FINAL REPORT

“School of Arctic Dialogue”

New and Emerging Trends of Arctic Governance, Geopolitics, Geoeconomics and Science

In Rovaniemi, Enontekiö, Kautokeino, Kirkenes, Sevettijärvi, and Inari

November 15-21, 2021

TN on Geopolitics and Security (UArctic)

Editor:
Gerald Zojer

Contents

About the Idea of 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.

The Calotte Academy is for established researchers and early-career scientists (ECS), particularly PhD candidates and post-docs, with different academic and/or knowledge backgrounds to participate and present their work.

From Scholars' Journey to the North into a School of Dialogue - 30 Years of Calotte Academy

This is the first version of a written Calotte Academy's history, the completed has been published in as a part of the "Selected Articles from Calotte Academy" book. As history is often been told chronologically, the story starts from the first event and goes towards the present time. Each annual academy, divided into three phases, is briefly described including theme(s), route, locations and feelings, as well as a summary of presentations & discussions. After this retrospective overview the aims, methods, procedure & structure of the Academy are been analyzed, and finally, outcomes & achievements specified and discussed.

In nutshell, the Calotte Academy is an annual international, travelling symposium and interdisciplinary academic seminar on Northern & Arctic issues with high expertise and policyorientation, as well as strong educational & training components.

The 1st event took place in May 23-24, 1991 at Jeera (of Saami Education Institute) in Inari, Finnish Lapland - and since then it been arranged annually. This makes the Academy one of the oldest still running international academic institutions on circumpolar northern issues, and the oldest with sessions located in the Arctic region. Born and raised in Inari, and acted as Inari's special higher education component, it is a perfect example of the interplay between science, politics and business, and a 'Global-Local' interference.

The Academy is, so far, been surprisingly resilient, as it has continued as an international scientific seminar and school of dialogue on a wide variety of overarching themes of circumpolar & Arctic studies addressing globally, regionally and locally relevant issues, concerns and problems.

Three Phases & Several Places

When looking chronologically the annual events of the Academy, it is possible (not planned in the beginning) to recognize the following phases within the (first) 30 years:

At 1st phase (1991-1999/2000): The Academy was established to act as a seminar of Tampere Peace Research Institute's international research project, and a platform for public discussion on relevant issues, covering security, ecology and sustainable development, between scholars and local & regional stakeholders, and also educate younger generation of journalists;

At 2nd phase (2001-2011): It acted as an international forum for scientific and policy-oriented dialogue on relevant issues – globally, regionally and locally – among members of research community and wide range of other stakeholders, and served as a regional sub-forum for the NRF & it's Open Assemblies, and an inter-disciplinary seminar for international organizations (e.g. Barents Press) and new institutes (e.g. Barents Institute);

At 3rd phase (2012-): The Academy became mature enough to act as an annual travelling symposium & 'school of dialogue' for early-career scientists (PhD candidates and post docs) from the Arctic States and Central Europe, as well as served as a forum for UArctic Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security and Arctic Yearbook brainstorming.

Among the Academy's co-organizers are Sámi Education Institute, Municipality of Inari, Arctic Centre & Faculty of Social Sciences at University of Lapland; Barents Institute & Department of Sociology, Political Science and Community Planning at University of Tromsa, The Arctic University of Norway; Luzin Institute for Economic Studies of RAS at Kola Science Centre & Faculty of Geography at The Lomonosov Moscow State University; and NRF & TN on Geopolitics and Security. It is been financially supported by Norwegian Barents Secretariat, Nordic Council of Ministers, International Arctic Science Committee, and Municipality of Inari, as well as by in-kind support of co-organizers.

Aims, Methods, Procedure & Structure

Though, substance is the most important thing, it matters what kind of procedure & structure is there - in the case of the Calotte Academy it is simple and non-bureaucratic. This unorthodox & flexible format is neither common in the scientific community nor easily taken by established academic & funding institutions.

As a unique academic 'school of dialogue' the Academy's aim and efforts are to create, promote and enhance a lively dialogue with communicators' commitment & certain prerequisites and rules. To implement this the sessions are structured based on an 'open dialogue', which is interpreted as a cumulative process with an open-ended nature and inclusivity, to engage others arguments, and focus on issue domain. Further, there is time enough for open discuss after each presentation, as

well as patience among the participants to listen to others' argumentation (having expertise in other disciplines, fields and knowledge).

Each annual event consists of a core group of open-minded people and talented minds, who are interested in substance and motivated, as well as committed to open-minded dialogue. In each location, there is an active local audience.

The Academy is no exclusive club, as participants are equal as presenters - no keynote speakers – and selected based on an open call for application. No registration fee, instead of a small grant to support travelling and accommodation of early-career scientists, mostly PhD candidates.

Outcomes & Achievements

The Calotte Academy sessions in the European Arctic use to serve as platforms for scientific and other expert presentations, as well as an open and lively discussions between different stakeholders. This 'transdisciplinarity' is been successful in implementing the social relevance of science, and being attractive for early-career scientists.

As numerous outcomes of three phases and 30 years: 28 annual academies, in 19 locations in Finland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and Sapmi, with several hundred active participants representing more than 25 nationalities. Altogether almost 600 presentations in 160 sessions, covering all relevant northern and arctic issues and themes, and innumerable number of comments and counter-arguments, questions and answers in discussions after each presentation.

Based on the presentations and discussions Final Reports are written, also published at Arctic Yearbook, and eleven scientific books & proceedings published (English or Finnish).

More importantly, the Academy has become a method with a strong educational component (without official duties) to implement an open and cumulative dialogue with focus on an issue, allocated time, and mutual confidence & respect. As well as, its aims, methods and experimental nature has made it an open, democratic forum for academic & policy-oriented activities, an alternative model for conventional academic gatherings (often lacking of time and patience for open discussion).

A participatory approach and by nature synergistic, not against anyone or anything (except maybe narrow-minded thinking & bureaucratic structures) is been taken as a welcome addition to the spectrum of existing platforms, fora, means & methods. According to the aims and based on the methods, procedure and expertise there is a certain philosophy of the Academy consisting of participatory approach and inclusivity, implemented by open discussion as a cumulative process between relevant stakeholders; critical approach across disciplines of science and expertise, implemented by the double Interplay: between science, politics and business, and Western science & Indigenous knowledge; respect towards knowledge-building, and that an attitude matters, when building a process which is cumulative & exponential; and finally, flexibility and economical efficiency in organization.

Conclusions

Though small and rare, the Academy is been successfully acting as a school of dialogue between stakeholders, a platform & sub-forum for international research projects & conferences, and a springboard for international organizations & brainstorming meetings. As an open, independent & autonomous entity, it is implementing synergy between different expertise and stakeholders, as well as between existing organizations and networks. All in all, around the Academy there is been born an ’Ecosystem’ consisting of among others Northern Research Forum & Open Assemblies, TN on Geopolitics and Security & sessions at Arctic Circle, Arctic Yearbook and GlobalArctic Project & Handbook.

In the turbulent times of world politics, when facing wicked and complex problems and being in a multi-dimensional crisis, to lean on high expertise and use unorthodox methods are needed.

Behind is an understanding that our modern societies, including northernmost societies, benefit of having constant interplay between science, politics and business – that the social relevance of science is taken literally -, and that there are new & fresh ideas, and those who produce new scientific knowledge, as rapid progress and fast changes are accelerated by crises. The Calotte Academy with serious efforts & experiences to enhance open discussion, and share knowledge and experiences with local communities, as well as bravery to believe in a dialogue as confidence building measure, deserves to be recognized and its experiences heard and studied.

Procedures of the Calotte Academy

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 as such that each **presentation** will be allocated altogether 30-40 minutes out of which a **maximum of 15 minutes** will be reserved for the presentation and the rest for questions and comments, and open discussion.

The 2021 Academy also served as 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 plan potential applications for international research project(s). Moreover, in the Calotte Academy sessions themes and content of further Calotte Academies were brainstormed, as well as those of other events of the TN on Geopolitics and Security.

This Final Report was written collaboratively by the presenters/participants.

About the 2021 Calotte Academy

The 2021 Academy, with the title *New and Emerging Trends of Arctic Governance, Geopolitics, Geoeconomics and Science*, took place in 15-21 November 2021 in the European Arctic, including sessions in Rovaniemi, Enontekiö, Kautokeino, Kirkenes, Sevettijärvi and Inari (in Finland, Norway and Sapmi). The objective of the Calotte Academy was first of all to educate and supervise early-career scientists / young researchers in circumpolar Arctic studies. The theme of the 2021 Academy was inspired on the one hand, by the substantial, multidimensional and multi-theoretical discussions on perceptions, images, visions of, and discourses on the Arctic, as well as Arctic governance and geopolitics (e.g. the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS) signed in June 1991). On the other hand it was inspired by new and emerging trends of Arctic governance and geopolitics based on the IIASA analysis Arctic Policies & Strategies – Analysis, Synthesis and Trends of existing policies of the Arctic States, Indigenous peoples organizations', Arctic Council Observer States, and AC Chairmanship programs & Ministerial declarations.

Co-organizers & contacts

The co-organizers of the 2021 Academy consisted of Saami Education Institute (SAKK); Municipality of Inari; Municipality of Enontekiö; Arctic Centre and Faculty of Social Sciences at University of Lapland in Rovaniemi (Finland); Department of Social Sciences (in Tromso), the Barents Institute (in Kirkenes), and Department of Tourism and Northern Studies (in Alta) at UiT The Arctic University of Norway; The International Center for Reindeer Herding Husbandry (EALAT) (Norway); Luzin Institute for Economic Studies of RAS at Kola Science Center in Apatity (in Russia); In cooperation with UArctic's international Thematic Network (TN) on Geopolitics and Security.

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https://calotte-academy.com

Programme and Session Reports

Sunday, 14 November

Get together and welcoming reception.

Monday, 15 November, Rovaniemi

Opening session

- Lassi Heininen
  Opening words and introduction of the idea, methods and procedure of the Calotte Academy and Calotte Academy related activities
- Introduction of participants
- Gerald Zojer
  Introduction of the program and division of work in the 2021 Calotte Academy

Session 1: Arctic policies, interests of EU & memberstates, part I
(Rapporteur: Dorothee Bohn and Michaela Coote)

- Danko Aleksic
  The European Union (EU) in the Arctic – Observer or Player?
- Eleni Kavvatha
  Balancing on Ice: Democratic Dynamics in EU external relations in the High North - the case of Indigenous Peoples Organizations
- Katri Kulmuni, member of the Finnish Parliament
  Politics of the Arctic from a politician point of view

Danko Aleksic elaborated on the changing strategic foci of the European Union in the Arctic by comparing policy documents and working papers, in particular ‘An integrated EU Policy for the Arctic’ issued in 2016 and ‘A stronger EU engagement for a greener, peaceful and prosperous

Arctic' published in 2021. European Union engagement in the Arctic is usually linked to its economic status as a major consumer of Arctic goods, services and resources as well as Brussel's policy ambitions to tackle climate change and environmental degradation by facilitating sustainable development. Yet, the EU's latest Arctic policy framework places notably more emphasis on geopolitics, military presence in the region and NATO cooperation. The subsequent discussion revolved around the EU's capabilities as a serious Arctic player. With respect to military power and influence, it was pointed out that the EU clearly lacks concrete military resources to act alongside nation states. Moreover, the EU has not been granted permanent membership in the Arctic Council. It was therefore highlighted that the European Union is more of a player on paper than an actual force that holds the power to counteract political tensions arising from the military built-ups of Russia and the USA. Nevertheless, from the point of geoeconomics, the EU surely holds significant influence in the Arctic and by adopting a critical geopolitical lens, also climate change policy, environmental protection, and energy transitions emerge as globally vital aspects for human security. In this vein, the EU could be seen as an active player in creating new geopolitical and geoeconomic paths.

Eleni Kaavatha introduced her doctoral research, which focuses the engagement of different actors in the Arctic. Specifically, she looks into the role of Indigenous Peoples in Arctic policy making. In her presentation, Eleni outlined that Sámi representatives did not have a seat at the table in the EUs Joint Communication on the Arctic 2016 and argues that this circumstance reflects the Union's current incoherent role as an Arctic actor. Eleni suggests that future-oriented EU policy in the Arctic should build upon a partnership approach that provides room for indigenous actors but addresses also gender equality and just transitions. The audience was highly interested in indigenous matters and research. Several comments hinted at the relevance of inclusive policy-making beyond conventional public consultation and of adding ethnographic methods to the research agenda.

Katri Kulmuni emphasized in her presentation that unlike most academic Arctic research, which revolves around the environment, indigenous rights, security, and natural resource exploitation, socio-economic aspects are extremely relevant in regional politics. In addition, a societal cornerstone is the provision and accessibility of health care plus a well-functioning transportation infrastructure. Katri illustrated the economic and demographic key challenges in the Arctic and especially in Finnish Lapland. There is a clear economic North/South divide in Finland that reinforces population decline in the North, female brain drain, lower education levels and higher unemployment. She underscored therefore the important role of higher education in making the region attractive for young people. In conclusion, Arctic policies are well designed from the point of view of international diplomacy but lack concrete strategies to tackle economic and social challenges at the local level. Given the strong focus on traditional economic development of this presentation, questions regarding a more inclusive approach to the economy alongside environmental health arose. Katri responded that one way to facilitate this path is locally-led economic diversification and policies that balance environmental conservation and extractive activities. This requires strong cooperation between local and global governance organs in addition to an entrepreneurial citizenry and participatory policy-making. Nevertheless, she also pointed out that international large-scale investments in the region are vital for transitions and economic well-being.

Book Launch: “Selected Articles of Calotte Academy”

- Lassi Heininen and Jussi Huotari
  Presentation of book: *“Selected Articles of Calotte Academy – a travelling northern symposium on science and politics”*

Session 2: Arctic policies, interests of EU & memberstates, part II
(Rapporteur: Charlotte Wrigley and Germain Fontenit)

- Marija Kobzeva
  Emerging Arctic Energy System: The French perspective
- Aleksandr Osipov
  Karelian National Parks: National Landscapes, Living Spaces or Objects of Consumption?

