are considered:

1. The state program of the Murmansk region "Development of agriculture and regulation of agricultural products markets, raw materials and foodstuffs" for the period 2014-2020.
2. Strategy for socio-economic development of the Murmansk region until 2020 and for the period up to 2025.

These documents define the main priorities of the agrarian policy in agriculture, the mechanism of strategic directions for the development of agricultural production, as well as targets and planned results.

It is determined the strategic objectives of agricultural policy in the economic sphere is the formation of an effective competitive agro-industrial production through the maximum use of natural resource potential and competitive advantages in industry subcomplex; in the social sphere – strengthening of the social orientation of agrarian policy by improving the conditions and quality of life in rural areas, the creation of new jobs in rural areas for the categories of the working population, the development of farm and home production, the restoration and development of social engineering infrastructure.

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## External inflows and Arctic development

Despite the existence of analysis the Arctic in international relations, there is an empirical gap in the scientific research about the complex of external impacts on the Arctic development. Due to the international tensions, the current investments in the Arctic, rising number of the Arctic actors (circumpolar, Northern and non-Arctic countries), previous economic crises, volatile fuel situation, current strict environmental tendency and increasing interest in the Arctic tourism, I propose to investigate how do external factors influence the Arctic development. Especially, we analyze these impacts through seven fields: 1) finance, 2) science, 3) technology, 4) politics, 5) culture, 6) education and 7) democracy.

Moreover, due to wavy Arctic development and its current new wave, the analysis of influences in the Arctic development across the arctic history will help us to predict further scenarios for 50-100 years and build models of further Arctic development. The research will clearly trace the dynamics of the external contribution and involvement of Arctic- and non-Arctic states in the Arctic regions.

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## Environmental measures for Cross-border Cooperation in the Trans-boundary Inari-Pasvic River Basin: A Sociological Perspective

Constructivist and realist theories in sociology argue that, environmental problems encompass material realities constructed via human processes of scientific knowledge, activists' efforts, and media attention. Though this viewpoint is widely accepted across regional agreements, a debate continues in contemporary context with a case example of the Inari-Pasvic river basin that is situated in the Arctic Circle. It is the trans-boundary between Norway, Finland, and Russia which represents a meeting point between the North-western corner of the Euro-Siberian taiga and the barren tundra coast of the Barents Sea. The basin is of strategic importance because it is rich in biodiversity with protected areas such as Vätsäri Wilderness Area, Øvre Pasvik Scenery Protection Area, and Øvre Pasvik National Park, which serve as important resting, nesting, and migration sites for several birds like whooper swans, ducks, bean gees, and waders, including habitats for brown bears, Wolf, and Eurasian elks.

This area has believably been a home to indigenous Eastern Sami and Inari Sami people for thousands of years, as well as locals in the municipalities of Pechenga in Russia, Sør-Varanger in Norway and Inari in Finland who arguably immigrated before the 19th century. Livelihoods of the population range from cattle farming, reindeer herding, fishing, ship repairs, to mining. Over the last 20 years, Inari-Pasvic area has been affected by heavy metals and acidifying sulphur compounds emitted from industry in the Kola Peninsula covering hundreds of square kilometres. A typical example is the town of Nikel where sulphur dioxide concentration in the air is

arguably three times greater than the permitted threshold value as indicated in the recent reports from Lapin ELY-Keskus. This sounds conflicting and yet raises geopolitical concerns among affected member states in need of better environmental policies and cooperation within the Barents Euro-Arctic-Council. Therefore, this paper explores recent environmental threats to the Inari-Pasvic river basin from a sociological perspective. Possible environmental measures for improving upon the Inari-Pasvic river basin are highlighted based on the context of Barents Euro-Arctic Cooperation.

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## China-Nordic Arctic Cooperation: Discourses on the depth of regional and bilateral ties

As global governance is moving towards a multipolar world, notably with the increased importance of Asian countries, it becomes of great importance to reimagining Norden in an evolving world. China, the world's second-largest economy and largest trader, has reemerged as one of the most significant payers in the evolving world-system, and the Chinese-lead Belt and Road Initiative has emerged as the overarching international cooperation mechanism of the Chinese government, while it includes an Arctic dimension with the "Polar Silk Road". In recent months China's State Council of China has published policy papers, including "Vision for Maritime Cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative" and "China's Arctic Policy: White Paper" that outline the importance of the Arctic region for its international cooperation and in May 2017 the Chinese Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Nordic Council of Ministers' issued a joint Press Release Strengthening Sino-Nordic Cooperation, highlighting the importance of topics and venues of importance for collaboration between partners within science and business; including innovation, sustainability, and Arctic affairs.

