

Challenges and opportunities in diplomacy in the Arctic

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The platform for Arctic diplomacy

Arctic Council

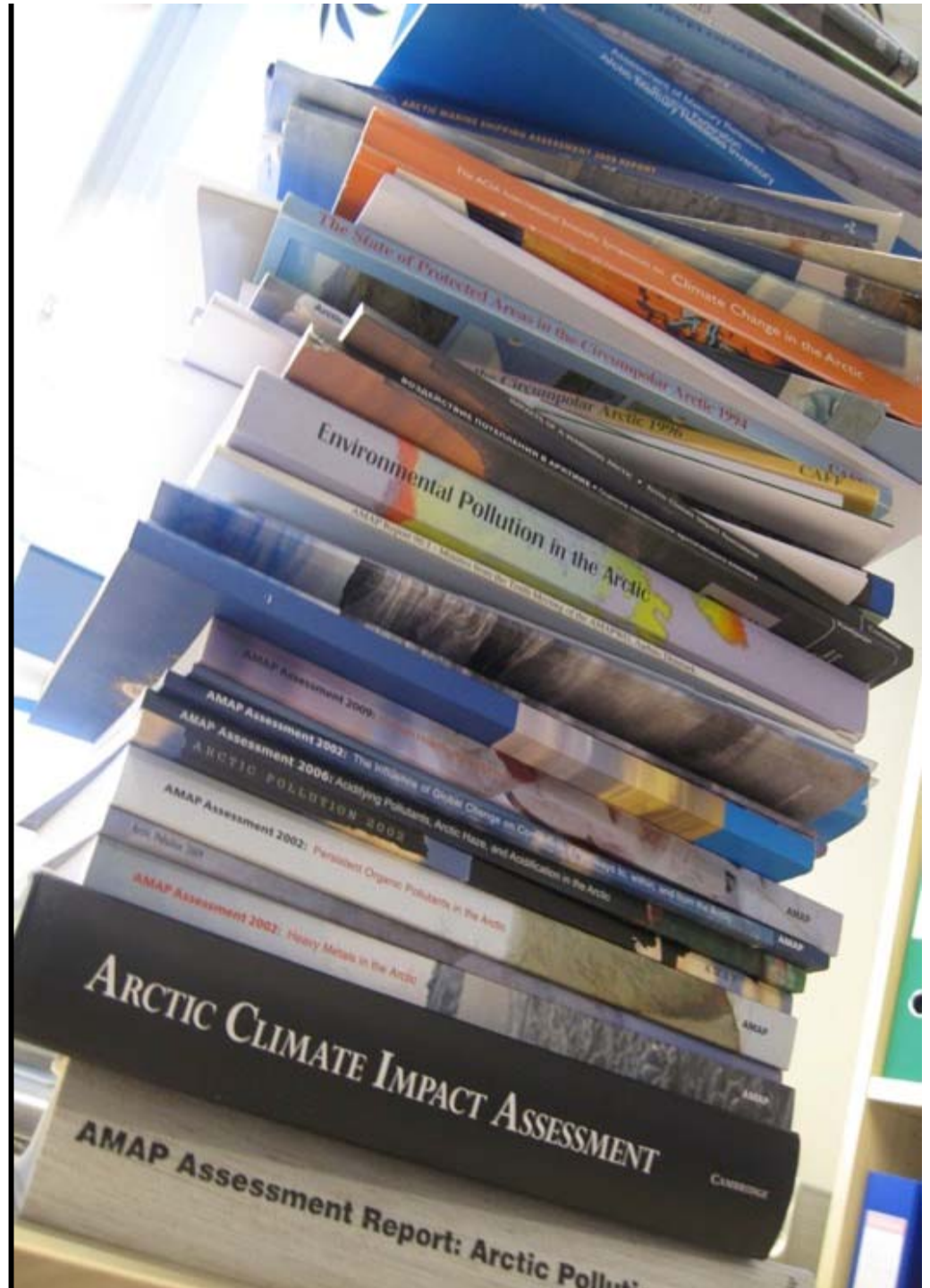
intergovernmental forum
on issues of sustainable development and
environmental protection



Arctic Council

A success-story of
information
production for over
20 years

Assessment reports
compilations of *existing*
information



Arctic Council has proofed to be influential

It acts as an Arctic Voice

- World Summits on Sustainable Development
- IPPC reports
- UN Convention on Biological Diversity

It affects on national policies

- by arctic and non-arctic states
- strategy documents
- research funding programs

It has been vital in global treaties

- LRTAP Convention, Protocol on POPs under UN ECE, 1998/2003
- Stockholm Convention on

It has launched arctic treaties

- Maritime Search and Rescue in the Arctic , 2011/2013
- Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution
- Preparedness and Response in the Arctic, 2013

Next :

- IMO International Code of safety for ships operating in polar waters (**Polar Code**) 2015/16
 - Arctic Research
 - Prevention of oil spill accidents?
- Fisheries?

