

18TH POLAR LAW SYMPOSIUM

22. - 24. OCTOBER 2025

Ilisimatusarfik - University of Greenland
and University of Akureyri



Háskólinn
á Akureyri
University
of Akureyri



CARLSBERG
FONDET



22 OCTOBER

8:30 - 9:30

entrance

Registration

9:00 - 9:30

plenumlokale 1

Welcome Plenary

Gitte Adler Reimer **Rector, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Maria Ackrén **Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Moderator: Rachael Lorna Johnstone **University of Akureyri, Iceland, and Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

9:30 - 10:00

plenumlokale 1

Keynote presentation: *There is no such thing as a better colonizer*

Sara Olsvig **Chair, Inuit Circumpolar Council**

Moderator: Timo Koivurova **University of Lapland, Finland**

10:30 - 11:00

lobby

Coffee

11:00 - 12:00

plenumlokale 1

Plenary: The Growing State Obligations around Indigenous self-determination and the use of Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Governance, Inuit Circumpolar Council

Moderator: Aviaja Tindbæk-Jørgensen **Marine Governance Advisor, Inuit Circumpolar Council - Greenland**

Panellists: Sara Olsvig **Chair, Inuit Circumpolar Council**

Eirik Larsen **Head of Human Rights Unit, Saami Council**

Vernae Angnaboogok **Inuit Arctic Policy Director, Inuit Circumpolar Council - Alaska**

Axel Ingeman-Jeremiassen **Oceans and Inuit Knowledge Coordinator, Inuit Circumpolar Council - Greenland**

12:00 - 13:00

lobby

Lunch

22 OCTOBER

13:00 - 14:00

plenumlokale 1

Keynote presentation: *The Antarctic Treaty System Trumped: The State of Antarctic Governance Today*

Alan Hemmings Professor, University of Canterbury, Aotearoa / New Zealand

Moderator: Akiho Shibata Polar Cooperation and Research Centre, Kobe University, Japan

14:10 - 15:10

plenumlokale 1

The future of Greenland-EU relations: aspirations, chances, and limits

Moderator: Patrick Flamm Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Germany

Panellists: Mininnguaq Kleist Greenlandic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Research/Science, Government of Greenland

Rasmus Leander Nielsen Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland
Simon Bojsen-Møller European Commission Office in Greenland, European Union

Andreas Raspotnik Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway

plenumlokale 3

Arctic Shipping

Moderator: Kentaro Nishimoto Tohoku University, Japan

Panellists: Yoshifumi Tanaka Centre for Private Governance, Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Environmental Regulation of Arctic Shipping

Maxim Usynin University of Copenhagen, Denmark, SHOC – Shipping and Ocean Law Group, CEPRI – Centre for Private Governance, Law Faculty

The Northern Sea Route: The role of private law and sustainability considerations

15:10 - 15:30

lobby

Coffee

22 OCTOBER

15:30 - 16:30

plenumlokale 1

Climate Commodification: Law, extraction and resistance

Moderator: Karen Scott **Faculty of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand**

Panellists: Romain Chuffart **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

The Patchy Law'fe of Arctic Sea Ice and the Troubles of Techno-care Governance

Apostolos Tsiouvalas **UiT – The Arctic University of Norway**

Cryopower Unfrozen: The Arctic Ocean as a Testbed for Sea Ice Geoengineering and International Law

Christine Schwöbel-Patel **Warwick University, UK**

Green Frontiers: International Law and Inter-Imperial Battles for Greenland in the Green Transition

plenumlokale 3

Antarctic Governance

Moderator: Nengye Liu **Singapore Management University**

Panellists: Trevor Daya-Winterbottom **University of Waikato, Aotearoa/New Zealand**

Protecting Antarctic Biodiversity under National Law

Antje Neumann **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

The Silence of Polar Regions – A value to be protected or just a privilege of stressed and well-heeled city dwellers?