The paper aims to analyze China-Nordic cooperation both from a regional stance point as Norden and bilateral cooperation as five sovereign states. The Chinese government has proposed a "5+1" cooperation mechanism between China and the Nordic Countries (Norden) in line with already established "16+1" cooperation between China and the Central and Eastern European (CEE) Countries. The rationale being that China-Nordic cooperation could gain significant opportunities by moving the cooperation into a regional framework as it is much more practical for a superpower as China to have a joint platform within a region of smaller states, but such an arrangement also comes with challenges as there can be competing interests within the region. Further complications also come with the fact that within Norden, as is also the case with CEE, there are both European Union (EU) Member States (for Norden: Sweden, Denmark, and Finland) and non-EU Members (Iceland and Norway) that can impact regional building of Norden with external non-European partners highly. The theoretical perspective on analysis will be "connectography" while discourses and methods of region-building and research are at the forefront.

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## At the crossroads of western and indigenous epistemologies

Over the course of history research has played its part in the colonialization processes. Also in the Nordic countries, some research projects have had devastating consequences for the indigenous communities living in the region. The discussion on methodologies used in research conducted with/in indigenous communities has started to increase lately also among the Finnish academics and it brings within some challenges as well as great opportunities. This presentation will discuss on the lessons learned during two research projects finished in the year 2017 regarding the implementation of traditional ecological knowledge of Sámi to environmental decision-making in Finland and human rights and multiple discrimination faced by Sámi persons with disabilities and gender and sexual minorities. In these two projects, the ideology of community based participatory methods was applied as a basis for the methodological choices. This presentation will also raise some questions concerning the application of indigenous epistemology to the research conducted by non-indigenous scholars.

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## When Spitsbergen Became Svalbard: Norwegian Identity Constructions in Scandinavian Literature on Svalbard

After the (semi-)successful completion of polar expeditions led by the Norwegian national heroes Fridtjof Nansen and Roald Amundsen, Norway – which became independent first of Denmark in 1814, then of Sweden in 1905 – underwent a process of Norwegianization (which was largely directed at the country's northern territories), and of identity construction based on a new self-understanding (and self-fashioning) as a polar, and particularly Arctic nation. Since the – now Norwegian – Arctic archipelago of Svalbard was in the process of being rediscovered economically and, consequently, of being renegotiated territorially when Norway achieved definitive independence in 1905, the islands which, according to an interpretation of diverse Old Norse texts, have been visited by Norwegians and Icelanders long before the Dutch explorer Willem Barentsz rediscovered them in 1596, were recast as an originally Norwegian territory. A substantial driving force of this process of renegotiating the possibility of a national sovereignty over Svalbard, which until 1920 was a no man's land, was the so-called Spitsbergen Literature Lobby – a group of texts published between 1906 and 1920, which chronicled the history of exploring and exploiting the islands, hence implicitly arguing for a national sovereignty over Svalbard based on research activities and on a historical continuity of exploitation. However, while the question of sovereignty over Svalbard was legally settled in 1920 when Svalbard became a Norwegian dominion, a considerable body of texts – both (semi-)fictional and nonfictional – continued to debate the history

of Svalbard. A chronological review and discussion of Scandinavian, mostly Norwegian (semi-)literary texts published in the 20th and 21st century and depicting life in Svalbard – which is the objective and method of this contribution – suggests that 1) this continuity of a Svalbard Literature Lobby is aimed at reinforcing, or at least discussing, a Norwegian Arctic identity using Svalbard as a prime case study, and that 2) a great share of this identity construction is achieved through a process of othering directed against the other Arctic nation with a permanent presence in Svalbard, i.e. Russia.

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**Arctic's 'Other Economies' and Sustainable Development: Knowledge, Creativity, and Technology in the New Arctic**

The stylized notion of the Arctic's economy as solely based on three 'pillars:' resources, public and traditional sectors, is no longer nuanced enough to accommodate the growing role of Arctic's 'other' (non-pillar) economies prompted by the worldwide shift to tertiary and quaternary sectors. The goal of this paper is to introduce and showcase the Arctic's 'other economies' and offer a patchwork of cases that illuminate various aspects of 'other economies.' These studies include an investigation of the Arctic's knowledge economy at the circumpolar and regional scales, a study of cultural economy and an inquiry into the relationships between 'other' and 'pillar' Arctic sectors. The paper concludes that although the volume of knowledge production in the Arctic is still comparatively small and economic engagement of local creativity is relatively weak, Arctic economic systems are evolving to increasingly incorporate these sectors. The Arctic knowledge economy is characterized by the key role of individual inventor or single industry, connectedness to external networks vis-a-vis weak links within the Arctic, obscured relationship between formal education and knowledge production, an elevated role of informal skills, and remaining dependency on boom and bust cycles in resource extraction. However, as 'other economies' mature, this dependency is expected to diminish leading to a more sustainable model of development. Thus, this paper argues that 'other economies' should move to the forefront of economic analysis and the strategizing for sustainable development in the Arctic.