Influence on the Arctic Council's agenda is a matter of...

- **Rules of Procedure:**

- Proposals can be made by Arctic States and Permanent Participants

- **Structure of the AC:**

- The work is done in Working Groups and Task Forces
- WGs propose activities

- **Policy interest** by participants

- **Informal channels**

- shared understanding by the **epistemic community**
- advanced by individuals as **knowledge brokers**

Arctic Council structure allows iterative and learning process

INARI DECLARATION on the occasion of the Third Ministerial Meeting of THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

2009/02064-E
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Ministers representing the eight Arctic States, convening in Inari, Finland, for the third ministerial meeting of the Arctic Council;

Reaffirming the commitment of the Governments of the Arctic States and indigenous peoples* to work together to promote sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic region with increased focus on climate change, sustainable use of resources and human development in the Arctic;

Acknowledging the character of the Arctic Council as a unique partnership among Governments, organizations representing indigenous peoples and communities in the Arctic; global environmental impacts, such as climate change and long-range trans-boundary pollution, and the importance of information may have on the work in international fora;

Referring to the special features of the Arctic environment as an indicator of global environmental change, sustainable use of resources and human development in the Arctic;

Noting with appreciation the strengthened role of the Arctic Council as an international voice for the circumpolar region, reflecting the ongoing dialogue involving national Governments, indigenous peoples, regional authorities, scientific experts, and civil society;

Noting with satisfaction the work of the Arctic Council Working Groups, the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response Group (EPPR), Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME), Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) as well as the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) and the Action Plan against Pollution in the Arctic (ACAP);

Welcoming increased participation of the indigenous peoples in the work of the Arctic Council and its subsidiary bodies;

AC
Assessment
-scientists

Political
decisions

Strategies,
documents,
policies

Hereby:

HUMAN CONDITIONS IN THE ARCTIC

1. Declare our commitment to improve the human conditions in the Arctic, and to this end

* States notes that the use of the term "peoples" in this Declaration and related documents shall not be construed as regard the rights which may attach to the term under international law.

For the Government of Denmark

Ole Samsing
Senior Arctic Official

For the Government of Iceland

Halldór Ásgrímsson
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Government of the Russian Federation

Roald F. Piskoppel
Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade

For the Government of the United States of America

Paula Dobriansky
Secretary of State

For the Government of Finland

Tuomioja
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Government of Norway

avik
Secretary

For the Government of Sweden

Epistemic community share a view

Policy Leaders
Ministers of Foreign Affairs

Deputy Ministers
Senior Arctic Officials

Diplomats

Five Environmental Permanent Working Groups

AMAP - monitoring
ACAP - actions
CAFF - nature
EPPR - emergencies
PAME - marine

Sustainable Development Working Group

Ad hoc projects
other sectors
(except military)

**Experts, Scientists
Indigenous Peoples**

AC chair country's influence

- two years' program
 - with specific national interests
- extra policy interest
 - national arrangements

Challenge:

- How to ensure continuity for strategic thinking in the AC?



Available resources influence

Opportunity and challenge:

- Only projects that have resources are accepted
 - resources are dependent on national funding of projects
 - sometimes supported by other entities

Indigenous People as permanent participants

Opportunity

- have a right to propose activities

Challenge:

- Increasing global interest towards the Arctic must not overshadow IPs unique position



Observers:

Non-arctic states, organizations

Opportunity:

- AC has inclusive policy to accept Observers
 - increases AC's global influence

Challenge:

- AC has no systematic structure how Observers can participate to discussions
 - reduces AC's global influence

Local governance

Challenge:

- The AC has no structure for local level officers
 - locals participate in national delegations
- Reduces AC's influence in local level

Opportunity:

- The new AACCA-project
Adaptation Actions for Changing Arctic
 - Has strong stakeholder participation component
 - New connections between AC and local officers

