



# 2017 Calotte ACADEMY

*Perceptions of the Arctic:  
Rich or Scarce, Mass-scale or Traditional, Conflict or Cooperation?*

in Inari, Kirkenes, Apatity and Umeå

June 1–11, 2017

## Contents

Program.....	4
10.00 – 12.45 Session 1: "Outsiders' perceptions of the Arctic" .....	4
14.15 – 17.30 Session 2: "The Saami and diversity of energy" .....	4
14.00– 18.15 Session 3: "Energy".....	5
9.30 – 12.00 Session 4: "Security" .....	5
13.00 – 16.00 Session 5: "Arctic urbanism and tourism".....	5
9.30 – 12.30 Session 6: "Science Diplomacy" .....	7
9.30 – 12.00 Session 8: "Sustainability and communities".....	8
Abstracts in alphabetical order .....	9

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

## **Theme of the 2017 Academy**

The theme of the 2017 Academy is 'Perceptions of the Arctic: Rich or Scarce, Mass-scale or Traditional, Conflict or Cooperation?'. The focus is inspired by the fact that there is a growing global interest, even a hype, from many actors, also from outside, towards the Arctic region and its resources, as well as Arctic issues. Furthermore, the northernmost region of the globe and related issues are widely discussed in politics and academia, also misunderstood, or simply not understood. Due to rapid climate change within the circumpolar North and the expected consequences of mass-scale utilization of the region's resources, there are several different perceptions of the Arctic, or the North Pole region, and its real nature, depending on one's position, profession, interest or mind-set. Indeed, the Arctic, as well as the entire circumpolar North, can be perceived in many different ways, and various viewpoints can focus, for example on the environment and nature (richness – scarcity, darkness – brightness), reindeer (Rudolf-style – freely pasturing), economics and livelihoods (mass-scale – traditional), people(s) and nation(s) (indigenous – settlers), knowledge and expertise (Western science – traditional/local knowledge), politics and power (hegemony – empowerment, conflict – cooperation).

## **About the procedure**

The Calotte Academy is structured so that there are academic sessions with scientific presentations and brainstorming discussion in each location, as well as a public session, based on invitations, in one or two of the locations. Since dialogue and application of science are the most important goals of the Calotte Academy, it is recommended to remember and apply the open-ended nature of a dialogue and how to cross disciplines, sectors and other borders. A fundamental precondition for this is to have time enough for questions, comments and open discussion as well as enough patience for listening to others' argumentation. Following from these principles, the sessions will be structured so that each presentation will be allocated altogether 30-35 minutes out of which 15 minutes (maximum) will be reserved for the presentation and the rest for questions and comments, and open discussion.

The 2017 Academy is also an interdisciplinary brainstorming meeting for scholars and other experts from different fields and disciplines all over the circumpolar North to discover innovations and new methods and to make plan and possible applications for international research project(s): in the Calotte Academy sessions themes and content of further Calotte Academies will be brainstormed, as well as those of other events of the TN on Geopolitics and Security.

After the Calotte Academy, a Final Report including the abstracts, and main findings, highlights and ideas for potential research questions and projects of the 2017 Academy's sessions will be produced (see Final Reports on previous Calotte Academies in address: [www.arcticpolitics.com](http://www.arcticpolitics.com)). The Report will be written by the presenters / participants who will choose the themes and sessions which they want to report on during the Calotte Academy tour.

# Program

## Thursday, June 1:

Sajos, Inari

9.00 (local time)

### 9:30-10:00 Opening session:

- Opening words by Rector Liisa Holmberg, Sami Educational Institute and Professor Lassi Heininen University of Lapland, Finland
- Introduction of participants
- Introduction of the program and procedure of, and division of work in, the 2017 Calotte Academy, and an announcement of Calotte Academy related activity

### 10.00 – 12.45 Session 1: "Outsiders' perceptions of the Arctic"

- Professor Min PAN, Tong Ji University, China: *Chinese Perception of the Arctic: Based on 100 interviewees*
- Tiina Takala, University of Lapland, Finland: *"Clean arctic air – Phenomenological study on Chinese tourists' sensory experiences of arctic purity"*
- PhD candidate Florian Vidal, University of Paris Descartes, France: *"French Arctic Vision: Policy and public perceptions"*

Lunch (own cost)

### 14.15 – 17.30 Session 2: "The Saami and diversity of energy"

- PhD candidate Laura Olsén, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland: *"Integrating traditional ecological knowledge into national environmental decision making processes"*
- MA Student Ilia Popov, Petrozavodsk State University, Russia: *Sport as a factor for identity-construction process (the case of Sami)*
- PhD candidate Hanna Lempinen, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland: *"Beyond dichotomies: Re-reading energy in the Arctic"*

## Friday, June 2

Barents Institute, Kirkenes

9.30 departure for Kirkenes, Picnic lunch (own cost) by waterfall in Neiden

### 14.00– 18.15 Session 3: “Energy”

- PhD candidate Jussi Huotari, Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki, Finland: *“The next energy frontier? Development of offshore oil and gas exploration and exploitation in the Arctic”*  
Sander Goes *Conflicts between oil-producing states and oil companies: a never ending story?*
- PhD candidate Gerald Zojer, University of Lapland, Finland: *“When the oil comes back: adaptation of Arctic inhabitants to hydrocarbon technologies”*
- PhD candidate Ilya A. Stepanov, Higher School of Economics, Russia: *“The Northern Sea Route as Cogwheel of Russian Arctic Development”*

## Saturday, June 3

Barents Insitute, Kirkenes

### 9.30 – 12.00 Session 4: “Security”

- PhD candidate Salla Kalliojärvi, University of Lapland, Finland: *“Globalized Arctic and redefining security in the frames of climate change”*
- PhD candidate Francisco Coelho Cuogo, University of Minho, Portugal: *“The middle powers in the construction of the Arctic geopolitics: An analysis of the Canadian protagonism”*
- PhD candidate Jason Parry, Binghamton University, USA: *“The Northern Gateway: On the Making of the GIUK Gap”*
- PhD candidate Luiza Saatova, Novosibirsk State University, Russia: *“Risk identification and assessment in public-private partnership arctic projects using the real options theory”*

12.00 – 13.30 Lunch (own cost)

### 13.00 – 16.00 Session 5: ”Arctic urbanism and tourism”

- PhD candidate Victor Frankowski, Goldsmiths University of London *“Urban Arctic Visual Survey: Part One – Kirkenes”*
- Researcher Eileen Esperitu, Barents Institute, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, Norway: *“Spectacular Speculation: Arctic futures in transition”*

- PhD candidate Yulia Zaika, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia: “*Personal and research identity as a Northerner in the light of the Arctic hype: experiences, examples, challenges and opportunities.*”
- PhD candidate Ayonghe Akonwi Nebasifu, University of Lapland, Finland: “*Whiteness as in Snow: an Identity for Arctic Tourism? A Policy Assessment of Finnish Lapland*”

16.30 Departure for Murmansk

### **Sunday, June 4**

Murmansk

Departure to Apatity through Lovozero

**Monday June 5**  
Kola Science Center, Apatity

9.30 – 12.30 Session 6: “Science Diplomacy”

- MA Student Hege Kallbekken, UiT- The Arctic University of Norway, Norway: “*Paradiplomacy in the Arctic*”
- MA Student Fredrik Angell, UiT - The Arctic University of Norway, Norway: “*The Duality of Science Diplomacy*”
- Professor Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen, UiT-The Arctic University of Norway, Norway: *The Political Psychology of the Arctic: Elite and Mass Perceptions and Decisions*”
- Senior Researcher Svetlana Tuinova, Lulin Institute for Economic Studies KSC RAS, Russia: “*The cauldron of forces influencing Arctic perceptions*”

