Please note that not all open sessions are currently accepting abstract submissions. Only sessions marked in *blue* are open for submissions at this time.

This document is updated regularly.

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Id	Title of Abstract	Session submitted to	Abstract text
68	Blue Economy Strategies for Enhancing Productivity and Efficiency in Arctic Marine Resources and Sectors	1. Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation	The Arctic is undergoing rapid transformations due to climate change, reshaping marine ecosystems, habitats, and the livelihoods of dependent communities. These changes pose challenges and opportunities for Arctic marine industries, which must adapt to remain viable while protecting the region's ecological integrity. This session explores strategies to enhance productivity and economic efficiency in Arctic marine sectors, focusing on innovative solutions that balance economic growth with ecological sustainability. Bringing together economists, marine scientists, modelers, policy experts, industry representatives, and Indigenous knowledge holders, the session fosters interdisciplinary collaboration. Discussions will highlight how quantitative tools, such as bioeconomic modeling and ecosystem-based management, can inform decision-making and policy design by integrating ecological, economic, and social dimensions. Key themes include: * Bioeconomic Modeling: Optimizing harvest and production strategies under environmental uncertainty. * Adaptation and Resilience: Strategies to enhance the adaptive capacity of Arctic marine industries. * Ecosystem-Based Management: Holistic approaches integrating ecological and economic data.

			* Technological Innovations: Exploring digitalization, automation, and AI for sustainable operations. * Indigenous and Northern Communities: Economic tools supporting sustainable livelihoods and cultural preservation. This session emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary approaches and Indigenous knowledge to ensure sustainable management of Arctic marine resources. By bridging environmental science, economics, and policy, it aims to inspire actionable insights and strategies for a resilient blue economy that benefits both current and future generations.
84	Innovation, sustainability, and economic growth in Arctic societies: The Strategic Role of Projects, Programs, and Portfolios	1. Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation	The accelerating environmental, social, economic, and security-related challenges in the Arctic underscore the need for research, innovation, and sustainable development. This session intends to explore how projects, programs, and portfolios serve as powerful strategic instruments for shaping innovation, driving sustainability, enhancing security, and fostering inclusive economic growth in the Arctic. Drawing on insights from project management, regional development, stakeholder engagement, international collaboration, and innovation studies, the session invites contributions that explore the following aspects, or relevant challenges: * How can projects, programs, and portfolios be strategically designed and implemented at the local or international levels to address the unique challenges facing Arctic societies? * How can project management methodologies be adapted to effectively respond to the unique environmental and logistical challenges of Arctic regions? * How do Arctic projects integrate stakeholder engagement, especially with Indigenous communities, into project planning and execution? * What competencies and practices are essential for project managers operating in remote, high-risk, and multi-actor Arctic contexts? * What are the success factors and common barriers in managing projects, programs, or portfolios aimed at innovation or development in Arctic communities? * What are the best practices for managing risk and uncertainty in Arctic project environments? * How do international collaborations and regional partnerships shape the implementation

			and long-term impact of development or innovation projects in the Arctic? * What role does project portfolio management play in aligning fragmented or overlapping Arctic initiatives toward broader goals?
111	Arctic Challenge: Empowering Youth Entrepreneurship and innovation in the North	1. Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation	Sustainable societies are fundamental to counter the major challenges in the Arctic. Young people play a leading role as constructors of the future societies and in finding and creating solutions to cope with the challenges in the Arctic region. Entrepreneurship plays a crucial role in societes by driving economic growth and creating job opportunities. Indeed, empowering young entrepreneurs in the Arctic is an important investment in the future of the region, strengthening local communities and fostering innovation. Supporting young entrepreneurs in the Arctic promotes self-sufficiency, incentivizes young people to stay in their communities, prevents brain drain, and fosters a vibrant and resilient Arctic workforce rooted in local culture. In this session we will discuss how to empower entrepreneurship and innovation by young people in the Arctic. The session will bring together young as well as established representatives from different sectors as the research and higher education community, businesses, and governmental institutions. The aim of the session is to highlight and share practical experiences and research findings and based on these discuss potential solutions for creating an efficient and inspirational entrepreneurial environment for young people in the Arctic. The session is organised in cooperation between the ongoing YoungArctic project and SECEG (the Social, Economic and Cultural Expert Group) at SDWG Arctic Council. The YoungArtic project is a partnership between the High North Center at Nord University, UArctic, and IASSA.
121	Building Synergies in Arctic Research Systems	1. Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation	This session examines development of national Arctic research frameworks with a focus on Iceland's initiative to strengthen internal collaboration, international engagement, and institutional alignment. Through a series of thematically structured workshops – held by the University of Iceland, University of Akureyri, Icelandic Centre for Research and the Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network – Icelandic academic & policy institutions work to identify research priorities, assess structural gaps, and propose measures for enhancing national coordination in Arctic science.

			Topics addressed include adaptation to climate change, marine research & international scientific cooperation, sustainable resource use and environmental protection, and the social impacts of energy transitions. The aim being to improve institutional visibility, facilitate participation in international funding frameworks, and reinforce cooperation across domestic research institutions. This session uses Icelands experience as a lens to explore broader questions facing Arctic states: How can national research systems better align with international agendas? What institutional structures are effective in mobilizing knowledge across sectors and borders? How might national-scale efforts inform future design of regional research strategies under bodies such as the Arctic Council, UArctic, and IASC? The session invites comparative insight and strategic reflection on Arctic research governance, offering perspectives of value to policymakers, institutional leaders, and researchers engaged in shaping the future of Arctic knowledge systems. A representative from each organization participating in the project will present the theme and findings from each workshop, beginning with the first on Climate, followed by the Ocean and International Collaboration, and Energy workshops. The session ends with a panel discussion and Q&A .
154	Arctic tourism and geopolitical change	1. Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation	Tourism development has often been seen as a tool for assisting communities and improving economies across the Arctic. Particularly tourism's potential for creating employment has been an important reason for governments to promote the tourism industry. However, tourism has been used to justify 'presence' in the Arctic region, and to manifest sovereignty of national territory as well. In this context, climate change and last-chance to visit motivations helped to fuel global demand and indeed triggered considerable growth in many Arctic destinations. Sometimes this has led to substantial pressure on communities and environments. Indeed, in some places 'overtourism' contested the idea of tourism as a remedy for peripheral destinations and instead, governmental intervention for managing and regulating tourism has been requested. Hence, it is important to realize that tourism has become an important force producing economic and political space and relating Arctic destinations to international demand

			markets, industrial stakeholders, and economic interests. The scientific literature has realized this, but recent geopolitical and economic changes have created new preconditions for Arctic tourism development, contributing to an already complex situation. This makes it critical to revisit the role of tourism in the making of the Arctic region. In this session, the focus is on the interrelationship of recent geopolitical and economic changes and Arctic tourism. Contributions address how political, military, and economic interest influences Arctic tourism today and in the future, how tourism relates to other industries and sectors of society, and how this unfolds in different regions and over geographical scales.
172	Transport and logistics challenges and solutions in peripheral regions	1. Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation	Export industries within peripheral regions, including the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions, are faced with disadvantages of long transport distances to key market locations, making transport expensive. Many of these areas are rich in natural resources with potential for much increased future industrial activities. To compensate for higher transport costs and to be competitive, industries in remote locations need to produce goods which are in high demand and products of high quality, produced with a low environmental footprint. Regional industries also need to rely on predictable transport services and supportive transport infrastructure. Transport companies need to find ways to lower the cost of transport but at the same time provide timely, efficient and reliable services. This session will present case studies highlighting ongoing transport challenges in peripheral regions and possible future transport and logistics solutions making the transport systems more reliable, environmentally friendly, and cost-effective, enhancing regional socio-economic development.
191	Indigenous Economies and Sustainable Arctic Communities	1. Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation	The future of Arctic communities depends on prosperous and sustainable economies. The Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic have long practiced sustainable economic models, relying on deep and reciprocal connections between humans and Nature. Therefore, Indigenous economies lie at the heart of sustainable development solutions in the Arctic. This session will explore subsistence and commercial Indigenous economic activities, examine traditional and emerging Indigenous economic institutions, explicate policies fostering Indigenous economies and businesses, and discuss the role of Indigenous knowledge, culture and self-determination in sustainable community development. Contributions from diverse Arctic regions and communities, especially from Indigenous and early-career scholars, are welcome. We encourage presentations on successful experiences and diverse economic models across the Arctic.
230	Great Powers in the Arctic and the	1. Sustainable Economic Development and	Since the Trump Administration took office in January 2025, US appetite for Greenland - and threats to conquer the island with military means - has triggered historical tensions between