Marija Kobzeva’s presentation focused on preliminary findings and analysis of the fieldwork she conducted while visiting Sorbonne Université in September-October 2021. She especially worked on the following aspects, how French corporations’ activities in the oil and gas reflect the official politics of France. The discussion began with a rather philosophical question, what is success, in the context of Total’s engagement with the Russian Arctic? Surely there are different definitions of success dependent on which actor is considered. Marija states these are economic successes for Total, in that it has managed to gain a foothold in the Russian Arctic where others have failed. Why have they failed, exactly? Essentially this boils down to Total ignoring the sanctions imposed by the EU after Crimea in 2015. Lassi Heininen states that ‘Total is a state within a state’. Indeed, Total is a major French private company with historically strong network and connections with the French State, political, industrial, business and academic spheres. Total is the only European stakeholder in Yamal LNG projects and Arctic LNG2 and it behaves in the way of its co-stakeholders which are based in Asia and not subject to EU sanctions. Another question was asked regarding the ‘greening policy’ and the ‘green transition’ of Total and whether they correspond to an EU ‘greening’ policy or a Russian one. In addition, a specific aspect was brought up, Indigenous people make up a lot of the population of the region where the LNG plants are located and despite the noises made by Total, Novatek and Gasprom about protecting indigenous culture and land. Many Nenets claim the plants are polluting their land and making it harder to live there. The conversation finally turned to the ethics and critical understanding of the LNG projects. Whilst natural gas is «greener» than coal, there is still an ethical impetus to analyse the process of fossil fuel extraction and how the Russian government regime use fossil fuels for geopolitical means , which is certainly not ethical! Greening is a greenwashing term isn’t it?!

The presentation of Aleksandr Osipov on Karelian National parks focused on the transition from soviet practices to more modern practices and usage. The discussion began with the comparison of Karelian national parks with Yellowstone in USA (the first national park in the world created in 1872), in which locals were paid by park authorities to stay out of the park, to maintain an illusion

of wilderness for tourists. The situation with national parks across the world is often quite similar. The evolution of conflicting perceptions and management between national park, ecotourists and dwellers have been at the core of his research. The situation in Russia is nevertheless somehow unique in that certain areas close to potential national parks are important for dacha complexes, where picking mushrooms and berries are very important for dacha life. However, some potential national parks in Russia are located in extremely isolated regions, and there is possible issues of unsanctioned dacha building. It's important to take each national park as an individual case when it comes to land designated as protected areas, whilst also acknowledging shared characteristics. Then, the discussion focuses on what does ecotourism actually mean in this case? Ecotourism is not explained in the law in the same way as national parks. In some cases there are 85 definitions of ecotourism! However, there is an undercurrent of the idea of 'pristine nature', combined with a practice of learning and observation without harm. But the understanding found within the 'tourism' part is that the locals should also benefit from it. However, this local benefit often gets left out of definitions. The term is elusive and blurred, and often dependent on the specific park. One last question was asked, why does Karelia come under the name 'republic', when in Russia that usually means the region belongs to a minority group? The region has 3 Karelian languages and now only about 7-10% are 'ethnic' Karelians. But of course the region has been through historic upheaval in terms of its makeup and so-called ownership.

Session 3: New Technologies & Digitalisation
(Rapporteur: Maria Kobzeva and Patricia Clare Danahey Janin)

- Gerald Zojer
  Technology and Power in a Digitising Arctic: A Neo-Gramscian Approach to Digitalisation
- Mirva Salminen
  The government of each and all in everyday digital security in the European Arctic

Gerald's constructivist presentation raised a lot of interesting questions. He presented how digitalization, a technology which embeds culture, values and politics, has developed in society under neoliberalism and eroded regional particularism, for example in the Arctic. His work asks if the prevailing way of digitalization is part of an emerging hegemony and whether there is a new historic block forming or becoming dominant by the spreading of technology on everyday life. The discussion that followed focused on why these questions are particularly important for the Arctic. Gerald was able to explain that the same technology may have a different impact in different regions due to the peculiarities of socio-economic regimes. He is taking the Arctic region as a case study and looking specifically at Norway, Sweden and Finland since they have a similar social welfare state model and demographic and socio-economic characteristics. It was pointed out that the Arctic has a specific role in the development of these technologies because of the high latitude position, and state-science technologies that affect strategic security. The discussion turned to the shifting of influence in these technologies for example from Germany and China, and how he might

consider these developments with the perspective of hegemony. Gerald pointed to how the Arctic has rural areas on the forefront of digital services in E-Health and E-Education which have been used in the North as a sort of laboratory. He has been using the U.S. technological influence as his focus because European Arctic services are mainly coming from the United States. He wanted to look at the innovation regime where the technologies are being developed. This brought up the question about decentralization and anti-monopolization through Web 3.0, and how cryptocurrency could be considered as possible counter points to hegemonic development. While they may counter the development of one type of technology, Gerard reminded the audience of the numerous examples of the use and misuse of all forms of technology. The discussion closed with questions around what the real need for digitalization might be, is it the replacement of human captial? Of work, and work structures? These services are changing everything, but is it being used to empower communities or is it creating dependence?

Mirva's presentation on her dissertation research brought our attention to the complex world of digitalization, individual digital security and our everyday lives. She walked us through the logic and outcomes of how government approaches and fails to produce individual security while moving forward with the digitalization of everyday life. The discussion focused on governing and having governable citizens, inconsistent government approaches, actors of everyday security and to whom individuals are responsible.

This discussion is based on the understanding that to govern in our digitalized world, the aim of government is to produce citizens that are governable through digital services, yet digitalization is vulnerable to security breaches when systems are hacked and allow unauthorized access to information. How do governments approach this dilemma? Mirva fielded several questions that revolved around whether there were common governmental approaches to digital security. She explained that digital security operates at different levels although surprisingly it is not addressed at every level by government policies. She has discovered much incoherency. Neither digitization nor security are addressed at the Arctic or regional level. Security is addressed in specific cases such as Search and Rescue, satellite connections, military and national activities. Digitalization is addressed broadly for economic development and security is addressed at the local level all the way down to the individual IT person and our everyday lives where we encounter more and more digitalization. At this individual level, the main concern is around not allowing someone to hack the system. However, it was pointed out that there are many examples of security that was compromised releasing sensitive personal information. Mirva responded that this is the heart of the question. Everything is hackable, intentions may be good but the systems are vulnerable. Although collectively we know this, we continue to digitalize everything.

The main actors of everyday security are individuals. The comprehensive security model makes individuals responsible for national security through situational awareness. Individuals must participate since it is too big of a demand that the state provide all the security in a global and dangerous world. Mirva explained that the logic in digitalization is that individuals are responsible to society. But how does national security or comprehensive security take into consideration individual digital security? The techniques of security are through responsibilization – it is up to the individual to protect themselves which in turn protects the nation. This means that people need to be made responsible and must be governable. They need to behave in a certain way (determined

by the government) which becomes a social normative framework. In this world of security concerns, the individual is also considered a threat if they know too much or not enough – a tough line to follow.

People service themselves via digital platforms and services such as E-health services or E-Education on a daily basis. They will be made responsible if they perceive it is in their own interest to behave in a way that is requested. The most efficient way is that each individual govern themselves, through everyday choices on digital platforms. However, some individuals do not see it that way and resist. Perhaps they don't use digitalized services, they may be freer but they may also be excluded. This is the paradox, internet was supposed to make the world more democratic and now we see that security and digitalization are raising more questions around how democracy is practiced or eroded.

Does this mean that our societies are moving towards a new social contract? And if that is so and it is an international phenomenon, will we have a generalization of this new social contract around the world?

The discussion of the two presentations examined promises and challenges of digital technologies. The era of the internet provided new opportunities for decentralization and equal access to information, however, private corporations still play a major role. The session participants have identified that the digital market satisfies the stakeholders' interests in the first place instead of community interests. A case in point for example is the language segregation in social media tooled for certain languages. A part of the population can be excluded from those digital platforms like in Myanmar, and this can be used for political purposes. The issue raises two questions. The principal one is if the new technologies should be initially developed to serve the needs of various groups of people or it is people who must adapt to new technologies as an artificial environment. The practical question is who and for what purposes shapes rules and standards in the digital area. Discussants noted the important role of digital standards and technologies for the transport of liberal ideas. Regarding the Arctic, the participants discussed the understanding of digital security in European High North societies, and the role of municipalities in providing digital security for people. The particular attention was regarding the responsibilities of individuals and governments in ensuring cyber security, the effect of new technologies like Web 3.0 on Arctic communities, the rise of consumption stimulated by web advertisement that challenges Arctic sustainable development.

The sessions held in Rovaniemi were also one of the pre-events of the Rovaniemi Arctic Spirit 2021 conference, under the theme: *A common Arctic or contested spaces? Perspectives on the opportunities and challenges of the Barents and Arctic cooperation*.

For more information, please visit: https://www.rovaniemiarcticspirit.fi/EN

Tuesday, 16 November, Enontekiö

Sessions 4: Environmental Conservation vis-à-vis Exploitation – a paradox in Arctic Development? Part I
(Rapporteur: Aleksander Osipov and Eleni Kavvatha)

- Ksenija Hanaček
  The Arctic as a commodity extraction frontier and environmental conflicts
- Michaela Louise Coote
  The Potential of Science Cooperation to Bridge Conservation and Development in the Arctic
- Sara Fusco
  The affirmation of cultural, political and legal pluralism, in relation to the participatory rights (individual and collective) of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic
- Auni Haapala
  Arctic Cities in the Makings of Global Extractivism: Unfolding the city-nature dichotomy in Rovaniemi

The speeches by Ksenija Hanacek, Michaela Louise Coote, Sara Fusco and Auni Haapala raised several key issues not only in the development of the Arctic, but also in science in general. The questions discussed were related to the rights of indigenous people, the interaction of the city and nature, and environmental conflicts.

Ksenija Hanacek presented an Atlas of Environmental justice, studying environmental conflicts and local community marginalization. The Atlas monitors the conflicting projects that people protest against, taking under consideration that socio-environmental conflicts often develop over environmental injustices based on class, race, gender and ethnicity discrimination. Mining projects in the Arctic operate “on thin ice”, as they are very conflictive and their socio-economic impacts are far reaching. Therefore, resistance against these projects is mounting. The dialogue revolved around the collection of the data as the project worked with activists in the Arctic and collaborators. There was a question whether there are projects that were not conflictive. Although a project can be conflictive in the beginning it doesn’t have to end up with negative outcomes. Indeed there are projects that in the end have a good outcome. On the other hand some projects start off well but end up being conflictive – an example being a mine that was welcomed in the beginning but ended up with negative impacts due to the waste contaminating the water. The study includes both indigenous and non-indigenous population. The issue is that for a case to be used in the analysis we need references and secondary data as well as news reports. This consists a problem for data coming from Russia, because environmental issues are not discussed and activist are often criminalized within the country. The data is scarce and so Russia is not very well covered in this research. In this research we have two kinds of actors. The weak ones (local communities) used to be voiceless, but now that they have a voice and there was a question of whether their voice is actually heard.

Participants in the ensuing discussion noted the existence of a large number of studies concerning indigenous people problems, but just a few activities. According to the sceptical approach, presented in the discussion “nothing has changed from the 1990s”. Participants stressed the large gap between real rights and proclaimed rights of indigenous people. Therefore, the main issue remains the same: how to hear their voices and how to present their rights.

Michaela Louise Coote’s presentation revolved around the idea that when discussing about science we stick to western traditions. It is important to take into consideration other traditions as well, alternative theories. The problem is how to decolonize out thinking, how to go beyond the western way of thinking and understanding. There you don’t have the dichotomy of the basic way of thinking as we have in philosophy. For classical Indian thinking cooperating with other ways of thinking is not a problem but for the western way of thinking, it is.

Sarah Fusco talked about deliberative democracy – decision making process where the will of the people is expressed directly from the people not through representatives. She discussed community consultation and the fact that the Russian side data is scarce as there are different practices across Russia – for example in Yakutsk they have this environmental assessment process which includes the consultation with ethnic minorities.

Auni Haapala discussed extractivism in its various forms. The extraction of oil and gas, fisheries and also tourism and the transformation of the infrastructure present new threats for the arctic communities. In the tourism case for example, the use of contradictory terms, nature as a luxury, the real Arctic, the true North raises and issue of perception. There is an interesting aspect of extractivism in tourism, the touristic activities that crowd out the people normally living in Arctic cities. Tourism in the Arctic stresses nature and resources but on the other hand consists economic development in a region where unemployment and poverty are stressing the local population.

All in all the discussion revolved around the huge amount of studies on indigenous people and their rights and the existence of a long list of indigenous “representatives” that speak on behalf of Indigenous peoples. But nothing seems to have changed in the indigenous everyday life – it does not seem to be improving. In trying to find where the missing link is participants concluded that there is a problem in the link between academia and other institutions. The answer is perhaps that we have not learned to live in a pluralistic world. There is also the issue of trust. How much can indigenous people trust the juridical system of the colonial states? The case of the Sami and the wind mills built by a company in Sami land and judged illegal already by the court is a good example. If it end as it has happened before, that the Sami will lose the case and the wind mills will not be relocated, it is a clear example of the failure of the participatory approach and the distrust that exists. The discussion ended by agreeing that the struggle includes new actors such as non-Arctic countries and that the conversation about the relationship between man and nature, reaches a new level – what is the role of scientists in this process: do they participate in resolving conflicts and do they expect that their research will make change. The discussion was concluded with the realization that those who are not indigenous and do research on indigenous issues have to bear in mind that this is also an example of neo-colonialism and that though they are of course extremely important in research, the more indigenous academics we have the more their voice is going to be heard.

Sessions 5: Environmental Conservation vis-à-vis Exploitation – a paradox in Arctic Development? Part II
(Rapporteur: Daria Mishina and Kristin Smette Gulbrandsen)

- Anna Margarete Pluschke
  Protecting the Arctic marine environment from shipping – The pressing issue to close legal gaps in light of climate change
- Charlotte Alexandra Wrigley
  A Discontinuous Earth: Permafrost Life in the Anthropocene
- Lassi Heininen
  States failing in their most important task - climate change as a challenge!
- Jari Rantapelkonen, mayor of Enontekiö municipality
  Future Enontekiö, arctic home or lost utopia?