Lunch

13.00 – 17.15 Session 7: “Environment”

- PhD candidate Anna Maretskaya, Lulin Institute for Economic Studies KSC RAS, Russia and Researcher Valentina Maretskaya, Institute Lulin Institute for Economic Studies KSC RAS: “*Historical aspects of agricultural development in Murmansk region*”
- Senior researcher, Ludmila Ivanova, Lulin Institute for Economic Studies, KSC RAS, Russia: “*Mining areas in the Arctic: sacrifice zones or sustainable landscapes? (the case of the Murmansk region in Russia)*”
- Professor Matthias Finger, École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland and Andrea Finger-Stich, “*The construction of representations of the Arctic in international environmental policy making from the end of the cold war on: shifting concepts around contested limits and their impacts on the Arctic as a global- local and regional place.*”
- Professor Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland, Finland: “*Geopolitical imagination only? - Arctic stability and resilience amidst world order change / reformulate world politics*”

Dinner

## Tuesday, June 6

### 9.30 – 12.00 Session 8: “Sustainability and communities”

- Head of Department of social policy in the North Larissa Riabova, Lulin Institute for Economic Studies KSC RAS, Russia: *“Sustainability of small Arctic communities: perceptions and strategies. A case study from Teriberka, Russia”*
- Director Igor Shevchuk, North Centre, KRC, RAS: *”International and interregional connectivity of protected areas in the European North”*
- Senior Researcher Anastasia Gasnikova, Lulin Institute for Economic Studies KSC RAS, Russia: *“Development of the electric power industry in the Russian Arctic”*
- Professor Alexander Sergunin, St. Petersburg State University, Russia: *“The Russian Discourse on the Arctic: Between Pragmatism and Romanticism?”*

Lunch

Excursion?

## Wednesday June 7

Travelling from Apatity to Rovaniemi

## Thursday June 8

travel to Umeå, Sweden

June 8-12 ICASS IX



## Abstracts in alphabetical order

Fredrik Angell  
Master student  
UiT The Arctic University of Norway  
fan006@post.uit.no

### *The Duality of Science Diplomacy*

I am currently writing my master thesis, which is due May 15th. If I am selected to participate at the Callotte Academy, I plan to present the findings of my thesis. The working title of my thesis is: The Duality of science Diplomacy. The topic of the thesis is Science Diplomacy, where my aim is to investigate how Science Diplomacy is understood and, how it is implemented in foreign policy strategies.

The examples that I use in my thesis are related to the Norwegian state's approach when interacting with to Non-Arctic actors such as China, Singapore, and South-Korea. In my work I try to look into if the role of Science Diplomacy is cemented as understood in a traditional IR approach, or if the concept is currently being reshaped to better fit into newer theories of IR? And in addition if it's so that the concept of Science Diplomacy is redefined, how will it affect state to state relations?

\*\*\*

Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen,  
Professor  
UiT-the Arctic University of Norway  
Rasmus.Bertelsen@uit.no

### *The Political Psychology of the Arctic: Elite and Mass Perceptions and Decisions*

This year's topic for the Calotte Academy of Perceptions of the Arctic raise the question of the Arctic as a topic of the Arctic as a study for political psychology and of the contributions of political psychology for studying the Arctic. Political psychology is the study of individual and group psychological processes for political decision-making and participation. Political psychology can roughly be divided into two perspectives, an elite decision-maker perspective and a mass perspective. The elite decision-maker perspective focuses on how the personality and cognitive processes of decision-makers affect their perception, judgment and decisions. The mass perspective focuses on how large groups of people, for instance, as voters, perceive and decide. The elite perspective has often focused on foreign policy decision-making studies. The mass perspective has often focused on voting, racism, prejudice and similar questions. So what can we learn from applying the political psychology perspective to the Arctic?

Elite political psychology and the Arctic: the Arctic has for centuries been an integrated part of the international system and deeply influenced by outside decisions. How can political psychology be used to study how outside decision-makers perceive and make decision affecting the Arctic? What do outside decision-makers know about the Arctic, how are their perceptions of the Arctic formed, and what effects do these perceptions have on their decisions? There are very few powerful elites within Arctic societies, but they can also be studied along the same lines.

Mass political psychology and the Arctic can both apply to groups inside and outside the Arctic. A key topic of research for mass political psychology is prejudice and perceptions of other groups, either ethnic, social or racial groups. Here it is obvious, that political psychology has much to offer for studying both perceptions and behavior between groups in the Arctic and between the Arctic and outside. In the Arctic, there are relevant relations between local and indigenous groups, colonized and colonizers. Likewise, how do outsiders perceive the Arctic? One example of outside mass political psychology of enormous social impact in the Arctic is concerning whaling and sealing.

\*\*\*

Francisco Coelho Cuogo  
Doctorate student  
Political Science and International Relations  
University of Minho, Portugal  
[cuogo.francisco@gmail.com](mailto:cuogo.francisco@gmail.com)

*The middle powers in the construction of the Arctic geopolitics: An analysis of the Canadian protagonism*

Although the Arctic is the scene of political and economic interests among the sovereign states of the region, it is still a geographic space that has been free of armed conflicts. Climate change, however, whose effects affect the region's environmental balance and access to energy sources, can cause tension between these actors, influencing the direction of disputes in the Circumpolar North. Such effects can unchain antagonistic results: they can provoke military conflicts, such as the 40% of the armed conflicts recorded in the last six decades, around the world, due to disputes over the control of natural resources; Or they can condition the actors in the region to a cooperative relationship. Although the first possibility is less likely, it can not be ruled out, since two great actors in the Arctic have a history of international action strongly driven by realistic view and prone to conflicts. The second option, indeed, is more consistent with the role of middle powers and whose role in the Arctic has been crucial for the cooperation in the region. An actor, however, has been having an unexpected behavior in the extreme north of the globe when compared to his protagonism in world politics: Canada. In the international system Canada has positioned itself as a multicultural country, dynamic in conflicts resolution and presents a peacemaker dialogue on controversial issues in world politics. In the Arctic, however, this actor has been aggressive in economic and military affairs, and does not always follow the expected behavior of a middle power. Therefore, in this work we analyze, firstly, how the geopolitical space of the Arctic is being constructed. Second, what has been the influence of norms and values of the middle powers for the cooperation in the region. Third, we compare Canada's role in the Arctic with its discourse and its practices in international politics. Finally, we show that the unique and exclusive scenario of the Arctic in international geopolitics presents conditions that challenge the logic of action even of the middle powers

\*\*\*

Aileen A. Espíritu

*Spectacular Speculation: Arctic futures in transition*

Sparked by global climate change, rapid economic and industrial development in Asia and our ongoing demand for energy resources, polities in the seemingly internationally insignificant High North/Arctic have called attention to their importance in the world market. Heavily dependent on imaginaries, hopes, dreams and, at times, wild anticipations of economic resources boom in oil and gas development and fisheries in the Arctic Ocean, mining on the Circumpolar Arctic landscape, and winter tourism, communities in the High North have set the scene for spectacular performances to prove their value and their abilities to compete on the world stage. This chapter on "Spectacular Speculation: Arctic futures in transition" frames these imaginaries, hopes, dreams and anticipations within tropes of hyperbuilding, hyperdevelopment and hyperindustrialization elucidated in Aihwa Ong's paradigm of

“hyperspaces of sovereignty” in Asia. I focus, however, not on the literal building of physical skyscrapers and signature structures of concrete and steel in order to symbolise greatness and prowess, but rather on the creation of hyperspaces of discourse exemplified in the pageantry of mega and spectacular events in three Arctic cities in the Norwegian High North: Tromsø, Kirkenes and Longyearbyen.