	Danish commonwealth: What does it mean for Greenland and Faroe Islands?	International Cooperation	Denmark and the US. These tensions may have far-reaching implications for the Danish commonwealth and the relationship between Denmark, Greenland and the Faroe Islands. While the Trump administration applies unprecedented external pressure, the Danish commonwealth is also shaped by internal tensions due to the independence movements and the quest for national self-determination in both the Faroes and Greenland. Meanwhile, the political drama between the US, Denmark, Greenland and the Faroes unfolds in the context of growing geopolitical rivalry and great-power competition in the Arctic and North Atlantic region. Since the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine and American pressure on European states to step up their contribution to NATO's collective security, European states are facing a new geopolitical reality while drastically increasing their defence budgets. And because of Russian aggression, the Arctic region will be a focal point in European strategic security in the years to come. This session has two purposes. First, it will analyse American expansionism in the Arctic both historically and contemporarily. Second, it will assess potential implications for the Danish commonwealth and the relationship between Denmark, the Faroes and Greenland. Both questions will be analysed in the context of great-power competition in the North Atlantic and Arctic region.
73	Building Age-Friendly Coastal Communities: A Collective Impact Approach to Inclusion and Rural Development	1.1 Sustainable resource management and community-led economic initiatives	This presentation describes the ongoing development and implementation of a governance model and community partnership approach within a five-year Collective Impact Initiative aimed at promoting social inclusion, mental and physical health and wellbeing, and community development in rural coastal communities in Northeastern Nova Scotia, Canada. The initiative focuses on adults aged 55+ with disabilities who experience social isolation and seeks to address structural barriers that limit community participation and regional development, such as access to training and adequate public infrastructure. Coastal communities face unique challenges, including geographic isolation, economic reliance on seasonal industries, and environmental vulnerabilities that shape everyday life. Framed by the Collective Impact framework and informed by Elinor Ostrom's concept of polycentric governance, the initiative organizes collaboration around five pillars: co-developing a shared agenda, establishing a common measurement system, supporting mutually reinforcing activities, maintaining open communication, and leveraging a local university as a

			backbone organization. While distinct, Collective Impact and polycentric governance align closely, with Collective Impact offering a strategy to coordinate action across the multiple, interconnected decision-making bodies characteristic of polycentric systems. This alignment reflects design principles found in long-enduring Common Pool Resource institutions. The presentation shares findings from a critical case study involving document analysis, participant observation, and interviews. Our intersectional analysis examines the influence of geographic and social location on access to community life. Results illustrate concrete ways that participatory, rights-based approaches grounded in lived experience can generate equitable, sustainable outcomes and contribute to evolving models of rural community care and inclusive coastal development globally.
181	Extractive Industries and Sustainable Arctic Communities	1.1 Sustainable resource management and community-led economic initiatives	Arctic communities continue to face significant challenges in identifying sustainable economic pathways that support community well-being. In the context of global economic pressures, the extractive industry has emerged as one of the few viable—albeit controversial—development options. Since the 1970s, some Arctic regions have implemented new governance frameworks that aim to ensure resource development projects contribute to community prosperity. While a number of studies suggest that extractive activities can bring increased benefits to Indigenous communities, these projects are often contested. Some extractive projects are now viewed as forms of "green colonialism"—development imposed in the name of sustainability without genuine community consent or benefit. This session will showcase current research examining the complex relationships between extractive industries and Arctic communities. Presentations will explore both the promises and perils of resource development, contributing critical insights into sustainable economic development and the lived experiences of Indigenous Peoples in the North.
19	The Digital Divide in the North: Consequences and Solutions	1.2 Energy transition and connectivity (communication, transport, trade)	Internet connectivity is a must in today's world. It impacts safety, work efficiency, well-being, way of work, environmental sensing and so on. However, properly working connectivity is not a guaranteed reality in the Arctic and remote areas in general, although national digital strategies target 100 Mbps or even higher data rates to everyone (households and fixed working places in particular). The minimum guaranteed rate of 5 Mbps to all (in FI) is not enough if this is shared among people in households, and even this is not reality to all. It is important to i) collect, compile, and understand connectivity problems, their consequences and share findings to policy makers and regulators. It is also important to ii)

			share experiences of using existing connectivity solutions and understand their strengths and weakness such that new generations of wireless and wired standards and systems can solve and adequately address the problems. This session will address these topics (i and ii). The session has three confirmed talks from various angles to the topics. These are listed below. The session is calling for three other 15 min talks on the above topics.
76	Arctic Food Supply Chains and Retail Price Support Programs	1.2 Energy transition and connectivity (communication, transport, trade)	Remote Arctic communities face challenging retail food supply chain conditions that result in high costs, frequent spoilage in transit, and scarcity of goods. This couples with increased operating costs and limited market competition in remote zones to create an extremely difficult cost-of-living environment. Governments have responded to these challenges with varying support programs, ranging from: * Route-based 'public service obligation' subsidies for carriers (e.g. 'Essential Air Service' in the US, various forms in EU and Norway), * Direct transportation subsidies to retailers shipping goods (e.g. Intra-Alaska 'Bypass' Mail), * Point-of-sale retail subsidies that vary at the geographic level (e.g. Canada: Nutrition North Canada, Food & Other Essentials) * Point-of-sale retail subsidies with income tests that vary at the geographic level (e.g., US: increased max allotments for remote Arctic within national Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)), * Other blended schemes While Arctic regions face similar supply chain challenges, we vary in approaches to create more equitable cost-of-living between communities. A broad international understanding of food supply chain challenges, bottleneck impacts, and the structure and impact of support systems on regional economic wellbeing and food security would be of great benefit to Arctic

			researchers and policymakers. The “North American Food Supply Chain Workshop” (May-2025, Alaska) brought together a subset of international researchers on these topics and showed great promise for an expanded, structured circumpolar dialogue. This session welcomes circumpolar researchers focused on transportation, food supply chains, subsidy programs, food security, and retail sectors. While a quantitative focus is preferred, we welcome diverse methodological approaches.
188	Working towards Sustainability in Future Arctic Shipping	1.2 Energy transition and connectivity (communication, transport, trade)	The legal and best practice requirements for shipping in the Arctic are changing as interest in Arctic routes increases, creating new possibilities, risks, and pressures for Arctic marine environments, the maritime sector and Indigenous/ coastal communities. Against this backdrop, the Polar Code was developed in recognition of increased shipping in the polar regions and also as ships are operating earlier and later in the year. Once updated and revised, the Code has the potential to become an encompassing regulatory framework for ensuring sustainability standards in Arctic shipping. In addition, the designation of emission control areas in Arctic waters (ECAs) requires ships to use cleaner fuels whereas new requirements on greenhouse gas emissions are resulting in the development of new “future” fuels. Moreover, new guidelines on the creation of underwater noise and on discharges of wastewater from scrubbers, sewage and greywater are leading to new practices being introduced to minimise the impact on Indigenous people, communities and Arctic wildlife. This session will investigate the future of shipping in the Arctic and identify the best possible standards to minimise the impact on nature, climate and people.
197	Industry's Role in the Green Energy Transition: Opportunities and Challenges in Small and Arctic Communities	1.2 Energy transition and connectivity (communication, transport, trade)	The Faroe Islands and their industries are currently in a situation where approximately 90% of total energy consumption relies on oil. This highlights the urgent need for a comprehensive energy transition—shifting a significant share of consumption from fossil fuels to electricity. However, only 50–60% of current electricity production is based on renewable sources, underscoring the need for further progress. Access to green energy is essential for ensuring industrial competitiveness and is a key component in securing a sustainable future for the Faroese economy. This open session welcomes contributions that examine the multifaceted roles of companies in advancing the energy transition—whether by transforming their energy consumption practices or by engaging in the production of renewable energy.

			We particularly encourage presentations that provide concrete cases of how companies and regions have successfully achieved progress in relation to the energy transition and the development of resilient energy systems. We also invite reflections on opportunities, challenges, and best practices in the Arctic context.
97	Sustainable and Intelligent Urban Logistics Planning	1.3 Green technologies, renewable energy, and sustainable Arctic connectivity	In recent decades, shrinking profit margins and rising customer expectations have placed immense pressure on the logistics industry. Current interconnected geopolitical risks add to this strain, resulting from unprecedented supply chain disruptions, regional conflicts, trade tensions, and economic recessions. Sustainable logistics aims to enhance profitability while minimizing the environmental impacts of logistics operations by optimizing the movement of goods. This approach seeks to strike a balance between economic growth, environmental protection, and societal well-being. Consequently, sustainability in urban logistics has garnered significant attention across various areas, including materials handling and shipping, risk analysis and mitigation, as well as waste collection and treatment. This session will focus on integrating innovative technologies and strategies to tackle logistics challenges such as inefficiency, emissions, congestion, and emergency responses. The goal is to provide a comprehensive overview of the literature, highlight the importance of maintaining sustainability in logistics and transportation, promote advanced analytical and managerial techniques to mitigate ecological impacts, identify areas of potential importance for scholars and practitioners, and construct regulatory frameworks for equitable economic and sustainable development. Potential topics include, but are not limited to, the following: * Sustainable waste management, * Risk analysis and assessment, * Coordinative decision making in sustainable development, * Emergency logistics and management, * Applications of emerging technologies in sustainable transportation and logistics, * Sustainable supply chain and logistics management during pandemic events, * Mitigating the impacts of disruptions and uncertainties on logistics sustainability.
128	Unlocking the Arctic Microbiome	1.3 Green technologies, renewable energy, and	The Arctic Ocean, long regarded as a fragile ecosystem on the frontlines of climate change, also holds untapped potential in the search for sustainable energy sources. Microbes adapted