This session had presentations from a variety of perspectives – from law and geopolitics to human geography and a practitioner's view on issues in the Arctic. A common topic of discussion in this session was on the theme of knowledge production about the Arctic. For example, in the case of environmental protection legislation, there is a gap between our current high level of knowledge about the consequences of noise pollution, and actors' lack of willingness to change their behavior without pressure from hard law. While military actors are among those with great knowledge of the consequences of noise pollution and the need to eliminate it, they are unlikely to act or to be regulated to the same extent as private actors due to their privileged role in upholding states' national security objectives. Private- and military sector interests clash with the ideal where all actors in the Arctic self-regulate in accordance with current and future environmental regulations.

This challenge also raises questions about what kind of knowledge and perspectives are considered in the first place, as different ontological understandings of the Arctic tend to be excluded or disregarded. Unfortunately, this means that different Arctic peoples' connection to and view of nature is not necessarily taken into account. Related to this, participants discussed the way in which different actors (including elites, governments, some NGOs, etc.) are privileged in the production of knowledge and choice of further investments, as well as in their ability to manipulate interests due to social unawareness. For instance, the discussion touched on how the suffering of non-human actors like animals or the natural environment does not lead to prompt action in the way that national interests do. In fact, the construction of threat and the value of states' security from a military perspective downplays the existence of invisible threats like pandemics and climate change – which are perceived as existential threats to certain ways of life in the Arctic. Therefore, in a world where elites exert significant influence and control, one solution for protecting the future of the environment might be social and political responsibility, in which every actor and every Arctic inhabitant deeply understands the principles and consequences of the "global game" in the Arctic.

Art performance
(Enontekiö church, Hetta)

- Taina Niemelä (piano) and Gerald Zojer (cinematography)
  A chronology of freezing

Wednesday, 17 November, Kautokeino

Session 6: Arctic indigenous peoples and food systems in a time of global change
(Rapporteur: Alma Karabeg and Sanna Kopra)

- Anders Oskal, International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry
  Introduction; Arctic Council EALLU Project 2015-2023 - Indigenous Food Knowledge as a Foundation for Adaptation to Change
- Svein Disch Mathiesen, Professor, UArctic EALAT Institute at International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry
  Arctic Indigenous Peoples´ food systems

The first speaker of the session, Anders Oskal from International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry gave us an overview of on-going and future challenges that reindeer herders are facing due to climate change, state-centric politics, and the coronavirus pandemic, for instance. He pointed out the role of nomadism based on exploiting marginal resources, and how reindeer herding is influenced by geopolitics. The second speaker, Svein Disch Mathiesen from UArctic EALÁT Institute, also discussed key challenges of reindeer herders' livelihoods and culture from a historical point of view.

In the discussion part, questions about similarities and differences concerning reindeer herders' life between Scandinavian countries and Russia were raised. Some interesting visits to experiment stations in Nenets were made by Finnish representatives to learn how reindeer husbandry was conducted in the Soviet Union. While both regions have their pros and cons, one of the key differences deals with land use and ownership: In Nordic countries, the Sami are allowed to use pasture lands that they do not legally own. Yet tourism has very negative impacts on reindeer herding as well. A striking example was told by Anders Oskal: if thirty cottages were built in strategic locations around Kautokeino, it could destroy the whole reindeer husbandry sector in the village. We also discussed the ways in which national borders have made everyday life of Sami communities difficult both in history and at present, especially with the on-going coronavirus pandemic. Moreover, the importance of traditional knowledge in decision-making was also

discussed. It should be made sure that indigenous people's intellectual property rights will be secured when digitalising their traditional knowledge. One example stating the importance of traditional knowledge is the use of models for optimal number of females and males in the herd. Traditional knowledge determines which model is resilient to climate change. Finally, the Kautokeino Rebellion, a 2008 film based on true story of riots in Kautokeino in 1852 in response to the Norwegianization policy of the Norwegian government was referred. It could indeed constitute an interesting homework for the group.

Film recommendation: Kekkonen visiting Sapmi, in 1970: https://areena.yle.fi/1-788029

Session 7: Science Diplomacy & Para-diplomacy and Regionalisation
(Rapporteur: Danko Aleksic and Auni Haapala)

- Gleb Yarovoy
  Internationalisation of the "third mission" — a way towards the paradiplomatic actorness of higher education institutions on the Finnish-Russian border?
- Sanna Kopra
  Posthumanist approach to regionalisation: Case Arctic

Yarovoy started his presentation introduction few questions: why, after so many years of cross border cooperation, the regions are still so different; why bad perception of "others" still exists; and why visible spill-over of "good governance" practices in the Russian regions bordering the EU still haven't happened? He continued presenting a case study – Universities in Russian-Finnish cross-border cooperation. Yarovoy stressed that universities promote internationalization by participating in cross-border cooperation, which leads to producing "pockets of effectiveness" within universities themselves by does not necessary promote good governance in the region they are located in. He shared a hypothesis: bad governance traditions prevail and that prevents higher education institutions to act as paradiplomatic agents, adding that the EU actors do not promote the good governance enough. Discussion begun with the issue of defining "paradiplomacy". According to one opinion, paradiplomacy means activities of different actors trying to get additional resources for their development from abroad. Another opinion stressed that paradioplomacy means cooperation between non-state actors and that there are good examples of it in the Arctic region. Yarovoy underlined that universities are not non-governmental actors as they are established by the state and that in Russia higher education is separated from research, which create additional obstacle for international cooperation. The session is closed with conclusion that paradiplomacy is more related to international efforts of local and regional actors, whereas universities do not belong to them.

Dr. Sanna Kopra, a researcher at the Arctic Centre/University of Lapland, introduced her new research idea with focus on posthumanist perspective to regionalization in the Arctic in the field of IR. The discussion followed by the presentation evolved especially around a challenging question raised by Dr. Kopra: How to empirically study the non-human actor's role in the given context? Actor-network theory was pointed out as a good starting point. As of the non-human actors to be

studied, an Arctic-specific actor - reindeer - was mentioned as one option, relevant also from the perspective of regionalization. Much of the discussion dealt with the need to re-think existing key concepts and scales that tend to be viewed from human-centered perspective in social sciences. These included e.g. the idea of agency (what is 'acting' from non-human perspective?); the idea of Arctic as a region (in the face of global warming, Arctic could be better understood as global); and the human vs. non-human notions of time and distances. Furthermore, an idea arose as to whether an empirical starting point for the study could be to focus on the non-human that has disappeared or is declining in the Arctic.

Introduction to Sami films

- Liisa Holmberg, Film commissioner, International Sami Film Institue
  Introduction to Sami Films
- Screening of Films:
  - Our Silent Struggle, by Suvi West.
  - Home Best and Worst, by Sara Margrete Oskal. Episode of Covid-19 Home Sweet Home - shorts series

Thursday, 18 November, Kirkenes & Sevettijärvi

Opening Session

- Victoria Tevlina, Professor at Barents Institute
  Introduction to the Barents Institute
- Lena Norum Bergeng, mayor of Sør-Varanger kommune
  Welcoming words

Lena Norum Bergeng made an introductory speech putting emphasis on the border location of the municipality and reporting on the new bridge to Murmansk. Kirkenes, the administrative center of the municipality, is a famous touristic harbor town thanks to Hurtigruten. Additionally, it has long history of mining industry (iron, magnetite), hydropower production and Kimek shipyard on the Barents Sea for market and trade purposes. The biggest challenges Kirkenes is facing are a decrease in population together with an ageing population. In the follow-up discussion, Lena pointed out that new areas for the industry and more jobs are crucial for the development in the region. Sustainable development, education and especially in the tourism sector, is essential.

Session 8: Sustainable Investment / Commercial Actors vis-a-vis Climate Change (Mitigation)
(Rapporteur: Ksenija Hanaček and Anna Margarete Pluschke)

- Germain Fontenit
  Risk of nuclear waste contamination in the Arctic. Thinking long-range pollution issues in the Barents Sea region
- Patricia Clare Danahey Janin
  Philanthropic foundation positioning and actions in the Multi-National Arena: A Case Study of Ocean Conservation in the Arctic
- Alma Karabeg
  Asian countries interests in the Arctic

Germain's presentation concluded with the results that risk perception on nuclear waste has changed over time. Especially plastic waste upstaged the problem of nuclear waste recently. However, clean-up operations and cooperation can be considered as a success although it is not yet completed. The renewal of the Northern fleet is increasing the number of nuclear vessels in the Arctic.

The follow up discussion started with questions regarding the success of clean-ups. It takes about 27 years to secure radioactive pollution in the sea and issues as decreasing ice and more fishing activities make the clean-up even more complicated. Russia, the current Arctic Council chairmanship holder, supports clean-ups as a priority. The Arctic Military Environmental Cooperation (AMEC), established in 1996, played a crucial role in later clean-ups in terms of creating technology and fostering multilateral cooperation. The discussion went on focusing on the concept of waste and the question whether a clean-up at sea can be labeled as a success if it is only transferred to another disposal on land.

Patricia's presentation outlined that it is crucial to study foundations because they increase in number and have increased activity in the multi-national arena. They play a key role in shaping policy, especially internationally in the sectors of development aid, agriculture, education and conservation. Foundations are private actors that serve a public purpose. During the discussion, Patricia clarified that foundations start acting in a process when a project is already in the making. Their main field of work in the Arctic is only regulations and not the market. The question arose whether foundations are independent actors in the Arctic functioning as platforms for communication. Foundations are private actors and understand themselves to be objective. However, due to funding there is a fine line of autonomy. The main criticism towards foundations is that they do not want NGO's to depend on them long term. Especially conservation funding is highly short term.

Alma's presentation focused on Asian countries' interest in the Arctic by looking at two non-Arctic states' perspectives and their position in the region. Namely, Republic of Korea and Japan and their political agendas, development, and international relations in the Arctic. The discussion of the presentation hint towards borders of Northern Sea route in the Arctic and what form would development in the region take and under which conditions. For instance, would it be under

neoliberalism, international relations, or economic capabilities of the new actors. For Republic of Korea, Northern route is perceived as an opportunity and especially for the port of Busan (the largest port in South Korea) as it would be cheaper and time effective for trade. Likewise for Japan. However, the Norther route for Japan has some challenges. For instance, there is a security dilemma since WWII or protection diminishes, yet there are opportunities for diplomacy and international neoliberal cooperation. In conclusion, for Japan there is security development dilemma and for Korea development versus position in the region. The discussion also included thoughts about legitimacy for making Arctic strategies. Non-Arctic countries might be trying to re-map the Arctic. Further, the discussion touched upon the relations that Republic of Korea and Japan have to Russia as the biggest Arctic country at NSR.

Session 9: Logistics and Transportation and the Barents Region
(Rapporteur: Mirva Salminen)

- Markus Karlsen, Head of Secretariat, Barents Euro-Arctic Council
  Introduction to Barents Cooperation
- Jussi Huotari
  Current status of Barents Cooperation – Experiences from BRTL project
- Tatiana Petrova
  The bottlenecks of the Northern Axis – Barents Link transport corridor

The second session of the day discussed logistics, transportation and the Barents Region. The session began with an introduction to Barents Cooperation by Markus Karlsen, the Head of the Secretariat of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council.

Barents Cooperation was formally established in January 11, 1993 by the Kirkenes declaration[1]. Signatories of the declaration included the foreign ministers or representatives of Iceland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia, as well as the representative of the European Commission. The cooperation currently has working groups (WGs) in the areas of health and social issues, education and research, culture, forests, tourism, transport and logistics, business cooperation, environment, youth issues, and rescue cooperation[2]. The WGs work closely with one another and the environmental aspect is embedded in everything they do. The WG of Indigenous Peoples is present in all decision-making units in the Barents Cooperation; in the future, the Barents Regional Youth Council will have a similar representation. The three indigenous groups in the Barents region include the Sámi, the Vepsians, and the Nenets.

Barents Cooperation does not receive the attention it deserves due to increased global interest in the Arctic. Therefore, there is a need to promote it, for example, in Brussels. Currently, Finland has the

1 See “Declaration. Cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region. Conference of Foreign Ministers in Kirkenes 11.1.1993.” https://www.barentsinfo.fi/beac/docs/459_doc_kirkenesdeclaration.pdf [5.12-2021].

2 See “Working Groups”, https://www.barents-council.org/working-groups [5.12.2021].

national chairmanship (2021–23) and the chairmanship programme's "objectives include strengthening biodiversity in the Barents region by combating invasive alien species, supporting the electrification of transport, strengthening young people's opportunities for participation, supporting free movement, and improving transport connections"[3].

The Secretariat is increasing the number of its staff thanks to voluntary contributions, for example, by Norway. Its work is financed through contributions from all four states (Russia, Finland, Sweden, Norway). The proportion of Norway is larger (50 per cent + 12,5 per cent) than that of the other states (12,5 per cent per state) as it serves as the host country. The Secretariat "assists the biennially rotating governmental and regional Chairs in their tasks"[4], for example, by hosting (digital) meetings, profiling the activities, and supporting the WGs. It is one of the diplomatic representations in Kirkenes and the new website can be found from www.barents-council.org.

As the aforementioned grouping of WGs indicates, Barents Cooperation does not only entail **national** representations (Ministers of Foreign Affairs, meet every two years), but also **regions** have a foreign policy role in the cooperation. In total, 13 counties from four member states are represented, approximately five million inhabitants, and, for instance, 75 per cent of the land mass in Russia. This inclusion of the regional level makes Barents Cooperation a very concrete, practical setting, which helps continue cooperation regardless of political tensions.

The issue areas of cooperation discussed during and after the presentation included, for example, the Barents Games[5] (for the young people); a Joint Barents Transport Plan, which turns transport into a cross-border issue; as well as environment and tourism, where the aim is to promote the region as a whole. With regard to the "hotspots", that is, locations that are polluting to a great extent, the goal is to remove them. Currently, there are a little over 30 of them left in the region. Additional challenges discussed entailed decreasing population in the time of increasing economic activities. For whom is the Arctic in the future? Who will be engaged in the economic activities? How to get people to stay in the Arctic instead of commuting? So that the taxes would be paid locally.