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### Paternalistic tendencies in the northern communities of Russia: why do the projects "from above" do not meet the support from the perspective of the local population?

When we talk about European community issues, based on the principles of dialogue and participation, we a priori assume that dialogue is possible and the community that we are going to study in principle exists as a social unit. But how to conduct meaningful research, in a situation when a community as a form of co-action and co-existence does not exist at the local level? In the absence of the subject of dialogue, we are dealing with micro groups and nuclear families who are building diverse livelihood strategies. This state of affairs in the Russian north is, on the one hand, the answer to the imperfection of Russian social policy, and, on the other hand, makes it impossible to analyze the potential resources of each territory and the community to form competent national and regional programs.

The tradition of groping blindly the key problems and defining the needs of the local population, that emerged and is constantly instigated by the officials and administrations, leads to the fact that people no longer believe that the real facts about everyday life can influence the administrative decisions. This chain of errors led to the fact that the local population is profitable to create the illusion of scarcity and the illusion of plight in a grotesque form. For the customers of construction and engineering works and the creators of a new social infrastructure, it is advantageous to introduce the situation as deplorable at a higher administrative level, to get more investment. However, basing on distorted facts and understated indicators and ignoring the reality of the situation, the administration and customers cannot correctly evaluate the nature and scope of work. The project expertise indicates that the project is not suitable for this area. But what project has to be implemented then?

It is possible and even necessary to break this chain of tricks to penetrate deeper into the local problems. However, the illusion of plight is still too strong and as a membrane does not allow social researchers to "break through" to the zone of an open dialogue and cooperation with the local population.

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### Local community based research in the Arctic – the Russian perspective

The presentation will discuss the local community based approach to socio-economic research and its use in the Arctic studies. The theme will be examined from the Russian perspective. Strong focus on the local community level is typical for western socio-economic research tradition, while in Russia socio-economic studies used to concentrate on the national or regional levels. In the Russian Arctic, community based socio-economic research started to develop after the fall of the "iron

curtain”, in the mid 1990-es, being greatly inspired both by the interest from western researchers to Russia, and by the increased practical needs of Russian local communities caused by shift of many state responsibilities to the local level. However, still focus on local community is in contradiction with the mainstream of the Russian Arctic socio-economic studies. The presentation will highlight key features of local community based approach as a distinctive tradition of research, investigate evolution of the concepts and methods involved in community studies and summarize the benefits and limitations of the approach. Some specific findings received through the personal experiences of research on the Russian Arctic communities will be shared. The talk will end up with a list of the most discussed issues in contemporary Arctic community studies debate.

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### European Arctic States. Small Actors Playing Big Politics?

The Arctic is a geopolitical region divided between eight states (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the United States). Five of those countries can be identified as "small states," or states with limited economic, military or other capabilities; and who are also expected to follow specific behaviors in geopolitical terms. During the last decade, all Arctic states plus a number of non-Arctic countries and organizations have published their policies and strategies for the region. In these documents, they outline their visions and objectives for the Arctic. In line with small states theories, the small European Arctic states presented comprehensive documents where multilateral, inclusive and cooperative approaches for the region were proposed.

Yet besides the policy discourses outlined in the policies and strategies, the small European Arctic states are following a "niche approach" towards specific topics, usually those of greater strategic relevance to them. This results in small states behaving much like big states would do. In addition, the historic hesitancy of the United States to fully embrace its Arctic reality has resulted in the current global hegemon acting in a rather small state fashion when it comes to certain Arctic matters. This, together with the increasing relevance of NATO in the region as well as its immediate limits (e.g. the Baltic area) vis-à-vis a Russia that is flexing its military muscle in other areas of the world, is contesting some assumptions of the traditional theoretical views of small states. Despite the low (or almost non-existing) level of conflict in terms of state-centered security issues, parallel political discourses are constructing a reality of confrontation (or eventually conflict).

In this paper, the author will review and compare the discourses for the Arctic of the small European states vis-à-vis the small states theories; and will analyze how some small European states are following an approach that is normally identified with that of big and more powerful states. This paper will contribute to showing the high level of dynamism in the Arctic, and how political discourses do not necessarily construct matching geopolitical realities.

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**Discourses on the digitalising Arctic**

Digitalisation is, alongside climate change, the driver of change in contemporary societies. Societies in the Arctic are no exceptions. Nevertheless, discussion on digitalisation in the Arctic has been scant and sporadic. For example, the number of academic research papers published on the topic is relatively low and the topic has only occasionally been on the agenda of main Arctic research conferences. While the US chairmanship of the Arctic Council introduced the topic (under the heading of ‘telecommunications infrastructure’) to the council’s agenda, the current Finnish chairmanship programme lists ‘connectivity’ as one of the four focus areas. Thus, it could be expected that discourses on digitalisation in the Arctic are becoming more coherent and influential.