	for Next-Generation Clean Energy Solutions	sustainable Arctic connectivity	to extreme polar conditions possess unique metabolic pathways that could be harnessed for novel bioenergy production methods, including cold-adapted bio-hydrogen and bio-electricity generation. This session will explore recent discoveries in Arctic marine microbiology with an emphasis on their application in renewable energy technologies. We aim to bring together microbiologists, bioengineers, and energy researchers in general. Topics include, but not limited to, synthetic biology approaches to optimise energy yield, cold-adapted enzymes for efficient biomass breakdown, microbial hydrogen production in sub-zero environments, marine microbial fuel cells and real-world deployment potential. As global energy needs grow alongside the urgency to decarbonise, Arctic microbes represent a promising, if underexplored, frontier. This session invites researchers and industry stakeholders to assess both the opportunities and the challenges of utilising these extremophiles for clean energy innovation. We seek contributions from scientists working on polar microbiomes, renewable energy startups with biotechnological platforms, and policy experts shaping Arctic resource access and environmental protections among others.
130	The future of Arctic Shipping; Challenges, Opportunities, and Regional Perspectives	1.3 Green technologies, renewable energy, and sustainable Arctic connectivity	This session aims to critically examines and discusses key challenges and innovative solutions for the sustainable future of Arctic shipping. Recent research on Arctic shipping highlights the need for increased knowledge about sustainability complexities, better integration of indigenous and local perspectives in decision-making, and addressing the limited studies on the environmental impacts of Arctic shipping (e.g., emissions, noise, biodiversity). Arctic shipping is expected to continue growing. The Central Arctic Ocean is forecasted to be nearly ice-free before mid-century, enabling the seasonal opening of the Transpolar Sea Route. Additionally, potential growth is predicted for various forms of shipping, such as cruises, fishing, cargo, and exploration activities. This growth is already impacted by governance regimes focused on safety and environmental protection, infrastructure development, advances in shipping technology and navigation services, and efforts to address climate change mitigation. We invite contributions focused on the factors shaping the sustainable future of Arctic shipping, including research on Arctic transportation corridors, intermodal logistics systems,

			and the strategic importance of ports and hubs throughout the Arctic. Examples of potential contributions are: * Socio-ecological factors: environmental governance and inclusion of local and indigenous knowledge. * Third-party services: ports, Search and Rescue, navigation services * Technological development: autonomous shipping, green fuel. * New transport models: multi-modal transport and alternative shipping routes * Comparative Arctic case studies (e.g. Greenland, Alaska, Canada, Finland, Norway) The session will promote the educational and research collaboration goals of the UArctic networks by encouraging cross-institutional exchange and integrated academic involvement in relevant courses.
48	Sustainable Solid Waste Management in the Arctic: Governance, Innovation, and Local Solutions	1.4 Circular economies and community-led initiatives	This session expands on the project "Strengthening the Transfer of Good Practices in the Arctic Waste Management Cooperation," funded by the Nordic Arctic Program, to enhance regional solid waste management (SWM) collaboration, develop local sustainable circular solutions, and foster innovation, skills, and networking. SWM continues to pose significant societal, environmental, and governance challenges in Arctic cities. Implementing advanced SWM solutions in these cities depends on factors such as geographic location, climatic conditions, and small population sizes. Cold temperatures and permafrost impede traditional waste treatment methods, while the harsh climate also presents technological difficulties for waste processing, such as incineration and recycling. Local authorities and waste management companies face the need to develop innovative strategies specifically adapted to their unique environments. This session brings together practitioners and scholars from different fields of science to share insights and knowledge on the enablers and barriers to the advancement of SWM in Arctic cities, as well as tools to further promote sustainable SWM as a key component of a circular economy and green transition. In addition, the panel brings an understanding of the resources (e.g., financial) and knowledge that local authorities and waste companies require to advance the SWM, as well as who provides these resources. Examining pathways to SWM advancement sheds light on how governance practices, innovations, and knowledge transfer occur between cities in remote areas with severe climate conditions. Ultimately,

			increasing awareness of advancing SWM supports discussions on future Arctic governance and development strategies that aim to foster thriving Arctic societies.
3	Reimagining Cross-Cultural Learning: An Innovative COIL Approach to Global Student Dialogue	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	In an increasingly fragmented global landscape, traditional internationalised learning approaches often fail to engage students meaningfully. This pilot project presents an innovative, conversation-driven Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) model that prioritises authentic dialogue over structured outcomes. Developed collaboratively by two UArctic members: an academic institution and a global mental health nonprofit, this project challenges conventional COIL methodologies by centring on student experiences and fostering organic interactions. Participants from northern geographical contexts, including Canada, Scotland, and the USA, engaged in extracurricular dialogues that explored mental health, cultural perspectives, and global competencies. Key findings reveal students' primary motivation was not project deliverables but a genuine cross-cultural connection - a critical insight in today's geographically and politically fragmented environment. The methodology's flexibility allowed participants to navigate complex discussions organically, highlighting the importance of conversational learning in international exchanges. This research contributes to ongoing discussions about innovative international education methodologies, offering a replicable model for institutions seeking meaningful cross-cultural student engagement. The session will emphasise the lack of Northern and Arctic youth involvement in educational design and the importance of showcasing diverse student voices. It will examine the evolution of the collaborator's pilot project from a traditional COIL approach to a more conversational one, focusing on student interactions and experiences. It will include lessons learned from the pilot and plans to include Indigenous voices moving forward.
9	Meeting Societal Needs in the Arctic through Collaboration:	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	As climate change accelerates, the Arctic has become a critical arena for collaborative research and innovation. This panel examines how research and knowledge-policy-action (KPA) networks foster sustainable economic growth and support stable political environments across Arctic societies. By bridging geographical, disciplinary, and institutional boundaries, these networks promote inclusive dialogue and strategic partnerships among scientists,

	Knowledge-Policy-Action Networks		policymakers, Indigenous communities, and private-sector leaders. The session will explore how research and KPA networks enable knowledge co-production, support adaptive and inclusive governance, and catalyze innovation that strengthens economic resilience and community well-being. With a focus on real-world impacts, the discussion will highlight how coordinated action and shared knowledge help Arctic societies navigate complex geopolitical dynamics and environmental transformations. Looking ahead, the panel will consider the evolving potential of these networks to inform research agendas, shape policy, and build avenues for collaboration on pressing societal needs.
39	The “Dog Whisperer”: Imagining Rare Talent Applied to the Higher Calling of World Peace	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	This session explores how the rapidly melting Arctic, where portions like the Arctic Ocean and international waters are global commons, offers a unique model for world peace. While much of the region is under the national jurisdiction of the eight Arctic states, small polities—including Indigenous communities and autonomous territories like Greenland and the Faroe Islands—hold significant territorial rights. As ice recedes, exposing vast natural resources (diamonds, oil, gas) and transit routes, there's growing concern their interests, and those of smaller nations, could be overrun by more powerful states justifying actions on national security and economic grounds. Drawing inspiration from Cesar Millan, the "Dog Whisperer," we envision applying rare, specialized talents—often overlooked in traditional diplomacy—to the complex challenges of international relations. Just as Millan transformed problematic canine behavior, we ask: what if such unconventional problem-solving skills were leveraged to prevent resource grabs, mass migration, and intergenerational resentments among world leaders who consistently cause conflict and environmental devastation? The session will critically analyze the political dynamics, ideological justifications, and structural inequalities driving competition in the Arctic. It aims to inspire the development of 21st-century skills essential for navigating current and future global environments. By fostering high-quality collaborative scholarship, we seek to generate new ideas and expand the global reach of scholars and leaders committed to achieving lasting peace and territorial justice in this pivotal region and beyond.
82	Arctic Science Diplomacy as a Catalyst for	1.5 International relations, Arctic	This session explores international relations and geopolitical stability in the Arctic, with a particular focus on the crucial role of science diplomacy. Amidst shifting alliances and heightened tensions, traditional avenues for Arctic governance face unprecedented