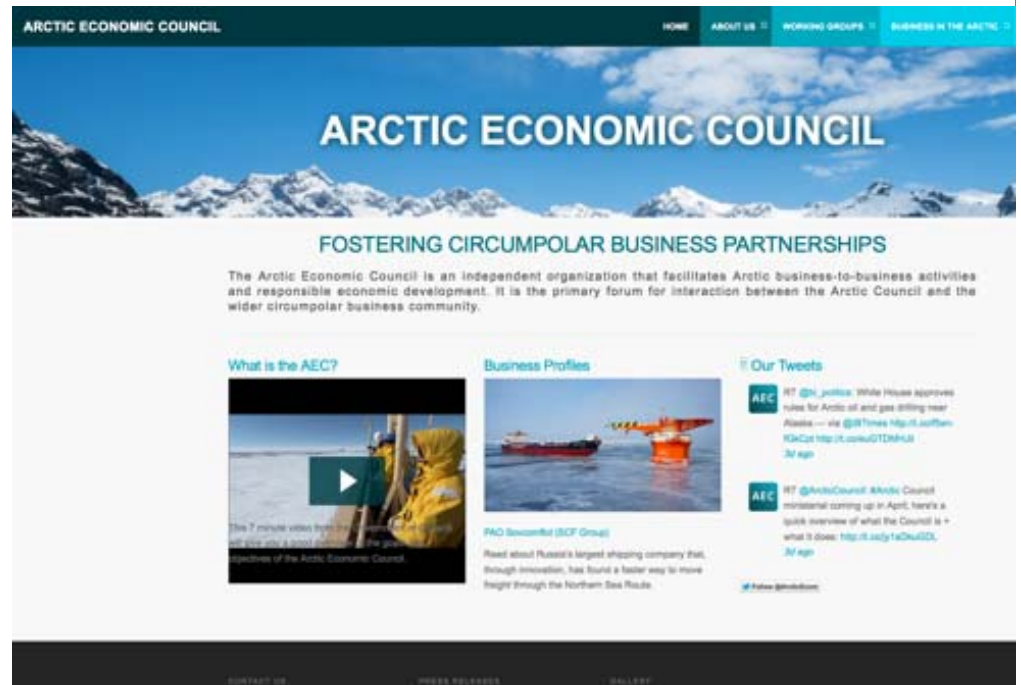
Private sector

Opportunity:

- Arctic Economic Council was established in 2014
 - potential to increase AC influence at local level

Challenge:

- Is there true interest?