This paper examines discourses on the digitalising Arctic with the main areal focus being on the European High North: What kinds of discourses do exist? Where? Led and attended by whom? Who are not present? What do the discourses say, what do they remain silent about? Are the discourses becoming more coherent or not? What kind of impact are they presumed to have? The research is carried out by discourse analysis and it utilises five sets of data: (1) the US and Finnish chairmanship programmes and documentation available online; (2) the Arctic Economic Council’s documents, especially on Arctic broadband; (3) existing research literature on digitalisation in the Arctic; (4) the related articles of the Independent Barents Observer; and (5) the websites of two main Arctic subsea cable operators, Quintillion and Cinia. The data is geared towards sources that are discussing the topic while addressing a number audiences. The main purpose of the paper is to provide an overview of the contemporary discussion without going to the specificities of each discourse. In addition, the aim is to depict the representation of the Arctic that the discourses convey.

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**Fuel Supply Solutions in Off-Grid Areas of Sakha Republic: Networks of influence and Dependencies**

The presentation introduces the initial research committed regarding different renewable energy alternatives to the fuel delivery system in the off-grid settlements of the Sakha republic in the Russian Arctic (Северный Завоз). The need for new solutions has been discussed for some time, as the climate change and worsening road and river conditions have made the deliveries even more lengthy, difficult, and expensive, for the republic subsidizing them. In the recent years, two big, state-supported renewable energy projects have been implemented in order to alleviate the problem: the solar power station of Batagai and the wind park of Tiksi (still in construction).

The presentation looks into the networks of actors involved in the two renewable energy projects and compares them with the Northern Delivery system in order to see, how their structure and the most influential actors differ – if at all. As a method, network analysis is

introduced and discussed as a new way to identify and highlight the connections of influence and power in a fuel supply system. With the help of digital tools, it is possible to examine structures like this from a new view point, allowing less visible components to surface.

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## **The Russian discourse on human security in the Arctic**

This study aims to examine the Russian academic and expert debate on human security in the High North.

The Russian neorealist school tends to interpret human security as a component or lowest level of national security (individual, societal, national), equating human security to individual security. Furthermore, individual security is seen as personal safety. Personal safety is viewed by the neorealists as protection of people from physical violence, whether from the state or external states, from violent individuals and sub-state actors, or from domestic abuse. Russian neoliberalism is based on the assumption that human security is indebted to the human rights tradition (the ideas of natural law and natural rights). This approach uses the individual as the main referent and argues that a wide range of issues (e.g., civil rights, cultural identity, access to education and healthcare) are fundamental to human dignity. The liberals argue that the goal of human security should be to build upon and strengthen the existing global human rights legal framework. In the case of the Arctic, they focus on indigenous peoples' rights. The Russian neoliberals are rather critical regarding the Russian government's policies on the indigenous peoples because of their ineffectiveness.

The Russian globalist school challenges both the "narrow" understanding of human security as individual security suggested by the neorealists and the neoliberal legalist approach. The globalists tend to interpret human security as an analogy to the sustainable development concept. The Russian postpositivist school does not suggest a unified approach to human security. For example, postmodernism, the most radical subschool of postpositivism, heavily criticized "positivist" security concepts but did not develop any security concept of its own. Russian social constructivism, another postpositivist subschool, prefers to interpret human security through the identity concept. According to this subschool, human security, which is socially constructed, can be ensured only if actors' identities are formed in a non-confrontational way. They tend to perceive the Arctic as a region of peace and stability, where different identities can be reconciled and harmonized. The Russian post-colonial subschool views the northern regions as a former Russian and Soviet colony that was exploited for many decades in a predatory manner. According to the post-colonialists, the best way to ensure human security in the region is to deindustrialize the Russian Arctic and make it a sort of a national natural reserve where the indigenous peoples' rights and proper living standards are secured.

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**International legal regime of submarine cables: the Arctic experience**

Telecommunications play an important role in the modern world. Though the majority of people think that calls, messages and internet signals are transmitted via satellites, in fact, about 95% of all international communications are transferred by submarine cables. These submarine cables are present in a great amount on the seabed of the World Ocean. Gradually they come to the Arctic bringing telecommunications facilities and connecting the Arctic regions with the rest of the world.

This paper deals with the legal regime of submarine cables under international law. In the first place under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982, the so-called “constitution of the oceans” and subject to several other international agreements in this area. Using the example of the Quintillion Subsea Cable Network project which is now under construction in the Arctic, the author will try to develop a topic of the legal regime of submarine cables, focus on existing legal problems of this regime and show the need for an integrated approach for the future planned submarine cables in the Arctic.