How did adaptation to Covid-19 took place? The pandemic has had little impact in Finnmark, excluding the fact that one could not travel. There has been a strong wish to continue cooperation and everything was turned into the digital format. The number of meetings actually increased as one did not use time for travelling, but bad connections created an additional challenge occasionally. Digital meetings will partly continue, but partly there will be a shift back to face-to-face meetings.

It was noted that there are plenty of Barents institutions, for example, the International Barents Secretariat is not the same as the Norwegian Barents Secretariat, which focuses on cooperation between Norway and Russia. Karlsen's only half-serious comment to this topic was that "we have made it very difficult to ourselves".

3 See "The Finnish Presidency of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council 2021–2023", Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, https://um.fi/barents-news/-/asset_publisher/CT4Fi7JxZWeA/content/suomi-painottaa-barents-puheenjohtajakaudellaan-kestavaa-kehitysta-seka-vapaata-liikkuvuutta [5.12.2012].

4 See "International Barents Secretariat", https://www.barents-council.org/about-us/international-barents-secretariat [5.12.2021].

5 See "Barents Games", https://barentssports.com/About [5.12.2021].

The two other presentations in the session focused on cross-border transport and logistics in the Barents region. Jussi Huotari presented on the current status of Barents Cooperation – Experiences from BRTL project. BRTL stands for Barents Region Transport and Logistics[6] and the Regional Council of Kainuu is the lead of the project.

Transport and logistics issues are different across the Barents region. The aim of the project is to facilitate increase in the main transport corridors in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region (BEAR) and, thus, to improve connectivity to world transport systems. Reaching these aims would increase the area's logistical competitiveness. In addition, the aim is development towards (1) green transport, that is, environmentally friendly transport through alternative propulsion engines etcetera and (2) intelligent transport systems, that is, smart mobility.

Road transport dominates in both freights and passenger transports in regional and cross-border transports. North-south connections dominate, although there are a lot of east-west transport flows. At the regional level, policy shaping is the main form of influencing as there is neither legislative nor executive power. The focus is on sharing knowledge between regional actors.

The actors in transport and logistics in BEAR include the four states, 12 regions, inter-governmental organisations and their WGs, interregional cooperation structures inside the region, national transport agencies, port and railway operations, trade unions, chambers of commerce and other business organisations and interest groups, universities and research centres, consultants, etcetera.

Due to the abundance of actors, a common understanding about the development of transport and logistics may be missing. The work is only beginning to create such an understanding. One of the Finnish presidency themes is transport and logistics. There is a lack of ambition in cooperation, that is, the good structure could be used in a better way. How to do this? The national and regional level WGs could be merged during the presidency. However, would it mute the regional voices? Or could it increase regional engagement to the cooperation and bring new ideas to the agenda?

Additional critical questions entailed: How much do the regional actors have freedom to act, suggest and set the agenda? Or do the regions give that power to consultants? Are the regional actors using the cooperation structures efficiently/effectively?

The final presentation of the session was given by Tatiana Petrova on the bottlenecks of the Northern Axis – Barents Link (NABL) transport corridor. The NABL project[7] aims to identify the main bottlenecks of the east-west transport corridor and contribute to its harmonization and cross-border mobility in BEAR. It is based on recommendations of the Joint Barents Transport Plan[8].

NABL is the EU's largest northern multinational corridor and the northernmost rail link between the EU and Russia. The project, funded by Kolarctic cross-border cooperation, is a tool, an instrument for change but it has limited funds, time and people. The project team consists of 10 partners from four countries, including representatives of three universities: the Arctic University of Norway

6 See "Barents Region Transport and Logistics", https://kainuunliitto.fi/yhteistyo/hankkeet/barents-region-transport-and-logistics-brtl/ [5.12.2021].

7 See "Northern Axis -Barents Link (NABL)", https://kainuunliitto.fi/en/projects/northern-axis-barents-link-nabl/ [5.12.2021].

(UiT), the Northern (Arctic) Federal University (NArFU), Russia and the Luleå University of Technology, Sweden.

The bottlenecks not only physical (road, railroad, crossings, aviation, wind power), but also intangible like lack of common vision, will and cooperation between players. For example, there is a lack of harmonization of requirements and approaches to technologies used and services provided, which may hinder the implementation of useful initiatives that contribute to the free movement of people, goods, services, socio-economic development, and environmental safety.

The critical questions related to projects include: Do we use projects as a development tool or serve the priorities of the funding programmes? Regions have their own strategies, which should be the baseline. Yet, funding programmes have their own priorities infused into the development projects. Is this a bottleneck of its own? How to make the best of the projects?

Discussion based on the latter two presentations addressed, for example, the following issues: What is the future of regional cooperation? Nowadays, it does not have own resources or autonomy, but depend on the states, who, again, depend on the events in grand politics. There are two different kind of interests embedded: national security vs. people's security, national interests vs. regional interests. States may no longer be interested in regional cooperation, because of the tensions between the EU and Russia. In addition, there is little knowledge on the interests of the neighbour even within the region and, as a consequence, a need to know more.

Furthermore, there are differences with regard to regional autonomy within the countries, which creates certain challenges. Strong centralisation, for example, in Finland and Russia, tends to cripple regional cooperation. Previously, the region could come up with a political, regional declaration clarifying the regional priorities. Today, more needs to be done in this field.

In Finland, all national authorities are in the south without profound knowledge of the circumstances in the north. This claim applies to other countries as well. In addition, political trends guide decision-making. For instance, developing technologies will change Arctic connectivity in the future – reflections from the presenters? Some are interesting and potentially doable, especially in travel within the region. Arctic Connect was in Kainuu's interests as well. The current state-centric option is part of the problem: the thinking on the background is that the better the regions will do the better the state does, but this thinking should be turned around. In addition, the window of opportunity -thinking may be in place as what is done inefficiently now may serve the purposes of the future.

Dinner and Round Table Discussion

- With members of Skolt Sami Community

8 See "Joint Barents Transport Plan. Revised draft. Main report 2019", https://www.barentsinfo.fi/beac/docs/JBTP2019_MAIN_REPORT_190910.pdf [5.12.2021].

Friday, 19 November, Inari

Session 10: Geoeconomics in the Arctic: Mass-scale Tourism vis-à-vis Traditional Livelihoods
(Rapporteur: Jussi Huotari and Gleb Yarovoy)

- Janne Näkkäläjärvi, acting director of Sami Education Institute, and
  Mika Aromäki, planner of international cooperation at Sami Education Institute
  Welcoming Words
- Dorothee Julia Bohn
  Arctic tourism through the lens of critical geopolitics: examples from Finnish Lapland
- Juho Kähkönen
  Climate Resilience of Arctic Tourism: Finnish and Lappish perspective

What may be a better visualisation of traditional livelihood than an open fire in a conference room? Fireplace in traditionally shaped Lassin kota – a conference facility at the Sámi Education Institute (SAKK) named after the former SAKK's rector – made the participants of the Calotte Academy feel warm and smoky and facilitated a deeper dive in the session's topic.

Figure 1: Dorothee Bohn during her presentation in Lassin kota. (Photo by Jussi Huotari)

In their welcoming words, SAKK's representatives Janne Näkkäläjärvi & Mika Aromäki described Institute's activities all across the Arctic region. At SAKK, more than 1000 students around the region learn Sami languages and culture, and trained in nature-based occupations and employment. SAKK maintain a wide network of international contacts with different stakeholders in all the Arctic states, and is one of the traditional and most reliable partners of the Calotte Academy.

With these feelings in the air, session 11 started with the presentation by Dorothee Julia Bohn from Umeå University. In her paper, Dorothee analysed the Arctic tourism industry through critical geopolitics lens, with Lapland in focus. She considered tourism, touristic destinations and infrastructure as geopolitical and geoeconomic phenomena. As an example, in Lapland tourism development to Petsamo area started by the Finland state in early XX century to nail people to the Fatherland, thus being a part of nation-building process. Later on, the tourism-based nation-building process continued in a more human-oriented way by providing leisure for Finnish workers. Recently, the picture become even more complicated when ethical issues of tourism industry development vis-à-vis indigenous people's traditional livelihoods were to be considered.

During the discussion following the presentation, two main points have been raised. First, prof. Lassi Heininen jeopardized the notion of nation-building in relation to the Arctic tourism. Was the development of the tourism infrastructure in Lapland a part of the nation-building or state-building process? State-built and state-owned hotels in the wilderness of the High North may be considered as a sign of state sovereignty in its far peripheries. Likewise, as reminded by Gerald Zojer, Russian state is currently behaving in Svalbard/Spitzbergen, where tourism infrastructure development in the formerly abandoned coal mining settlement of Pyramiden envisages state presence, serving its geopolitical and geoeconomics ambitions.

Then discussion turned to the current issues and possible future developments of Arctic tourism. In particular, contested activities between the "traditional" tourism industry and locals/indigenous people interests and livelihoods (e.g. husky vs reindeer herding) have been approached. Among others, Janne Näkkäläjärvi mentioned hunting tourism as a challenge to reindeer herding: hunters arriving from the southern regions have permission to hunt, they go everywhere without considering reindeer herding activities and often pay little attention what the locals say. This is one of the issues (among many others) which should be considered by the state when issuing the hunting permissions.

However, local population, including indigenous Sámi, also get involved in the tourism activities. This became clear during the further discussion with Kaisu Nikula, an owner of the Traditional hotel Kultahovi, second oldest hotel in Finland, constructed in Inari in mid 1930's by the Finnish state and currently owned by Kaisu and her brother Heikki, representatives of Inari Sámi. According to Kaisu, most of the tourists services in Inari are currently provided by the small local companies, and are in line with the Sámi traditions and way of life. Is it a positive sign of modernity coming to traditional Sámi life, or an inevitable act of mitigation to the (geo)political and (geo)economic development in the Arctic? Will it ruin traditional livelihoods or add to resilience in the Arctic? These are the practical as well as research questions to be addressed.

One attempt to pose such a question was the second presentation in the morning session held by Juho Kähkönen, PhD candidate from the University of Lapland. In his presentation Juho focused on

the climate resilience of Arctic tourism. According to his argumentation climate resilience is critical to the vitality of the region. However, although the goals are set high for example in carbon neutrality, the investments to meet the ambitious targets are limited. Therefore, an active role from the public sector is needed.

After Juho's introduction followed a lively Q&A session. It was pointed out that majority of tourism business in the Finnish Lapland is in local ownership. The tourism industry has a great impact on the local economy. During the discussion it was noticed that decreasing numbers of travellers are good climate-wise, but on the other side of the coin would be the postponement of investments in green transition. Yet, it might also endanger the lives of husky dogs if the business is no longer economically viable.

Another well-pondered theme in discussion was the seasonal changes in the number of tourists. Currently, the majority of income in companies is coming from the winter season, but happens if winter seasons become shorter due to the global warming and climate change? Therefore, the group discussed new initiatives for summer season, and it was noticed that during last two summers the number of Finnish travellers had been relatively high in the Finnish Lapland. The last point in the discussion touched upon the definition of resilience as a concept. It was said that resilience has several definitions, and that it has a different meaning for indigenous peoples and mass-scale tourism sector.

Session 11: Collaborative Sami Research
(Rapporteur: Sara Fusco and Yulia Zaika)

The aim of this session is to present and discuss different forms and practices to carry out community-based, collaborative research in Sámi studies. Particularly, we will focus on the collaboration with Sámi art and artists, but also more widely on the ways local communities and people can be engaged to research practices. What kinds of benefits and challenges participatory methods may entail in research? There is certainly not only one way to engage communities and local people to research but, depending on the objectives and perspectives of research, participation, joint knowledge production as well as returning the knowledge to communities may have different contents and purposes. Based on our concrete experiences on several research projects, we will open perspectives to various meanings and practices of participation and collaboration in research.

- Teemu Loikkanen
  Circular economy and Sámi food culture
- Saara Alakorva and Kaisa Raitio
  Art and science project SOPU providing counter information together with Sámi reindeer herders
- Sanna Valkonen
  Artistic collaboration in Sámi research

The session on 19 November 2021 (Inari, Finland) chaired by Danko Aleksic was devoted to the Collaborative Sami Research and highlighted several interesting talks and comprehensive discussions on arts and indigenous livelihoods. First, Saara Alakorva, Saami scholar with a background in political science, in her presentation “Art and science project SOPU providing counter information together with the Sami reindeer herders” has presented her joint work with the colleague Kaisa Raitio on discussions and negotiations around the Arctic railway road, mines and forestry plans.

The project she worked on is called SOPU, in Moddusjärvi reindeer herding district, west-side of Inari Lake, where there are no legally protected areas, but state use is allowed for economically relevant activities.

The project aimed to collaborate to create useful indicators for determining to assess the cumulative effects from these economic activities in Moddusjärvi.

The ongoing conflict in one of the local reindeer herding districts and some other districts regarding the state-owned forest companies with the overall goal on how to make the forestry more sustainable and conflict-free. The local forest territories are known as locked where over 40% of forest is locked for Sami people.

The second talk was given by Teemu Loikkanen with the presentation “Circular economy and Sami food culture”. Teemu discussed the role of citizenship in a circular economy (CE), citizens position in CE referring to the CE itself as the western hegemony positioning. He also introduced the concept of "food citizenship", or rather to the recognition of social right to quality food. Teemu asked, how Sami traditional way of life can work with the CE in an ecologically sustainable way in connection with the institutional CE

The presentation summed up that it would be interesting to think on how this old sustainable ways on traditional food adapt to CE and so on. The third presentation by Sanna Valkonen titled “Artistic collaboration in Sami research” started with showing the family photos and the song which shows the interconnections of human and environment. Sanna presented the works of Marya Helander, who focused her art on the mining landscape and the products of the exploitation of natural resources. Marya Helander tries to explain the interconnection between humans, nature and animals. Nature is not something that should be separated from the day to day life. When looking to this song from the other hand, the song is about the land use projects and opposite activities. While the ontological world of Sami describes no boundaries between nature and human communication and action, the existing industrial extractive projects pose the hard connections between nature and human. All these challenges were explored by the means of Sami arts and music. Overall session has impressed the participants of Calotte Academy.

