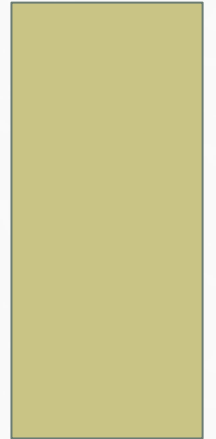


# PUTTING THE ARCTIC BACK ON THE MAP

ARCTIC TASK FORCE 2016



# THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

- International cooperation in the Arctic region entered into a new era in the years leading up to the end of the Cold War
- Ottawa Declaration (September 1996)
- Region-Building Discourse
- Preconceived notions of the Arctic

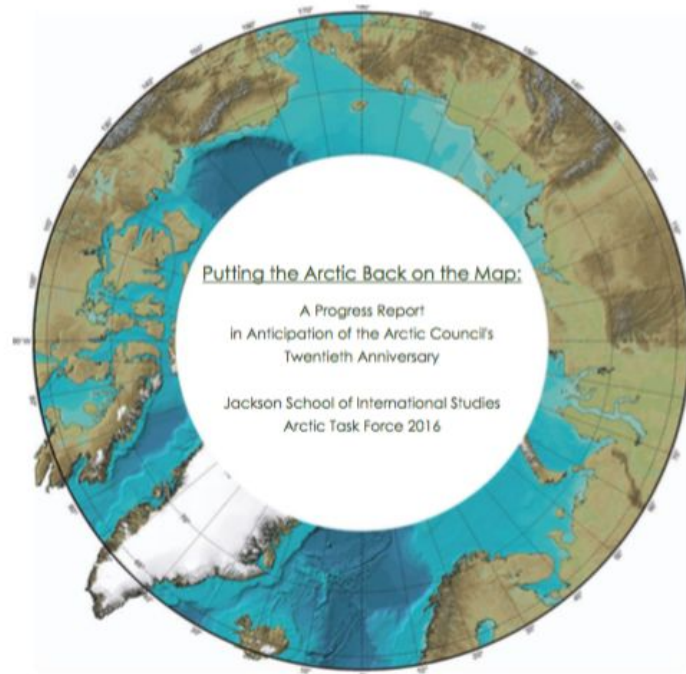
# THE ARCTIC COUNCIL TODAY

- One of the world's most unique international institutions
- Biennial Rotating Chairmanship (Canada, U.S., Finland)
- Ninth Ministerial Meeting
  - Iqaluit Declaration 2015
  - Development for the People of the North
    - Sustain Arctic Communities
    - Protect Arctic Environment
    - Build a Stronger Arctic Council

# THE ARCTIC COUNCIL TODAY

- U.S. Chairmanship (2015–2017)
  - New environmental, human, economic opportunities and challenges
- U.S. Chairmanship Report
  - Improve Living Conditions in Arctic Communities
  - Arctic Ocean Safety, Security, Stewardship
  - Addressing Impacts of Climate Change
- Opportunities and challenges still present

# OUR REPORT



**JACKSON SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**  

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**UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON**

# OTTAWA VISIT



- Ideas informed by insight gained
- Chose to report on 11 issues that are important, relevant, and currently topics of conversation
- Issues/themes that past and current Chairmanships have incorporated in their pillars and goals

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. Impact and Mitigation of Climate Change
  - a. Resource Extraction
  - b. Black Carbon & Methane Pollution
  - c. Climate-Induced Displacement
2. Capacity-Building of Indigenous Peoples
  - a. Food Security
  - b. Mental Wellness & Resilience
  - c. Educational Opportunities for Youth

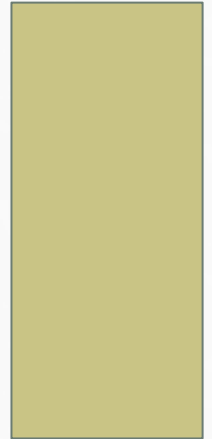
# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

3. Security & Cooperation in the Arctic
  - a. Geopolitics & Arctic Security Dilemma
  - b. Search & Rescue Cooperation
4. Economic & Legal Structure of Arctic
  - a. Economic Develop Policies in Far North
  - b. Maritime Law in the Arctic Ocean
5. Future of the Arctic Council



MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES &  
MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:  
THE FUTURE OF ARCTIC RESOURCE EXTRACTION

LAURA HECKENLIVELY



# OVERVIEW

- 1.4–5.8°C global temperature rise, over the last century
  - Arctic warming at 2x rate of global average
- Interest in resources
- Oil and gas exploration beginning in 1960s
- Company Case Studies (Gazprom, Shell Oil & Statoil)
- Recommendations for sustainable resource extraction in the Arctic

# RESOURCES IN THE ARCTIC

- U.S. Geological Survey, 2008 resource statistics
  - 13% of the world's remaining reserves of oil
  - 31% of the world's remaining reserves of natural gas
- Arctic holds 22% of the Earth's oil and gas reserves
  - Expected to contain nearly 360 billion barrels of oil
  - Arctic accounts for 6% of Earth's surface
- Most successful sites of oil extraction - U.S. & Russia
- Economic benefits & environmental consequences of continued extractive practices

# CASE STUDIES: KEY POINTS IN INDUSTRY STRATEGIES

- **Russia & Gazprom**

- Claims on 17% of world's gas reserves, 72% within Russia
- Exports gas to more than 30 countries
- Russia seeking exploration rights through UNCLOS

- **Royal Dutch Shell Company**

- Initial Arctic exploration in 1980-1990s
- 2014 Arctic exploration met with popular resistance and return limited results

- **Norway & Statoil**

- Sovereign Wealth Fund of \$800 billion US dollars
- Focus on furthering economic and social development of the nation's population

# ARCTIC COUNCIL COMMITMENTS TO SUSTAINABLE EXTRACTION

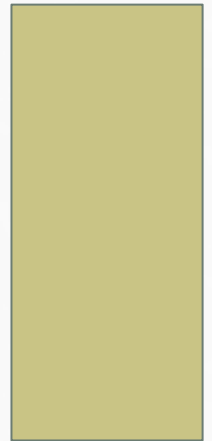
- 1996 Ottawa Declaration
  - “Commitment to the protection of the Arctic environment, including the health of Arctic ecosystems ... and the sustainable use of resources”
- Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME): Arctic Council Offshore Oil and Gas Guidelines
  - Recommendations for all phases of resource exploration and extraction
- 2015 Iqaluit Declaration
  - Sustainable development as a buzzword

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Public-Private partnership between nations and private resource companies
2. Establishment of a single task force with sole focus on developing strict environmental regulations regarding resource extraction
3. International involvement in Arctic resource activities to ensure the most advanced methods are being used

# BLACK CARBON & METHANE: MITIGATION AND PREVENTION IN THE ARCTIC

KELSEY BREWSTER



# COMMITMENT TO MITIGATION

“During our chairmanship, the United States intends to press for the full implementation of the Framework for Action on Enhanced Black Carbon and Methane Emissions. And that includes the compilation of national black carbon and methane emission inventories, national reporting on domestic mitigation efforts, and greater international cooperation on reducing these dangerous pollutants.”