\*\*\*

Andréa Finger and Matthias Finger École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland

*“The construction of representations of the Arctic in international environmental policy making from the end of the cold war on: shifting concepts around contested limits and their impacts on the Arctic as a global- local and regional place.”*

The discourses produced in the context of international environmental policy making since the end of the eighties portray largely the Arctic as a limit to unsustainable development paths taking place globally. We propose to recall these various concepts and to critically discuss their shifting signification and the changing strategies of actions they indicate on the part of various social actors shaping international environmental policies, and the production of knowledge aimed at influencing these process and their power relationships.

The concepts we discuss include the shifts from “sustainable development” to “social and ecological resilience” and the related changes in perspectives (from the inside and the outside of the Arctic) and scales (global-regional-local) at which these terms are used. We will discuss also the images constructed of the Arctic in relation with the concepts of “tipping points”. And we will critically assess finally what these shifts mean in relation to shifting concerns from climate mitigation to adaptation.

It is also because the social actors constructing these concepts about the Arctic as a limit to global growth from within natural and then social sciences into policy making processes have also recognized their lack of success in remedying the problems they portray, and that the boundaries or thresholds of the actual limits (ecological, climatic, social and political) are endlessly contested, that they have developed new concepts. But do these new concepts in effect carry forth truly new representations of the Arctic and of the global and regional problems it/we face ? Do they empower some actors for some new strategies of action ? Along which criteria and indicators, and which variables explaining changing agency, can we measure the impacts of these shifting international representations of the global Arctic ? We will outline the key concepts in the history of international environmental policy making and hope to outline, in discussion among the participants of the Calotte academy 2017, a common understanding of what variables need to be considered when assessing the impacts of these diverse representations of the Arctic – on the Arctic as not only a global, but also a local and regional place.

We will discuss how social sciences have adopted the “resilience” concept, as they did the “sustainable development” term from natural sciences and natural resources management perspectives (hence ecology and forestry), and that their integration in social sciences (economic, social and political sciences) has served strategies for developing environmental and some social policies addressing global problems such as cc at the advantage of certain types of actors. This integration has raised political debates and eventually their partial mainstreaming (into prevalent structures of power), as well as their contestation or belittlement.

\*\*\*

Victor Frankowski  
Goldsmiths University of London  
vfran001@gold.ac.uk

*Urban Arctic Visual Survey: Part One - Kirkenes*

Urban centres in the Arctic are starting to go through major changes due to geopolitical and economical developments in the region. In our lifetime sustainable urban growth development is going to play a key factor in maintaining a fine line between human habitations and nature's exploitation. The Arctic North has become a major economical zone with increase in natural resources exploration, shipping, tourism and urbanisation. The multi-media project looks at creating visual urban survey of industrialised Arctic towns and changes experienced in them due to globalisation, migration and climate change.

The initial presented section is focused on, an 18 month, research on the border city of Kirkenes in far north eastern Norway. Its geo-political positioning in the Barents region makes it a central part in the future growth, development and trans national relations between Russia, Finland and Norway. The size, economy, multiculturalism and history presents a case study into what changes the town is experiencing and the affect on its future planning and development. The town is currently going through a period of change of industry with Sydvaranger iron ore mine closing down for the second time in twenty years in 2016. Tourism is becoming the central focus with the emergence of winter tourism over the past fifteen years also bringing a focus on cultural capital and trans- border relations.

Through photography and digital-media this section of the project looks at developing a methodological framework focused on the overlapping themes of industry, environment and migration. Allowing for the replication of the research in four other similar sized settlements in different regions of the Arctic. With the aim to return to each of them once every five years, creating a visual archive of the changing urban Arctic localities.

\*\*\*

Anastasia Gasnikova  
Luzin Institute for Economic Studies  
KSC RAS,

#### *Development of the electric power industry in the Russian Arctic*

The Russian Arctic is heterogeneous. It is possible to identify two groups of districts differing by level of economic development and conditions of energy supply.

The first group includes the economically developed districts. Natural resources extraction and processing industries are developed there, and the population density is relatively high. Centralized power supply is developed there. Traditional electric power industry dominates: thermal power plants, hydropower plants, and in a few cases nuclear power plants. Existing large traditional electric power plants can not be replaced with power plants based on non-traditional renewable energy sources in a short period of time. The important tasks of development of electric power industry in the economically developed districts are maintaining sufficient energy capacity, development of power transmission lines, ensuring fuel supply for the thermal power plants.

The second group includes industrially undeveloped districts. They are inhabited mostly by rural population and indigenous peoples. The important task is to provide energy supply of many small decentralised energy consumers. As a rule, such consumers are supplied from small autonomous diesel generators. However, small power generators based on renewable energy sources (in the first place, wind energy) are used in these districts. To a large extent, it is explained by the fact that renewable energy sources are local ones, and their use allows decreasing the problem of delivery of fuel from other regions and reducing the cost of electricity generation.

Therefore, there is not only one right choice between small or large, traditional or non-traditional power plants (generators). Perspectives of the energy industry development depend on the level of industrial development, existing energy infrastructure, and the estimation of energy demand in the future.

\*\*\*

Sander Goes  
Barents Institute,  
University of Tromsø, The Arctic University of Norway

*“Conflicts between oil-producing states and oil companies: a never ending story?”*

Lassi Heininen  
Professor  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
University of Lapland, Finland  
[lassi.heininen@ulapland.fi](mailto:lassi.heininen@ulapland.fi)

*“Geopolitical imagination only? - Arctic stability and resilience amidst world order change / reformulate world politics”*

The original discourse, and one of the relevant discourses, of Arctic studies is how the Arctic is, or should be, (re)defined, if any strict definition is necessary at all. The Arctic states (re)define themselves as Arctic nations and map their northernmost regions as part of the Arctic region, and numerous non-Arctic states follow and reposition themselves towards the Arctic. Arctic indigenous peoples, having their origins in the region, have their own clear arctic perception. There are also younger generations of settlers who identify themselves as Northerners. All in all, there are several perceptions of the Arctic, and the real nature of ‘Arcticness’ depends on several factors, including one’s position, profession, interest or mind-set. In Arctic geopolitics there is a dualism of, and partly competition between, two main perceptions: whether the Arctic is “being militarized”, or a “region of dialogue” based on high stability and institutionalized cooperation. There are also more fresh, even unorthodox, points of view emphasizing that new multi-dimensional dynamics has made Arctic geopolitics global, and the globalized Arctic has relevant implications worldwide. Further, that the globalized, stable Arctic can be interpreted as an asset to reformulate world politics with ‘uncommon instabilities’ and cause a cultural shift for (Arctic) resilience. This kind of imagination has also been discussed in the Calotte Academy within its 25 years.

This presentation will start by listing a few ‘geo-names’, and showing different maps, of the entire North. Second, it will describe different, partly contradictory, ways on how to perceive, define and imagine the Arctic, having various points of view as a focus (e.g. richness and scarcity of nature, the environment as exotic or a linchpin, classical or critical geopolitics, mass-scale or traditional economy, western or traditional knowledge, hegemonic power or empowerment. Thirdly, the presentation will list and discuss different variables (re)defining the Arctic, and examine interesting interpretations and imaginaries of the entire North. Finally, it will imagine Arctic stability and resilience amidst world order change, and reformulating world politics.