<u>Excursion to UTAC Ivalo</u>

- Janne Seurujärvi, Managing Director, UTAC Ivalo
- Sini Honkanen, Sales and Marketing Manager, UTAC Ivalo

Gala Dinner and Launch of Arctic Yearbook 2021

- Toni Laine, Mayor of Inari Municipality;
  Welcoming Words
- Lassi Heininen, together with Heather Exner-Pirot and Justin Barnes (online), editors of the Arctic Yearbook
  Presentation of the Arctic Yearbook 2021:
  "Defining and Mapping the Arctic: Sovereignties, Policies and Perceptions"

Saturday, 20 November, Inari

Session 12: Regional Development in the Global Arctic, part I
(Rapporteur: Taina Niemelä)

- Kristin Smette Gulbrandsen
  "Social development in the North is geopolitics!": Examining overlapping regionalisms and logics in the Norwegian High North
- Jyrki Käkönen
  Anders Chydenius about development of Lapland: Then and Now

In regard to Kristin's presentation, the participants learned which actors were critical to the proposal, what were their arguments and what kind of regional particularities exist in legislative or other levels. One of the key issues discussed was "Finnmark identity" which is already historically very much separate from the Norwegian identity. According to the presenter the idea of this particular reform is to solidify government actors. The reform happened in a supposedly voluntary process, but the region actually didn't have a say. The discussion centered around the questions: what is geopolitics, how one could use critical geopolitics to open these questions and how district policy explicitly merge geopolitics and social politics. Question was also turned the other way round: What role does the region play from state identity point of view? The presenter pointed out how foreign policy is the goal and regional is the means as Norway is a player in the Arctic.

Jyrki's contribution discussed: Was Chydenius thinking he was doing something good, but contributing to something bad? For the presenter the central question seemed to be how to see beyond the limitations of our thinking. The participants learned about Anders Chydenius' views about Lapland as well as the role of the Swedish state back then: it wanted to get taxes out of Lapland and had an urge to resettle people from south to extract the resources. Other possible relations between the state and the region were discussed. As participants were wandering about the

relation between governmental and regional the questions were: Has anything changed? Are things in political field still solved by solving the economic problems and operating within the frame work of a unified nation state? Are there other approaches? It was suggested that answers to these might be found in the historical margins or in current alternative approaches and practices outside of Europe. Finally a question was raised about equality: might it have to mean privileges for the minorities?

Lunch and Round Table Discussion

- Kaisu Nikula, entrepreneur, co-owner Hotel Kultahovi
  Introduction to maintain a hotel in Upper Lapland, the European Arctic

Session 13: Russian perspective on developments in the Arctic (Online session)
(Rapporteur: Juho Kähkönen and Alma Karabeg)

- Alina Cherepovitsyna (Ilinova)
  Strategic Management in Energy Sector: key points of transformation in global instability (the case of the Arctic offshore)
- Maria Gunko
  The disintegration of the Russian Arctic company towns
- Luiza Brodt
  The development of Arctic offshore oil and gas resources in Russia: energy policy updates and new activities by companies

The session was opened by Alina Cherepovitsyna (Ilinova), who talked about strategic management in the energy sector and critical points of transformation in global instability in the case of the Arctic offshore. She gave an overview of the energy sector, focusing on oil and gas companies and what it means for the strategic management of Arctic energy production and infrastructure. She stated that a strategic energy system is important for stability as global changes in oil prices can destabilize the market. Scenarios seem optimistic, though they are complex by nature. Pandemic has accelerated energy transition. Now we are in the 4th energy transition, and Russia has vast oil and gas reserves. The strategic management system is essential for the preferred development. Norway and Russia remain the most prominent players offshore. Within the following years, companies aim to be carbon neutral. So, we have transitioned to integrated energy players transforming the companies at all levels, and the oil and gas business is transforming their target business. Greening portfolio should note the needs of both industry and local agenda. Arctic projects face this development as it is difficult to be environmentally friendly and economically viable. One can conclude that increasing interest in the oil and gas business is visible in several ways, e.g., in economic development, instability in the environment and environmental and sustainable

development and social responsibilities. A recent paper analyses transformation in the energy sector, including recommendations and conceptual figures examining strategic options for the oil and gas business. The main conclusion is that the system should be adaptive and flexible and ready to answer global instability.

The economic model is being revised for the oil and gas industry, but this process is not simple, and the type of the company influence the process as the revenue matters a lot. New economic models can reveal revenue in new sectors, such as Neste has done as a company.

An example of an Arctic offshore project from the Russian side is only one platform launched with 4 million tons of oil annually due to the transition to greener energy.

The next speaker was Maria Gunko talking about disintegration in Russian Arctic company towns. She explained the concept of shrinking cities in the Russian Arctic towns and presented her preliminary findings from a trip to Kirovsk, a monogorod that the Soviet government made in 1930 for resource development. As an anthropologist, she was interested in the structures of towns and visited some towns to get to know them in more depth. The researcher observes emptiness decay and finds an abandoned cultural house, and notices how symbolic it is. Following neoliberal policies after the Soviet collapse, the city transformed so that power changed following the absence of national state interest. Following the lack of capital, social orders were transformed. Company towns are not only Soviet things but part of that time development. In the socialist system, this was still more widespread. Companies were not companies in the capitalist matter. According to interviews, towns were built for industry, and the enterprise also provided social life, housing, and cultural activities. In the post-Soviet time and collapse of economics in the 1990s, these had changed fundamentally and experienced the destruction of social infrastructure. These often become places of hardship in new social orders where companies aim to support the town with limited resources. This is still visible, for example, in the contrasts of old and renovated and new buildings. Nonproductive parts were left, but some others were updated, though not always for the best of citizens. Corporate social responsibility meant a new era for some towns, and these include, e.g. art development projects, but this is a new initiative within the capitalist world.

In the discussion part, the speaker explained that disintegration gives a sense of disorder and how the company and the town are now apart. It describes how people talk about the situation of towns and describes how people are leaving and decreasing welfare. This term is from interviews, and it is not the term by the scientist. In conclusion, the global tendency in the Arctic is full of places of decay while other sites take their capital. It is an open question if those places will be just business places or if they will have a social part. However, people regard these places as home, so hopefully, they will stay there.

The third speaker was Luisa Brodt presenting the development of Arctic offshore oil and gas resources in Russia in the energy strategy and new Arctic strategy 2030. Her article aims to offer an overview of the future of Arctic hydrocarbons and new activities for oil and gas companies. There are new strategies for industries and regional planning and recent agreements between Russian companies. Earlier, there were competitions between companies, but sanctions from the US and Europe now foster new joint projects. One can see that there are more companies with access to Arctic offshore activities. All strategies are new, and one can see that offshore is increasing. Foreign

companies are more welcome. Rosneft is active in the eastern part of Russia and uses a new model for foreign investment operations on the Russian shelf. The Arctic offshore is a national priority, but as well a technological and political challenge. As a result, we see the state's new role increasing and how the government wants to support offshore oil and gas production.

In the discussion, it has been stated that social and environmental aspects of the strategies are highlighted. For example, Gazprom decreases the fuel used in transportation by vessels. There is a system to foster cleaner transportation solutions. Social responsibility is also considered with several projects, e.g., culture, research, and community actions.

As a concluding word, the high importance of Calotte Academy is highlighted, and continuum is strongly wished. It is hoped that next year people can meet, including the Russian side.

Session 14: Regional Development in the Global Arctic, part II
(Rapporteur: Gerald Zojer)

- Daria Mishina
  International best practices for the arctic regional development
- Yulia Zaika
  Cross-border cooperation and science diplomacy as factors of self-development for communities in the Murmansk region

Daria's presentation focused on best practices in Arctic regional development projects, with case studies from the Canadian, Finnish, Norwegian, and Russian Arctic. The discussions following her presentation addressed, for example, the profitability of off-shore hydrocarbon projects in the Russian Arctic. Furthermore, it was questioned, to what extent the local population would benefit from such investments. While it was stated, that large development and natural resource extraction projects attract migration into the area, the component of human capital was questioned: What is the role when people want to migrate out from the North, for example into cities? Another side affect of development that was discussed was increasing infrastructure. While connectivity (eg. through roads) may seem beneficial to some, at the same it creates also new conflicts over land use, or more generally speaking, infrastructure projects often also interfere or compete with traditional livelihoods. The discussion also questioned, what do we actually mean with development, are we talking about modernisation? Again, some group members raised concern that this might interfere with traditional livelihoods, questioning the value of development, if it means that some people are forced to move out from their homelands or lose their livelihoods. The discussion called for a clearer definition or rethinking of the term or concept of development. It was also discussed, that a lot of conflicts, also such that seem to be ethical conflicts, route in struggle over access to resources. Similarly it was stated, that attempts of nation building can lead to disadvantage of some people, as nation building comes along with denying some people some of their rights/traditions, such as language.

Yulia’s presentation, which was scheduled for Wednesday but had to be postponed to the last session, was about cross-border cooperation and science diplomacy. The discussion after her talk started with a continuation from some of the topics raised earlier. One participants provoked the thought, whether the outmigration of mining workers would be a loss to the region’s human capital, because in the mind of the participant, they would not be rooted in the region after all. While not everyone agreed on this notion, there was an argument that international connections or cooperation may increase attractiveness for people to stay in the area, even if the local economy struggles. On a more general level, it was questioned to what extent different municipalities in the region are comparable, as some municipalities are growing and some decreasing in size. This raised the question, what would the right amount of people to live in a place, how to define that, and by whom. This questioned the predominant notion in public discourse, that increase of inhabitants is widely considered positive. Yet, as it was discussed further, such statement lacks context, as one needs to analyse the local peculiarities. At least, less people means less pressure on the environment. In the end, this would be in the core of the question, what is sustainable.

Sunday, 21 November

Travelling from Inari to Rovaniemi (and other destinations)

Abstracts

Saara Alakorva

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and Kaisa Raitio

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Art and science project SOPU providing counter information together with Sámi reindeer herders

In this presentation we analyze art and science project ”What Form(s) Can an Atonement Take” (SOPU -project) funded by Kone foundation (2018–2021). Project started from the needs of local Sámi reindeer herders in Muddusjärvi reindeer herding district. There was ongoing struggle between reindeer herding and forestry in the area. The project had important role of empowering Sámi reindeer herders and building the capacity and network of actors to defend the rights of the Sámi reindeer herding. From the experience gained in this project, we pay attention to the need for structural changes in land use planning in state governed lands so that the hermeneutic injustice, which Sámi reindeer herders are facing in these processes, can be addressed.

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The European Union (EU) in the Arctic – Observer or Player?

Geopolitical and strategic importance of the Arctic region increases. There are eight countries whose territories lay in the Arctic: Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the United States. Three of them, namely Denmark, Finland and Sweden are members of the European Union (EU). Consequently, the EU undertakes efforts to be engaged in the Arctic related issues, mainly through the integrated EU Policy for the Arctic. Nevertheless, considering the presence of big powers and their geopolitical interests in the Arctic, there are opinions that the EU has not been sufficiently engaged in the Arctic affairs. Aside of Russia and the United States, big

powers which are the Arctic countries, there is also a growing engagement of big powers which are geographically outside of the Arctic, like the Peoples Republic of China.

This paper is aimed to answer if the EU, having in mind its supranational and intergovernmental character, acts more like a passive observer or an active player in the Arctic region. It will provide critical analysis of development and content of the EU Policy for the Arctic hitherto, intending to identify its shortcomings and possibilities for improvement. Special Attention will be given to the analysis of the Working Program of the newly established European Commission, aiming to identify the Arctic related issues. Through the analysis of all relevant documents and discourse, this paper contributes to understanding of the present position of the EU in the Arctic and discusses possibilities for further enhancing of Union's role in this rapidly changing region.

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Arctic tourism through the lens of critical geopolitics: examples from Finnish Lapland

Within the past decade, tourism has been growing significantly in many regions across the Arctic. On the one hand, the upsurge in tourist arrivals and consumer interest has been spurred by the global attention for the Arctic, while on the other, policy-makers have long promoted the travel and hospitality sector as a tool for sustainable development in peripheries. Tourism is commonly presented in (inter)national and regional strategy documents as a means to foster economic diversification, entrepreneurship, and resilience among local populations. Moreover, harnessing the vacation and leisure industries is a prominent market-based policy tool for monetizing environmental conservation. Hence, tourism constitutes not only a branch of the economy but also a sociopolitical and spatial practice that links even the most remote places to global circuits of capital accumulation and hegemonic imaginaries.

To elaborate these notions within an Arctic context further, this presentation examines tourism development in Finnish Lapland in a longitudinal manner and by drawing upon an economic reading of critical geopolitics. Specifically, Sami Moisio's (2018) definition of geopolitics as "the production of territories of wealth, power, security and belonging [including] the conflicts and contradictions entailed therein" serves as conceptual foundation. Lapland offers an interesting case due to the re-imagination of the European north towards being a part of the Arctic, which materialized particularly within tourism. Contemporary tourism with an Arctic prefix is highly commodified, fossil fuel dependent, and rests often-but not exclusively- upon highly neoliberal land-use practices and socioeconomic relations.

The aim of this geopolitical analysis is twofold. First, the presentation seeks to instigate a critical discussion of current tourism developments in the Arctic, which is timely in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic that exposed the volatility of a sector dependent on human mobility and external markets. Secondly, it opens the floor to wider debates on the role of the travel and hospitality sector for the future of sustainability, society, economy, and governance in Arctic peripheries.

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The development of Arctic offshore oil and gas resources in Russia: energy policy updates and new activities by companies

The development of its Arctic offshore oil and gas resources remains one of Russia's strategic priorities, both in terms of ensuring national energy security and cementing its presence in the region. As existing fields in West Siberia mature and become less productive, Russia needs to bring new sources on stream, with these being primarily located in the country's Arctic region, including its continental shelf, even though this presents considerable challenges to the industry. Some steps have already been taken to initiate and encourage this development, such as the process of adoption of a federal law liberalizing continental shelf access for private oil and gas companies and ongoing domestic development of offshore technologies that can be applied in the Arctic.