– Secretary of State John Kerry  
remarks at the presentation of the U.S. Chairmanship  
April 24, 2015



# POTENT POLLUTANTS: BLACK CARBON & METHANE

- Short-lived Climate Forcers
- Anthropogenic greenhouse effect
- Hazardous to human health, ecosystems, food security, and agriculture

## Black Carbon Sources:

- forest burning and wildfires, on and off-road vehicles, residential burning, agricultural burning, and industrial combustion.

## Methane sources:

- fossil fuels, livestock production, agricultural cultivation, waste treatment, and natural release

# ARCTIC COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS

## Working Groups:

- ACAP (Arctic Contaminants Action Program)
  - Expert Groups; Short Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP) & Indigenous Peoples Contaminant Action Program (IPCAP)
  - Black Carbon Case Studies Platform
- AMAP (Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program)
  - AMAP Assessment 2015: Black Carbon & Methane as Arctic Climate Forcers
- **Task Force on Black Carbon and Methane**
  - Arctic Council Framework for Action on Enhanced Black Carbon and MEthane Emissions Reductions

# ACAP BLACK CARBON CASE STUDIES: RENEWABLE ENERGY

## Alaska

- In Kodiak, Alaska wind turbines cut diesel fuel consumption by 930,000 gallons annually.
- In Chena, Alaska geothermal plant annually displaces 150,000 gallons of diesel fuel.

## Canada

- World's biggest wind-diesel hybrid power facility
- Blade de-icing technology → operates in temperatures down to -40°C.

## Sweden

- Solar energy found to be a viable source in the Arctic

## Nunavut

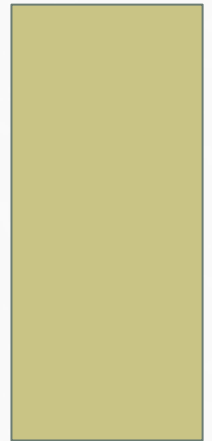
- Diesel dependency is economic drain and hazard
- Renewable energy technology (RET) potential

## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUDING REMARKS

1. Specific agreements for individual Member States regarding emissions of Black Carbon and Methane in Arctic territory; have Member States submit public progress reports on their efforts.
2. Better control and regulation of economic activities in the Arctic oil and gas industry including updating technology and providing emissions reports.
3. Decrease Indigenous communities' reliance on fossil fuels by expanding and implementing the renewable energy sector in the Arctic.

PLANNED RELOCATION: AN ADAPTIVE  
STRATEGY TO CLIMATE-INDUCED  
DISPLACEMENT IN THE ARCTIC

DANIKA MOORE



# PAST & PRESENT

- History of Climate-Induced Migrants
  - 1985: the term 'environmental refugee' is coined at UNEP conference
  - 1990: *"The greatest single impact of climate change could be on human migration"*
  - 2011: UNFCCC meeting in Cancun
- Arctic Council (Iqaluit Declaration 2015)
  - *"(...) **national action** is needed to reduce climate risks, increase prospects for **effective adaptation**, and reduce the costs and challenges of mitigation in the **long term**"*
  - *"(...) resilience and **adaptation** to climate change are **critically important** for Arctic communities"*
- United States (John Kerry Speech 2015)
  - *"As they lose their natural sea barriers, villages in the Arctic are already being battered by storms. And as the permafrost continues to thaw, the infrastructure that depends on it is becoming more and more damaged."*

# BROADER IMPLICATIONS

Economic -> Preventative action is less costly than constant maintenance. As time progresses, preventative action becomes increasingly expensive.

Security -> Historically most refugees were people escaping war and terror but increasingly natural disasters and environmental distress are the main causes.

Human Rights -> Failure to relocate people violates their human rights and ignores the government's responsibility to protect its citizens against external forces.



# PROBLEMS

## 1. Denial

- many of these Arctic communities are **isolated** and **small**
- relocation is very **difficult** and **costly**
- adaptation program nonexistent largely due to denial by governments

## 2. Definition

- Climate **Refugee** vs. Climate-Induced **Migrant**
- Definition has legal consequences

## 3. Institutional Void

- there is no overarching, comprehensive relocation agency



# SOLUTIONS

1. Awareness through research and discussion
  - promote **international dialogue** on climate refugees
  - fund research on climate change and migration
2. Redefinition or separate legal rights
  - extend the original UN definition of refugee
  - new legal framework based in **human rights**
3. New governing body
  - a new governing body should **streamline** the relocation process
  - must be based in human rights and **involve the affected community**

# WHAT CAN THE ARCTIC COUNCIL DO?

## 1. Fund research and raise awareness:

- Arctic Council should form a **Climate-Induced Migrant Task Force** to help identify vulnerable communities and possible relocation sites.

## 2. Provide clear definition in order to designate legal rights:

- Arctic Council should urge the UN to clarify the **legal rights** attributed to climate-induced migrants.

## 3. Arctic Council can act as nucleus organization for:

- **information** and **expertise** sharing among Arctic nations
- facilitating discussion
- designing a comprehensive **planned relocation strategy**

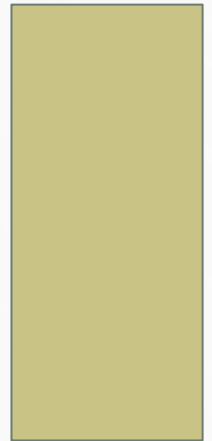
# CAPACITY BUILDING OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

“Ultimately, the people of this region, as we’ve said again and again, are our top priority.”