	Geopolitical Stability towards International Polar Year (IPY-5)	governance, and geopolitical stability	challenges. However, with Arctic climate and environmental changes impacting the entire planet, shared environmental and climate concerns worldwide present an opportunity for expanded engagement, fostering a “window of opportunity” through scientific (inclusive of Indigenous Sciences and multiple ways of knowing) collaboration. The session focuses on broadening the understanding of science diplomacy, e.g., how science can encourage diplomacy and maintain dialogue and cooperation among the diverse political sovereigns with stakes in the Arctic (i.e., between states and also Indigenous Peoples) focusing on shared values, even when political ties are strained. This session will highlight how collaborative scientific endeavors like Fifth International Polar Year (IPY-5) in 2032-2033, can address urgent environmental crises and foster international relations, support inclusion of Global South and Indigenous Peoples’ views, build trust, and lay groundwork for enhanced geopolitical stability in the Arctic, transcending current political divides. This session is relevant in the current geopolitical climate, where traditional mechanisms for Arctic cooperation are limited. It offers a forward-looking perspective on how scientific and research collaboration, particularly through IPY-5, can provide both political and non-political pathways for engagement and trust-building. We will critically examine the role of science diplomacy in IPY-5 and highlight challenges and opportunities. We are looking for contributions from diverse stake and rightsholders, including scientists, policymakers, Indigenous people, youth and other
83	Shifting Poles: Asia's Role in Arctic Geopolitics and Governance	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	This roundtable will explore the profound implications of increasing Asian engagement in the Arctic. As climate change opens new pathways, non-Arctic states, particularly from Asia, are becoming pivotal actors, reshaping a region traditionally dominated by Arctic Council members. The panel will delve into the complex interplay between Asian interests and Arctic governance, international relations, and geopolitical stability. We will examine how Asian states' economic, scientific (including natural science perspectives on environmental changes and resource impacts, and the role of science diplomacy), and strategic ambitions influence Arctic policies and power dynamics, and conversely, the Arctic's impact on Asian foreign policy. Key questions include: How do diverse Asian perspectives contribute to or challenge existing governance norms and structures? What are the implications for multilateral cooperation and

			potential areas of friction? It is hoped that this interactive format will bring together experts from academia (both social and natural sciences), policy, and, ideally, Indigenous communities for a dynamic discussion. Prioritizing open dialogue, our session encourages nuanced perspectives on the opportunities and challenges of these evolving interests. Understanding "Arctic in Asia and Asia in the Arctic" is crucial for navigating future international relations and ensuring stability. This roundtable offers a timely contribution to the UArctic Congress 2026 under the theme of "International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability."
96	The New Arctic Order:Geopolitics and Governance in the Arctic Future	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	The Arctic stands as a dynamic geopolitical arena where major powers, alongside non-Arctic nations with growing interests, vie for influence amid melting ice and rising opportunities. This session explores the intricate interplay of international relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability, dissecting how global actors navigate the region's strategic landscape. We will examine the motivations driving major powers—such as the United States, Russia, and China—and emerging stakeholders, including non-Arctic states, as they pursue economic, environmental, and security objectives in the High North. The session will discuss the transformative role of emerging technologies, from artificial intelligence and satellite-based remote sensing to green energy innovations and sustainable shipping solutions. These advancements offer both opportunities for cooperative resource management and challenges, such as heightened cybersecurity risks and technological competition. The session will also address pressing security threats, including militarization, territorial disputes, and hybrid challenges, which test the resilience of Arctic governance frameworks. Through a lens of sustainable development and Indigenous engagement, we will explore how robust governance structures can foster equitable collaboration and mitigate conflict. Key questions include: 1. How can international cooperation balance competing geopolitical interests? 2. What role do innovative technologies play in ensuring sustainable Arctic futures? 3. How can governance frameworks adapt to address evolving security dynamics while prioritizing community-led initiatives and holistic ecosystem management?

			It will be a thought-provoking dialogue to unravel the Arctic's geopolitical complexities and chart pathways toward a stable, inclusive, and sustainable North.
118	Geopolitical Dynamics in the Arctic: Complex Systems and Data-Driven Insights	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	The Arctic's geopolitics represent a complex system shaped by interactions among state and non-state actors, environmental shifts, resource competition, and Indigenous governance. The session aims to explore geopolitical dynamics through quantitative data, systems thinking, and social science inquiry. We invite contributions that integrate: i) big data and geospatial analyses linking sea-ice decline, logistics routes, resource development, and sovereignty claims; ii) dynamics of cooperation and competition among Arctic Council members, Arctic Council–non-Arctic states (e.g., China, EU), and transnational NGOs; iii) feedback mechanisms connecting environmental changes, governance structures, and community resilience; and iv) scenario modeling and systems mapping to forecast emergent geopolitical singularities in the Arctic. This session welcomes interdisciplinary participants such as data scientists, political scientists, geographers, climate modelers, and Indigenous scholars, particularly those combining social and computational methods. The proposed session aligns with Theme 1 (Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation), focusing on governance, geopolitical stability, and evidence-based policy strategies within a complex systems framework.
137	One Health Law in the Arctic	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	The Arctic's distinct ecosystems underscore the necessity for a One Health approach, which recognizes the interdependence among human, animal, and environmental health. In this region, melting sea ice and thawing permafrost disrupt ecosystems and wildlife, challenge Indigenous traditions, and pose global health risks through the release of ancient pathogens, rising sea levels, and shifting climate patterns. The One Health approach is gradually being integrated into legal frameworks at international, regional, and national levels, as seen in initiatives like the 2025 Pandemic Agreement from the World Health Organization or the 2022 European Union Regulation on serious cross-border health threats. However, the specific obligations and normative principles associated with One Health remain ambiguous. Plus, effective implementation requires both global coordination and local adaptation, a task complicated by the fragmented nature of legal systems where health, environmental, and animal protection laws have evolved separately, each with distinct expertise and subsidiarity rules.

			How do existing legal frameworks in the Arctic address One Health issues? How can Arctic States implement a One Health approach for pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response, as required by the 2025 World Health Organization Pandemic Agreement? How can legal frameworks be designed to incorporate and respect Indigenous knowledge, values and needs? What legal principles should guide legislators and judges in implementing a One Health approach? We welcome abstracts that explore these questions or any other relevant issue about the development of a normative One Health approach in the Arctic's unique context.
178	Small States in the international system: geopolitical stability, Arctic governance, and the politics of preparedness	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	It is a long established principle in international relations that small states need more than shelter from large states, and that small states need to actively press for a global system of rules in order to maintain their own survival. Small states also need to prepare for worst-case-scenarios when large states or global powers decide to act alone in their own interests. Finland remains a primary example of this with a very high level of militarization, a bunker system of shelters, and an integrated civil service/emergency response system. Other Nordic and Arctic states are currently following suit due to the recent actions of major global powers such as China, Russia and the United States. We invite papers that deal with this phenomenon on both a national and regional level, and include sub-state entities in the region as well. What are the various regions and organisations doing to react to these new developments as well as prepare for possible future conflicts and crises? Baltic States, Nordics, Faroes and Greenland, other Islands in the North, Canada, and Indigenous peoples of the North are all included in this questioning.
187	Revitalizing Arctic Science Diplomacy in an Era of Geopolitical Transformation	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	Science and diplomacy have long served as pillars of Arctic cooperation, enabling collaborative governance in a region marked by ecological fragility and strategic significance. This session explores how geopolitical shifts—exemplified by Russia's war on Ukraine, the erosion of multilateralism under the Trump administration, and rising interest from non-Arctic states in polar science—are transforming the landscape of Arctic science diplomacy. These disruptions have led to the loss of critical data, weakened institutional trust, and undermined science-informed decision-making in key areas such as climate, biodiversity, and Indigenous knowledge. The result is a fragmented scientific ecosystem at a time when coordinated research and policy responses are more crucial than ever.

			Building on recent scholarship and policy experiences, including insights from the Norwegian Arctic Council chairmanship, this session invites papers that examine how Arctic science diplomacy can be reimagined to meet today's challenges. What new frameworks, actors, and funding models are needed? How can Arctic collaboration be more inclusive, resilient, and grounded in Indigenous-led knowledge creation? And what role might non-Arctic states, regional organizations, and upcoming initiatives like the Fifth International Polar Year (2032–33) play in shaping the next era of Arctic cooperation? We seek contributions that are empirical or conceptual, policy-focused or practice-based, addressing the interplay between science, diplomacy, and governance in a region at a geopolitical crossroads
208	How the West-Russia Conflict Impacts Security in the Bering and Barents Seas: A Comparative Analysis	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	This panel will explore how the new Arctic geopolitical reality impacts governance and security of the Bering and Barents Sea regions, noting similarities and differences between the two areas. The West-Russia fallout, resulting from Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, has led to a political pause in the Arctic Council and bifurcated the Arctic region between the West and NATO countries on the one hand and Russia on the other. Until recently, the United States and Russia, neighbors in the Bering Sea region, and Norway and Russia, neighbors in the Barents Sea region, cooperated in a multitude of ways. Panelists will evaluate how current West-Russian relations are impacting the peoples and states of the region, governance and agreements, and economic and military developments. We seek contributions that can speak to cooperation changes, gaps, and emerging alternatives in critical areas including maritime safety, search and rescue operations, fisheries management, marine resource governance, environmental monitoring, climate science, and the evolving military-civilian interfaces affecting community security and maritime activities.
223	Relational Infrastructure as Climate Security: A Transdisciplinary Roundtable for Just and Cooperative Arctic Futures	1.5 International relations, Arctic governance, and geopolitical stability	Climate security in the Arctic and Subarctic is not only a technical or military issue; it is an entangled, relational challenge that demands collaborative capacity across disciplines, sectors, and sovereignties. This roundtable convenes a transdisciplinary dialogue on the often-overlooked role of relational infrastructure, defined as the social, institutional, and epistemic networks that sustain trust, cooperation, and adaptive capacity, in securing oceanic and climate futures across the Maritime Subarctic region. Led by a team of transdisciplinary scholars based in the Maritime region of Canada, the session invites participants to examine the climate crisis as a "wicked problem" requiring not