Alejandra Mancilla **University of Oslo, Norway**

Indigenous voices in Antarctic governance

Eric Rubenstein **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

Aesthetic Values and Antarctica's Environmental Protocol

18:00 - 20:00

selskablokale

Reception

Sponsored by the Consulate General of Iceland in Greenland

23 OCTOBER

8:30 - 9:30

plenumlokale 1

Inuit Circumpolar Council: Indigenous Peoples' Rights in a Just Transition

Moderator: Aviaja Tindbæk-Jørgensen **Marine Governance Advisor, Inuit Circumpolar Council – Greenland**

Panellists: Aviaaja Isaksen **Human Rights Coordinator, Inuit Circumpolar Council Greenland**

Eirik Larsen **Head of Human Rights Unit, Saami Council**

Naja Graugaard **Associate Professor, Center for Gender, Sexuality & Difference, Dept. of Nordic Studies & Linguistics, Copenhagen University, Denmark**

David Heilmann Ottosen **Filmmaker and ICC Inuit Youth Engagement Program Participant, Greenland**

plenumlokale 2

Implementation of the BBNJ Agreement in the Arctic: Selected Issues on Regime Interaction

Moderator: Karen Scott, **Faculty of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand**

Hilde Woker **Leiden University, Grotius Centre of International Legal Studies, The Netherlands**

Revisiting an Asked and Answered Question: The Arctic Council (Secretariat) as an International Organization?

Kristine Dalaker **Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources & Security (ANCORS), Australia**

The Implications of the BBNJ Agreement for Submarine Cable Activities within the Arctic Context

Maria Madalena das Neves **Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, Norway**

The Implications of the BBNJ Agreement for Norway's Seabed Mining Activities

plenumlokale 3

Contested frontiers: Exploring the (re)constitution of Arctic peripheries

Moderator: Aaron Spitzer **Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen, Norway**

23 OCTOBER

Panellists: Aaron Spitzer **Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen, Norway**

Exceptional Circumstances: Electoral Boundary Conflict in Canada's Territories

Ragnhild Nilsson **Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen, Norway**

How to share land – Sámi norms of relations: What Historical Conflicts Regarding Reindeer Grazing and Fishing Can Tell Us About Law

Anja Tucker **Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen, Norway**

Constituting self-determination: Constitution-making in a former Danish colony

Andrew Newman **Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen, Norway**

9:40 - 10:40
plenumlokale 1

Theorizing the Frontier: Examining Alternative Forms of Sovereignty"

Keynote presentation

Kenneth Høegh **Arctic Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark, Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials of the Arctic Council 2025-27**

10:40 - 11:00
lobby

Moderator: Maria Ackrén **Ilisimatusarfik - The University of Greenland**

11:00 - 12:00
plenumlokale 1

Coffee

Meaningful engagement with communities for a just transition in the Arctic: A workshop to share research outcomes and invite feedback from the audience

Moderator: Karin Buhmann **Copenhagen Business School, Denmark**

Panellists: Karin Buhmann **Copenhagen Business School, Denmark**

23 OCTOBER

Rachael Lorna Johnstone Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland and
University of Akureyri, Iceland

Dorothee Cambou University of Helsinki, Finland

plenumlokale 2

Hybrid Defence and Security roundtable

Moderator: Jeppe Strandsbjerg Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik
Greenland and Royal Danish Defence College

Panellists: Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland
Rasmus Leander Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland
Christoph Humrich University Groningen, The Netherlands
Mira Kleist Kaya Partners, Greenland (TBC)

plenumlokale 3

Governance of Antarctic Air Tourism

Moderator: Antje Neumann University of Akureyri, Iceland

Panellists: Kees Bastmeijer University of Groningen, the
Netherlands

*The origin and progress of the current negotiation within the
ATCM on a comprehensive and consistent framework for the
regulation of tourism*

Osamu Inagaki Kobe University, Japan

*Legal issues concerning Antarctic air tourism under the
Antarctic Treaty System*

Yousra Makanse Wageningen University, the Netherlands

*Issues and concerns posed by the growth and diversification of
Antarctic air tourism on environmental, safety, and other
Antarctic Treaty System values*

12:00 - 13:00

canteen

Lunch

13:00 - 14:00

plenumlokale 1

GANG: Achievements and Challenges of Indigenous Autonomy

Moderator: Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland

Panellists: Nicolò P. Alessi UniDistance, Switzerland and
Francesca Maria Cavalcant University of Tilburg, The
Netherlands

23 OCTOBER

Variations of indigenous peoples' autonomy beyond consolidated paths: privatized autonomy and urban reserves

Alexander Osipov The Åland Islands Peace Institute, non-resident fellow, Germany

Setting the indigenous legal framework in Russia: agendas, agencies and rationalities