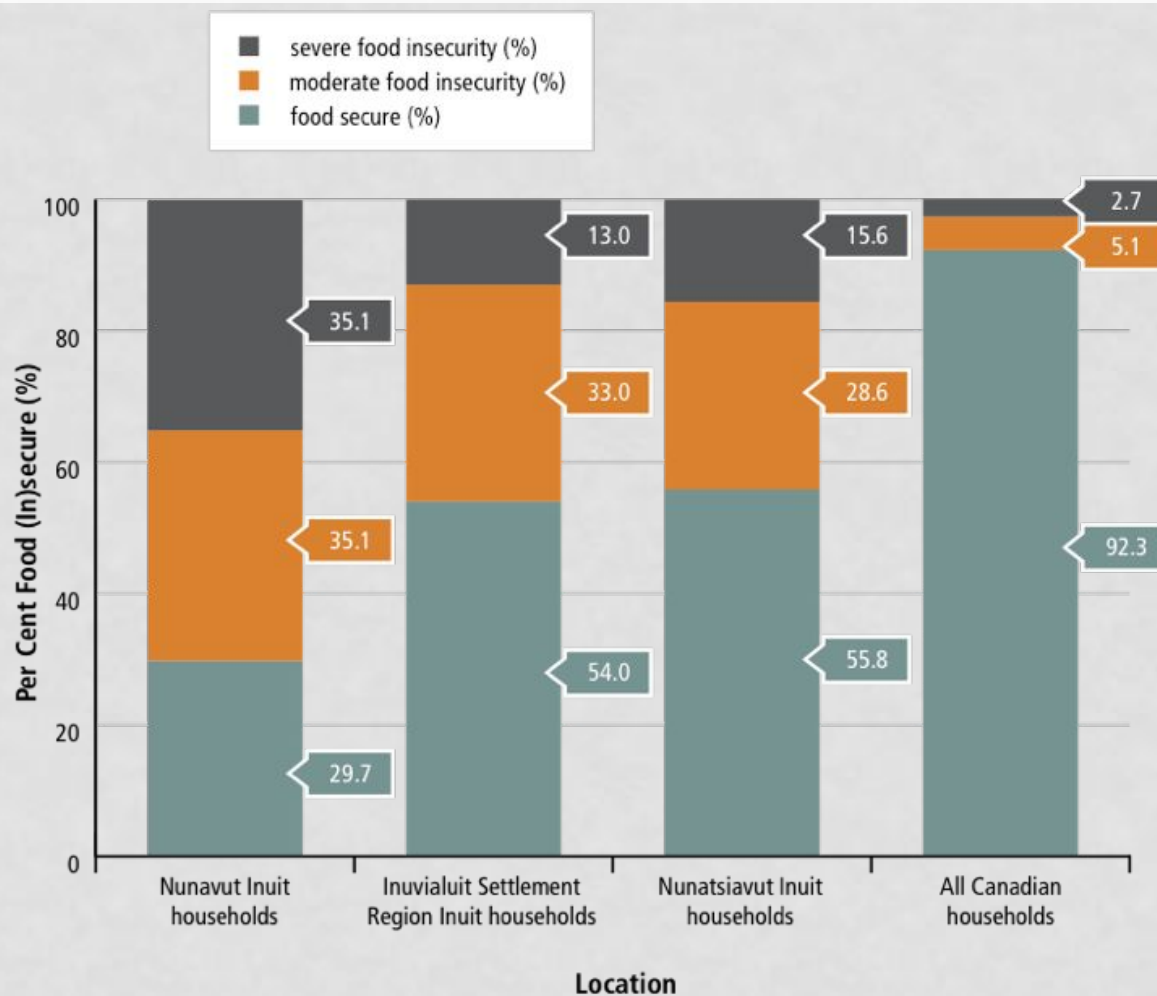
–John Kerry, Remarks at the Presentation of the U.S.  
Chairmanship

# VOICING FOOD SECURITY FOR INUIT OF THE ARCTIC

ALLISON RUTZ



# WHY INUIT?



**International Definition:**  
physical and economic  
access to sufficient, safe,  
and nutritious food

# INUIT FOOD SECURITY & GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS

- **Food is a Lifeline:**
  - Connects past and current self/cultural identity
  - Livelihood depends on traditional food and environment
- **Threat:** human activity driving climate change



ICC-Alaska. *Alaskan Inuit Food Security Conceptual Framework*. Anchorage: ICC-Alaska (2015): 11.



ICC-Alaska. *Alaskan Inuit Food Security Conceptual Framework*. Anchorage: ICC-Alaska (2015): 6.

# GROWING PROMINENCE WITHIN THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

## **1996 Ottawa Declaration**

- Wellbeing of Arctic inhabitants

## **2009 SAO Report**

- Contaminated traditional foods

## **2015 Iqaluit Declaration**

- Cultural and nutritional importance

## **2015 Ministerial Meeting**

- Request food security in U.S. Chairmanship Program

# CASE STUDIES

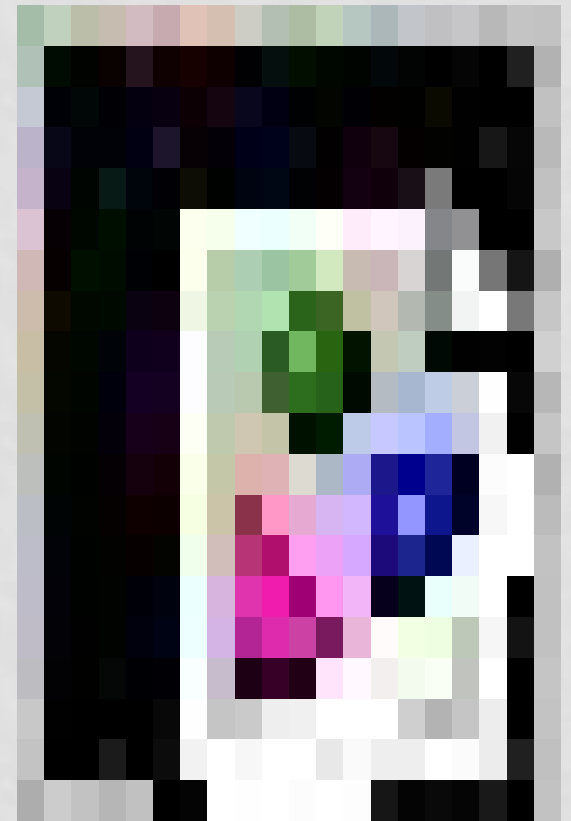
*Lack program evaluation • Gap in understanding Inuit food security*

## Studies:

- Community Freezers
- Inuit Food Security Conceptual Framework

## Conclusion:

- Initiatives/programs require Indigenous and local input and experience
- Adjustable management