This article analyses Russia's contemporary strategies in the energy sector in terms of future offshore oil and gas development in the Arctic. It provides relevant updates on Arctic offshore oil and gas activities in Russia since 2014, illustrates the challenges Russian companies face in operating in this region, and outlines commercial agreements underlying long-term Arctic offshore interests. This analysis also helps to better understand future risk-sharing strategies for the Russian oil and gas companies in the Arctic that will need to be developed.

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Strategic Management in Energy Sector: key points of transformation in global instability (the case of the Arctic offshore)

Uncertainty factors have become more prominent recently in the energy sector, which is characterized by a price volatility, fast changes, and an orientation towards green growth. The system of factors that influences energy companies is very complex. They are global in their nature, and many of them are unpredictable. In this highly turbulent environment, the key challenge for the energy sector is to remain sustainable and profitable, while oil and gas companies have to be prepared to facing global challenges. All these are connected with transformation of strategic management systems in energy sector. The study proposes a system of global trends and challenges affecting oil and gas business, as well as an overview of strategic responses of oil and gas companies to energy transition scenario. All this allows for presenting a conceptual vision of how a strategic management system should be transformed in order to become able to meet the requirements, with the emphasis being placed on sustainability, management requirements, and the key principles. The research is based on the fundamentals of strategic management and relies on methods such as desk study, content analysis, event analysis, comparative analysis, and factor analysis.

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The Potential of Science Cooperation to Bridge Conservation and Development in the Arctic

Visions of the future across and within actor groups can be conflicting, which can be summarised as questions of development and resource extraction vis-à-vis conservation and rights based considerations. Cooperation and scientific endeavours have provided a cornerstone for cooperation in the Arctic since the creation of the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy in Rovaniemi 1989, Post Cold-War and; represents a shared hope throughout actor sets as to a means to achieve their future visions of the Arctic. From a critical constructivist perspective further questions remain as to the role of ethics within actor decision-making, the meaning and the potential of science to meet the needs of multiple actor groups and, how actors' interests relate to environmental decision-making

within a scientific context. Considering the paramount need for healthy ecosystems in the Arctic and globally, focus will be attached to the impact of Neoliberalism and Colonialism in relation to comprehensive environmental security, as well as, how epistemologies and the inclusion or exclusion of epistemologies, inform environmental decision-making. This study will develop a reading strategy in order to further understand what science may mean to different actor groups involved in scientific cooperation in the Arctic through a focus on various case studies which provide a window of science-policy-environmental decision-making relations and; look at how future scenarios of environmental change may play out.

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Risk of nuclear waste contamination in the Arctic. Thinking long-range pollution issues in the Barents Sea region

The Barents Sea has been a highly nuclearized region since the Cold War. Sunk submarines and other nuclear waste have lain down on the seafloor for decades. Since the 1990s, the Norwegian Nuclear Action Plan has developed very specific Norwegian-Russian cooperation in order to cleanup the Cold War “legacy waste”.

The purpose of this paper is to analyse the long-range radioactive contamination impacts on the Barents Sea region together with specific Norwegian actors’ opinion. An interdisciplinary approach based on a critical geopolitics stance created a conceptual framework. The latter consists of Arctic geopolitics, nuclear waste contamination, cooperation, transboundary risk management, risk perception, communication and Arctic security issues. The study has been made partly through academic literature and assessments from research institutes (e.g. Norwegian Institute of Marine Research), but also through interviews with Norwegian experts on the issue of the “legacy waste”. The main results of this study show a real ambiguity in the success of the bilateral cooperation and governance in the specific field of nuclear safety and security between Norway and Russia. Despite the success of the cleanup operations over three decades, the recent Russian Arctic strategy has led to the increase of their nuclear icebreakers fleet and submarines arsenal along their Arctic coastline. Actually, Norway is faced with a lot of conflicting issues. The interviewed experts claim that the risk perceptions of nuclear waste contamination differ a lot according to the different Norwegian regions. Nevertheless, public opinion has become more aware of the risk from chemical pollutions and heavy metals in the seafood chain. In a near future, it would be very relevant to extend this geographical research to the Norwegian northern regions. A research on risk perceptions from the local populations would be relevant in this matter. Obviously, the different Arctic regions are now subjected to a rising pressure, due to the constant development of economic projects: fossil fuel

energy prospects, potential extraction associated with shipping growth in the Arctic and the recent extended militarisation in northern Russia to name a few.

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The affirmation of cultural, political and legal pluralism, in relation to the participatory rights (individual and collective) of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic

Climate change is an issue at the heart of Arctic policies, as its effects are most visible in the polar regions. According to the National Snow and Ice Data Centre, the sea ice extent average for September 2021 was one of the lowest in the satellite record (the twelfth lowest point in 43-years).Climate change puts the unique Arctic ecosystem and cultural diversity of the region at serious risk. The strong link between environment and culture is very evident among indigenous communities, whose identity is closely linked to traditional nature-based activities. Hunting, fishing, agriculture, and manufacturing practices are informed by the indigenous knowledge and know-how handed down for millennia. In the Arctic, environmental changes have strongly influenced the fauna and flora, because of pollution and environmental degradation. Statistically, indigenous peoples also experience high levels of poverty which strengthens the link with the environment and increases the need to maintain subsistence activities over time.

This article explores the mechanisms of deliberative democracy in natural resource management in the Arctic. The need for governments to make deliberative democratic methods mandatory to reach a free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) by indigenous communities on projects that include the transformation of traditional lands has now been confirmed in various literature and policies. Many doubts remain however on modalities and how to strengthen local participation in circumstances where national legislation does not outline specific and valid rules. This research focuses on the degree of influence of the participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making processes within the development of economic projects in traditional lands in the Arctic. Covid- 19 governments response measures addressing the situation of indigenous peoples will be examinate, since they set the stage for further discussion of how the health crisis has affected indigenous decision-making processes.

The analysis was carried out through the disquisition of national legal sources and international instruments on human rights, indigenous rights, and constitutional texts.

The argument also includes an extensive qualitative analysis with surveys and interviews with interested parties, comparing different consultation systems in the Nordic countries. The paper also includes a brief examination of the effectiveness of the public consultation processes that the author collected in March 2019 during fieldworks in Kiruna, Sweden and in Greenland in 2018.

The article offers an interesting synthesis of indigenous Arctic rights and lends itself to further development and comparative analysis in indigenous decision-making processes.

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“Social development in the North is geopolitics!”: Examining overlapping regionalisms and logics in the Norwegian High North

The Arctic is constituted by overlapping regionalisms representing diverging geopolitical and geoeconomic interests on regional, national and international scales. Thus, while numerous cooperative bodies in the Arctic indicate a continued internationalisation and belief in Arctic exceptionalism, flag planting and territorial claims in the Arctic Ocean simultaneously suggest there are tensions between global governance aims and national interests. Examining the Norwegian context can shine light on this, being a state with both substantial strategic interests in the Arctic and a significant northern population. This is reflected in Norway’s 2017 Arctic Strategy, whose sub-heading “between geopolitics and social development”, as well as the 2020 High North white paper titled “people, opportunities and Norwegian interests in the North”, signal that the Arctic and North Norway represent an interrelated foreign- and domestic policy area under the label of High North politics. As such, these documents are instrumental in linking the international and regional scale (and associated strategic goals) in Norway, expressed in the idea that “social development in the North is geopolitics!”. Adopting the view that regional discourse produces and applies different logics to the Arctic (and vice versa), the paper raises the question of how state policy balances national geopolitical considerations on the one hand, and regional development policy on the other. To this end, the paper examines the structural reforms implemented by the Norwegian Government in 2020, which reduced the number of regional political-administrative units through mergers, and, critically, enforced the involuntary amalgamation between Troms and Finnmark counties in North Norway. Using a Critical Discourse Analysis approach, the paper shows how geopolitical considerations plays a crucial role in the political imagination of a formalised North Norway region, as well as how the regionalisation project, part of a broader trend of decentral centralisation and regional competitiveness, envisions a specific kind of re-scaled interaction in the Arctic, built from below. Ultimately, through an analysis of discourses attached to competing regionalisms in Norwegian High North policy, the paper highlights ways in which the interaction between scientific

knowledge production, geoeconomics, and geopolitical interests shapes the public debate on pressing issues in the region.

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The disintegration of the Russian Arctic company towns

Kirovks (Khibinogorsk until 1934) in Murmanks region was established in the late 1920s as site for mining and processing apatite-nepheline ore that is used to produce phosphorous fertilizers. The town, the first mine, and the processing plant were constructed simultaneously and rapidly in a greenfield—or, rather, in a "whitefield" given the geographic context—in order to cater for the Soviet government's need for resources during the rapid industrialization phase of Soviet modernity. During the Soviet era, the link between the industry and the city held strong. However, things changed after the collapse of state socialism, when transition to a Russian variant of neoliberalism and the accompanying private property regime began.

As suggested by scholars across disciplines, neoliberalization of the global economy results in profoundly uneven spatial developments (e.g. Harvey 2006; Vaccaro, Harper, & Murray 2016). While some places accumulate wealth, others are excluded from the circuits of capital flow or devalued by capital leading to their decay (e.g. Dzenovska 2020; Sasken 2014). However, patterns of decay may be complex, entangled, and ambiguous. Moreover, some might even push against the established theories of uneven spatial development. In Kirovsk, economic growth tightly coincides with the disruption of the social order and the built environment. Within this talk I provide a humble attempt to discuss the changing relations of production and social reproduction, as well as their underlying causes, drawing on longitudinal observations and a set of in-depth interviews in Kirovsk–one of those localities that are being confronted with disruption produced by global forces and powers structures beyond their control (Tsing 2005).

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Arctic Cities in the Makings of Global Extractivism: Unfolding the city-nature dichotomy in Rovaniemi

Facilitated by the globalized resource-intensive economy and warming climate, the Arctic region is increasingly entangled in the global processes of nature's extraction, posing a challenge to Arctic governance at multiple levels. Within the current wave of extraction and exploitation, the agency of Arctic cities has been poorly recognized in academic or public debates: despite connections between nature's extraction and urbanization have been drawn in the recently growing Arctic urban research, there is a lack of throughout analysis of how the extractive practices over nature emerge from cities, travel through them, and become contested.

This paper draws from the recent critical scholarly contributions connecting extractivism, urban studies and feminist perspective, with an aim to highlight the need to better understand the role of Arctic cities in relation to the extractive practices and imaginaries expanding in the Arctic. The paper takes a closer look in the case of Rovaniemi, the Arctic "capital" of Finland, to discuss how the 'urban' and 'nature' intertwine in the context of extractivism. In Rovaniemi, the extractive practices and imaginaries can be seen in play especially within Arctic tourism, where the exploitation of nature emerges not as voluminous material extraction of earth minerals, but as utilization and commodification of 'pure experiences' of nature.

The paper connects to the emerging research on Arctic cities with an aim to highlight the need to better integrate critical analyses of the 'urban' in the research of extractivism. It provides a conceptual intervention by integrating the underutilized feminist perspective to Arctic urban research. An understanding of how the city-nature dynamics emerge and become organized carry importance particularly in the Arctic, where cities and their extractive practices interact with the extremely sensitive ecosystems and the multiple tipping points of the global climate system.

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The Arctic as a commodity extraction frontier and environmental conflicts

Extractive economy refers to activities that remove large volumes of natural resources for the market. The term “commodity frontiers” was coined by Jason Moore (2000) in the context of Immanuel Wallerstein’s “world systems theory”. We argue that the Arctic is becoming a large commodity frontier for metal mining and fossil fuel extraction. This generates new socio-environmental tensions in the places where these resources are extracted. The transformation of the physical environment and, in turn, people’s access and relationship to the environment have been key processes in the emergence of global socio-environmental conflicts and movements for environmental justice. This paper describes and analyses 53 opposition cases by people of the Arctic to the appropriation, extraction and transport of resources at the commodity frontiers. Based on descriptive statistics, regression and network analysis, the paper reveals that socio-environmental conflicts predominantly overlap with Indigenous peoples’ territories, from which a transversal opposition takes place, including Indigenous, non-Indigenous and international actors alike. The main commodities involved in these conflicts are related to fossil fuels, metals, and transport infrastructure. Associated large-scale extractive activities are bringing negative socio-environmental impacts at the expense of Indigenous groups, fishermen, and pastoralists, with loss of traditional knowledge and practices being significantly higher in Indigenous territories of high bio-cultural values associated to the environment. Our findings suggest that repression against activists is significantly more likely to occur in absence of preventive mobilization, and in Arctic countries with low rule of law. The chances to achieve the cancellation of a conflictive extractive project are significantly higher if dependency on natural resource rents in a country is low.

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States failing in their most important task - climate change as a challenge!

The four overall new and emerging trends of Arctic governance and geopolitics by the recent IIASA analysis, Arctic Policies & Strategies (Heininen et al. 2020) are First, a paradox / ambivalence between environmental protection & climate change mitigation vis-à-vis increasing (mass-scale) economic activities in the Arctic for regional development due to ’political inability’ by Arctic

states; Second, a new kind of interrelationship between the state domination based on geopolitical stability & sovereignty, and internationalization & globalization based on international treaties; Third, focus on science as its role is increasing due to the pressure of the rapidly advanced climate change & the above-mentioned paradox; and Fourth, a close interrelationship between the Arctic and Space (digital services & security, meteorology) as emerging due to globalization & climate change. The aim of the presentation is on the one hand, to argue that the first trend, as depending on state policies and hesitation, is the biggest hindrance for implementation of environmental protection & mitigation. On the other hand, to discuss its reflections & impacts to a potential race for resources and the global climate ethics debate, as well as how to go beyond the 'political inability' & the construction of the Western identity based on the unified state system, when trying to solve the 'wicked (anthropogenic) problems' in the global Arctic.