			only technical solutions but also enhanced capacity for dialogue across difference. Drawing from environmental humanities, critical security, and climate justice studies, the session centers the importance of building relational competencies, including empathic imagination, epistemic humility, attuned receptivity, and translational dialogue as foundations for resilient international cooperation and engagement across diverse knowledge traditions. Particular attention will be given to the insights and leadership of Arctic Indigenous knowledge systems and community-rooted perspectives, which have long modeled relational approaches to governance and sustainability. Rather than conventional panels, the roundtable will draw on sessional leaders' expertise in transdisciplinary pedagogy to facilitate participatory dialogue designed to foster mutual learning across boundaries of discipline, geography, and role. Key themes include learning from past coordination failures, strengthening translocal governance partnerships, and co-creating more just and inclusive responses to ocean and climate insecurity.
46	Data, monitoring and new infrastructure	2. Oceans	The UN has dedicated the decade 2021-2030 to particularly focus on the world's ocean areas. Research and cooperation are to contribute to sustainable community development and support the UN's Sustainable Development Goal No. 14, which objective is to conserve and ensure the sustainable use of the oceans and their resources. The following challenges will be addressed: 7. Expand the Global Ocean Observing System 8. Create a digital representation of the ocean 9. Skills, knowledge and technology for all This session aims to create an overview and invite collaboration around ocean data, so that it is accessible to all stakeholders. The intention is to create awareness and create an overview of existing data platforms, and to identify and address data connections and deficiencies in the Arctic waters. In this open session we invite different views on how to secure data coverage within areas such as seabed mapping, oceanographic conditions and ecosystem dynamics in a changing Arctic. We want to arrange a session that gives and overview of the present data platforms in the

			Arctic, and invite to sharing experiences across the participants to ensure sustainable solutions in the Arctic.
129	Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Fisheries: Methods, Monitoring, and Practice	2. Oceans	Arctic and Subarctic fisheries face increasing pressure as traditional practices struggle to keep pace with shifting ocean conditions. These challenges call for intelligent, adaptive systems to support sustainable monitoring and management. This session explores how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can contribute to the future of fisheries science by bridging algorithmic innovation with practical application and fostering interdisciplinary exchange. We invite papers that demonstrate how AI, ranging from machine learning and computer vision to emerging LLM-based agentic systems, can support fisheries research and regulation. Relevant applications include acoustic data interpretation for species identification, improved stock assessments, vessel activity monitoring, and adaptive regulatory strategies. Submissions addressing challenges such as limited computational resources, sparse data availability, or operational constraints in remote polar environments are particularly encouraged. The session also highlights the importance of engaging Indigenous knowledge holders and coastal communities in AI development. We especially welcome co-designed frameworks that promote fairness, transparency, and local agency in contexts where environmental data and governance intersect. Through this session, we aim to bring together diverse perspectives that advance responsible and locally grounded uses of AI for sustainable marine stewardship.
131	Submarine Cables in the Arctic: Resilience for Connectivity and opportunities for Science	2. Oceans	There is growing support for establishing a new route for connectivity through the Arctic. Beyond improving resilience and digital sovereignty for Europe and East Asia, this submarine fibre optic infrastructure will support science, offering a platform for knowledge, resilience and cooperation. Submarine cables equipped with sensing technologies and SMART sensors will become tools for exploring and understanding underwater environmental changes and supporting decision making in near real-time. This session explores how submarine fibre infrastructure like Polar Connect can provide data useful beyond science, including for environmental monitoring and public safety, with benefits for regional authorities, indigenous communities and the scientific community in the central

			Arctic. We highlight Polar Connect's political and economic relevance and need for joint investment, drawing on policy, science, markets, and Indigenous knowledge to examine how Arctic fibre infrastructure supports research and global connectivity. We invite contributions from across the Arctic, especially from northern initiatives, to support dialogue on the benefits of sensing technologies for public services, environment, and sovereignty. We welcome submissions that address topics such as: - Strategic sensing in relation to climate, security and sovereignty - Governance, data access and indigenous participation - Models of cooperation between public institutions and private operators - Interfaces between science and policy using real time environmental data This session contributes to the Oceans theme by linking infrastructure to observation, resilience and shared governance of marine environments across the circumpolar North. The session will be of interest to researchers, infrastructure developers, policy makers and regional actors engaged in Arctic sensing and decision making.
134	The Ocean as a Connector Between People, Places, and Cultures in Literature and History	2. Oceans	For as long as people have been travelling, the ocean has served as a powerful connector, facilitating movement, trade, cultural exchange, and conflict, whilst also shaping identities and inspiring artistic expression. It acts as both a physical pathway and a metaphorical space, impacting human societies in profound ways. Literature and historical sources record and explore this impact, showing us the multi-faceted relationships that humanity has with the world's waters. In this session, we invite papers that will speak to each other about how different cultures, nations, peoples, and individuals explore these relationships through literature and historical record. Topics may include, but are not limited to: * Representations of sea travel

			* Personifications of the ocean * Connections and exchanges between characters/historical figures facilitated by the sea * Identity and nationhood as defined by watery borders * Metaphorical explorations of personhood through the ocean We welcome papers from a wide temporal and geographical scope, though we anticipate a focus on the northern seas. With water as a natural conduit, we hope that these papers on humanity's relationships with and through the ocean will create connections across times and spaces, highlighting the fluid natures of seas and human identities. This session is organised by the UArctic Thematic Network in the Environmental Humanities.
142	Fours Ways the Arctic Ocean Can Impact Us All	2. Oceans	This side event, organized by the Kingdom of Denmark's Chairship of the Arctic Council together with the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) and the Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR) Working Group, explores the vital connections between the Arctic Ocean and the rest of the world. Titled Four Ways the Ocean Can Impact Us All, the session highlights how even distant Arctic changes have far-reaching global effects—underscoring the message that the Arctic isn't so far away after all. The session concludes with an open Q&A, inviting participants to engage directly with speakers and reflect on shared ocean challenges and responses.
157	Understanding and Imagining Extreme Marine Environments in the Arctic regions	2. Oceans	This open session will present interdisciplinary approaches to studying Extreme Marine Environments in the Arctic region. Extreme marine environments are places where conditions are very harsh and challenging for life, especially from a human point of view. These areas can be incredibly hot, cold, deep underwater, or have high levels of chemicals that most living organisms would find toxic. Examples of extreme marine environments are cold seeps and hydrothermal vents, areas on the ocean floor where fluids and gases seep out of the Earth. Not only are such extreme environments sources of interest to current oil and gas industries, but they are also places of potential exposure to future practices of deep-sea mining. While these environments are highly important places from ecological, political, and business perspectives, they are often poorly studied, rarely represented, and little present in the public imagination and in the minds of those not directly engaged with them. The session will include presentations from the session proposers of interdisciplinary work

			completed during a marine expedition in the Greenland and Barents seas November 2025. This expedition will explore ways to study, represent, and relate to extreme marine environments. The presentations will combine 1) Artistic experiments with visualizing and auralizing the geobiological forces that are in operation in extreme marine environments; with 2) Geological and biological knowledge of these environments and their unique ecosystems; and 3) Historical and sociocultural understanding of the abyss, with particular attention to the consequences of the human-nature interactions in effect in extreme marine environments.
122	Arctic Marine Biodiversity: Current Insights and Knowledge Gaps	2.1 Marine biodiversity conservation	The Arctic Ocean and its surrounding seas remain among the least explored and most rapidly changing regions on Earth. Driven by climate change, the Arctic is experiencing unprecedented transformations, including warming temperatures and significant sea ice loss. Understanding the diversity of Arctic marine life and the interactions between organisms and their physical environment is essential for guiding sustainable management and conservation efforts in this fragile ecosystem. This session will explore the structural and functional biodiversity of the Arctic Ocean, shedding light on the largely unknown aspects of its ecosystems and the changes they are likely to face. This session welcomes studies that address critical knowledge gaps in biodiversity, species distribution, abundance, biomass, trophic interactions, and the fundamental biology of Arctic organisms - from microbes to marine mammals. Research that provides new perspectives on seasonal dynamics and key biological processes, such as the timing of algal blooms, life-cycle strategies, physiological adaptations, and other critical events are particularly welcome. Join this session to advance our understanding of Arctic marine biodiversity and its role in a rapidly changing world.
163	Arctic-Subarctic connectivity – Biogeochemistry and plankton	2.1 Marine biodiversity conservation	This session is one of three sessions on Arctic-Subarctic connectivity and focusses on the implications for biogeochemistry and plankton dynamics. Changes in oceanographic connectivity can alter properties of waters supplying productive shelves, affecting nutrient concentrations and stoichiometric ratios. Physical transport may also introduce different plankton communities, shifting the biogeographic distribution of taxa. These changes can reorganize phytoplankton, zooplankton and ichtyplankton communities, impacting trophic connections and productivity. Understanding whether dynamics reflect natural variability or long-term climate-driven change is key to assessing ecosystem resilience.

