



ARCTIC HUBS

**Building Dynamic Economies and Sustainable
Communities in the North**

**AN ARCTIC CIRCLE FORUM
ORGANIZED IN COOPERATION WITH
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FAROE ISLANDS
THE NORDIC HOUSE IN TÓRSHAVN
MAY 8 – 9, 2018**

DRAFT VERSION (APRIL 20)

More speakers will be added in the coming weeks

*Speakers are confirmed except those marked with an asterisk**

TUESDAY, MAY 8

PLENARY SESSIONS 09:00 – 12:15

Location: The Nordic House, Høllin

09:00 – 10:45 OPENING

- Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, Chairman Arctic Circle, former President of Iceland
- Poul Michelsen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Faroe Islands
- Sigurður Ingi Jóhannsson, Minister of Transport and Nordic Affairs, former Prime Minister, Iceland
- Minister of Foreign Affairs, Greenland (elections on April 24)
- Anders Samuelsen, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Denmark
- Alasdair Allan MSP, Minister for International Development and Europe, Scottish Government
- Igor Svyatoslavovich Neverov, Director of the Second European Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia
- Kang Jeong-sik, Ambassador for Arctic Affairs, Republic of Korea
- Keiji Yamamoto, Ambassador in Charge of Arctic Affairs, Japan*
- Marie-Anne Coninx, Ambassador at Large for the Arctic, European Union External Action Service
- Karmenu Vella, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (video message)

Chair: Lesley Riddoch, Broadcaster and Journalist

10:45 – 11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 12:15 ARCTIC EXCELLENCE – INNOVATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- I. SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND BLUE BIOECONOMY
 - Høgne Hoydal, Minister of Fisheries, Faroe Islands
 - Marcio Castro de Souza, Senior Fishery Officer, Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 - Nils Andreassen, Executive Director, Institute of the North
- II. CREATING BIG BUSINESS IN A SMALL ECONOMY
Organized by the Faroese Employers' Association
 - Atli Gregersen, Managing Director, Hiddenfjord
 - Richard Mortensen, Sales and Marketing Manager, Mest Shipyard
 - Jens Meinhard Rasmussen, Chief Executive Officer, Skansi Offshore
 - Blandine Battaglia, Project Engineer, Sabella

12:15 – 13:15 LUNCH

Location: The Nordic House, Lobby

TUESDAY, MAY 8

PLENARY SESSIONS 13:15 – 15:00

Location: The Nordic House, Høllin

13:15 – 14:30 NORTH ATLANTIC ARCTIC COOPERATION:

GREENLAND – ICELAND – FAROE ISLANDS – NORWAY – SCOTLAND

- Höskuldur Thorhallsson, Chairman of the Nordic Council of Ministers' West Nordic Development Working Group
- Angus MacNeil, MP for Na h-Eileanan an Iar, Scotland, House of Commons, Parliament of the United Kingdom
- Annika Olsen, Mayor of Tórshavn
- Kirstin Røymo, Mayor of Tromsø Kommune, Norway
- Representative of the High North Atlantic Business Alliance*
- Mia Bennett, Assistant Professor, The University of Hong Kong

Chair: Lesley Riddoch, Broadcaster and Journalist

14:30 – 15:15 GENDER EQUALITY IN THE ARCTIC

Organized by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs Iceland, the Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network, the University of Akureyri, the Centre for Gender Equality, the University of Iceland and University of the Faroe Islands

OPENING

- Eyðgunn Samuelsen, Minister for Social Affairs, Faroe Islands

PANEL

- Eyðgunn Samuelsen, Minister for Social Affairs, Faroe Islands
- Katrín Björg Ríkharrðsdóttir, Director, Centre for Gender Equality, Iceland
- Michael Kimmel, SUNY Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies at Stony Brook University
- Eiríkur Björn Björgvinsson, Mayor of Akureyri, Iceland