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Current status of Barents Cooperation – Experiences from BRTL project

Finland started her Chairmanship in the Barents Euro-Arctic Council a few weeks ago after the Ministerial meeting in Tromsø, Norway. The priorities of the Finnish Chairmanship include climate change mitigation, youth and transport and logistics. One of the biggest changes during the Finnish Chairmanship is the finalization of the process to merge the national level and the regional level working groups into joint working groups. While the dualism of state and regional levels was underlined in Kirkenes Declaration 1993, I argue that the merger of the working groups may limit regional actors' freedom to shape the content/agenda of the Barents cooperation. I base my argument for the experiences from Kolarctic CBC funded Barents Region Transport and Logistics project. The project was planned under the auspices of Regional Working Group on Transport and Logistics (BRWGTL). Yet, the BRTL project has been the main activity of the BRWGTL during the last three years. Based on my experiences as project manager of the BRTL project, I ponder status of regional cooperation in the BEAR at the beginning of Finnish Chairmanship.

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Philanthropic foundation positioning and actions in the Multi-National Arena: A Case Study of Ocean Conservation in the Arctic

My research investigates foundation positioning and actions in the multi-national arena between 2007 and 2017. This research looks at an institutional actor, the philanthropic private independent foundation, and its interactions with multiple public and private actors around two cases of ocean conservation in the Arctic: The Central Arctic Ocean and the Bering Strait ecoregion.

Foundations are unique organizations located between market and government actors. They work for the common good and yet do not need to respond to outside stakeholders. They can be found in market economies and authoritarian regimes. The private foundation has "financial agency" due to its endowment and serves a public purpose through grantmaking, running its own activities or a mix of both.

There is limited theorizing about the roles of private foundations in the multi-national arena. Cross-national studies demonstrate the differing positioning and consequent forms of actions foundations carry out as a function of their national context (Anheier, 2018). My research is guided by the following research questions: 1) What positions do foundations take in respect to multi-governmental approaches or to guiding frameworks in the multi-national arena? 2) Which actions do they deploy? 3) How do those actions relate to a position or guiding framework?

This study draws on the supplementary, complementary, and adversarial models of non-profit-government relations (Anheier, 2018; Frumkin, 2006; Najam, 2000; Young, 2000) as a function of how government and nonprofit organization's activities intersect in respect to the desired outcome. I have also taken into consideration 3 specific international agreements that govern the ocean space - UNCLOS, SDG 14, Marine World Heritage Sites and the framework of markets and regulation as possible overarching orientations for foundations in their positioning in this arena. This qualitative case study (Yin, 2018) draws on data from semi-structured interviews and an analysis of foundation, government, and international agency documents during the period of 2007-2017.

Connected to key issues in international relations, public administration and policy, the research links to wider theoretical questions in global governance around the impact of increasingly complex social structures on world politics over time and the design or modification of institutions working for collective purposes in the international arena (Keohane, 2008). It connects to questions about the degree to which foundations contribute to solving problems and setting public policy (Eikenberry, 2006) and finally whether foundations have unique contributions with the rise of blurred boundaries between government, business and the nonprofit sector (Moody, 2019).

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Balancing on Ice: Democratic Dynamics in EU external relations in the High North - the case of Indigenous Peoples Organizations

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change special report Global Warming of 1.5C issued on the 8th October 2018, comes to remind humanity that climate change is already well underway and urges the international community to act. In this time of demanding action, the Arctic region emerges once more as a region of great significance not only because it is majorly affected by climate change, but because the Arctic is not only affected by the world, it essentially affects the world. Climate change in the Arctic does not originate in the circumpolar North but has its causes in the industrialized regions of the world and it does not end at the Arctic Circle but magnifies global climate change (English 2013). This paper/presentation analyzes two types of international actors.

First, the European Union (EU) as one of the world's strongest defenders of greater international efforts to address climate change and transition to a low carbon economy. In terms of governance, the EU can be identified as a supporter of the wider trend of improving local ownership as well as political engagement (Stang, 2016). The Joint Communication of 2016 refers to the indigenous peoples in the Arctic stating that the EU would act "taking into account the traditional livelihoods of those living in the region" (Stepien & Raspotnic, 2016). This is important as it indicates a new way of thinking towards non-state actors and indigenous affairs.

Secondly, the paper/presentation highlights non – state actor participation in the policy making process, using as a case study the Arctic peoples who are more and more presented in this equation. It will attempt to explore whether the engagement of actors such as the EU in the Arctic is a window of opportunity and monitors the shift of focus to non-state actors for better democratic dynamics. It will specifically aim in presenting thoughts on whether the EU truly supports IPOs views in the policy process or not.

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Posthumanist approach to regionalisation: Case Arctic

Despite the growing scholarly attention to posthumanist approaches to social sciences, studies on regionalisation have not paid much conceptual or empirical attention to the role of nature – a gap in literature that this paper seeks to fulfill. Conceptually, we contemplate how some of the key aspects of regionalisation – agency, cooperation, conflict and space – should be understood in a posthumanist frame. Empirically, we demonstrate that sentient species (such as polar bears, fish and whales), cryosphere (such as sea ice, glaciers, and permafrost) and non-sentient beings (such as micro-organisms and flora) constitute principal 'regionalising actors' in the Arctic. Ultimately, the paper seeks to advance the recognition and theorisation of the role of nature in the field of International Relations.

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Climate Resilience of Arctic Tourism: Finnish and Lappish perspective

The Arctic is more globalised than ever and, in the Anthropocene, the Arctic region should be recognised as the laboratory of the future of industrial civilization (GlobalArctic, 2020). The actions taking place in the Global Arctic today may indicate how climate change impacts our future (see Finger & Heininen, 2019). In the Arctic, where the effects of climate change are the strongest, we see the importance of climate resilience, a concept highlighted in the Paris Climate Agreement. Significant knowledge gaps exist, however, in how transition(s) to fulfil the Paris Climate Agreement's commitments influence Arctic livelihoods and societies.

Arctic tourism in northern Finland is an illustrative example of climate resilience, as the industry has to respond to many different changes at the same time. Finland's government has set the goal of achieving carbon neutrality as the first industrialised society in the world by 2035. Global warming and the changing business environment is increasing the vulnerability of the tourism industry. Simultaneously, dramatic impacts following COVID-19 restrictions may halt the first-rate success of this locally essential livelihood. Unless we are able to effectively coordinate efforts to develop local climate resiliency, the implementation of necessary measures will be delayed. Lack of

effective coordination would be highly problematic for local communities and tourism stakeholders while applying the Exit Strategies for Covid-19.

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Anders Chydenius about development of Lapland: Then and Now

Anders Chydenius wrote in the late 18th Century an unpublished text about how to improve Lapland. The paper first present Chydenius' political philosophy as a background for the text about Lapland. Second it presents in a critical perspective the major ideas in the text for improving Lapland. Finally the paper discuss what if anything has changed in almost 250 years.

Chydenius was a radical liberal thinker but it had its limits while understanding how Lapland should be developed and how the role of indigenous people was understood. The point in the paper is that Chydenius had as his perspective the economic interests of the state, how Lapland best could benefit the state in economic sense. For him the indigenous people, the Sami were unproductive if not more or less non-existent. Therefore Lapland needed settlers from the south in order to get it resources in to use. In his plan the values like equality seem to have no role at least in respect to indigenous people.

While thinking the Arctic today the problems seem to be much the same as in Chydenius text while reading it critically. Arctic is seen as a resource for economic growth and indigenous people have a minor say in developing the Arctic. This implicate that little if anything has changed in 250 years.

A short example about Chydenius' text: "Nothing could therefore be more honourable for our time and advantageous for our posterity than to conceive of and carry out the measures and steps by which remote and uninhabited regions of the kingdom could be filled with productive citizens.

The Lappmarken region that lies within the borders of Sweden is such an extensive territory that the populating of it cannot be regarded as a matter of minor significance to consider. And although this part of our north is generally held to be in many respects ill-favoured by nature, we should nonetheless never harbour the thought that it could not even be inhabited."

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Asian countries interests in the Arctic

The Arctic region is changing and offers economic opportunities as well as political and environmental challenges. I am continuing with research on this topic looking at the Arctic area becoming a global player. I am interested in looking at Japan's, and Korea's interest in the area, how this is changing the political climate among Asian countries as well as international politics due to geopolitical, climate, demographic, and economic changes in the Arctic region. I will investigate their Arctic policies. My aim is to study the challenges and opportunities of possible future scenarios regarding the Arctic area itself and its impact on relation to Asian countries. The focus is on Arctic governance, future scenarios in the Arctic, sustainability of urban areas in the Arctic among other topics.

In the context of climate change, new geopolitical and geostrategic dynamics led to the growing interest of non-Arctic states in the affairs of the Arctic. The engagement of countries like China, Japan, and Korea in the Arctic will significantly influence the evolving dynamics in that region. Economic change linked to globalization offers new opportunities for Asian countries.

The melting of ice due to global warming and the creation of the northern passage offer new logistic opportunities and are changing the geopolitical situation. The relatively ice-free summers in the recent past in some parts of the Arctic have also attracted the interest of commercial shipping operators. The opening of the Northern Sea Route (NSR) and the Northwest Passage (NWP) is a boom for the shipping industry. The overlapping claims on the Arctic Continental Shelf bring attention to security and stability issues. The economic future of the Arctic, therefore, lies poised between opportunities and uncertainties.

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Emerging Arctic Energy System: The French perspective

France, Russia, and China continue economic cooperation in the Arctic despite growing political contradictions. A European Green Deal with its ambitious goals for reaching carbon neutrality did not reduce the relevance of the further extraction of natural resources in the region. On the contrary,

new knowledge creates trends in energy system development. France, a non-Arctic state, is one of the key contributors to this process. Leading French corporations, such as Total, actively cooperate with Russian and Chinese entities. Business ties of French companies are extensive and include their stake in key Russian enterprises operating in the Arctic, as well as participation in key Arctic-related projects such as the Northern Stream 2, Yamal LNG, Arctic LNG 2, and construction of LNG hubs in Murmansk and Kamchatka. In addition, they develop a long-term partnership with Chinese companies involved in Arctic development, such as CNPC.

In the presentation, I will share preliminary results of the project conducted at Sorbonne Université in September-October 2021 (supported by the Norwegian University Center in Paris). In the research, I examine how French corporations' activities reflect the official politics of France and what is the role of France in the emerging energy system running through the Russian Arctic. The study is focused on cooperation between the Total and Russian and Chinese companies in course of LNG projects in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation. The project involved analysis of interviews with representatives of French academia, political, and business circles, collected by the author, as well as of open video archives.

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Circular economy and Sámi food culture

The waste policies of European Union, strongly influenced by Circular Economy, are mandated to be utilized by all the member countries. They have been called as a product of "western hegemony that positions Eurocentric thought as 'universal', while localizing other forms of thought as at best folkloric" (Bell 2018). These policies define how waste is to be managed and handled. Indigenous sustainability has been studied for instance, through the contributions of Māori and Aboriginal peoples (Watene & Yap 2015), sustainable practices of re-use among indigenous groups in the Russian north (Siragusa & Arzyutov 2020) as well as engaging Circular Economy with indigenous Hawaiian philosophy called aloha ʻāina (Beamer et al. 2020).

In this on-going research project, funded by Interreg Nord as part of the Dialogues and Encounters in the Arctic -project, I aim to place Circular Economy in to dialogue with traditional Sámi culture and food citizenship. In my previous research, I have studied waste citizenship in the context of Circular Economy. Thus, I ask, whether institutional Circular Economy is able to learn from indigenous lifestyles that are often revered as ecologically sustainable. Moreover, are there unresolved conflicts with the sustainability of the Sámi when juxtaposed or combined with Circular Economy.

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International best practices for the arctic regional development

The Arctic is the prospective region with different opportunities and the global need to develop environmentally friendly technologies and programs. However, due to climate conditions and remoteness, opportunities turn to very financially costly projects; as a result, Arctic countries try to find a way how to develop their Arctic regions but do not spend the whole national budget there. On the other hand, the Arctic regions are the resource wealth territories, but due to their regionality, they do not accumulate local income and benefits only within the region, they are obligatory to share with the whole country.

Moreover, for recent years, a term of “sustainability” became a main goal to reach and a key challenge to achieve for remote areas especially in the Arctic. Despite active international Arctic programs, ongoing internal and external investments to the Arctic regions and Arctic natural resources wealth, the level of Arctic regional development is not sustainable. Moreover, the circumpolar countries politically unable to decide what are their priorities in the Arctic: either extraction natural resources or regional development with investments. Therefore, the purpose of this doctoral research is to empirically examine the impact of financial inflows on the development of the Arctic regions by comparing Canadian (Yellowknife region), Finnish (Lapland region), Norwegian (Finnmark region) and Russian (Yamal region) experiences. Unlike other studies, I consider how stakeholders with various Arctic related interests affect regional Arctic development: infrastructure, regional economic, migration and social benefits.

Moreover, within the analysis of stakeholders’ influence would show the best international practices for the Arctic regions. The research also aims to exchange regional experiences, which could be also successfully implemented in other Arctic regions.

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and Gerald Zojer

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A chronology of freezing

Climate change – and environmental degradation more generally – often gets related to modern life style: To the impacts of the ideology of consumerism; Of the need of having everything accessible all the time; And of living fast and hyper-efficient. The effects of the metric rationality of economic growth reveal a shared vulnerability for all planetary life. Many concepts on mitigating the adverse impacts of human behaviour on nature come to the conclusion that our societies need to slow down, and (re-)develop a more intimate relationship with nature. In other words: decelerate towards minimalism, in order to maximise the potentials of societal relationships with nature.

In our audiovisual adventure of deceleration we create space for details. Triadic Memories (1981) is a large scale solo piano piece by the American composer Morton Feldman. It offers a rare chance for the thoughts to drift away. As it operates predominately by echoes and resonances of different sonic colours, it gives space for us to quiet down and slow down and pay attention to the small gradual processes. It is an antitheses to anything pompous and showy. As the pianist Luke Berryman described: it is a piece of or about “shared vulnerability”.

While the route of the Calotte Academy, from Rovaniemi to Hetta, travels up along the Ounasjoki river, the visual elements of our presentation start at its very top. The audible part of our performance is accompanied by zooming in into the water systems that feed the Ounasjoki river. Moving from statistics to the moment, we explore the process of deceleration during a change of the state of matter from liquid to solid, and from fluid to still.

Piano: Taina Niemelä
Cinematography: Gerald Zojer

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Karelian National Parks: National Landscapes, Living Spaces or Objects of Consumption?