			We welcome observational, modelling or experimental studies addressing: Long-term changes in plankton composition and phenology Coupled physical-biological processes across Arctic-subarctic and shelf boundaries Impacts on food-webs productivity and marine ecosystems services
165	Recognizing and Filling Knowledge Gaps in the Central Arctic Ocean	2.1 Marine biodiversity conservation	The Central Arctic Ocean (CAO) is an understudied-yet-integral part of the Arctic, global ocean, and planetary climate system. While its sea ice, ecosystems, and currents are already recognized for their connections to coastal Arctic seas and influence over regional and hemispheric climate and ocean circulation, major knowledge gaps persist. These include limited data on species' abundance and distribution, how climate change will affect Arctic stratification and marine ecosystems, and the potential impacts of expanding human activities in the CAO. The CAO is receiving increased attention in the Arctic and worldwide, heightening concerns for its ecosystems and those that depend on them. In response to this global interest, the Central Arctic Ocean Fisheries Agreement (CAOFA) placed a moratorium on the first proposed industry, commercial fishing, in favor of implementing research via both science and Indigenous Knowledge. Other human activities such as commercial shipping and deep-sea mining, however, remain outside CAOFA's precautionary, ecosystem approach. This session will highlight major knowledge gaps in the CAO and efforts to fill them by featuring presentations highlighting recent, ongoing, and planned research efforts relevant to the CAO. Key aims will be to emphasize the need for improved coordination between CAO research efforts and to motivate the precautionary approach's continued application to CAO industries to provide time for science and Indigenous Knowledge to better understand this important sea and inform its marine biodiversity's conservation.
13	Navigating Arctic Futures: Ocean Dynamics and Shipping Toward 2050	2.2 Ocean circulation dynamics and Arctic-Subarctic shipping	What will Arctic Ocean circulation, ice conditions, and shipping routes look like by 2050? While uncertainties remain, this time frame is vital for guiding long-term infrastructure development, maritime safety, and international cooperation. This session invites contributions examining projected changes in Arctic and Subarctic Ocean dynamics over the coming decades, focusing on their impacts on navigability, seasonal access, and operational risks in northern waters. How will physical drivers—such as sea ice

			decline and shifting current systems—reshape shipping corridors and influence transport reliability? A central theme is the advancement of robust forecasting systems to support planning and risk reduction. What capabilities are required to deliver reliable short- and long-term predictions of ocean and ice conditions? How can observation and modeling networks be enhanced to meet the needs of shipping, safety, and sovereignty? We also welcome insights into the evolving geopolitical and regulatory landscape. What are the key enablers and constraints affecting Arctic marine operations, including governance structures, international agreements, and bilateral cooperation? Organized by the Arctic Ocean 2050 consortium (https://uit.no/arcticocean2050), this session encourages diverse contributions that illuminate the physical, operational, and political future of Arctic marine navigation
58	Migrating species connecting Subarctic and Arctic regions	2.2 Ocean circulation dynamics and Arctic-Subarctic shipping	The Subarctic and Arctic are connected via large-scale ocean circulation, including large gyre systems, boundary currents and the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC). Changes in these currents are likely to have far-reaching implications for the climate and marine ecosystems in the Arctic region, as well as in the entire subpolar North Atlantic Ocean. The marine environment and feeding conditions are, naturally, very different in high Arctic, subarctic and boreal biogeographic zones. Mobile animals like marine mammals, seabirds and fish stocks utilize these differences to optimize their feeding and reproduction success. Several fish stocks migrate towards Arctic biomes during the summer feeding season, and back towards boreal zones during the winter-spring spawning season. Seabirds breeding on NE Atlantic cliffs during summer can fly both towards lower latitudes, and towards more (sub)Arctic regions during the winter non-breeding period. Many whale species move towards higher latitudes during summer, while other species migrate from boreal waters around the Faroe shelf towards the Labrador and Irminger Seas during fall, where convection enriches the water column with planktonic and mesopelagic food items throughout the year. This session focuses on elucidating the importance of the connection between the Subarctic and Arctic for higher trophic levels in the food webs. We welcome observational (e.g., tagging data, scientific surveys, fisheries data) and modelling

			studies addressing: * Reproduction-feeding migration routes and distribution * Phenology * Interannual cycles and climate change-related trends * Mechanistic linkages, through feeding conditions, to environmental processes * Antropogenic impacts and management considerations
169	Arctic Emergency Management: Advancing Collaborative Approach	2.3 Emergency preparedness and response	The Arctic is undergoing profound climatic and geopolitical transformations, requiring innovative and coordinated approaches to emergency preparedness, prevention, and response. This session offers a platform to showcase key milestones, insights, and project outcomes from the UArctic Thematic Network on Arctic Safety and Security—a multidisciplinary initiative dedicated to strengthening resilience in Arctic communities. Participants will explore recent collaborative efforts, including: Student Barents Rescue Exercise- Wildland Fires, CLEAR- Crisis Leadership in Arctic Response, CCArctic collaboration, ATOMEX- collaboration complexity in the nuclear emergency preparedness in the maritime Arctic, Arctic Emergency Management Conference, among others. The session's overall goal is to advance knowledge that mitigates the risks and consequences of accidents and large-scale threats to human life, ecosystems, and communities. Discussions will emphasize the interconnectedness of emergency management and encourage innovation through joint research initiatives, competence development, simulation exercises, and student-driven collaborations. Topics span Arctic search and rescue preparedness, wildland fires preparedness, Arctic community and health preparedness, nuclear emergency preparedness, and marine environmental response. This session welcomes interdisciplinary participants to help shape a shared vision of institutional partnerships, adaptive competence development programs, and collaborative initiatives for a safer, more resilient Arctic future.
225	Nuclear Emergency Preparedness in the Maritime	2.3 Emergency preparedness and response	The ATOMEX research project aims to explore the complexities of preparedness in the Arctic and enhance collaboration competencies through case analyses, collaboration exercises, and knowledge-exchange events. The project seeks to build shared knowledge on collaboration competencies to address the challenges of risk evaluation in Arctic maritime nuclear

	Arctic: ATOMEX project results		preparedness and response operations. Another key outcome of the project is the development of an algorithm-based model to support decision-making in Arctic waters. Additionally, the project includes an interactive, browser-based data visualization to enhance the understanding of risk evaluation and desk app prototype for educational purposes. The mail goal for the session is to present and exchange ATOMEX project findings & results. This event is a final Dissemination event that will gather Arctic researchers, as well as local and national authorities working with safety and security at sea. During the event the following topics will be touched: * Developed methodologies for exercise design for complex scenarios of radiological and nuclear emergencies, as well as experiences from ATOMEX tabletop and simulation exercises * Understanding how do risks and uncertainties in complex environments influence the collaboration processes of emergency response regarding nuclear safety in the Arctic * Algorithm-based model to support decision-making in Arctic waters * Inclus risk evaluation and data visualization * Raising awareness of nuclear emergency risks and preparedness through a desktop app
70	Arctic wastewater and marine impacts	2.4 Marine pollutants and ecosystem impacts (incl. underwater noise, marine litter)	In this session we will explore the status and recent developments in wastewater handling, impacts and treatment for the Arctic region. Presentations related to all aspects of wastewater in the Arctic region are welcomed, including: • Sanitation service for unpiped households • Indigenous/local communities perceptions and priorities around wastewater • Developments on wastewater treatment technologies • Ecosystem impacts of wastewater • Health impacts of wastewater systems • Management and economy • Legislative aspects The session is hosted by the UArctic TN of Arctic WASH.
75	Plastic pollution: Effects on Arctic animals. Organising a pan-Arctic assessment	2.4 Marine pollutants and ecosystem impacts (incl. underwater noise, marine litter)	The session will have to sections. In the first section, there will be presentations from a recent AMAP study on effects of plastic pollution on Arctic animals:

			Biological Effects of Litter Entanglement Physical Effects of Plastic Ingestion Physiological Effects from Micro- and Nanoplastics in Arctic Animals Occurrence and Effects of Plastic Additive Chemicals on Arctic Animals Q&A In the second section, there will be a panel discussion on organising a pan-Arctic assessment of plastic pollution in the Arctic. AMAP is recommending environmental monitoring for plastics and microplastics at beaches/shorelines, sediments (freshwater and marine), water (freshwater and marine), and seabirds. The panel will discuss these topics: 1) Compiling data on the mentioned compartments from existing national data sources. What effort will it take, and a data comparable? 2) How should the quality of the data be evaluated? 3) What methodology exists to do a pan- Arctic assessment based on such data?
85	One Health in the Arctic: Traditional Hunting, Pollutants, and Zoonoses in the North Atlantic	2.4 Marine pollutants and ecosystem impacts (incl. underwater noise, marine litter)	Session Overview: The Arctic region, particularly the North Atlantic, presents unique challenges and opportunities for the application of the One Health approach, which integrates human, animal, and environmental health. This session will explore the intricate relationships between traditional hunting practices, exposure to environmental pollutants, and the risk of zoonotic diseases among indigenous and local communities who rely on the land for their sustenance. Key Topics: * Traditional Hunting Practices: An examination of the cultural and subsistence importance of traditional hunting in the North Atlantic, highlighting the reliance on marine and terrestrial wildlife.