In particular, the attention will be given to the role of non-state actors provided that they are not addressed by the international law. Though international law gives right to lay submarine cables to states, in practice submarine cables are laid by private companies. This mixture of public-private relations surrounding submarine cables and how international law shall apply to them is subject to analysis in this paper. Taking into account that there is no international organization responsible for submarine cables and the only institution dealing with them is the International Cable Protection Committee which is also a private entity, the role of non-binding instruments will be considered in the context of the legal regime of submarine cables.

To sum up, this paper aims to study a complex regime of submarine cables in the framework of legal research of the Arctic. Being a relatively new use of the Arctic territory, it is necessary to clearly identify how submarine cables are regulated legally, especially in the light of new projects of submarine cables in the Arctic.

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**Russian problematique in activities of Finnish and Norwegian peace organizations**

This paper examines peace organizations as specific actors in the Nordic region, which bear an alternative discourse about international relations. Major transformations of Finnish and Norwegian peace organizations as well as activists’ approach to the Russian problematique in the period between the 1980s and present time are analyzed on the basis of literature and interviews conducted. Another concern is these organizations’ stance towards NATO in the given period, as there is some interconnection between these subjects. The approach of peace organizations partially reflects the dynamics of internal interaction of the peace movement (especially in the case of Finland) and is characterized by its critical stance towards NATO and a “pro-cooperation”, anti-

militaristic discourse. At the same time, NATO and Russia issues are not the top priority of these organizations, as they are primarily concerned with such issues as weapons proliferation, militarism, conflict resolution (at all levels) and environmental protection.

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**The dynamics of global and national factors in Russian Arctic**

This abstract deliberates upon recent insights expressed in the book “Come On...” by the Club of Rome (an influential western organization comprised of individuals who share a common concern for the worldwide future of humanity) and at the recent World Economic Forum in DAVOS (Jan 2018).

The key points expressed within these communications are identified and are appraised from a Russian Federation perspective, with regard to the edicts expressed in the recent presidential decree No 208 on the “Strategy for Economic Security of the Russian federation through to 2030” and Arctic Zone of Russian Federation (AZRF).

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**Articulations of indigeneity in two mining regions of Russia: between dominant discourses and local approaches**

This paper discusses how the notions of indigeneity are experienced and articulated in the cases of Vepses in Karelia (North-West of Russia) and Soyots in Buryatia (Central Siberia), the regions which are equated to Far North by Russian law due to their harsh climate. The paper demonstrates how the establishment of indigenous subjectivities is linked to the expansion of extractive industries in the regions of study. It applies anthropological methods to analyze the environmental and social implications of natural resource extraction. The research is based on participant observation and semi-structured interviews in Karelia and Buryatia conducted in 2015 – 2017, as well as newspaper analysis.

Vepses and Soyots received indigenous status in the year 2000 after a campaign initiated by local activists. The paper shows how the indigenous campaigns of both communities are influenced by dominant discourses on indigeneity. In order to retain control over their land and resources, community members need to find a state-approved way of positioning themselves. One of the ways to do so is the construction of indigenous identity in the firm terms defined by law: with the elements of traditional culture, traditional ways of living, self-perception as indigenous and links to territory.



At the same time, in both case studies the emergence of indigenous subjects was driven by indigenous historical experiences, local narratives, and people's relations to the environment. Indigenous revitalization campaigns in Karelia and Buryatia coincided with rapid mining development, and being recognized as indigenous meant to have larger control over their land and resources. However, in the case of Vepses local historical connections with mining are strong, so the residents of Vepsian villages do not perceive mining as something ultimately alien to their territory and as a threat to traditional lifestyle; thus, their indigenous claims are mostly centered around the revival of language and culture. The residents of Okinsky district in Buryatia, on the contrary, have less opportunities to be legally involved in resource extraction at their territory, and their notions of indigeneity mostly deal with larger control over land and resources.

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### **The Arctic as a culture pop phenomenon**

In recent years, the Arctic has met an increasing interest among the general public in various countries, mainly in the Western countries. This Arctic appeal appears to find a new dimension far from the political or economic prospects. This paper aims to discuss the Arctic as a culture pop phenomenon and the message which underlies both in its perception and representation.

From *The Adventures of Captain Hatteras* (1866), an adventure novel by Jules Verne to *Norilsk* (2017), a thriller by Caryl Ferey, French writers retain a long tradition for this harsh and mysterious world attracting human beings to the Pole. For the readers, it creates almost inexplicable connection to this place. Then, the Arctic erupted as a location for questioning our civilization and its future (e.g. impacts of climate change, rush for natural resources).