\*\*\*

Jussi Huotari  
PhD candidate  
Aleksanteri-institute,  
University of Helsinki, Finland  
[Jussi.a.huotari@helsinki.fi](mailto:Jussi.a.huotari@helsinki.fi)

*“The next energy frontier? Development of offshore oil and gas exploration and exploitation in the Arctic”*

This presentation focus on the offshore oil and gas development, and actors involved in, as well as, their interests in the Barents Sea and the Beaufort Sea. The Arctic is home for various and vast natural resources. The exploitation and trade of abundant natural resources has been, and still is, as basis for social-economic development in the region. Further, the trade that once was local has become more and more global hence serving international economy and global scramble of resources. Here the region’s rich, but still largely prospected hydrocarbon resources do not make an exception. Hence, various actors e.g. states, SOEs and TNCs are actively searching for undiscovered oil and gas deposits, and further their exploitation. Still, hydrocarbon production in the Arctic is not a new phenomenon as operations have been active e.g. in Russia and Alaska for decades. However, as consequence of over two-centuries long burning of fossil fuels, the loss of Arctic sea ice is increasing unlocking once inaccessible offshore resources. This together with substantial growth of oil and gas demand, concerns over the security of supplies and the soaring world market price of oil has attracted petroleum industry to the promising and prospective, but remote, Arctic waters. Thus, the Arctic is often described and interpreted as a ‘next energy frontier’ and a ‘resource bowl’.

The challenges for exploitation especially offshore sources are manifold compared to other oil/gas production regions. Hence, offshore petroleum production is in a very early stage. Further, the global transition toward alternative and clean energy supplies because of growing concern on climate change, fluctuation of oil process as well as geopolitical and geo-economic reasons have partly been slowing down and delaying the opening of oil and gas fields. So, has the ongoing transformation of energy supplies and concerns over energy security generated new nexus of Arctic resource geopolitics? And if so, will it mean slowing down or even abandoning of offshore drilling in the Northern waters? The performance and interests of three companies (Royal Dutch Shell, Statoil and Gazprom) toward Arctic offshore drilling will be presented and analyzed for to answer the questions.

\*\*\*

Ludmila Ivanova  
Senior researcher,  
Luzin Institute for Economic Studies  
KSC RAS

*Mining areas in the Arctic: sacrifice zones or sustainable landscapes? (the case of the Murmansk region in Russia)*

The international research project Arcticfront, was carried out by the Institute for Economic Studies of the Kola Science Centre of RAS in cooperation with Nordland Research Institute (Norway), Nord University (Norway), and Nordic Centre for Regional Development - Nordregio (Sweden). The project was aimed at studying the Arctic mining areas, including the Murmansk region in Russia. In these areas there are signs of natural ecosystems degradation due to unsustainable nature management and inefficient environmental conservation activities. Therefore in accordance with the theoretical principles of the ecosystem approach mining areas are called “sacrifice zones”, in which all other their functions are sacrificed for the material functions of the ecosystems or the economic value of minerals extracted. The purpose of the study was to identify the degree of awareness of the problem and evaluation of the negative social and economic consequences of the ecosystems destruction by representatives of local authorities, managers of mining companies, representatives of scientific and environmental organizations, tourism businesses, and the local community, which influence or seek to influence the decision-making process. On the Russian side two large mining operations in the Khibiny mountain massif within the municipality of Kirovsk and Apatity were investigated. Also the connections between natural and social values, like landscapes and welfare systems on the one side, and knowledge generation and governance systems on the other were studied. It was concluded that perceptions of sustainable development in these Russian industrial towns are shaped by the dominant

role mining industry plays on the Kola Peninsula in influencing the quality of life of local people and their perceptions of environmental concerns, including questions of pollution and landscape aesthetics.

\*\*\*

Hege Kallbekken  
MA Student,  
University of Tromsø  
[h.kallbekken@gmail.com](mailto:h.kallbekken@gmail.com)

*Paradiplomacy in the Arctic*

Paradiplomacy, or the involvement of sub-national units in international affairs, is a growing phenomenon, which is raising interesting questions related to issues of state sovereignty and power. These are especially relevant in the Arctic, where on the one hand, sub-national governments are actively using paradiplomacy to benefit their regions, but where the states on the other hand are dominating the main forum for international cooperation. The state-centrism in IR have largely left sub-national governments out of the scholarly literature. By applying the theoretical framework proposed by Kuznetsov (2015) I want to conduct a case study of the paradiplomacy of one or several Arctic sub-national units. From there, using neorealism and neoliberalism I will analyze the consequences of paradiplomacy on state sovereignty and power, and discuss the relationship between sub-national units' paradiplomacy and states' Westphalianism, and between globalization and Arctic "exceptionalism.

\*\*\*

Salla Kalliojärvi  
PhD candidate  
University of Lapland  
[skallioj@ulapland.fi](mailto:skallioj@ulapland.fi)

*Globalized Arctic and redefining security in the frames of climate change*

Climate change is increasingly being viewed through the lens of security, with expectations that climate impacts will foment instability and conflicts. Changes in climatic conditions have an impact not only on environment but on the political, economic and cultural structures of societies. Climate change is expected to intensify stress on natural resources that can increase human insecurities, state fragility, mass migration and conflicts. In some societies climate change is seen to already challenge the maintenance of food security and traditional ways of lives. The Arctic region is suggested to work as an early warning system for the planet, as the effects of climate change are expected to occur with a faster pace and be more exaggerated within the region. The Arctic is highly dependent on the actions taken out of the region in addressing and mitigating climate change, but the effects, such as the melting of ice, occurring within the Arctic also have a significant influence on the global scale.

Climate change rose onto the agenda of the United Nations Security Council the first time in 2007 and again in 2011. In the debates climate change was presented as a threat multiplier, a root cause of conflicts and even as an existential threat. It was also argued that climate change should not be approached as a security issue, as it only leads to further politicization of the issue and brings new obstacles for the achievement of effective action. In academia there have been warnings to the opposite direction, with the claims of securitization leading to a political state of exception, where emergency measures can be adopted above the established rules of the normal politics. This has also seen to carry a risk of expansion of the military logic into the terrains under securitization. However, it

is not only the security language that can transform the definition and governance of the securitized issue, but the influence is reciprocal.

The increasingly crucial role of climate change in the global and Arctic security is bringing forth new demands and challenges for the definition of security. The debates of the Security Council have not led to the adaptation of exceptional measures, but have worked as an attempt of rearticulation of the meaning of security. The presentation will discuss how the framing of climate change as a security issue affects the traditional understanding of security.

.....

Anna Maretskaya,  
PhD student  
Institute Luzin Institute for Economic Studies  
KSC RASciences, Apatity  
[anna\\_maretskaya@mail.ru](mailto:anna_maretskaya@mail.ru)

Valentina Maretskaya,  
Researcher  
Institute Luzin Institute for Economic Studies  
KSC RASciences, Apatity  
[maretskaya@iep.kolasc.net.ru](mailto:maretskaya@iep.kolasc.net.ru)

*Historical aspects of agricultural development in Murmansk region*

Abstract. The main development stages of agriculture in Murmansk region since the beginning of the development of its territory and up to the present time are considered. The founder of agricultural farming and crop production in the Arctic is Johann Eyhveld. On the basis of his scientific and practical activities in the Kola Peninsula was emerged and developed agricultural production, as a new economic sector in Murmansk region. In 1923, under his leadership, it was founded in the Khibiny experienced agricultural station, whose aim It was founded Experienced Agricultural Station under his leadership In 1923. The main aim was to prove that in the Arctic Circle could develop agriculture.