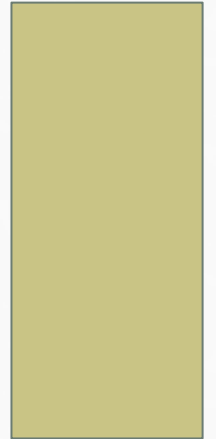


# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

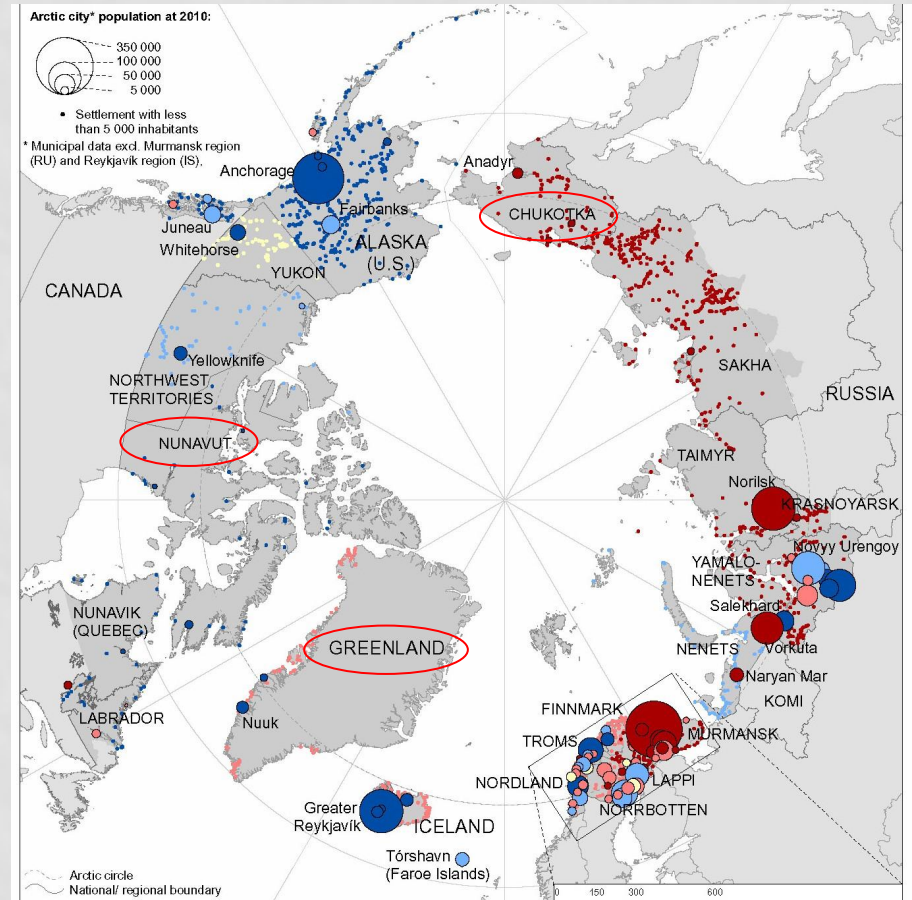
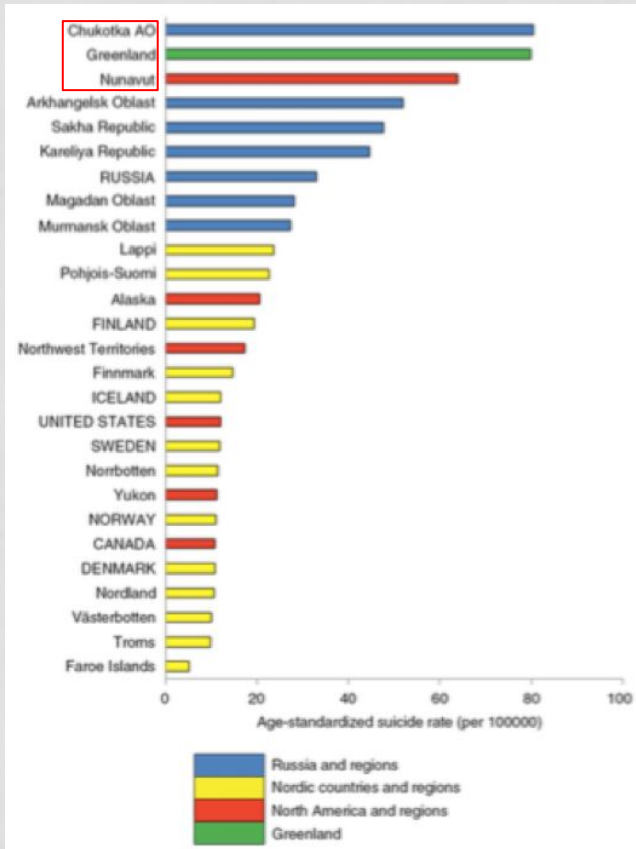
1. **Arctic Council - promote Arctic food security on an international scale**
  - Pressure non/Observer States to evaluate environmental policies
2. **U.S. Chairmanship - prioritize Indigenous food security**
  - Increase recognition and understanding
  - Encourage further research to identify best practices

# MENTAL WELLNESS & RESILIENCE IN THE ARCTIC

CLAIRE WANG



# BACKGROUND



Mean age-standardized suicide rate 2000-2009  
 T. Kue Yong, Boris Revich, and Leena Soininen,  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.3402/ijch.v74.27349>

# UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE

- **Health Disparities in the Arctic**
  - **Nordic countries:** little difference between Indigenous & non-Indigenous
  - **Alaska, Yukon, and Northwest Territories:** comparable to national average
  - **Greenland and Nunavut:** huge difference compared to Denmark and Canada
  - **The Russian Arctic:** falls behind by almost any health indicator
- **Suicide among youth** in Greenland and Nunavut