Sébastien Brodeur-Girard Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, School of Indigenous Studies, Canada and Suzy Basile Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, School of Indigenous Studies, Canada

Between Rights and Recognition: Implementing UNDRIP in Greenland and Canada

plenumlokale 2

Unveiling Green Injustice? Indigenous Rights, Migrant Workers, and Non-Human Recognition in the Arctic Transition

Moderator: Dorothee Cambou University of Helsinki, Faculty of Law, Finland

Panellists: Dorothee Cambou University of Helsinki, Faculty of Law, Finland

Sade Mäntylä University of Helsinki, Finland

Tero Kivinen University of Helsinki, Finland

Berfin Osso University of Helsinki, Finland

plenumlokale 3

Decolonial Sociology of Law in a Nordic Context roundtable

Panellists: Ida Nafstad Sociology of Law Department, Lund University, Sweden

Michael Molavi Sociology of Law Department, Lund University, Sweden

Vasilis Galis IT University of Copenhagen

David Struthers IT University of Copenhagen

23 OCTOBER

14:10 - 15:10

plenumlokale 1

Regulation of Extractive Industries

Moderator: Kamrul Hossain Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland

Panellists: Dwight Newman University of Saskatchewan, Canada
Implications for Resource Projects of Transborder and Localized Indigenous Consultation/FPIC Processes in the Arctic
Seita Vesa Center for Climate Change, Energy, and Environmental Law (CCEEL), University of Eastern Finland and the Finnish Environment Institute's Climate Solutions Unit (SYKE)

Critical Raw Materials, Sustainability, and Environmental Law in the Arctic

Mar Campins-Eritja Faculty of Law, University of Barcelona, Spain

Arctic critical minerals for a sustainable future: The EU-Greenland MoU and its legal implications

Helga Númadóttir Stefansson Arctic Institute, M.A. in Polar Law from the University of Akureyri, Iceland

Mining Encounters in South Greenland: Exploring Local Perceptions and Socioeconomic Dimensions of the Nalunaq Goldmine

plenumlokale 2

Ice Governance as a Component of Global Polar Law

Moderator: Akiho Shibata Polar Cooperation Research Centre, Kobe University, Japan

Panellists: Kirsty Langley Asiaq (Greenland Survey), Greenland
Greenlandic ice today and tomorrow: Governance challenge
Corine Wood-Donnelly Nord University, Norway

Ice & self-determination: Norms, sovereignty & justice

John C. Moore Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland

Geoengineering in the polar regions: Antarctic ice today and tomorrow

Miharu Hirano Graduate School of Law, Kobe University, Japan
Giving legal frames to ice: A value-based approach

23 OCTOBER

plenumlokale 3

Emerging Issues in Law of the Sea

Moderator: Romain Chuffart University of Akureyri, Iceland

Panellists: Karin Buhmann **Copenhagen Business School, Denmark**

Deep-Sea Mining: What a Business-and-Human-Rights Approach may Contribute

Chie Sato **Meiji University, School of Law, Japan**

Designating MPAs in the Arctic - Due Diligence Obligation under UNCLOS?

Niall Janssen **University of Akureyri, Iceland, Arctic Youth Network (AYN)**

Submerged Rights: State-centrism in the 1982 LOSC as a challenge to Arctic Indigenous Self-determination

15:10 - 15:30

lobby

Coffee

15:30 - 16:30

plenumlokale 1

International Law and Displaced Archives in Arctic Countries: Book presentation

Moderator: Timo Koivurova **Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland**

Panellists: Rachael Lorna Johnstone **University of Akureyri, Iceland and Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Interdisciplinary Research on Decolonising Archives: A Call and an Answer

Bjarni Már Magnússon **Bifröst University, Iceland**

The role of the 1918 Danish - Icelandic Act of Union in the resolution of Icelandic archival claims in the 1920s

Rebecca Bourgeois **University of Alberta / Western University, Canada**

The Role of Archives in Reconciliation in Canada: Untangling Systemic Barriers to Contribute to Sustainable Change

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Apostolos Tsiouvalas **UiT, The Arctic University of Norway**

The "Double Life" of Arctic Archives: Perpetuation of Normativity or Obsolescence on Display for the 1929 Thule Law of Northwest Greenland