In 1929, massive collectivization began on the coast of Murmansk. In which result more than 30 fisheries have been created by 1936. Reindeer collective and state farms were created in the Murmansk region along with the collectivization of fisheries.

In 60 – 70 years were appeared several large farms and a few dozen small farms. Poultry farming, fur farming and dairy farming were profitable and cost-effective on the Kola peninsula. The main types of agricultural activities are listed, which were implemented by agro-scientists in the conditions of the Kola region. Due to their efforts, the North was able to develop a diversified agricultural production.

Thus Murmansk region has become one of the most important industrial centers of the country by 1991 from the border region, which had no industry. The conclusion is that, despite the low level of domestic agricultural production at the moment, it is important for the population of the Murmansk region.

.....

Hanna Lempinen  
Researcher, PhD Candidate  
Arctic Centre, University of Lapland  
[hanna.lempinen@ulapland.fi](mailto:hanna.lempinen@ulapland.fi)

*Beyond dichotomies: Re-reading energy in the Arctic*

In contemporary political and popular debates, the Arctic is still often portrayed as the ‘world’s new energy province’ and the ‘treasure chamber’ for Arctic states and international corporate actors: as a



region tremendously rich in oil and gas resources only waiting to be exploited and transported to the world markets. In these framings, the region is constructed as one of resource conflict or competition or as one of profitable economic cooperation. Portrayals like this not only this violently simplify the diversity of issues associated with energy in the north but are also not free of underlying value commitments nor innocent in their potential consequences.

In this presentation I provide an alternative reading of the Arctic energyscape through an analysis of texts and images of northern media reporting and Arctic scientific assessments and reports. Based on a series of observations made during a working process of a doctoral dissertation, I 1) draw attention to diversity of energy in the Arctic and plurality of relations forming around it and 2) highlight the nature of Arctic energy as a contested cultural artefact instead of an independent force-of-nature like driver. The presentation sketches energy as a window to the complex and often contradictory and conflicting dynamics of social and natural change and human (un)development in the Arctic region and draws attention to the implicit but inescapable ways in which Arctic energy is not only about resource riches, cooperation and conflict but also an intrinsically social matter of concern.

.....

Ayonghe Akonwi Nebasifu,  
PhD Candidate,  
Faculty of Social Sciences,  
University of Lapland.  
[aayonghesemail@yahoo.com](mailto:aayonghesemail@yahoo.com)

*Whiteness as in Snow: an Identity for Arctic Tourism? A Policy Assessment of Finnish Lapland*

Arctic is known among researchers for its rich ice cover formed through snow accumulation. Arguably, this snow may be described as an environmentally friendly resource by supplying water to crops, safeguarding livestock and sustaining major ecosystems as an insulating layer during winter for animals and plants survival; yet faced with a questionable challenge of scarcity due to climate change. However, this has pondered the minds of modern day scholars if the Arctic is all about its “whiteness” as in vast snow covered landscapes; and if so be it, what are its implications for regional policy on industries?

An example is the tourism industry in Finnish Lapland being the leading income contributor to the region in recent times, following the ever increasing influx of visitors from far and near during winter season. Interestingly, even though earlier perceptions about the arctic had evolved around topics of hunting, reindeer herding, fishing, mining, natural resources, ship building, transportation, forestry, and perhaps regional conflict; at midst this complexity, tourism connects all these perspectives towards an identity of which snow is crucial to its core.

Thus the question of the potentiality and richness of snow as not only a resource, but an identity for arctic tourism, yet scarce in its own challenge is worth reflecting. This paper adopts a policy assessment to illustrate meaningfulness of snow to tourism in Finnish Lapland and its implications; from infrastructure, events, to conceptual representations which are all perceptions of the arctic.

.....

Sardana Nikolaeva  
PhD candidate,  
Department of Anthropology,  
University of Manitoba  
[nikolaes@myumanitoba.ca](mailto:nikolaes@myumanitoba.ca)

*De-politicized indigeneity in the Russian north: politics of misrecognition and misrecognition of politics*

A host of literature on indigeneity articulations shows that aligning oneself around politicized indigeneity allowed many marginalized indigenous groups to represent and promote their rights to land, natural resources, and self-determination, as well as attract support from a variety of international advocacy groups, environmental organizations, and human rights agencies (Hathaway 2010; Hicks 2011; Li 2000; Sylvain 2002). Similar to indigenous groups in other locations, indigenous peoples throughout the Russian North are intensely affected by neo-liberal economic and political processes and state-perpetuated privatization and monopolization of land by powerful industrial corporations, facing economic struggles, environmental instability, and exclusion from the gains of recent capitalist development projects (Anderson 2000; Donahoe 2011; Fondahl & Sirina 2006; Koester 2005; Pika 1999; Ssorin-Chaikov 2003). A plethora of literature on indigenous politics points out that these conditions have a strong potential to result in development of politicized indigeneity discourses (Conklin 1997; Cruikshank & Argounova 2000; de la Cadena & Starn 2007; Li 2000, 2014; Warren & Jackson 2003). However, existing research on the region suggests that the local indigenous groups prefer distancing themselves from the politicization of indigeneity, and, rather, emphasize its traditional and cultural revival strictly within the state-recognized frameworks, without challenging existing relations of power or seeking large-scale political transformation (Cruikshank & Argounova 2000; Gray 2005; Hicks 2011; Koch & Tomaselli 2015; Tomaselli 2014). This research project, then, asks what kinds of spaces for alternative indigenous politics, rooted in particular local realities and subjectivities, are possible that have the potential to destabilize (subtly or more directly) existing hierarchical relationships? How are these politics articulated without replicating the discourses of global indigenous movements in the region where indigenous politics in the traditional sense (based on demands for recognition, representation and territorial rights) are circumscribed and may appear virtually impossible? As such, this research project will explore the multiplicity of emerging forms of indigeneity articulations (both politicized and de-politicized) among indigenous groups in the Russian North, and the conditions through which indigenous peoples become involved in localized political struggles and mobilizations, specifically focusing on indigenous politics in Sakha Republic (Yakutia). The Sakha Republic presents a compelling research location as it has recently become a site of highly contentious indigenous politics, revolving around the region's natural resources that are often seen by local indigenous groups as exploited for the strategic economic and political benefit of the Russian state (Hicks 2011; Tichotsky 2000).

.....

Laura Olsén  
PhD Candidate, researcher  
Arctic Centre, University of Lapland  
[laura.olsen@ulapland.fi](mailto:laura.olsen@ulapland.fi)

*Integrating traditional ecological knowledge into national environmental decision making processes*

Arctic region is changing rapidly and the number of different actors with different interests is growing constantly. The development of the region is inevitable and it brings within both positive and negative impacts on the local communities. Especially the indigenous peoples in the Arctic, like also in many other parts of the world, have had to adapt to these changes which are not always welcomed by the local communities. International agreements and national decision making, concerning for example environmental issues in the Arctic regions, are often based on western societal system and western science. Even though the value of the traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) has been growingly acknowledged by the scientists around the world, it is often not integrated nor taken even into consideration in decision making processes.