Chair: Gunn-Britt Retter, Head of the Arctic and Environment Unit, Saami Council

15:15 – 15:30 COFFEE BREAK

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 15:30 – 16:45

15:30 – 16:45 DEVELOPING THE ARCTIC TOURISM SEASON TO LAST ALL YEAR

Organized by Visit Faroe Islands

Location: The Nordic House, Norðurstova

SPEAKERS

- Helga Árnadóttir, Director, Icelandic Travel Industry Association
- Representatives from the Faroese tourism industry*

TUESDAY, MAY 8

15:30 – 16:45 DIGITALIZATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Faroe Islands

Location: The Nordic House, Dansistovan

SPEAKERS

- Kristina Háfoss, Minister of Finance, Faroe Islands
- Gunn-Britt Retter, Head of Arctic and Environment Unit, Saami Council
- Nicolai M. Balle, Director, Faroe Islands Digitalization Program
- Jan Ziskasen CEO, Faroese Telecom

15:30 – 16:45 GENDER AND MOBILITY: INTEGRATING GENDER REALITIES INTO POLICY

Organized by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs Iceland, the Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network, the University of Akureyri, the Centre for Gender Equality, the University of Iceland and University of the Faroe Islands

Location: The Nordic House, Skálin

Continuation of the "Gender Equality in the Arctic" plenary session

SPEAKERS

- Katherine Reedy, Chair, Department of Anthropology, Idaho State University; Aleut International Association
- Erika Anne Hayfield, Associate Professor, University of the Faroe Islands
- Anna Karlsdóttir, Senior Research Fellow, Nordregio

PANEL

- Ólavur Ellefsen, Chairman of the Faroese Gender Equality Committee
- Katrín Björg Ríkharrðsdóttir, Director, Centre for Gender Equality, Iceland
- Eiríkur Björn Björgvinsson, Mayor of Akureyri, Iceland
- Runa Preeti Ísfeld, PhD student, University of the Faroe Islands

Chair: Niels Winther, Advisor, Faroese House of Industry

15:30 – 16:45 ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESSES IN THE ARCTIC

Organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Faroe Islands

Location: The Nordic House, Klingran

SPEAKERS

- Tómas Orri Ragnarsson, Senior Adviser, Arctic Expert Committee, Nordic Council of Ministers
- Anu Frederikson, Director, Arctic Economic Council
- Lars Kullerud, President, UArctic
- Guðrun Rógvadóttir, Commercial Director and Co-founder, Guðrun & Guðrun
- Agnes Mols Mortensen, Macroalgal Biologist, Science Director, TARI - Faroe Seaweed

TUESDAY, MAY 8

Chair: Lesley Riddoch, Broadcaster and Journalist

16:45 – 17:00 COFFEE BREAK

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 17:00 – 18:30

17:00 – 18:30 ARCTIC PEOPLES IN THE FUTURE:

BUILDING DYNAMIC ECONOMIES AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

Organized by the UArctic Thematic Network on Arctic Migration

Location: The Nordic House, Dansistovan

SPEAKERS

- Nadezhda Zamyatina, Lead Researcher, Lomonosov Moscow State University
- Nafisa Yeasmin, PhD Candidate, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland
- Hanna Kelm, Krakow University of Economics
- Kevin Anthony Perry, Associate Professor, Ilisimatusarfik University of Greenland)
- Gestur Hovgaard, Head of Institute of Social Sciences, Ilisimatusarfik

17:00 – 18:30 THE ARCTIC BUSINESS IMPACTS OF GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Organized by the Arctic Working Group of the Danish Parliament

Location: The Nordic House, Skálin

SPEAKERS

- Ásmundur Guðjónsson, Director, Nordic Atlantic Cooperation (NORA)
- Martin Langaas, Director Cargo, Avinor
- Olavur Gregersen, Partner, Syntesa
- Rúni M. Hansen Chairman of the Board, Bakkafrost; Executive Chairman, Tjaldur*
- Árni Ellefsen, CEO Bank Nordik*