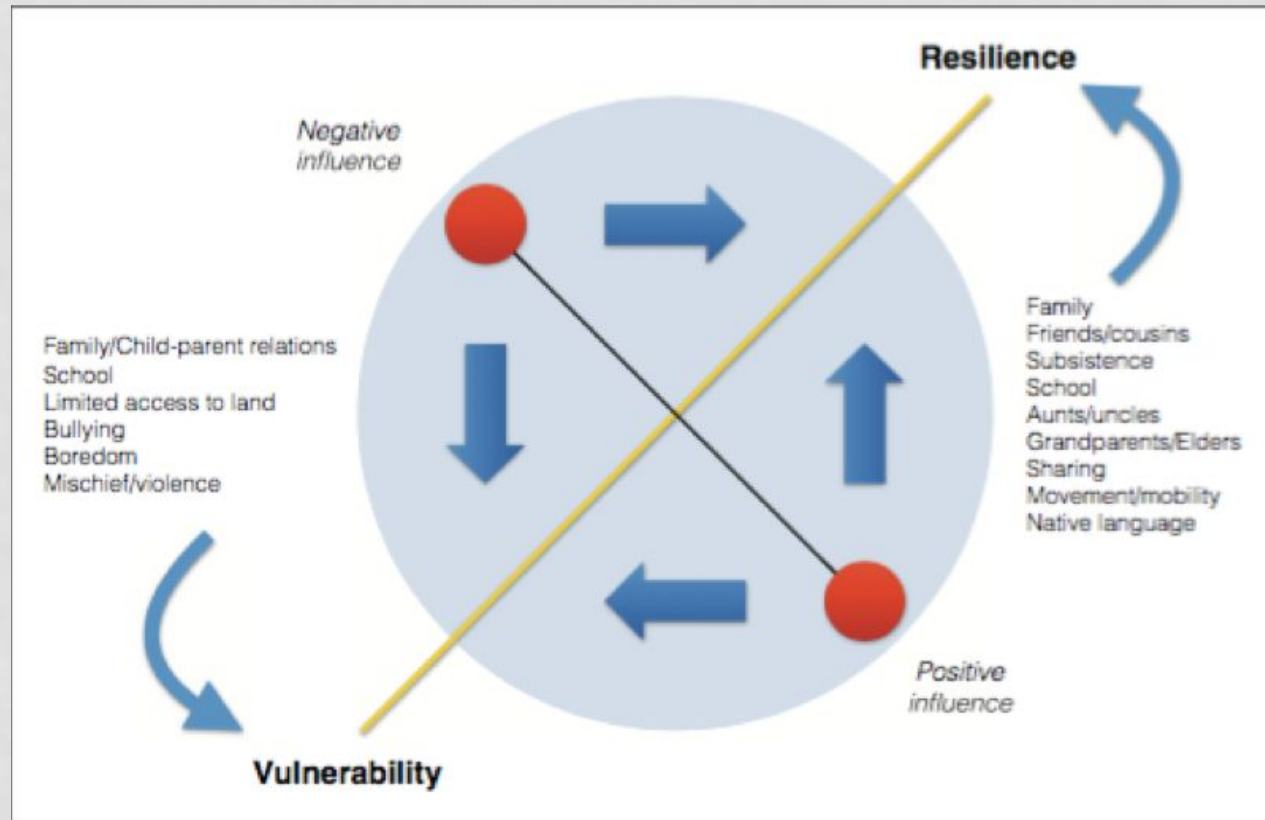
# COMMITMENTS FROM THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

- **2015 Iqaluit Declaration:** “Recognize the importance of improving health, mental wellness and resilience in Arctic communities”
- **Canada Chairmanship:**
  - “Arctic Human Development Report II”
  - “Sharing Hope”
- **U.S. Chairmanship:**
  - One Health Survey
  - Rising-Sun Project



# WHAT'S MISSING

- Promoting Mental Wellness  $\neq$  Suicide Prevention

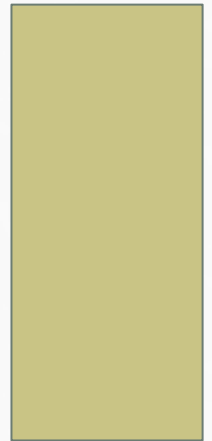


# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Arctic Council - establish a **measurement standard** to track the impact of mental wellness initiatives
2. Arctic States - build **funding mechanisms** to support Indigenous communities to **self-develop** projects
3. Arctic Council - **voice the urgency** of addressing mental illness in Greenland and Chukotka; advocate **community-based, culturally relevant and youth-focused** solutions

# POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR INUIT YOUTH

ELIZABETH CASTRO





# POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR INUIT

- Long-held interest for an Inuit University
- Promising initiatives in recent years in Canada
- Affirms Iqaluit Declaration commitment to youth
- Existing Infrastructure: Sustainable Development Working Group and the University of the Arctic

# CANADIAN INITIATIVES

- National Strategy on Inuit Education
- Inuit Nunangat University Workshop  
Report
- Nunavut Government feasibility study

# IQALUIT DECLARATION 2015

“Welcome efforts to work with the youth of the Arctic states and request that this work continue and be strengthened, and recognize the need to focus on indigenous youth concerning the development and preservation of their culture, language, mental and physical health, and leadership qualities.”

# Sustainable Development Working Group

- Potential projects and Research

## University of the Arctic members

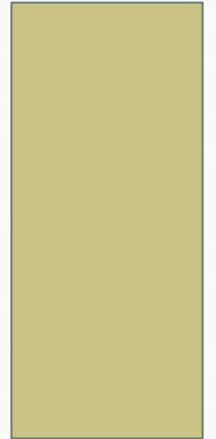
- Assembling funding
- Building infrastructure
- Recruiting educators

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Sustainable Development Working Group should explore **project development and research**, as it aligns with objectives in existing SDWG projects.
2. Student representatives and advocates for an Inuit University should be **invited to Arctic Council meetings**.
3. The University of the Arctic should lend **planning expertise through its Member universities**.

# THE ARCTIC SECURITY DILEMMA

KYLE WHEELER



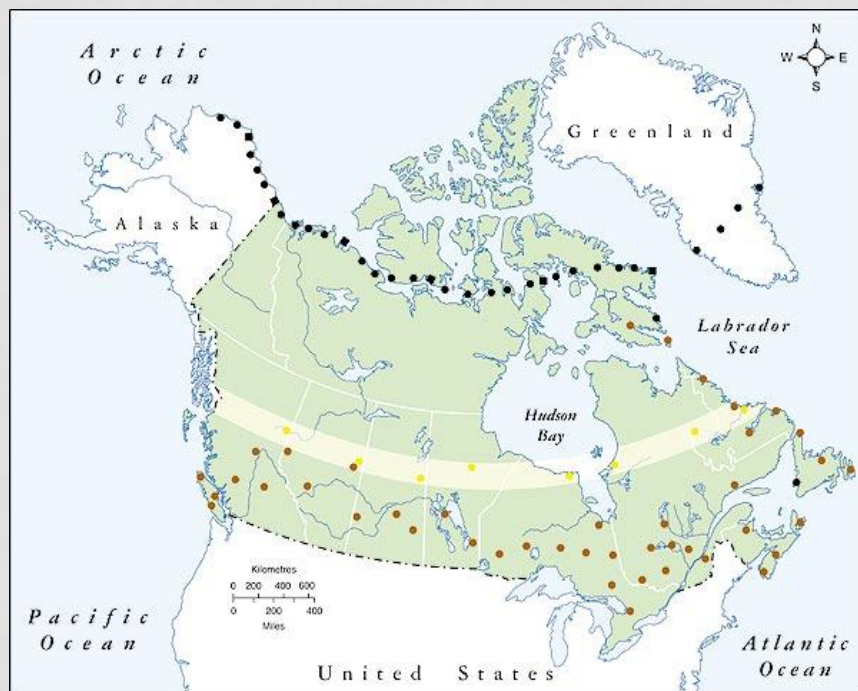
# THE ARCTIC SECURITY DILEMMA

“The Arctic Council should not deal with matters related to military security.”

*-Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council, Ottawa 1996*

# THE BEGINNING OF ARCTIC MILITARIZATION

After World War II, the Arctic became heavily militarized as it was the closest point between the U.S. and Russia.