This presentation is based on the book *Saamelaisen perinnetiedon huomioiminen ympäristöpäätöksenteossa* published as an outcome of the research project on Sámi people's traditional ecological knowledge at Arctic Centre, University of Lapland. It will discuss more about the value of

TEK as a “safeguard” for biodiversity, how TEK could better be taken into consideration in decision making and which kind of additional value it brings within.

\*\*\*

Min PAN  
PhD, Professor,  
Deputy Director of Center for Polar and Oceanic Studies,  
Tong Ji University  
Email: 03094@tongji.edu.cn

*Chinese Perception of the Arctic: Based on 100 interviewees*

We conducted an interview of 100 Chinese people through WeChat, which mainly made among the group at the age of 30. Most of them live in Shanghai and others are residences of Xinjiang, Guangdong, Anhui, Guangxi, Hunan, Jiangsu, Shanxi, Shandong province, Beijing and other places. Those respondents come from different academic background but none of them have been to the Arctic region, so their understanding of the Arctic is just derived from imagination. There is only one open question: what’s your perception of the Arctic?

According to their answer, we found out the following characteristics in Chinese perception of the Arctic. Firstly, their understanding of the Arctic has little correlation with geographic locations, age and education. Secondly, 85% of interviewees formed their perception of the Arctic from junior high school geography class: the Arctic region is a cold, clean, high latitude and sparsely populated place with aurora. Polar bear is the only animal that they can think of the name. Less than 10% of interviewees referred the Eskimos and only one respondent knew that they were now called Inuit, not to mentioned their knowledge about Sami in the Nordic; Thirdly, 10% of interviewees mentioned the impact of climate change and environmental pollution on the Arctic region, while only 5% of people mentioned those rich resources in Arctic region; Fourthly, 4% of interviewees paid attention to the relationship between the Arctic and China. We will make further analyse for the reasons that Chinese have those above cognitive characteristics of the Arctic.

\*\*\*

Jason Rhys Parry  
PhD Candidate,  
Department of Comparative Literature  
Binghamton University, New York  
jparry1@binghamton.edu

*The Northern Gateway: On The Making of the GIUK Gap*

In this paper, I argue that the emergence of the Greenland--Iceland--United Kingdom (GIUK) gap as a geopolitical flashpoint is predominantly a result of the challenges posed by the materiality of the ocean to projects of state surveillance and securitization. While political geography typically concentrates on the division of two--dimensional spaces into discrete political areas, the ocean is a three-- dimensional volume whose enormous depth and constant motion frequently impede strategic imperatives. This dissertation presents the GIUK gap as a case study of how the obstacles presented by the ocean to military control have been alternatively exploited and overcome in an ongoing arms race between competing nation--states and the materiality of the sea itself. Efforts to fill the “gap” in knowledge and visibility concentrated by the GIUK gap have resulted in the development of interconnected naval, aerial, terrestrial, and orbital infrastructures—stretching from the seafloor to outer space—that have gradually transformed the gateway to the Norwegian Sea from terra incognita

into a strategic battleground. Ultimately, this research aims to provide an account of the conversion of a specific stretch of water into a political medium and, in so doing, refute the traditional dismissal of the sub-aquatic sphere as a productive register of geopolitical analysis. Moreover, it demonstrates the key importance of underwater sensors in creating the “perception of the Arctic.”

\*\*\*

Ilya Popov  
Master degree student of International Relations  
Petrozavodsk State University, Russia  
popovemail1990@gmail.com

*Sport as a factor for identity-construction process (the case of Sami)*

Contemporary sport and its developments (for instance, the doping scandals) bear witness to the fact that it is a versatile political tool. On the one hand, sport can be used by some countries as a soft power tool to improve their image on the world stage. On the other hand, boycotts and bans from participating in sport competitions demonstrate the tenuity of a host country sports success. However, in the globalization era and, arguably, postmodern world sport may be advantageous not only for states, but regions and stateless nations having alternative identities.

From constructivist perspective Sami people represent one of stateless nation examples, living in four states, but having common traditions and customs. According to some scholars (see e. g. Hegle Chr. Pedersen<sup>1</sup>), the participation of stateless nations in such sports competitions as VIVA World Cup, ConIFA World Football Cup, Arctic Winter Games and the usage of its symbols, namely flag and anthem, Sami people contribute to uniting themselves as a nation and presenting this brand to others – M. Billig called the phenomenon ‘banal nationalism’<sup>2</sup>.

Nevertheless, the expression of alternative identities through sports competitions may be challenging as major sports organization like FIFA and IOC still do not admit stateless nations or unrecognized states. Thus, the present paper aims at answering the question: Can sport be an effective tool for Sami people both to strengthen their identity and assert the role of international relations actor?

\*\*\*

Larissa Riabova  
Head of Department of social policy in the North  
Luzin Institute for Economic Studies  
Kola Science Centre of RAS  
larissar@iep.kolasc.net.ru

*“Sustainability of small Arctic communities: perceptions and strategies. A case study from Teriberka, Russia”*

Small communities in the Arctic are usually viewed as the most vulnerable and less capable of sustaining themselves due to specific challenges they commonly face, such as harsh climate and long distances, narrow economic base and high resource dependence, unemployment, lack of public infrastructure and loss of active population. At the same time, they continue to be important for the Arctic regions in terms of their numbers, maintaining ties to traditions and nature, and roles in the regional economies (Aarsaether et al. 2004; Tennberg et al. 2014). With the growing general understanding that there is no single recipe for sustainable development, current Arctic discourse focuses on multiplicity of context-, place- and actors-related understandings of sustainable development, and pays a strong attention to the local level and variety of locally produced “Arctic sustainabilities” (Fondahl and Wilson 2014).

This paper will discuss the suggested theme drawing on the case study from Teriberka – a small fishing village on the Barents Sea coast in the Murmansk region of Northwest Arctic Russia.

After a long time of being a part of a military restricted zone, it became known worldwide in 2014 after being filmed in Oscar nominated "Leviathan" movie. The study explores how different actors understand sustainable development of this community, and what are the alternative strategies for sustainable local development after the large-scale project the community hoped to benefit from – development of Shtokman gas field with LNG plant construction in the village – was postponed. Since the current focus in Teriberka is on promotion of tourism, the challenges of implementing this new strategy will be discussed.

\*\*\*

Luiza Saatova  
PhD student,  
Novosibirsk State University, Russia  
E-mail: saalu92@mail.ru

*Risk identification and assessment in public-private partnership arctic projects using the real options theory*

If we focus on the Russian Arctic we should definitely say about “Russian model” in the Arctic. The Russian Arctic region is more dominated by oil and gas production than the rest of the Russian economy. Arctic region is significant object and also undiscovered enough therefore there are a lot of risks for government, business and society. Polar sub- regions strongly depend on their mother economies in the south; the central governments of Arctic states support much of the overall consumption through transfer payments to local agencies and individuals.

Nowadays Russia's scope of interest is much broader in spite of not enough volume optimal assessments of risks in the Arctic.

The focus is making on technological risks for oil-gas projects on the shelf, but not for human lives. We have lot examples of experience and practice of evaluating all risks in the different types of Arctic (European Arctic or American Arctic).

Distinctive characteristic features for Russian Arctic are regional differentiation, difficult system of relationships between public and private sectors, lack of methodology for assessment risks for stakeholders.

Now we have to think about creation of new interdisciplinary modeling in the Arctic. However, it will be rather complicated assessment of risks for Russia, because it should be multidisciplinary combination of mathematical methods, economics, geopolitics, marine law, and indigenous people's rights.