Romain Chuffart **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

Bordering as Archives: Cross-border mobilities and self-determination in Sápmi

plenumlokale 2

Biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)

Moderator: Yoshifumi Tanaka **Faculty of Law, Copenhagen University**

Panellists: Karen Scott **Faculty of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand**

Cold Collaboration? Managing MGRs under the BBNJ Agreement and the Antarctic Treaty

Kentaro Nishimoto **Tohoku University, Japan**

Marine Protected Areas in the Southern Ocean: The BBNJ Agreement and the Antarctic Treaty System

Osamu Inagaki **Kobe University, Japan**

The Significance of the Central Arctic Ocean Fisheries Agreement (CAOFA) in the Current Arctic Scientific Cooperation

Ekaterina Antsygina **Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea – A UiT Aurora Centre, Faculty of Law, UiT the Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø**

Interpreting the Non-Undermining Clause of the BBNJ Agreement: Restrictive or Complementary Roles for the COP within RFMO Competences?

18:00

selskabslokale

Conference Dinner

(separate registration)

24 OCTOBER

08:30 - 09:30

plenumlokale 1

Working with and for Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic

Moderator: Romain Chuffart **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

Panellists: M. Sigvanna Tapqaq **Kawerak, Inc., Alaska/USA**

Building Together: Imagining a Circumpolar Inuit Law Association

Anna-Lise Kappel **Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

What sense does that make? - about the psychological work environment in Greenlandic workplaces.

Åsmund Aamaas **University of South-Eastern Norway, Norway**

Engaging with Saami perspectives in Norwegian teacher education: Practices and paths toward decolonial indigenization

plenumlokale 3

Climate change and the polar regions

Moderator: Sara Fusco **University of Akureyri, Iceland and University of Lapland, Finland**

Panellists: Øyvind Ravna **Faculty of Law, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø, Norway**

The Green Transition: Balancing Indigenous Rights Against Interventions Arising from the Right to a Healthy Environment

Louis Galo McDonough **Ghent University, Belgium** and Jianping Guo **Xi'an Jiaotong University, China**

The ITLOS Advisory Opinion on Climate Change: Remaining Gaps and Challenges for Arctic Fisheries

Marlene Payva **Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland**

Establishing interconnectedness between the Arctic and Small Island States

Rachael Lorna Johnstone **University of Akureyri, Iceland and Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Just Transition in a Low-Carbon Economy: Making Sense of the Discourse in Iceland

24 OCTOBER

09:40 - 10:40

plenumlokale 1

Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Self-determination

Moderator: Timo Koivurova **Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland**

Panellists: Diana J. Fox **Bridgewater State University, USA**

Toward Self-Determination: An Ethical Framework for Enhancing Engagement with and Support for Indigenous Peoples of the Caribbean—Implications for the Polar Regions

Sara Fusco **University of Akureyri, Iceland and University of Lapland, Finland**

Whose Future? Rethinking Conservation Through Indigenous Sovereignty and Intergenerational Justice

Ekaterina Zymvalova **Mid Sweden University, Sweden**

Law and Language Revitalization: Saami Children's Right to Language Education in Sweden, Norway, and Finland

Elena Kavanagh **University College Cork, Ireland**

Language Rights and Self-Determination in the Arctic: Identity Building Through Language in Arctic States"

plenumlokale 3

Issues in International Relations

Moderator: Maria Ackrén **Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Panellists: Christoph Humrich **University Groningen, The Netherlands**

Autonomy, Democracy and Polar Law

Cécile Pelaudeix **Pacte Sciences Po Grenoble-UGA France**

The US, Denmark, Greenland and EU's securitizations of Greenland: what options for a (post-colonial) security architecture?

Judy Boyd **The Arctic Institute, USA**

Untangling Polycrisis: A Framework for Complex Crisis Analysis in the Modern World

Pavel Tkach **Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland**

Arctic 2035: Russian legal vision for the future of the International Arctic Governance. Russia in the Arctic Council and/or BRICS in the Russian Arctic?