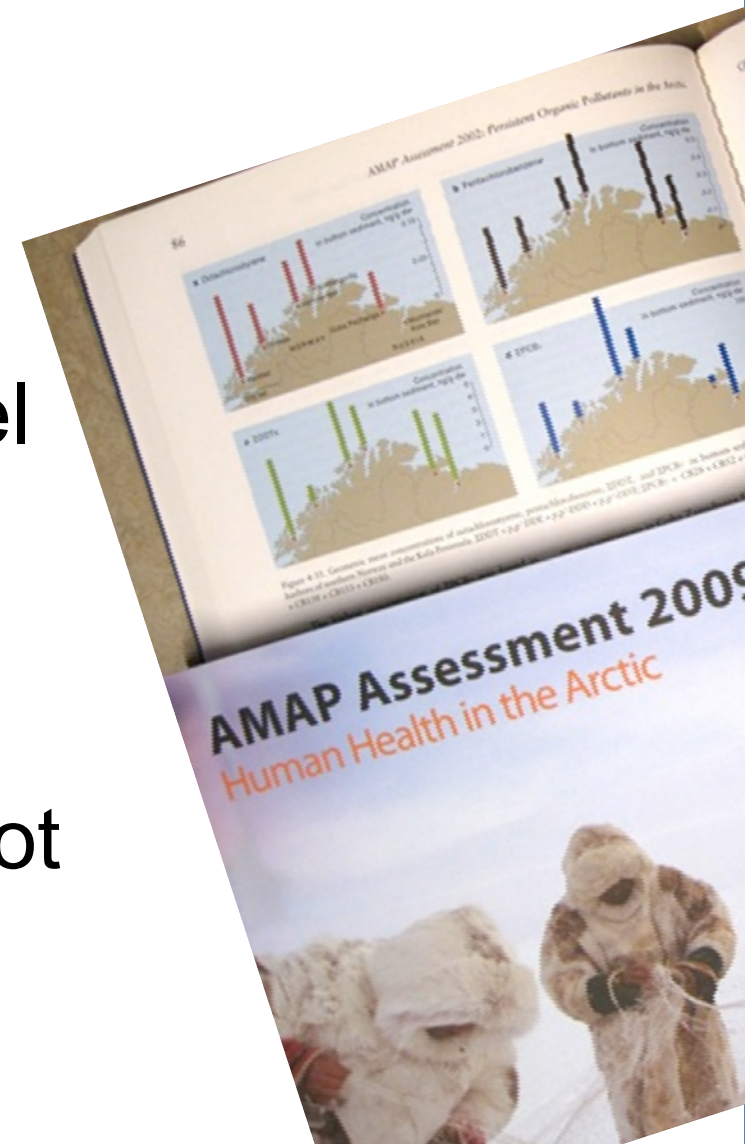
Scientists & experts

Opportunity:

- Working Groups
 - Active input from researchers and experts
 - non-arctic researchers can participate
- AC structure offer a channel for “science diplomacy”

Challenge:

- science and politics must not be blurred with each other



Increasing need for research in the Arctic:

- **Arctic States have launched new research programs**
- **Non-arctic actors are investing to arctic research**
- **Agreement on research co-operation in the Arctic under development**
 - **Important to be open for participation by non-arctic states**
- **Researchers seek funding for their co-operation**
 - resource for the AC

Arctic Council as an arena for diplomacy...

- AC's influence depends on *engaging and inclusive* operation
 - AC should not be developed as a legally binding organization as it would
 - narrow down the agenda
 - limit participation
 - decrease reactivity and flexibility
 - reduce AC's influence
- In current economic and geopolitical situation environment and related societal issues most likely remain high on the agenda
 - the role of research and science diplomacy will stay strong

Opportunity to even greater enhancement of knowledge in the Arctic

AC can offer a global model for diplomacy, informed decision making and use of scientific knowledge

Thank you!

Increasing need for research in the Arctic:

- **Opportunity to even greater enhancement of knowledge in the Arctic**
- **Arctic States have launched new research programs**
 - Economic interests, environmental concerns
 - To show authority
- **Non-arctic actors are investing to arctic research**
 - Economic interests, concerns about climate change
 - Increase legitimacy to enter the Arctic
 - Awareness of the role of “science diplomacy” in the Arctic
 - Discussions about political involvement of non-arctic actors should not overshadow their potential, expertise and benefits they can bring to the Arctic
- **Agreement on research co-operation in the Arctic under development**
 - Potential increase efficiency of arctic research and its funding
 - **Important to be open for participation by non-arctic states**
- **Researchers seek funding for their co-operation**
 - resource for the AC



MARINE RESEARCH CENTRE

Rules of Procedure of the AC and its WGs supervise how the agenda is formulated

- Proposals for projects and programs can be made by Arctic States and Permanent Participants
- The work is done in Working Groups and Task Forces as “chair country projects”



AC member country's activity to chair projects is dependent on:

- ... the national importance of the Arctic.
- ... the available resources
- national structure to handle arctic issues

According to modern
science and technology studies
the influence of information is dependent on
**ownership to the
information process**

i.e.

participation to definition and production
of the information

- credibility, legitimacy, salience -





Arctic region is increasingly prominent in international relations:

ARCTIC COUNCIL

8 ARCTIC STATES	6 PERMANENT PARTICIPANTS	9 INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	11 NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
Canada Denmark / Greenland/ Faroe Islands Finland Iceland Norway Sweden The Russian Federation United States of America	Aleut International Association (AIA) Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC) Gwich'in Council International (GCI) Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (Raipon) The Saami Council (SC)	IFRC - International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies IUCN – The World Conservation Union NAMMCO - North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission NCM - Nordic Council of Ministers NEFCO – Nordic Environment Finance Corporation SCPAR – Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region UN-ECE - United Nations Economic Commission for Europe UNDP – United Nations Development Programme UNEP-GRID/Arendal	ACOPS Arctic Circumpolar Gateway AINA Arctic Institute of North America AWRH Association of World Reindeer Herders CCU - Circumpolar Conservation Union IASC - International Arctic Science Committee IASSA International Association of Arctic Social Scientists IUCH - International Union for Circumpolar Health IWGIA – International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs NF, Northern Forum UArctic – University of the Arctic WWF Global Arctic Programme	

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