To make such socio-economic analysis is particularly important in small economies like the regions of the Arctic, where we have the some volume of GRP, which not bring us correct reality, because a substantial share of GRP is from petroleum.

In the real option theory there is a risk an undesired event, such as technological risks, political risks, institutional or unpredictable risks on the market.

My research is about how to evaluate these risks especially for Russian Arctic. The focus is making on technological risks for oil-gas projects on the shelf, but not for human lives. We have lot examples of experience and practice of evaluating all risks in the different types of Arctic (European Arctic or American Arctic).

\*\*\*

Igor Shevchuk,  
KRC, RAS  
North-Centre  
shevchuk@krc.karelia.ru

*International and interregional connectivity of protected areas in the European North*

For quite many years now the work to establish the system of protected areas (PA) in the European North has been carried out in a systematic manner relying on existing interregional and intergovernmental agreements and arrangements. The backbone of this system is green belts (meridians) linking countries and regions of the European North. A momentous event was the signing on February 17, 2010 of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for the Development of the Green Belt of Fennoscandia (GBF) between the Ministry of Environment of Norway, the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Finland and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation. This document rendered a new impetus to the development of GBF per se and conservation work in general, which has been evidenced, among other things, by an increase in the number of international projects.

The paper then examines existing prospects for further internationalization of GBF and its connectivity from the Arctic to the Baltic not only from geographical dimension but also with regards to environmentally and economically sound development.

\*\*\*

Alexander Sergunin  
Professor  
St. Petersburg State University, Russia  
sergunin60@mail.ru

*The Russian Discourse on the Arctic: Between Pragmatism and Romanticism?*

This paper examines Russia's "official" and "unofficial" Arctic discourses. While the "official" discourse is basically interest-driven and pragmatic (making the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation a "strategic resource base" and international transit transport corridor), the public discourse is much more diverse. Along with the rationalist/pragmatic schools (neorealism, neoliberalism and globalism), such discourse includes also romantic/messianic thinkers ("Hyperboreans", neo-Communists) and intuitivist/postpositivist currents (social constructivists, post-colonial theory, critical geopolitics, etc.). The impact of this discourse on Russia's High North strategy making and implementation as well as on Russia's international image in the region is explored as well.

\*\*\*

Ilya A. Stepanov  
PhD Student  
Doctoral school of Economics  
Junior Research fellow  
the Center for Comprehensive European and International Studies  
National Research University  
Higher School of Economics, Russia  
iastepanov@hse.ru

*The Northern Sea Route as Cogwheel of Russian Arctic Development*

The Northern Sea Route (NSR) is drawing particular attention in the light of extending navigational season and the increasing socio-economic importance of the Arctic region in the world economy during the last decades. It goes without saying that the main stakeholders of the Arctic development are

Arctic Ocean countries but the resource and transit potential of the region is noticeable from almost every part of the globe.

The NSR development underlies Russian Arctic strategy, which, in the first place, aims at developing northern regions and integrating them into the global economy. Several extraction projects are currently in place, while the large-scale Yamal LNG project is about to be launched. Domestic and export-oriented projects are increasing the load on transportation system, i.e. infrastructure, icebreakers, safety and navigation systems. At the same time, a range of factors – low energy priced, prolonged sanctions against Russian companies engaged in the Arctic development along with current economic situation in Russia threaten economic development in Russian Arctic zone.

The paper dwells on the current image of Russian Arctic transport in relation to energy projects and builds some projections for the future. Moreover, basing on the literature review it describes the potential of the NSR as a transit route bridging Asia and Europe. The estimates show that the NSR transit navigation is only feasible under certain conditions and for specific types of cargo.

\*\*\*

Tiina Takala,  
University of Lapland,  
titakala@ulapland.fi

*Clean arctic air – Phenomenological study on Chinese tourists' sensory experiences of arctic purity*

While many major Chinese cities are battling with air pollution, Lapland has been proven to have the cleanest air in Europe. The number of Chinese tourists visiting Lapland has tripled over the past few years and clean fresh air is believed to be a big attraction among Chinese tourists. In tourism marketing Arctic region is often represented as a pristine wilderness, untouched by man. Trips to the Arctic region are becoming increasingly popular as Chinese tourists seek to find the "world's last pure land".

Earlier studies on purity and tourism have focused on the negative impacts pollution has on tourism. At present, little research attention has been given to investigate how purity is perceived and sensed by tourists. This study can therefore contribute to the existing tourism literature on purity and tourism.

The general aim of this study is to find out how the air in Lapland is sensed by Chinese tourists. This study draws on the theoretical discussions of purity and phenomenological concept of experience. The research subject is sensory experiences of purity of Lapland of Chinese tourists. The main research question of this study is: How is the experience of purity composed through sensory experiences of Chinese tourists? The sub-questions are: What is the role of different senses in the experience of the air quality? How is purity sensed? How arctic embodies purity?

The empirical material consist of semi-structured interviews, collected from Chinese tourists in Rovaniemi, Finnish Lapland. The interviews will be videotaped and collected outdoors in winter 2017. The empirical material will be analysed with qualitative content analysis. The study provides the basis for a discussion about the sociocultural definitions of air quality and purity in the Arctic region.

\*\*\*

Svetlana S. Tuinova  
Luzin Institute for Economic Studies  
KSC RAS, Apatity, Russia

*The cauldron of forces influencing Arctic perceptions*

Increasingly, the Arctic is capturing the attention of prominent players in the world stage. Each has its own unique perception of the purpose and the value of the Arctic to themselves. Collectively, these self-perceptions combine to form a “multipolar” attentiveness and raises the important question, how would a multipolar Arctic state operate across a world stage, both today and in the future?

The environment of the Arctic, its nature and its isolation along with its indigenous populations and its local traditions hints at regional self-containment. However, climatic change offers a prospect of opening new shipping channels and conceivably hints at an arctic globalisation of self-interests. Betwixt the “poles” of containment and globalisation emerges a cauldron of power politics, alliances and economic exploitation. Who are the leading players across this Arctic world stage? Who are the supporting cast? And more importantly, who is writing the script?

During the period of USSR power, America and Russia shared the responsibility of world security, fortified by the strategic notion of nuclear deterrence - to prevent war with regard to the use of nuclear weapons. That is, an inferior nuclear force, by virtue of its extreme destructive power, could deter a more powerful adversary, provided that this force could be protected against destruction by a surprise attack. Following the demise of the USSR, the US effectively became the sole superpower operating across a somewhat temporal, monopolar, world stage.

The last decades, however, has witnessed Russia's re-emergence onto the international stage with a recentralization of power under Vladimir Putin and his team. While elements of the Cold War undoubtedly shaping policy on Western-Russian boundaries, interactions between both the US and the EU have shifted fundamentally in a number of important ways.

Recently, the emergence of China as a global superpower has bought about a triumvirate (threesome) of world superpowers. As a member of the United Nations (UN) Security Council, the People's Republic of China (PRC) is recognised as a great power and an ardent supporter of the United Nations and international law. It seeks to prevent the exercise of military power when peaceful methods of diplomacy can be adopted. Any consideration of the development of the Arctic states today must recognise the presence of China, alongside America and Russia, on the world stage.

Indeed, at the Oslo Peace Conference (Dec 2016) Zbigniew Brzezinski announced that a pro America-China affiliation might drive Russia towards seeking greater partnership with Europe, while conversely an exclusive Russian + China partnership would be very much against America's better interests. Future perceptions of the development of the Arctic must in addition to American and Russian considerations take on board the emergence of China as a world superpower. As of 2010, Chinese leaders promoted cautious Arctic policies. so as to not provoke negative responses from the Arctic states.