24 OCTOBER

10:40 - 11:00

lobby

Coffee

11:00 - 12:00

plenumlokale 1

Rights of Indigenous Peoples and resources

Moderator: Kamrul Hossain Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland

Panellists: Jade Owen Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Canada
Supporting Inuit Self-Determination in Commercial Fisheries
Lotta Viikari University of Lapland, Finland

Food Sovereignty Of Sámi Reindeer Herders & (Un)Sustainable Space Activities

Elisabeth Alber Eurac Research and Eva Maria Belser University of Fribourg, Germany

Who owns natural resources? Conceptual frameworks and comparative insights

Medes Malaihollo University of Groningen, The Netherlands
Different Trends on 'Consent' in EU Law and International Human Rights Law: Implications for the Sámi in Finland?

plenumlokale 3

GANG: Law and Agency – Nordic and Global Experiences

Moderator: Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland

Panellists: Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland
Nordic cooperation in troubling waters?

Annegret Eppler Hochschule Kehl, Germany

Multi-level Arrangements: Glue or Split

Hasan Akintug Centre for Nordic Studies, University of Helsinki, Finland

NATO in the eyes of Greenland, the Faroe Islands and Åland
Bjarni Már Magnússon Bifröst University, Iceland

Lessons from the 1918 Act of Union Between Iceland and Denmark in a Changing Arctic Geopolitical Landscape

12:00 - 12:45

canteen

Lunch

24 OCTOBER

12:45 - 13:45

plenumlokale 1

New Insights in Polar Law

Moderator: Rachael Lorna Johnstone **University of Akureyri, Iceland, and Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Panellists: Maja Normann Sandgreen, Debora Kleist, Winnie Harder Evaldsen, Norja-Celine Walther, and Ditte Lillholm Post Weibull **Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Billy Starkey, Emma Lipoff, Jolanda Lipu, Katarina Wellerstedt, and Mathieu Gelinas **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

plenumlokale 3

Environmental law and policy

Moderator: Antje Neumann **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

Panellists: Tomohiko Kobayashi **Otaru University of Commerce, Japan**

Public Morals, Trade Measures, and Small Cetacean Hunting in the Arctic: The Need for Interstitial Legal Norms"

Gor Samvel and Apostolos Tsiouvalas **UiT-The Arctic University of Norway, Faculty of Law**

Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment in the Institutional Memory of the Arctic Council: International Law and Policy Revisited

D. S. Pensley **Widener University Commonwealth Law School, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, U.S.A**

Multi-Level Regulation of PFAS in the U.S. Arctic and Subarctic
Adriana Craciun **Boston University, USA**

The Independence of Greenland's Plant Life

13:55 - 14:55

plenumlokale 1

Emerging Voices: Growing Our Own Inuit Lawyers and the Future of Sovereignty in Inuit Nunaat

Panellists: M. Sigvanna Tapqaq **Kawerak, Inc., Alaska/USA**

Lisa Navraq Ellanna **Mitchell Hamline School of Law recent law graduate, Kawerak, Inc., Alaska/USA**

Allaryce Agloinga **University of Seattle School of Law, Kawerak, Inc., Alaska/USA**

24 OCTOBER

plenumlokale 3

Global Polar Law

Moderator: Corine Wood-Donnelly Nord University, Norway

Panellists: Kanagavalli Suryanarayanan UiT Norges arktiske universitet, Norway

Legal Transplant of the Arctic Model of Cooperation in the Third Pole Region: Science Diplomacy and Neocolonialism

Patrick Flamm Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Germany and
Jonas Franken Technical University Darmstadt, Germany

A cable to Antarctica: Exploring the Geopolitical Dimension of Connecting the Last Frontier of the Material Internet

Yuanyuan Ren The University of Dayton School of Law, USA

Historic Titles and Historic Rights in the Law of the Sea: A Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL) Inquiry

14:55 - 15:10

lobby

Coffee

15:10 - 16:10

plenumlokale 1

Plenary: Asia and International Polar Law

Moderator: Nengye Liu Singapore Management University

Panellists: Nengye Liu Singapore Management University

Julia Xue Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

Akiho Shibata Kobe University, Japan

Kamrul Hossain University of Lapland, Finland

Michelle Lim Singapore Management University

16:10 - 16:40

plenumlokale 1

Closing Plenary

Moderator: Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland

Panellists: Akiho Shibata Polar Cooperation and Research Centre, Kobe University, Japan

Timo Koivurova University of Lapland, Finland

Trevor Daya-Winterbottom University of Waikato, Aotearoa/
New Zealand



Háskólinn
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University
of Akureyri