

PCRC International Law Seminar Series

10th International Law Seminar

The establishment of a permanent secretariat for the Arctic Council and its evolving functions

北極評議会常設事務局設置とその機能的展開

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Abstract

Prior to the establishment of the Arctic Council, there were discussions on whether to establish the Council as a formal international organization or not. Canada proposed to do so with a treaty. Donat Pharand, a Canadian international lawyer, who prepared the draft of the Arctic Treaty also referred to the provisions on the permanent Secretariat as a "subordinate institution". However, this proposal was rejected by some Arctic countries, and eventually the Council was established only as a "high level forum." This presentation will examine the history of the Arctic Council Secretariat and its recent activities, especially those related to international organizations. In addition, this presentation will also consider how the permanent Secretariat affects the Arctic Council itself.