Since the 2000s, the North Pole got a complete new dimension. Aside from the political debate due to the climate change effects in the Arctic, it had been absorbed by the entertainment industry. Movies and TV series have emerged here and there in which the Arctic or its suggested universe through similarities (i.e.: night, winter, cold and so on). From *The Day after Tomorrow* (2004) to *Game of Thrones* (since 2011), the Polar world is embodied often through a hidden message.

All things considered, the Arctic has been a place for an early inspiring imagination and unique adventure. Indeed, discourses on the Arctic divert significantly either you read a novel or watch a medieval-fantasy TV show. Also this tentative proposal aims to understand what are the trends behind this movement identified in the Western entertainment industry? Where does the opposition between the popular culture and the art elite stand? And lastly, what could it be said about the Arctic in itself?

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[henri.wallén@ulapland.fi](mailto:henri.wallén@ulapland.fi)**From information society to cyber security: Quantitative methods for text analysis**

This research project aims to understand how discourses directing the digitalisation and securing of Finnish society have changed in pivotal strategy documents and studies from mid-1990s to the present. The goal is to depict the emergence, spreading, transformation and possible disappearance of influential expressions in these discourses, as well as to examine the relationship that the discourses construct between society and information & communication technologies. The dataset chosen consist of strategies and studies that (1) define and direct the digitalisation of Finnish society, (2) direct the development of different branches of government, and (3) are mentioned as pivotal documents in other strategies and studies on the topic. This presentation focuses on outlining the research setting and the quantitative text analysis tools used. Three specific methods were used: Inverse document term frequency analysis for describing the data, Ngram -models for calculating term co-occurrence statistic and finally Latent Dirichlet allocation -algorithm for topical modeling. The analysis was conducted using open source tools.

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[gleb.yarovoi@gmail.com](mailto:gleb.yarovoi@gmail.com)**Cross-border cooperation in the High North of Europe: from bureaucratic to social partnership?**

Cross-border cooperation is one of the last realms of EU-Russia cooperation, where positive developments overcomes the general negative international environment. Keeping the CBC programmes running is not an easy task in the present political conjuncture: after the Crimea crisis in 2014, tensions between Russia and the EU have been at their highest level since the end of the Cold War. This has also been reflected in practices of cooperation in the High North. Although the subnational level of cooperation shows good potentials for non-politically biased decisions, it should be noted that regional actors, especially in Russia, tend to reproduce governance principles and decision-making procedures usual to the traditional diplomacy, or “high politics”. In order to avoid that, the participatory governance practices allowing “social partners” from different background taking part in decision-making on CBC programme design and implementation should be introduced, maintained and developed.

The current EU-Russian CBC programmes in general and CBC “Karelia” and “Kolarctic” suffers from legitimacy shortage, meaning that the decision-making process in the joint managing bodies represents the traditional bureaucratic governance practices with almost no participation of “social partners”, other actors of cross-border cooperation. Since all the decisions are made by (only) regional officials from the both sides of the border, it sometimes leads to adoption of “politically motivated” projects rather than serves to a wider societal interests (e.g. the decision to build a new road towards a border-crossing point “Syvaoro-Parikkala”, which operates as “temporary” border crossing point with no possibility to ordinary people to cross the border).

This also rise a question of responsibility over the results of the CBC programmes and specific projects in case of their failure.

It is not least important that cross-border cooperation provides a suitable setting for alleviating tensions between the neighbours. CBC programmes, being organized according to the partipatory governance principles, can play a specific role in creating stable structures of understanding between neighbours.

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**GIS technics, field survey and lab approaches to the Arctic research (Taz peninsula example)**

Arctic zone is a vulnerable territory with unique ecosystems because of the continuous permafrost occurrence, low average annual temperatures and remoteness from the human infrastructure. Future climate changes and increasing anthropogenic impact will cause changing in this zone. Direction and degree of these changes depend on the ecosystem stability potential, i.e. how many pressure an area may receive without losing of its homeostasis state. A stability potential assessment is a difficult issue because of ecosystem complexity where all biotic elements interconnected to each other and to biotope. It is necessary to provide a special interdisciplinary monitoring to investigate how the arctic ecosystems functioning. Thus, filed survey methods have to be comprehensive (i.e. significantly cover botanic, ecology, soil and hydrology fields) and combined with the laboratory analysis and GIS techniques. In this way it is possible to collect all data in one data base, visualise it on a map and define the main factors determining the landscape functioning differences by using a modern mathematical methods.

It was investigated the landscape structure of Taz peninsula located in West Siberian south tundra zone. Two key areas (40 km<sup>2</sup> each) were chosen for detailed supervision (67°22'N, 78°37'E and 68°07'N, 75°51'E). It was described the botanical composition, soil type for different horizons and permafrost depth, hydrological condition (pH, EC, water table depth), collected soil samples for ash-content, bulk density, humidity and C-N concentration analysis. It was produced a satellite images (middle and high-resolution) supervised classification to describe the landscapes and its microlandscapes (i.e. elements composing each landscape).