In the last days of December 2017, Prime Minister of Russia Dmitry Medvedev signed a decree on the foundation of the Ladoga Skerries National Park. Not being familiar with this area, he wouldn't have known that in the 1930-s there were two protected areas (Hiisjärvi and Paksuniemi) in North Ladoga. Also, a view from Riekkalansaari island was recognized as an important Finnish national landscape and depicted on a Finnish banknote. However, this former Finnish territory especially popular among Finnish tourists found itself under the protection of the state two years ago. Notwithstanding that seemingly valuable action which provided the protection of nature and the development of ecotourism, the local community did not support the idea of a national park and the people of Sortavala collected 10,000 signatures against it. Why were the local people united against this idea and why did the foundation of the park led to a social-environmental conflict? In my PhD research, I study the triangular relationship between national park, ecotourists and dwellers through the lens of environmental history.

Taking a wider look at the development of ecotourism and national parks in the Republic of Karelia, I consider the issue of discontinuity between official environmental policy and its implementation. Europe-inspired modernization faces resistance from local dwellers, who perceive it as modernization from “the top” and from abroad. To say it in other words, this is a conflict between tourism landscapes and living spaces. My study examines history of protected areas and development of ecotourism the Republic of Karelia based on archive sources and oral history evidences. I propose that the slow growth of ecotourism, despite attempts of regional authorities and assistance of the EU, is due to several reasons. Remote location and poor infrastructure of national parks are obvious ones. The meaning of national parks and their functions are vague for local communities, which often consider wildlife areas as their own living space. Finally, national parks in the Republic of Karelia as well as in Russia are not national or regional symbols of significance and the visiting of national parks did not achieve self-identification for tourists.

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The bottlenecks of the Northern Axis – Barents Link transport corridor

In overall Northern Axis-Barents Link project aims to identify the main bottlenecks of the NABL transport corridor and contribute to its harmonization by summarizing all 10 project studies to so called Action Plan with future recommendations. 6/10 studies are completed.

We have two pre-studies of principles of the alternative main lines on roads between Vartius – Arkhangelsk and Arkhangelsk – Naryan-Mar, the Nenets Autonomous District. A new road from Arkhangelsk to Vartius/Lytta would shorten the car journey to 8 hours and 495 km from current 1200 km and 19h. We have also completed studies on impacts of diversification of road & rail freight & passenger transport on the Vartius/Lytta border crossing point.

From four railroad project studies are completed the study on economy visibility of Kontiömäki – Taivalkoski – Kemijärvi railway and improvement needs of Oulu – Kontiomäki. We are waiting to get in few months some results from the study on double tracking of the Ofotbanen – Malbanan from our Norwegian partners as well as study on the impacts of Russian Railways' projects on Barents Region Transport.

In addition to road and railways studies we have study on wind energy potential along the Northern Axis -Barents Link ja study on impacts of creating a low-flight (civil aviation) corridor between Northern Finland and Russia.

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Protecting the Arctic marine environment from shipping – The pressing issue to close legal gaps in light of climate change

My research focuses on the protection of the Arctic marine environment from shipping in the Northwest Passage. Two crucial challenges currently facing Arctic waters are the problem of gray water discharges from ships and anthropogenic underwater noise pollution. Due to climate change and the progressive melting of sea-ice, in the near future cruise ships larger in size and greater in number will begin sailing in Arctic waters. As it is cruise ships in particular that contribute primarily to gray water discharges and the multiplication of anthropogenic underwater noise, this

enhanced traffic will significantly increase marine pollution. However, no legally binding framework is currently in place to regulate those harmful discharges. On a national basis, Canada, for example, is currently in the process of developing a solution for a suitable filtration treatment plant for ships to reduce the discharge of micro plastics into the sea. Gray water discharges from passenger ships are to some extent regulated in Alaskan waters. Greenland included gray water in their legislation but did not regulate it in detail. These nationally bounded attempts by countries are significant steps forward. Regarding noise pollution from shipping, attempts to regulate the issue have been made, however, have not yet led to an agreement on a legally binding framework. By providing guidelines and recommendations based on their assessment reports, the Arctic Council is informing environmental protection regimes and plays a crucial role in addressing those issues. To ensure a comprehensive protection of the marine environment, a holistic governance structure needs to be in place that considers the ecosystem as a whole. From a legal perspective, the most critical step to international cooperation in the Arctic is establishing international legally binding laws and regulations that address pollutants impacting the Arctic waters. Addressing those relatively small issues through international cooperation could provide a model for international cooperation and legislation of even greater and more pressing threats to the Arctic. Enhanced international collaboration could ultimately lead to better and safer legislation of the Arctic environment, laws that due to their environmental impact will have great resonance throughout the entire globe.

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The government of each and all in everyday digital security in the European Arctic

This presentation is based on my doctoral thesis currently in preliminary examination and discussing digitalisation and everyday digital security in Finnish Lapland. It briefly goes through the entanglement of digital development and security in Arctic governance and the three primary framings of cybersecurity (techno-administrative, strategic, and human-centric), before examining governmental rationality and the techniques of government through which digital development and its securitisation in the European Arctic are carried out. The main argument is that the contemporary framings of both digital development and cybersecurity support governmentality that fails to produce everyday digital security in the European Arctic, while the critical potentiality embedded in human-centric perspectives may enable thinking differently. Thinking differently, again, may generate security in support of freedom in the emerging cyber-physical life environments.

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Artistic collaboration in Sámi research

In my presentation, I will discuss how to develop art-based practices of collaboration and co-creation in Sámi research. I will particularly elaborate how to combine artistic expression to social scientific research in order to both diversify the knowledge production and to open wider perspectives to many contemporary challenges. The analysis is based on the experiences of a collaborative project Viidon Sieiddit – the New Dimensions of the Sámi Nature Relations (2016-2017, funded by the Kone Foundation) which was an experimental project bringing together artistic work and research examining and imagining particular ways of the Sámi to be related to and care about (distant) natures of the globe in the era of environmental concern. The results of the project were among others presented as an art exhibition in the Sámi museum Siida, as a book published in North Sámi and Finnish and as a short film. In my presentation, I will bring forth what the community-based approach has meant in this project and how the cooperation has shaped the ways of working.

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A Discontinuous Earth: Permafrost Life in the Anthropocene

The scientific definition of permafrost – perennially frozen soil – may seem straightforward, but in an isolated corner of Northern Siberia it is anything but. Here, the permafrost is thawing due to anthropogenic climate change, and initial scientific studies suggest it is changing from a continuous frozen layer to a discontinuous one. In response, the Pleistocene Park is an ambitious rewilding project which attempts to mitigate this permafrost thaw through prehistoric ecological restoration as a way to – in their own words – ‘save the world’. Embedded within this shifting tundra landscape are multiple actors (not all of them human) who engage with and respond to the material forces of freeze and thaw: international scientists who monitor the permafrost for changes and communicate their findings to a global community; ivory tusk hunters who scour the tundra for preserved mammoth carcasses; critters plucked from far-flung places struggling to breed and survive in the harsh Arctic winter; strange and ancient viruses emerging from the melting permafrost; indigenous

reindeer herders attempting to adapt to climate change. Living on top of (or within) the permafrost generates different responses to its changing materiality, and reminds us we are an embedded part of a dynamic Earth.

The proposed new epoch of the Anthropocene categorises humans as major geologic agents, wreaking environmental damage. Mitigation strategies like the Pleistocene Park are attempts to reverse this anthropogenic destruction, but any such strategy must take into account the lively and unpredictable forces of melting and freezing. Much like the material shift from continuous to discontinuous, the slippery and multiple meanings of permafrost might also be categorised as 'discontinuous'. Drawing on fieldwork undertaken at the Pleistocene Park, as well as a winter spent at the Permafrost Institute in Yakutsk, I will examine the ways thawing permafrost generates different responses to Anthropocene living, and how the definition of permafrost is anything but permanent.

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Internationalisation of the "third mission" — a way towards the paradiplomatic actorness of higher education institutions on the Finnish-Russian border?

During the last decades, worldwide and regionally, e.g. also in the High North of Europe, higher education (and research) institutions (HERIs) undergo significant changes in their missions. The importance of the "third mission", the one of social engagement by revitalising the economic and socio-cultural profile of the regional and local communities (Laredo 2007), is rising vis-à-vis two traditional missions, those of teaching and doing research. Experiencing "entrepreneurial turn" (Nelles & Vorley 2010), HERIs serve societal needs by educating skilled specialists, producing new knowledge and engaging in territorial development on different scales, including trans-frontier spaces.

Trying to perform better in all the three missions, universities search for inspiration and resources in their external environment, which often includes international and cross-border dimension. On the Soviet-Finnish, then Finnish-Russian, now EU-Russian border cooperation between HERIs started with internationalisation of research (research visits) during the Cold War time, continued with internationalisation of teaching (teachers and students exchange) in the 1990s, coming to the internationalisation of the third mission since 2000s, when the cross-border cooperation (CBC) processes have been institutionalised in Euregio Karelia and EU-Russia CBC programmes. Since then and currently, HERIs implement, and participate in, dozens of CBC projects in many fields of socio-economic development. As shown by the recent research, on the Finnish-Russian border,

HERIs have taken the lead in the field of CBC and act as the network hubs (Makkonen 2018) and can thus be called the significant actors of regional paradiplomacy. HERIs have, without a doubt, a significant experience and expertise in CBC issues, which can be used in developing CBC programmes in sake of regional development and in line with the notion of “responsible university” (Sørensen et al. 2019).

However, my preliminary findings in studying the ENPI/ENI CBC programmes on the Finnish-Russian border suggest that HERIs did not get any paradiplomatic actorness and have not become important partners for regional bureaucrats in drafting, developing or evaluating the CBC programmes. The paper aims to find out the main reasons and obstacles for HERIs to became actors in regional paradiplomacy and cross-border governance on the Finnish-Russian border.

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Cross-border cooperation and science diplomacy as factors of self-development for communities in the Murmansk region

We aim at showcasing the influence of cross-border cooperation at different levels from regional and municipal governance to other local communities on self-development of the territories of the Arctic zone in Russia. Murmansk region is the model region and the only subject of the Arctic zone of the RF which has the direct land borders to two countries – Norway and Finland. The international cooperation in Murmansk region has the systematic pattern within the well-established regional agreements of cooperation. Even though such cooperation is random within the spatio-territorial projection of the region, international financial programs for the development of socio-economic potential of the border territory greatly contribute to the extension of social, economic and scientific infrastructure of the region predetermining the investment attractiveness of the territories and help to build the comprehensive, overarching rather than segregated nature of cooperation. The institutional components of regional science diplomacy take different forms and shapes. Together with the active involvement of municipal and regional governments acting within the state inquiry for the active cross-border activity, such approach provides better support and facilitation for the science connections in the transborder area and lets the regional stakeholders to indicate and implement their own priorities and aims. This helps them to maintain their own development in the hierarchical vertical management system within the country. Also, such a cooperation is mostly built at the level of educational and scientific actors which reflects their high level and skills of project management of CBC initiatives, but also showcase the intense development of science diplomacy practices.

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Technology and Power in a Digitising Arctic: A Neo-Gramscian Approach to Digitalisation

Digitalisation changes the way of life, how people think, act and behave, which makes the digital revolution as significant to mankind as the industrial revolution. While digitalisation is a global phenomenon, the impacts of a technology differ related to a region's socio-economic and cultural peculiarities. Prevailing digitalisation policies in the European Arctic tend to be state-centric, techno-determinist and positivist, but come short in acknowledging new challenges that people and communities experience amidst digitalisation on individual or community level.

However, technology is not neutral but developed within a certain political mindset and culture, and thus embeds socio-economic and cultural values. Such factors develop in a certain time and space which depend on a stable configuration that – following the heuristic approaches of a neo-Gramscian perspective – can be described as a hegemony. Values and norms are embedded in "economic imaginaries" of the various actors with different access to power and resources, which struggle for the generalisation of their interests to construct a specific world order. Hegemony is thereby produced by the interplay of ideas, material capacities, and institutions.

The paper I want to present (which is work in progress) analyses how the diffusion of digital technologies – embedded in a certain legal framework – is part of global-local power dynamics, and contributes in building or maintaining a hegemony. By combining approaches from Science and Technology Studies with neo-Gramscian approaches to International Political Economy, my study analyses the "economic imaginaries" that are embedded in the technologies of the leading companies of digitalisation. It addresses how the values of a laissez-faire capitalism are encoded in digital tools (e.g. addictive design choices, algorithms, etc.), as well as how the privatisation of monopolised markets (e.g. platform economy), or the exploitation of gig-workers create dependencies and challenge local developments.

About TN on Geopolitics and Security

The Thematic Network (TN) on Geopolitics and Security, established and approved in 2009, is one of the academic & expert networks of the University of the Arctic. 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 strategies & policies of states and Indigenous peoples' organizations"; "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: https://arcticpolitics.com): Firstly, publishes annually The Arctic Yearbook – the first volume was launched in November 2012 and the next one in October 2020 (see: https://arcticyearbook.com); Secondly, organizes panels on Arctic security and geopolitics at the annual Arctic Circle Assembly (in Reykjavik, Iceland); co-organizes the annual international travelling symposium and doctoral school, Calotte Academy; 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); "The Global Arctic", an international expert network and project producing for example, "The Handbook of the GlobalArctic" and the MOOC of the Global Arctic.

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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 open access publication, published online at https://arcticyearbook.com to ensure wide distribution and accessibility to a variety of stakeholders and observers. The 10th edition of the Arctic Yearbook was launched on 19 November, during the 2021 Calotte Academy.

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Editions

Arctic Yearbook 2012: ”Arctic Policies and Strategies”

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Selected Articles of Calotte Academy – A travelling northern symposium on science and politics

The book “Selected Articles of Calotte Academy – A travelling northern symposium on science and politics,” edited by Lassi Heininen and Jussi Huotari, and published by the Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security, was launched on 15 November, during the 2021 Calotte Academy.

The “Selected Articles of Calotte Academy ” publications consists of 54 scholarly articles from the annual academies in 1991-2019, and the Academy’s (first time) written history.

A digital copy of the book can be downloaded for free from https://arcticpolitics.com.

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