“Globalization and the Circumpolar North”
the Arctic in Global Systems

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Overview

• My background
• The Arctic of the Future, an Arctic integrated in Global Systems
My Background: A Life with the North Atlantic

- Danish, born 1975
- Child in Reykjavik, kindergarten, primary and secondary school
- Political science studies in Copenhagen, Reykjavik, Lausanne, Geneva, Amsterdam, Cambridge and Paris
- Research at Harvard, United Nations University (Japan) and Aalborg University
- Studies, research and dialogue on the North Atlantic and the Arctic
The emerging Arctic—globally integrated natural, social and cultural systems

- Environmental globalization
- Economic globalization
- Technological globalization
- Political globalization
- Legal globalization
- Transnational relations
- Cultural and educational globalization
- Arctic societies as knowledge based natural resource and energy economies with high human development
The Arctic – the Circumpolar North
Environmental globalization: Climate change, it causes, consequences and feedbacks
Economic globalization

• Globalization, growth, Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – and the rest
• Insatiable appetite for raw materials and energy
The Arctic in the global energy system
90 B barrels of oil, 1,669 B square foot natural gal, 44 B barrels natural gas liquids – but what about shale gas!? 
Oil and natural gas

Source: AMAP
New Shipping Routes between North Atlantic and North Pacific – economic power houses of the world
AMSA

2004 Snapshot of summer traffic

Destinational & Regional
  • Trans-Arctic
  • Trans-Arctic with Transshipment
  • Intra-Arctic

Shipping would increase even without the diminishing ice
Technological globalization

• Energy
• Information and Communication Technology
• Arctic as an ICT highway between East and West
  – Connectivity
  – but, who is listening?
Political globalization

• From Cold War to Arctic Council to global attention
• Pressure from China, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, EU to obtain permanent observer status in the Arctic Council
• Question of power for members and non-members
• Chinese, etc. attention to Greenland
The Arctic and global legal systems

- Law of the sea
- Institutions and governance, UN, IMO, etc.
- Precedence, Arctic Ocean and South China Sea
Maritime jurisdiction & boundaries in the Arctic

www.dur.ac.uk/ibru/resources/arctic
Transnational relations

• Substate actors, indigenous peoples
• Epistemic communities
Cultural and educational globalization

- Exchange
- The Creative Arctic
- Culture
- Education
- Research
The basis of Arctic societies: raw materials and energy

- Marine resources
- Minerals
- Fossil and renewable energy
Basic conditions for Arctic societies

• Distance from rest of the world and internally
• Small populations
• Dependence on fisheries and other commodities
• Limited educational possibilities and brain drain

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Strategies and goals for the future

• *Goal of being succesful knowledge based natural resource economies*

• *How to get there?*