At the same time, China's emergence as a superpower leads towards them not wanting to be excluded from access to the Arctic. In March 2010, Chinese Rear Admiral Yin Zhuo famously said: “The Arctic belongs to all the people around the world, as no nation has sovereignty over it. China must play an indispensable role in Arctic exploration as we have one-fifth of the world's population”. It is noted that 88-95% of resources in the Arctic fall within one of the five Arctic Ocean coastal states Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ's) and China is unlikely to challenge the provision within the Law of the Sea that creates the EEZ's.

This, coupled with Chinese company's lack of Arctic expertise, suggest that China will seek partnerships with Arctic nations rather than act alone. Importantly, would this suggest a coupling with Pro American interests or a coupling with Pro Russian interests?

China's recent construction of a research station in Iceland has once again generated interest as to what China's Arctic ambitions are. Indeed, the Chinese government has yet to publish its official Arctic policy, in contrast to other major players in the Arctic, such as Russia, United States (with



some other from British Commonwealth of Nations) and the European Union (with Norway). Consequently there has been much speculation as to what China's plans are for the Arctic.

This paper takes note of Zbigniew Brzezinski assessment of American-China relationships versus Pro Russian-China relationships over the next decade and warns that global warming will dictate the outcomes of world policy and therefore, by direct inference, an evolving Arctic policy. Can an American-China and European NATO front dictate Russian politics on the world stage? Or could an alternative cooperation between Russia, EU and China use the opening of the Northern Sea Route to reduce USD's dominating the world economy.

In summary, this paper proposes that any assessment of the Arctic State(s) future must factor in the presence of China as an emerging and a balancing power between the old "duopoly" superpowers of America and Russia. It must ask and address the question, "What does China's Arctic policy look like? As an aside, it is interesting to note that the very name for "China" in Mandarin, is the Chinese symbol for the whole world with a line through the middle, literally "Middle Earth". This paper will consider the challenging dynamics and inputs that could successfully bring about the redefining of "Arctic Perceptions" leading to a future "Arctic reality".

\*\*\*

Florian Vidal  
PhD student  
University of Paris Descartes  
florian.vidal@gmail.com

### *French Arctic Vision: Policy and public perceptions*

Describing itself as "a polar nation", France is an observatory member of the Arctic Council and attempts to play an influential role as an outsider in the region. France holds several assets such as scientific cooperation, diplomatic node and close geographical interest through St. Pierre and Miquelon. But then what is the French strategy? For which outcome? And what is the understanding of the French public opinion?

### The polar diplomacy of France: Background and Future vision

France stands a strong player for the polar scientific knowledge. Indeed, famous French explorers such as Paul-Emile Victor and Raymond Rallier du Baty participated to polar expeditions in the past. Holding a distinctive experience in the polar areas, France aims to promote its vision toward the Arctic. In the context of the fight against climate change, the French government wants to take the advantage of its diplomatic position. Despite its geographic distance, the country is willing to contribute in the Arctic future.

### France as a maritime power: An asset for influencing Arctic dynamics?

One of the strongest strength of the French power lies on its maritime territory holding the second world maritime domain. Indeed, France is exploring new ways to hold its worldwide influence. France

through its sub-polar territory or the European Union vector may positively to speak out for a sustainable development of the Arctic.

Arctic awareness: An opinion study

From that standpoint, observation of the French opinion on that topic is a stimulating object of investigation. Indeed, what is their perception? How do they define Arctic and its challenges? What is the objective of France in the region? For what purposes? Based on a small-based survey (targeting 100 French people), it aims to highlight Arctic awareness among the interviewed sample group.

\*\*\*

Yulia Zaika, PhD student  
Khibiny educational and scientific station Faculty of Geography  
Lomonosov Moscow State University  
Kirovsk, Murmansk region, Russia  
yzaika@inbox.ru

*Personal and research identity as a Northerner in the light of the Arctic hype: experiences, examples, challenges and opportunities.*

The idea of the Northern identity poses a lot of questions and has its affect to the perception of the North by the South as well as influence the decision-making, working and living processes. What is hidden behind the “Northerner” identity? What are the narratives and how it is seen by the people outside the region, specifically in Russia, but also in other parts of the world like the Southern Hemisphere (for example, South Africa)? By trying to reach out the answer to all these questions, the author will try to discuss the several examples of influences this idea has. For example, for decision-making processes during the development of the new legislation for the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation, or overall national perception of the North/Arctic as the region of environmentally harsh but prosperous area with the ‘long rouble’. Or, in terms of the working processes with the development of new ‘touristic brand’ of the area with the inflow of “outsiders”, with the permanent misunderstanding of the living conditions and working preferences by the employer’s administrations based outside the region. Does the North, the Arctic is the area for living or for using and exploiting the geographical space and resources, or for both? What is the consensus in this field and what kind of lessons the history has in the retrospect? By discussing and answering these questions we might get to the idea on how to better shape our future communication strategies and change the perception of the North and Arctic from the mostly negative to the more positive connotations.

\*\*\*

Gerald Zojer  
PhD-candidate  
Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Lapland, Finland  
gerald.zojer@ulapland.fi

*When the oil comes back: adaptation of Arctic inhabitants to hydrocarbon technologies*

The Arctic region has perceived a lot of global attention in recent years. In the core of this international interest are the region’s abundant natural resources, and in particular its oil and gas resources. The discussion about mass scale natural resource extraction and especially about offshore hydrocarbon extraction is controversial. While some parties emphasize the environmental degradation that increased industrial activities cause, others highlight the socio-economic potential of economic development in

the region. The latter is supposed to trigger or advance economic growth, which is supposed to provide the local inhabitants with access to the goods of the global markets.

The rapid development and integration into the global market system also leads to the adaptation of outside technologies, in particular such that stem from mass production or allow (individual) motorized transport. Essentially this brings a flood of goods and products into the Arctic which are both responsible for climate change, the currently biggest challenge for Arctic inhabitants and ecosystems, as well as contributing to the need for the Arctic resources, in a world where many products include scarce raw materials. The increasing and fast proceeding adoption of hydrocarbon technologies in the Arctic also affects the socio-economic settings in a significant way. Changed patterns of mobility for the local population, increasing numbers of visiting tourist, new technologies for traditional activities etc. scrutinize cultural traditions and disrupt traditional economies. Moreover, environmental degradation in the Arctic increasingly has its sources in the region rather than outside.

This paper discusses empirical evidence from field work in the inland of Lapland, as well as findings of an “southern outsider” who lives in Lapland since a few years. While a lot of public debate has drawn attention to the impacts of the region’s industrialization, this paper aims to analyze the impacts on the Arctic societies which originate from technologies that are derivatives of the Arctic’s natural resources, with a particular focus on hydrocarbon technologies. This paper argues that more attention should be placed on mitigating the harmful and disruptive impacts caused by the introduction of new technologies, and promotes the development of “northern technologies” in order to achieve a sustainable future in the region.

\*\*\*

### **Organizers and Sponsors**

The Calotte Academy 2016 is co-organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences at University of Lapland, Sámi Educational Centre of Inari (from Finland); the Barents Institute at University of Tromsø – the Arctic university of Norway, Norwegian Barents Secretariat (from Norway); Lúzin Institute for Economic Studies at Kola Science Centre and North Centre & Karelian Research Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences cooperation with Northern Research Forum (NRF) and NRF-UArctic joint Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security.