Moderator: Magni Arge, Faroese Member of Danish Parliament

17:00 – 18:30 INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCTIC COMMUNITIES

Organised by the UK Science and Innovation Network

Location: The Nordic House, Norðurstova

SPEAKERS

- Allen Pope, Executive Secretary, International Arctic Science Committee
- Peter Convey, Professor, Individual Merit Scientist, British Antarctic Survey
- Niklas Labba, Academic Director at the Centre for Sami Studies, University of Tromsø
- Corine Wood-Donnelly, Researcher in Human Geography and International Relations, University of Cambridge

TUESDAY, MAY 8

Moderator: Jessica Rhode, Communications Officer, Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC)

18:30 – 19:30 RECEPTION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

PLENARY SESSIONS 09:00 – 11:45

Location: The Nordic House, Høllin

09:00 – 10:00 STATE, REGION AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGIES IN RUSSIA'S ARCTIC

Organized by CuriousArctic, Aix-Marseille University, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique ESPACE UMR 7300 and North-Eastern Federal University in Yakutsk

SPEAKERS

- Vera Smorchkova, Professor, Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration
- Mikhail Pogodaev, Executive Director, The Northern Forum
- Alexander Pelyasov, Director, Center for the Economy of the North and the Arctic, Council for the Study of Productive Forces, Russian Academy of Sciences
- Dmitrii Fishkin, Advisor to the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation

CHAIRS

- Morgane Fert-Malka, Analyst, CuriousArctic
- Sébastien Gadal, Professor, Aix-Marseille University; Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique ESPACE UMR 7300; North-Eastern Federal University in Yakutsk

10:00 – 10:15 COFFEE BREAK

10:15 – 11:00 ARCTIC RESEARCH HUBS

Organized by the International Arctic Science Committee

SPEAKERS

- Embla Eir Oddsdottir Director, Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network
- Eyjólfur Guðmundsson, Rector, University of Akureyri
- Jessica Rohde, Communications Officer, ICARP Collaborations, Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee, United States
- Margareta Johansson, Coordinator, INTERACT (International Network for Terrestrial Research and Monitoring in the Arctic)

Moderator: Allen Pope, Executive Secretary, International Arctic Science Committee

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

11:00 – 11:45 FOOD SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THE ARCTIC

Organized by the University of the Faroe Islands

SPEAKERS

- Ragnheiður Thorarinsdóttir, Managing Director Svinna and Visiting Professor, University of Iceland
 - Siv Lene Gangenes Skar, Research Scientist, Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO)
 - David C. Natcher, Professor and Centennial Research Chair, University of Saskatchewan
 - Representative from Næla (Faroese hydroponics research startup)*
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11:45 – 12:45 LUNCH

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 12:45 – 14:00

12:45 – 14:00 STATE, REGION AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IN RUSSIA'S ARCTIC

Organized by CuriousArctic, Aix-Marseille University, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique ESPACE UMR 7300 and North-Eastern Federal University in Yakutsk

Location: The Nordic House, Høllin

Continuation of the plenary session "State, Region and Community-driven Development Strategies in Russia's Arctic"

SPEAKERS

- Sébastien Gadal, Professor, Aix-Marseille University; Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique ESPACE UMR 7300; North-Eastern Federal University in Yakutsk
- Nadezhda Kharlampieva, Professor, Saint Petersburg State University
- Vladimir Pushkaryov, MP, Vice Chair of the State Duma's committee on regional policy and issues of the North and the Far East (Russia)
- Vasily Bogoyavlensky, Deputy Director for Science, Institute of Oil and Gas Problems, Russian Academy of Sciences
- Roman Samsonov, Head, "Gas and the Arctic," Energy Centre, Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO

Chair: Morgane Fert-Malka, Analyst, CuriousArctic Political Consulting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