The most abundant landscapes are dwarf shrubs tundra – 25.8 %, polygon-patterned wetland – 22 % and lichen tundra – 14 % of total area. 1/3 of C (3.8 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) and N (0.2 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) is stored in observed permafrost layer and 2/3 in seasonally thaw layer (8.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup> of C; 0.4 kg/m<sup>2</sup> of N). Generally, 17 % of elements stored in mineral, 24 % - in organo-mineral and 59 % in organic soils.

On a base of this research, it was created a modern map of Taz peninsula's tundra landscapes related to its vegetation cover and soil properties.

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## Arctic nature documented in pictures

Arctic zone is located in extreme climatic conditions with low temperatures, high water-logging, permafrost presence and remoteness from civilization. All these factors together form the unique north ecosystems. They play an important role in the Earth existence giving the place and conditions for living of significant number of plants, animals and birds. Thereby ensuring a biodiversity — a pledge of stability and sustainable development on our planet. But these ecosystems are extremely vulnerable due to climate change. Even small weather oscillation may cause a disbalance of its functioning. It is known the strongest temperature increase takes place on the high latitude during the last 100 years. It means a lot of arctic ecosystems might be lost in the closest future. So it is important to understand how it is functioning to prevent its degradation and what is its role in a global scale to avoid any undesirable consequences. It is possible to realize by the large-scale interdisciplinary research in arctic region. Usually all investigation are provided by strictly scientific methods from the botany, ecology, hydrology, chemistry and soil sciences. But often one specialist can not image a general view of the ecosystem based only on scientific approaches because he can not be familiar to all disciplines. In this case the good photo-material properly made in the research areas might be the most useful and comprehensive information about the research site.

Pictures are the best way to present an accurate overview of the rare ecosystems. In this case the photo-collection is a kind of portable museum of nature. It provides an idea about the hard-to-reach places, its structure, plant and animal communities, rare species and unique disappearing ecosystems of far north. Pictures combined with GIS give an additional information about ecosystems, its distribution, presence and overview. For this moment pictures are only one way to guaranteed save information about these territory for our future generations to let them imagination how it looks like.

In our opinion the professional photographer work is one of the important part of interdisciplinary approach for investigation the unique arctic zone.

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## Open Source Software Solutions as a Contribution to Human Security in a Digitalised Arctic

Digitalisation significantly impacts everyday life, affecting all spheres of human security, such as the economy, environment, or culture. For people living in relatively remote areas with distinct characteristics – which include dependence on traditional activities for subsistence; or being member of a monitory group like members of most indigenous peoples – communities are even

more susceptible to such changes. Typically, digital technologies are developed in urban settings and overwhelmingly target the global mass market with little interest in the specific needs of small markets. Moreover, most of the code or algorithms of the big corporations leading the digital development are proprietary and closed source, disallowing knowledge about and thus black-boxing the used technology. While digital technologies increasingly enter the domain of traditional activities (such as reindeer herding, fisheries, etc.), which are important for both economic means and local culture, Arctic inhabitants increasingly get detached from the knowledge on the used technologies. On the other, increased utilisation of “southern” technologies also introduces a capitalist market ideology which transforms the social organisation in many communities.

This paper aims at finding answers to how Arctic communities can prepare themselves to take advantage of digitalisation and not to fall victim to its potential threats, and thus maintain societal integrity in a digitalised world. This paper follows the hypothesis that promoting the usage and development of an open source software culture contributes to a sustainable development in the Arctic. Since the traditional social organisation which can still be found among many communities in the Arctic is based on cooperation and sharing – an approach that can also be found in the open source software communities – open source culture offers many similarities to local traditions and can contribute to cultural continuities. By following an open source approach Arctic communities can regain ownership over the used technologies and reduce risking dependence such as through intellectual property rights or black-boxed technologies. This paper will argue along the line of the concept of human security how utilising an open source approach can contribute to the empowerment of Arctic communities and offers the opportunity to maintain societal integrity in a digitalised world.

## **About TN on Geopolitics and Security**

The Thematic Network (TN) on Geopolitics and Security, established and approved in 2009, is a joint network by the University of the Arctic and the Northern Research Forum (NRF). The main aim is to combine the two focus areas – Studies on Geopolitics, and Security Studies -, and based on that to draw up a holistic picture on Arctic geopolitics and Northern security, as well as to identify and analyze major changes of them. Another aim is to promote 'interdisciplinarity', to implement the interplay between research and teaching as well as the discussion between young and senior scholars, and to promote the interplay between science and politics, and that between scientific and traditional knowledge(s).