# TENSIONS BEGIN TO RISE

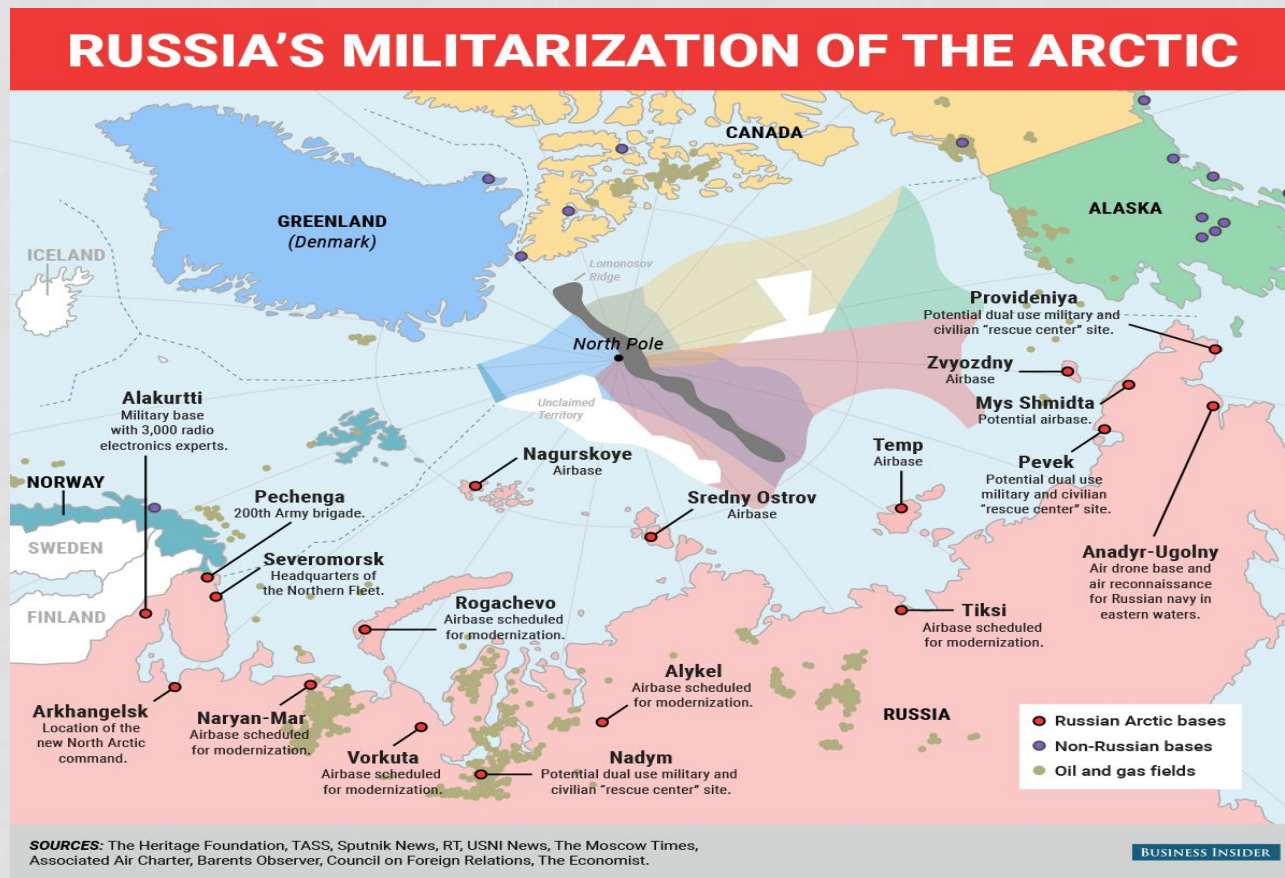
“Despite the low level of inter-state tension in the Arctic, the increased global attention that the Arctic has received since the mid-2000s has made a number of the Arctic states increasingly nervous about their sovereignty and national security interests in the region”

*-Duncan Depledge*

## Extra-regional Events

- 2007 Estonian Cyber-security attacks
- 2008 Russo-Georgian War
- 2014 Russian military intervention in Ukraine
- 2015 Russian military intervention in Syria

# RUSSIAN EXPANSION INTO THE ARCTIC

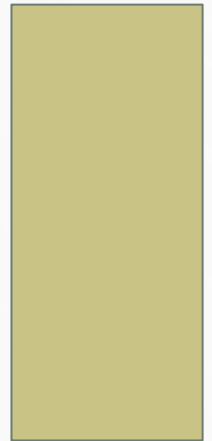


## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUDING REMARKS

1. The U.S. needs to become a member of the UNCLOS, so all nations are following the same set of rules
2. Modify individual sanctions towards Russia, in order to increase international cooperation.
3. Create a multilateral Arctic Security Forum to help maintain a stable Arctic region.

# SEARCH & RESCUE COOPERATION IN THE ARCTIC

JAKE CREPS



# A BRIEF HISTORY

- Post-WWII zone of **military tension** between USSR & West
- Gorbachev's "**Zone of Peace**" in the Arctic
  - The Arctic Council is established in **1996**
- The Arctic experiences drastic melting in **2007**
- **Search and Rescue Agreement** signed in **2011**
  - As a result of a **2009** summit in Tromsø
- **Sanctions** implemented towards Russia in **2014**
- **Current Search and Rescue Dilemma**