			* Exposure to Pollutants: Analysis of the types and sources of pollutants, such as heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants (POPs), that accumulate in the Arctic environment and their pathways into the food chain. * Zoonotic Diseases: Discussion on the prevalence and transmission of zoonoses in the Arctic, including the impact of climate change on the distribution and emergence of these diseases. * Health Implications: Insights into the health risks faced by communities engaged in traditional hunting, focusing on both immediate and long-term effects of pollutant exposure and zoonotic infections. * One Health Strategies: Presentation of integrated approaches to mitigate health risks, enhance monitoring, and promote sustainable practices that protect human, animal, and environmental health. Objectives: * To understand the interconnectedness of traditional hunting, environmental pollutants, and zoonotic diseases in the Arctic. * To identify the specific health risks faced by indigenous and local communities in the North Atlantic. * To discuss and propose One Health strategies that can effectively address these challenges.
88	Wastewater Discharges from ships in the Arctic: Quantification and Best Practices	2.4 Marine pollutants and ecosystem impacts (incl. underwater noise, marine litter)	A recently released report of the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment working group of the Arctic Council, **Wastewater Discharges from ships in the Arctic: Quantification and Best Practices** advances efforts to understand and reduce the environmental impact of vessel wastewater in the Arctic. This session will present the findings of a quantitative analysis of sewage, grey water, and scrubber effluent produced and potentially discharged by ships operating in Arctic waters. Results include waste generation estimates by vessel type and by Arctic Large Marine Ecosystem (LME), illustrated through high-resolution maps, summary tables, and a written report. The session will also introduce a set of recommended best practices for wastewater management. These voluntary practices aim to support environmentally responsible operations in the Arctic and help mitigate impacts on marine ecosystems, Indigenous communities, and food security.

			As shipping traffic increases in the Arctic, early attention to emerging environmental risks is essential. This session will explore how proactive, science-based strategies can reduce wastewater impacts while preserving vital shipping connections to remote Arctic communities.
203	When Sound Becomes Noise: Mitigation and Management of Anthropogenic Noise in an Increasingly Ice-Free Arctic	2.4 Marine pollutants and ecosystem impacts (incl. underwater noise, marine litter)	As climate change accelerates sea ice loss, Arctic waters are experiencing a rapid increase in human activity. Once buffered by long periods of impassable ice, these fragile marine ecosystems are now exposed to longer shipping seasons and growing industrial and geopolitical pressures. This surge in vessel traffic is contributing to an increase in underwater noise, threatening marine species that rely on sound to communicate, navigate, and survive. This session will bring together community members, scientists, and policymakers to examine the pervasive impacts of ocean noise on marine life and the people who depend on these ecosystems for food security and cultural continuity. The ecological and human toll of underwater noise in the Arctic is becoming well understood, what is needed now is coordinated domestic and international action to develop and implement effective regulations. The goal of this session is to present existing tools for effective, equitable, and collaborative management of noise in Arctic waters. The discussion will explore mechanisms and strategies to reduce anthropogenic underwater noise, including domestic, regional, and international policy levers; Indigenous-led frameworks (such as the Inuit Circumpolar Council's Guidelines for Underwater Radiated Noise Reduction in Inuit Nunaat and the Arctic); and voluntary mitigation measures, research initiatives, and industry led practices.
57	Opportunities and Barriers to Mitigation and Adaptation in Arctic fisheries	3. Climate Change in the Arctic	The Arctic is home to diverse and productive marine ecosystems that play a vital role in the national economies in the Arctic region. However, the impact of climate change, such as changes in the distributions of fish stocks, can have severe social, economic, and management implications. These changes not only impede the sustainability and resilience of Arctic fisheries but also increase the need for enhanced cooperation in international fisheries management. There is an urgent need to develop both adaptation and mitigation solutions in Arctic fisheries which also consider the diverse regional contexts in the Arctic. This open workshop will explore the barriers and opportunities for mitigation and adaptation in Arctic fisheries. It will pay attention to the region's unique social, economic, and ecological

			challenges and opportunities, as well as the varied perspectives and knowledge of diverse stakeholders, including fishers, scientists, policymakers, and indigenous communities. By incorporating varied perspectives and knowledge systems, this workshop will provide a structured forum to identify key obstacles such as economic constraints, technological limitations, regulatory gaps, and power imbalances, while also uncovering potential solutions and innovations. By fostering open dialogue and co-creation, the workshop aims to facilitate collaborative strategies that support effective and equitable climate action in Arctic fisheries. This workshop is linked to a closed session on climate change adaptation and mitigation in Arctic fisheries and will be co-convened by participants from two EU-funded projects: MeCCAM and Infinifish.
166	Transforming Arctic Landscapes: Earth Science Perspectives on Environmental Change in a Rapidly Warming North	3. Climate Change in the Arctic	The Arctic is experiencing unprecedented rates of environmental change, warming nearly four times faster than the global average. These transformations are dramatically reshaping Arctic landscapes and ecosystems through complex interactions among climate, topography, and Earth system processes. This session will highlight emerging research in earth-sciences as geology, geomorphology, geophysics, hydrology, hydrogeology, sedimentology, geochemistry, and oceanography, with a focus on the physical environment and its rapid reorganization under climate stress. We invite presentations that address processes such as permafrost thaw, landscape (topography) and environment changes, coastal and riverine erosion, glacier and sea ice loss, subsurface hydrological changes, and shifts in Arctic oceanographic systems, that combine field-based research, remote sensing, modeling, or community-based monitoring. We encourage insights that incorporate Indigenous knowledge systems or address local adaptation and resilience in Arctic communities. This interdisciplinary session aims to foster collaboration across Earth science disciplines and across Arctic regions, contributing to a deeper understanding of Arctic transformation and its global implications. Session Themes & Topics May Include: * Thawing permafrost and its impact on landscape stability * Arctic hydrology and the evolution of surface and groundwater systems

			* Coastal geomorphology and erosion linked to sea ice decline * Subsurface geophysics and cryo-hydrogeological interactions * Use of satellite and airborne geophysical data for monitoring Arctic change * Indigenous and community-based perspectives on environmental change Session Goals * Highlight how Earth systems science can elucidate processes of Arctic change * Facilitate dialogue between researchers working in different Arctic sub-regions * Promote circumpolar collaboration across disciplines and sectors * Bridge scientific and community-based knowledge on Arctic environmental change
24	New Evidence of Rapid Climate Change - AMAP Climate Change Update Report	3.1 Monitoring climate-related changes and adaptation strategies	The AMAP Arctic Climate Change Update Report 2024 provides a recent update on some of the rapid and unprecedented changes occurring in the Arctic climate system. The results in the report reveal new record-setting trends in air and permafrost temperatures, wildfires, and sea ice minima. These latest observations highlight the increasing severity of Arctic climate change, with significant implications for the global climate system. This session will present Key indicators of Climate change in the Arctic and some of the key findings from chapters about a changing cryosphere, extreme weather events, changes in freshwater systems and Arctic Ocean Acidification. To put the results in a broader perspective, a panel will discuss the relevance of the results for the next IPCC AR7 report and how the work of AMAP is important for understanding the rapid changes in the Arctic and how these changes effect the rest of the world.
33	Lichens, their habitats and symbionts in a warming Arctic climate	3.1 Monitoring climate-related changes and adaptation strategies	Lichens are among organisms characteristic of the Arctic biome where they often form a large and conspicuous part of tundra vegetation. The ongoing rapid warming of the Arctic is likely to lead to shifts in vegetation coverage and composition, although the extent of such changes and effects on different species are unclear. As symbiotic organisms, lichens may be fairly resilient to environmental changes due to the dynamism conferred by the interactions among the various microbes making up the lichen holobiont and its associated microbiome. Nevertheless, shifts may lead to outcompetition by faster-growing bryophytes and other plants. The questions to be addressed in the session include: To what extent do habitat type and climate influence the composition and activities of lichen-associated microbiomes? Are

			the symbiotic partners likely to temper or exacerbate these shifts? Will a warming climate lead to decreased health of lichen holobionts? Will a warming climate affect specific functionalities, such as auxiliary photosynthesis, nitrogen fixation, nutrient scavenging, etc.?
35	The Arctic Is Burning - The Rising Threat of Arctic Wildfires in a Changing Climate	3.1 Monitoring climate-related changes and adaptation strategies	Arctic wildfires are emerging as a critical and intensifying consequence of climate change. This presentation draws on results on Arctic wildfires in recent work published by the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme and work conducted during previous years by the Arctic Council. Recent findings show that warming temperatures are increasing fire danger, altering fuel availability, and shifting fire behavior across the Arctic. Fire activity is highly variable year to year but has trended upward, especially in boreal Asia and the Siberian Arctic. Between 2020 and 2024, Arctic wildfire carbon emissions have already exceeded those of the previous decade by 20%, with record-breaking fire seasons in 2019 and 2020. These fires produce vast smoke plumes, significantly degrading air quality and increasing smoke-related mortality in high-latitude communities. Wildfires are also accelerating permafrost thaw and transforming peatland ecosystems, leading to long-term climate feedbacks. Emerging research has improved detection of holdover, or "zombie," fires—smoldering underground through winter—and identified lightning as a growing ignition source, as seen in the largest recorded tundra fire in southwestern Alaska in 2022. Technological advances, including new satellite monitoring capabilities, are enhancing real-time tracking and emissions assessment. However, satellite data alone are insufficient. Field observations and Indigenous knowledge are essential for understanding fire behavior and guiding climate resilience strategies. This presentation will synthesize recent trends, case studies, and monitoring efforts, highlighting the urgent need for continued research to better understand and mitigate the growing threat of Arctic wildfires.
120	Arctic Climate Change: Advancing Community-Relevant Science for Resilience,	3.1 Monitoring climate-related changes and adaptation strategies	The Arctic is warming three times faster than the global average and is already 4 °C warmer since the industrial revolution. With most of this warming having occurred in the past four decades, it is urgent to advance our understanding of climate-related changes that are relevant for Arctic communities.