### **Research interests and themes**

In the context of the Thematic Network 'Geopolitics' include issues, such as "How geopolitics is present, and implemented today in the Arctic, in general and in national strategies and policies"; "Changes in the Arctic, and major forces / drivers behind them"; Indigenous point(s) of view of Geopolitics?"; "What is the importance and role of TNCs, and that of SOEs in the Arctic?"; "The globalized Arctic in world politics and the global economy?". Correspondingly, studies on 'Security' include issues, such as "Who are subjects of (Arctic) security?"; "Military strategies and defence policies in, and impacts of regional crises on, security of the Arctic"; "Environmental and Human Security in the Arctic"; "Resource extraction, the global economy, national interests, climate change and global governance – a new Arctic (security) nexus or Arctic Paradox".

### **Main goals**

For to implement the aims and long-term purposes, as well as to promote interdisciplinary discourse on the two focus areas, the TN on Geopolitics and Security (see TN's website: <http://arcticpolitics.com> [www.arcticpolitics.com](http://www.arcticpolitics.com)):

Firstly, publishes annually The Arctic Yearbook – the first volume was launched in November 2012 and the next one in October 2016 (see: <http://arcticyearbook.com> [www.arcticyearbook.com](http://www.arcticyearbook.com)); Secondly, organizes the panel Security in the Arctic at the annual Arctic Circle Assembly (in Reykjavik, Iceland); co-organizes the annual international traveling symposium and doctoral school, Calotte Academy (Inari, Finland, Kirkenes, Norway, Apatity, Russia and Kiruna, Sweden); and organizes annually 2-3 its own workshops / brainstorming meetings back-to-back to international conferences; Thirdly, makes initiatives for, as well as coordinates, supports and runs, international research and book projects on IR, Geopolitics and Security studies, such as "The Arctic – a region of strategies and policies. Avoiding a new Cold War" funded by the Valdai Discussion Club (see: Final Report at [www.valdaiclub.com](http://www.valdaiclub.com)); "The Global Arctic", an international expert network and project, in cooperation with the NRF, and "The Handbook of the Global Arctic" book project.



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## About the Arctic Yearbook

The Arctic Yearbook is intended to be the preeminent repository of critical analysis on the Arctic region, with a mandate to inform observers about the state of Arctic geopolitics and security. It is an international and interdisciplinary peer-reviewed publication, published online at <https://arcticyearbook.com> to ensure wide distribution and accessibility to a variety of stakeholders and observers.

### Editors

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### Previous Editions

Arctic Yearbook 2012: "Arctic Policies and Strategies"

Arctic Yearbook 2013: "The Arctic of the Regions vs. the Globalized Arctic"

Arctic Yearbook 2014: "Human Capital in the North"

Arctic Yearbook 2015: "Governance and Governing"

Arctic Yearbook 2016: "The Arctic Council: 20 Years of Regional Cooperation and Policyshaping"

Arctic Yearbook 2017: "Change and Innovation in the Arctic: Policy, Society and Environment"

Arctic Yearbook 2018: "Arctic Development in Theory and Practice"

<https://www.arcticyearbook.com>

## About the GlobalArctic Project

The GlobalArctic Project is an international framework of institutions with interest and expertise on the globalized Arctic from the Nordic region and from outside the region. It also builds on a long history of activities, among them Calotte Academy, Northern Research Forum, TN on Geopolitics and Security, and Arctic Yearbook. The originality of this proposal is its global dimension whereby 40 organizations worldwide are actively involved in the project.

The project considers the Arctic region in the 2010s to have become part and parcel of global political, economic, technological and environmental, as well as societal, change. Correspondingly, what happens in the Arctic has significant implications worldwide - the region is seen here as a potentially interesting laboratory / workshop of the Anthropocene. Following from this, the context of an emerging research project, which is described in the Matrix at the website, is twofold: The 1st stage, the 'Global > Arctic', is to (re)define globalization and its multi-functional effects, as well as impacts of rapid climate change, as drivers of change in the Arctic. The second stage is the 'Arctic > Global' identifies and explores the global implications and drivers of the globalized Arctic affecting the rest of the globe, as well as the role the Arctic plays in world politics and the global economy. Since the 'Anthropocene' is already at play in the Arctic it is needed to find ways out of the old structures, implement resilience, and build new more sustainable policies and structures. The two main outcomes of the project so far were a) the publication of the "Handbook of the Global Arctic" by Springer ([ISBN 978-3-319-91994-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-91994-2)), and b) to produce the MOOC of the Global Arctic ([available online at coursera.org](https://www.coursera.org/globalarctic)).

<https://www.globalarctic.org/>

## **Organizers and Sponsors**

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