12:45 – 14:00 SHIPPING FOR THE FUTURE AND FIRST-CLASS MARITIME SERVICES

Organized by the Faroese Social Democrats in The Danish Parliament

Location: The Nordic House, Skálin

SPEAKERS

- Kristianna Winther Poulsen, Member of the Faroese Parliament
- Jórún Gardar, Adviser, House of Industry, Faroe Islands
- Mouritz Mohr, Managing director, MEST and PAM Offshore
- Gylfi Sigfússon, CEO, Eimskip

Moderator: Kristianna Winther Poulsen

12:45 – 14:00 PEOPLE, PLANET AND PROFIT: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE STUDENT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE ARCTIC

Organized by the University of the Faroe Islands in cooperation with other Arctic and international partners

Location: The Nordic House, Norðurstova

SPEAKERS

- Lau Øfjord Blaxekjær, Researcher, University of the Faroe Islands and Nordic Institute of Asian Studies
- Anne Lise Kappel, Head of Department of Economics and Business, Ilisimatusarfik (University of Greenland)
- Sune Nordentoft Lauritsen, Senior Adviser – Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Arctic DTU, Technical University of Denmark
- Students from the West Nordic Studies Master's Programme
- Ólavur Ellefsen, Chairman of University of the Faroe Islands

12:45 – 14:00 SDGs AND ARCTIC ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION: INFRASTRUCTURE, INNOVATION INVESTMENT

Organized by the Polar Research and Policy Initiative

Location: The Nordic House, Dansistova

SPEAKERS

- Angus MacNeil, MP for Na h-Eileanan an Iar, Scotland, House of Commons, Parliament of the United Kingdom
- David B. Bernhardt, P.E., Commissioner of the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT)
- Jonathan T. Nass, Deputy Commissioner of the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) and Chairman of the Maine Port Authority
- Nils Arne Johnsen, Founder and Principal, Haleyg AS
- Heather Nicol, Professor, School of the Environment, Trent University
- Terzah Tippin Poe, Lecturer, Harvard University, former executive, Shell
- Nic Craig, Fellow - Energy, Polar Research and Policy Initiative
- Domagoj Baresic, Fellow - Shipping, Polar Research and Policy Initiative

Moderator: Dwayne Ryan Menezes, Director, Polar Research and Policy Initiative

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

PLENARY SESSIONS 14:00 – 17:00

Location: The Nordic House, Høllin

14:00 – 15:00 MODERN TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE ARCTIC

- Gylfi Sigfússon, CEO and President, Eimskip
- Regin Jacobsen, CEO, Bakkafrost
- Helgi Már Björgvínsson, Director Specialist Projects, Icelandair Group
- Jóhanna á Bergi, CEO, Atlantic Airways
- Sean Thomas, Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Bristol Bay Industrial Fuels

Chair: Lesley Riddoch

15:00 – 16:00 CHINA'S BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE

- I. STATEMENT BY GAO FENG
Special Representative for Arctic Affairs, People's Republic Of China
- II. ECONOMIC CHALLENGES FOR THE WEST NORDIC REGION
 - Lau Blaxekjær, Researcher, University of the Faroe Islands and Nordic Institute of Asian Studies
 - Mingming Shi, Project Manager, Icelandic Times; Master's Student (West Nordic Studies), University of Iceland
 - Jan Ziskasen, CEO, Føroya Tele, Faroese Telecom

16:00 – 16:45 TOURISM INNOVATIONS IN THE ARCTIC

- Helga Árnadóttir, Director, Icelandic Travel Industry Association
- Thora Augustinussen, Sales and Marketing Manager, Hotel Føroyar
- Karen Visth, Sommelier, KOKS

16:45 – 17:30 OUR ARCTIC: CONCLUDING DIALOGUE

STATEMENT

- Aksel V. Johannesen, Prime Minister of the Faroe Islands

CHAIRS

- Høgni Hoydal, Deputy Prime Minister of the Faroe Islands
- Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, Chairman Arctic Circle