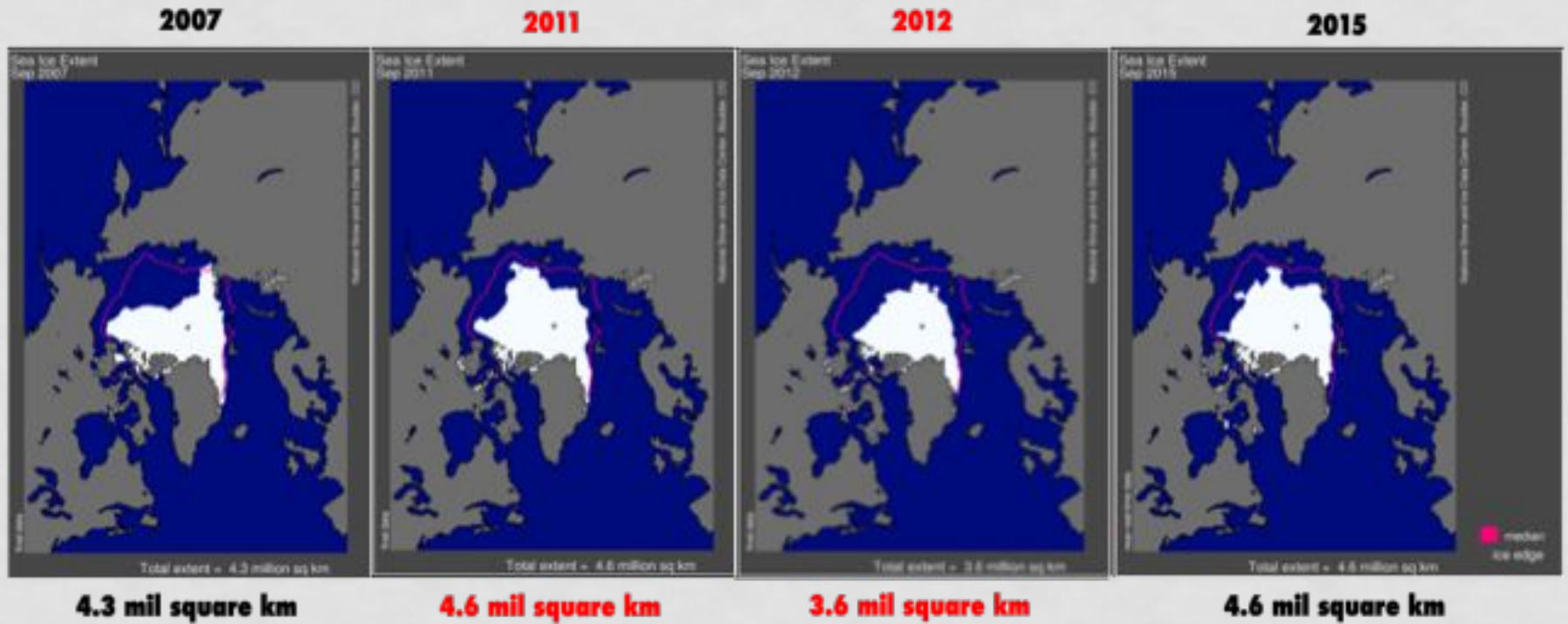
# TREND ANALYSIS: MARITIME INCIDENTS

**Table I. Ship Casualties in Arctic Circle Waters, 2005-2014**

Ships of 100 gross tons or more

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Machinery damage/failure	2	3	5	13	14	16	12	13	20	27	125
Wrecked/stranded	1	4	10	11	14	9	9	8	10	14	90
Miscellaneous	0	0	5	1	4	4	2	6	5	5	32
Fire/explosion	0	0	3	1	2	6	6	1	4	2	25
Collision	0	0	0	1	4	10	4	4	2	0	25
Contact (e.g., harbor wall)	0	0	1	1	1	3	1	3	6	4	20
Hull damage	0	1	3	1	6	2	2	1	2	1	19
Foundered (i.e., sunk or submerged)	0	0	1	1	2	0	3	1	1	2	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>347</b>

# TREND ANALYSIS: SEA ICE EXTENT





# U.S. CHAIRMANSHIP

- **Pillars of US chairmanship** promote peace and cooperation
  - US Arctic Doctrine is heavily security-centric with heavy use of military
- Russia is skeptical on US motives as sanctions tighten and military activity increases
- **Russia Looks East**
  - Due to economic sanctions, Russia is forced to trade with Asian partners to stabilize economy
- **Arctic Coast Guard Forum**
  - Arctic Council's proposed solution for increased cooperation
  - Russia is deterred as it focuses more on its economy

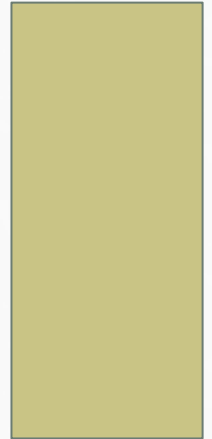


# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Reevaluate sanctions on Russian officials participating in the Arctic Council
  - a. Promote the communication between Russia-Western Arctic players
  - b. Provide incentives for Russia to participate in Arctic Coast Guard Forum
2. Specify requirements for observer status to include human rights and climate change guidelines

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE FAR NORTH

JORDAN HABENICHT



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NUNAVUT

- Development of Northern communities has been a key part of goals for the Arctic Council.
- The Iqaluit Declaration listed development as one of the top priorities.
- Current U.S. Chairmanship also listed development as one of their three Arctic themes.

# TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING

- Communities lack access to reliable, cost-effective transportation options.
- As of March 2, 2016, Nunavut has started developing a new transportation strategy.
- Communities need an increase in the amount of housing units available.
- Many homes are inadequate and require renovations or reconstruction in order to meet needs.

# INFRASTRUCTURE & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Power generation relies on diesel burning facilities and individual generators.
- Power generation is inefficient, expensive, and detrimental to the environment.
- Communities have access to telecommunication infrastructure, often through satellite connections.
- Current price models are expensive and offer limited service connection.

# MINING

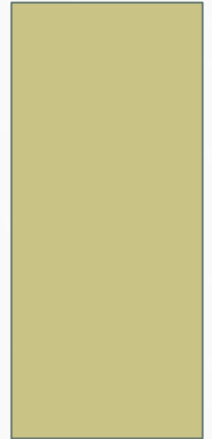
- Mining and drilling is promoted as a means towards development.
- Mining is only a short-term solution
- 30% of Nunavut's GDP comes from mining
- Vulnerable to changes in demand, commodity prices, and currency fluctuations.

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUDING REMARKS

1. Establish targeted areas for improvement in order to set tangible development goals.
2. Encourage development of industries outside of natural resources in order to create a diversified economy of the North.
3. Increase access to infrastructure and telecommunication services in communities.

UNCHARTED WATERS:  
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW CONCERNING THE  
ARCTIC OCEAN

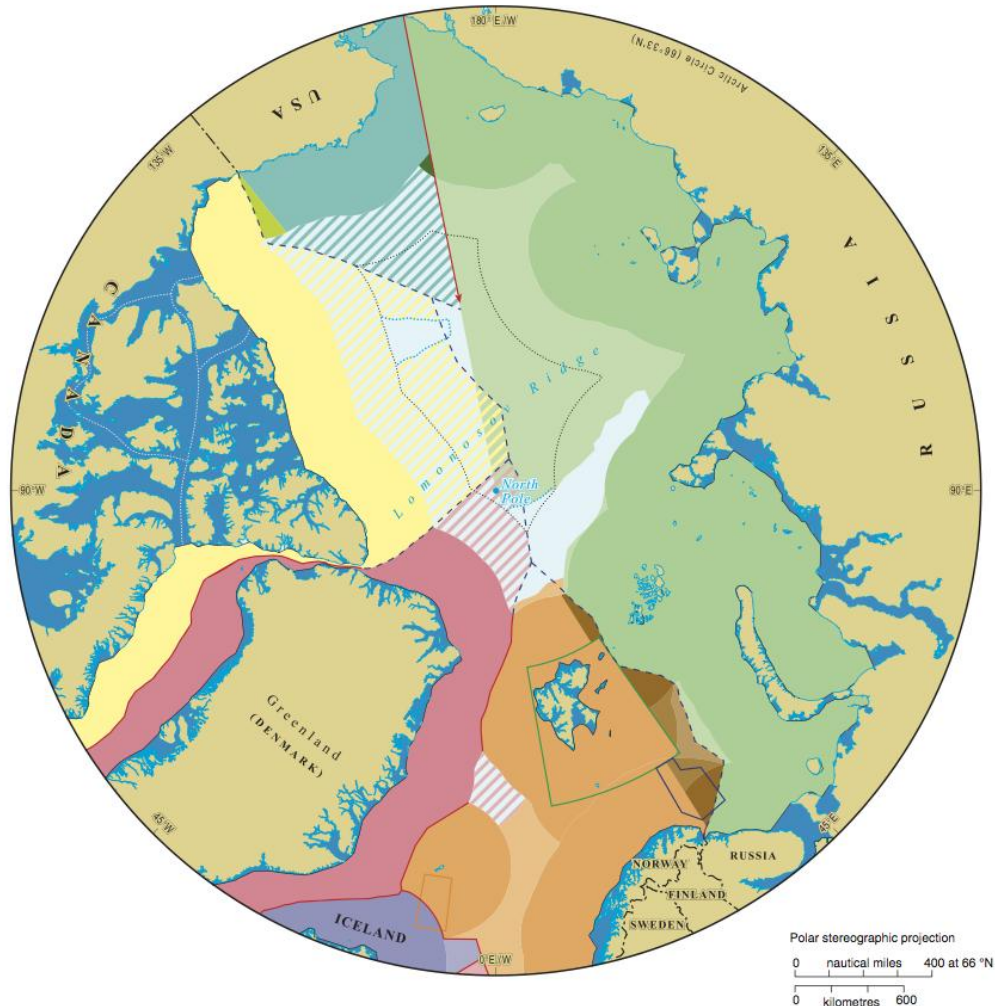
MAC ZELLEM





# TERRITORIAL CLAIMS IN THE ARCTIC

**Figure 3.** Maritime jurisdiction and boundaries in the Arctic region.



# SEA ROUTS



"The Melting North." The Economist. The Economist Newspaper, 16 June 2012. Print

# THE LAW OF THE SEA

## Article 234

- Ice Covered Waters (Arctic Waters) are exempt from most provisions of the Law of the Sea.
- Nation's have the right to impose regulations and restrictions on activities in Arctic Waters as long as those restrictions are applied in an non-discriminatory manner.
- Nations must “strive” to protect the Arctic Marine Environment, but there are no requirements to do so.

# WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

- Territorial and EEZ boundary disputes
- Undefined rights and responsibilities of Arctic Littoral Nations.
- Non harmonized maritime environmental regulation
- Non harmonized maritime code and standards
- Lack of cohesive International fish stock management.

# A MODEST PROPOSAL: AN ARCTIC OCEAN TREATY

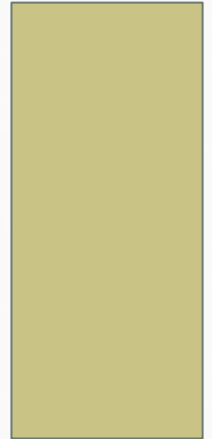
- A treaty conducted under the UN Treaty System outlining the rights and responsibilities of all nations operating within the Arctic Ocean with the goals of:
  - Harmonizing vessel and environmental standards to ensure the protection of the Arctic and its inhabitants.
  - Clearly defining the rights and responsibilities of all parties abiding and operating in the Arctic.
  - Settle any and all boundary and EEZ disputes.

# TREATY STRUCTURE

1. Arctic State Rights and Responsibilities
  - a. Defined national territorial boundaries and EEZ boundaries:
  - b. Defined territorial waterways and international transit passages:
2. Arctic Ocean Regulations
  - a. Maritime environmental regulation: *(This section shall be a convention)*
  - b. Maritime code and standards: *(This section shall be a convention)*
  - c. International fish stock management: *(This section shall be a convention)*

REFORMATION OF THE ARCTIC COUNCIL:  
THE CHANGING GLOBAL DYNAMICS OF THE NORTH

IVALENE LAOHAJARATSANG





“We should be proud of our Arctic Council...  
Proud, but not satisfied. The challenges  
ahead of us are greater than ever before.”

*–Kristina Persson,*

*Minister of Northern Affairs of*

*Sweden*



# COORDINATION OF MANAGEMENT

- Collaborative effort to ensure:
  - Continuity in policy implementation
  - Common prioritization of Arctic issues
- Differences in social, economic, and political realities leads to competing interests and priorities
- Leads to competition for resources and expertise

# ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS

- Policy-shaping, *NOT* Policy-making
- Non-binding nature of the Arctic Council leads to the Council's lack of power to ensure guidelines are being followed
- Lack of efficient tracking system
- Communication, persuasion, and capacity building as a mean of enforcement

# RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLEMENTATIONS

1. Absence of political restraints allows for impeccable quality research findings and policy recommendations, but the lack of enforcement creates a discrepancy between recommendations and implementation
2. Lack of central funding and financial tracking system leads to inefficiency in resource allocation
3. “Policy-shaping to policy-making;” a more politically influential Arctic Council

# INDIGENOUS REPRESENTATION CAPACITY

- “...to provide a means for promoting cooperative activities to address Arctic issues requiring circumpolar cooperation, **and to ensure full consultation with and the involvement of indigenous people and their communities and other inhabitants of the Arctic in such activities.**”

*-Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council, Ottawa 1996*

- “We face a steadily increasing workload in the Arctic Council and in particular the **Permanent Participants capacity to keep up with our priorities is challenged.** We will remind all parties that it remains the responsibility of the member states to ensure adequate 3 funding for its Permanent Participants. We need well-functioning and operative organisations at home in order to contribute meaningfully in the role as Permanent Participants.”

*-President of the Saami Council, Iqaluit 2015*

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUDING REMARKS

1. Create a system to identify common priority issues between all Member States and Permanent Participants
2. Develop an efficient tracking system to check on the progress of projects and research assigned to working groups and task forces
3. Ensure sufficient funding to support the Permanent Participants as a mean to increase Indigenous participation capacity within the Arctic Council
4. Include regional governments as part of the Arctic Council to ensure policy implementations on a regional level

# CONCLUSION

- The Arctic Council is admirable in its progress & resilience
- The flexibility of the Council promotes change as the Arctic transforms
- With awareness of the issues highlighted in this presentation, the Arctic Council will continue to grow for decades to come