	Oceans, and Sustainable Futures		Responding to these challenges demands reliable climate information at the same time as access to long term climate data is under pressure in some Arctic states. While progress is being made in understanding regional climate dynamics and improving the accessibility and usability of climate information, critical knowledge gaps remain. This need is driving numerous research projects and large-scale collaborative monitoring, modelling and climate prediction efforts across research institutions and funding bodies. This session invites contributions that advance understanding of climate-related changes in the Arctic, with a focus on Arctic communities and Oceans. We welcome interdisciplinary research that supports sustainable development, Indigenous engagement, and holistic ecosystem management. Emphasis will be placed on studies that reflect the priorities of Arctic Council Member States and the European Union's Arctic Strategy, particularly those involving end-users in the research process. The session is organized by an experienced panel and will be expanded to include funding experts from national and European landscapes, Arctic stakeholders, community representatives, and leading researchers. Together, they will assess scientific progress and highlight future research priorities. Submissions from early career scientists are welcome.
123	Impacts of climate change for Sami reindeer herder's from Northern Sweden : a systematic review	3.1 Monitoring climate-related changes and adaptation strategies	Intro: Arctic populations face rapid changes due to climate change and impact local populations in more ways than one. Objective: We aimed to (1) develop a global and holistic understanding of climate change impacts on Sámi reindeer herders from Northern Sweden, based on the current state of research on the subject and (2) identify potential implications for future research. Methods: We conducted a systematic literature review to include all relevant articles published in English from January 2008 to September 2023 that evaluated the effect of climate change on Northern Sweden reindeer herders. We applied broad search equations in JSTOR, PubMed/MEDLINE, and Google Scholar. Both qualitative, quantitative and mixed studies were eligible. Qualitative studies had to be based on herder's interview. Results of the included studies were synthesized qualitatively.

			Results: 31 studies were included in our review. Half (14/31) were published in interdisciplinary journals, and 7 were based on interviews with herders. Our findings showed that Sami reindeer herders are faced with rapid environmental changes which impacts significatively their bottleneck season: wintertime. Changes in vegetation and snow cover lead to indirect adverse effects on their activity and herds. Such impacts challenge their traditional ecological knowledge, culture, identity and well-being. Herders face a double pressure from climate change as other stressors also affect their ability to adapt leading them towards to limit of resilience. Future research could focus on the implementation of collaborative approaches to streghthen community resilience.
186	Emerging Zoonotic Threats in the Arctic: Toward a Framework for Monitoring and Preparedness	3.1 Monitoring climate-related changes and adaptation strategies	Climate change in the Arctic is driving rapid environmental transformations that directly affect wildlife health, animal migration patterns, and human-wildlife interactions. These changes increase the likelihood of emergence, transmission, and spread of zoonotic diseases—those that can pass from animals to humans. Despite this growing threat, there is currently no standardized or coordinated methodology for monitoring zoonotic diseases in Arctic ecosystems. This session will explore the current state of knowledge and practice regarding zoonotic diseases in Arctic regions and work toward the development of methodological recommendations to inform coordinated monitoring across national and regional boundaries. In particular: * Linking zoonotic risks to climate-driven ecological shifts * Integrating Indigenous knowledge and community-based monitoring * Identifying sentinel species and priority pathogens * Leveraging new technologies for early detection and surveillance * Addressing ethical, logistical, and governance challenges The session will also highlight AMAP's ongoing initiative to develop recommendations for Arctic

			zoonotic disease monitoring methodologies, providing an opportunity for stakeholders and experts to contribute to this process. Desired Outcomes: * Exchange of knowledge between researchers, Indigenous experts, and public health practitioners * Case studies of successful monitoring efforts and identified gaps * A draft outline of key components and principles for zoonotic disease monitoring methodologies * Networking and collaboration opportunities for ongoing AMAP effort Session Format: Panel presentations followed by a structured roundtable discussion. Contributions from Indigenous representatives, Arctic public health authorities, wildlife health researchers, and environmental monitoring experts will be prioritized. Target: Researchers in Arctic health and ecology, public health professionals, Indigenous organizations, wildlife monitoring experts, policy-makers, and international environmental organizations.
189	Impacts of Aerosols on Climate, Environments, and Communities in the Arctic, Including Adaptation and	3.1 Monitoring climate-related changes and adaptation strategies	Monitoring climate-related changes in the Arctic and at high latitudes, along with developing adaptation and mitigation strategies, is essential for a better understanding of ongoing and future changes and for protecting local environments and communities. Arctic aerosols, such as black/organic carbon, dust from low and high latitudes, volcanic ash, bioaerosols, sea salt, pollen, microplastics, and others, are key elements influencing the atmosphere, cryosphere, and marine and terrestrial environments and ecosystems. They directly impact socio-economic sectors and the safety of local communities. This session invites both observational and model-based investigations on any aspect of the

	Mitigation Strategies		linkages between aerosols and Earth's systems at local, regional, and global scales. In addition, studies examining the sources and long-range transport of natural and anthropogenic aerosols in the Arctic, and their impacts on local communities, including health, safety, energy production, social equity, quality of life, and the economy, are encouraged. Particular emphasis is placed on studies related directly or indirectly to natural disasters associated with aerosols, such as dust storms, volcanic ash plumes (including vegetation burning during eruptions), biomass burning plumes, earthquakes, pollen storms, and hazardous air pollution. Contributions to this session should raise awareness of the importance of aerosols in climate systems, highlight their direct positive or negative impacts on local communities, and emphasize the need for improved monitoring alongside greenhouse gases.
34	Is Black Carbon Less Harmful Than We Thought — and What Should Policymakers Do?	3.2 Mitigation of black carbon and methane emissions	Black carbon (BC) and other short-lived climate forcers emitted within the Arctic and at lower latitudes are making a significant contribution to warming in the Arctic and have been a subject of study in recent years by Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP). How that contribution is likely to evolve in future is unclear, both due to uncertainties in future emission scenarios and given the complexity of the climate system and of the effects of different atmospheric pollutants, many of which are co-emitted. Bodies such as the IPCC and AMAP rely on climate models to project the impact of BC emissions into the future to help guide policy-making. Climate models employed in the IPCC's AR6 report and those used in AMAP's 2021 assessment of SLCFs showed that BC emissions contribute to warming to a lesser degree than the models that informed the IPCC's 5th Assessment Report and AMAP's 2015 Assessment. One model in the suite used in the AR6 suggested that BC could even have a cooling effect. This downward revision of the climate warming effect of BC has raised questions about the appropriate policy responses to BC emissions globally and in the Arctic. This session will address policy communication to explain this revision, which is largely the result of improved methods of modelling interactions of atmospheric components. It will show results about the evolving understanding of the behaviour and impacts of BC and why policy should continue to emphasize rapid reductions in BC emissions in the Arctic and beyond.

67	What is the 2030 North? Redefining the North in the face of climate change and development pressure.	3.3 Community-based environmental monitoring	The geographic focus of northern scholarship has been defined many ways, including "above" the Arctic Circle, the treeline, and the southern limit of discontinuous permafrost. But these boundaries lose relevance when a holistic consideration of social and natural science, including Indigenous ways of knowing, happens, especially in the face of climate change and increasing development pressure on the North. This session will welcome scholars to bring their considered views to a redefinition of the North for 2030 and beyond.
20	Occupational Safety and Health in the Arctic: Building climate resilience for workers and communities	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	The Arctic is experiencing profound transformations due to climate change, with rising temperatures, melting ice, as well as extreme weather conditions and events. These changes not only impact the environment but also pose significant challenges to occupational safety and health (OSH). This session will explore the intersection of OSH and climate change, focusing on how Arctic workers, workplaces, and communities can adapt to and mitigate the impacts of a changing climate. Key topics will include the health and safety risks faced by workers in Arctic industries involving exposure to or being affected by climatic factors either directly or indirectly. The session will also address the role of OSH in building resilience, including strategies to monitor and mitigate climate-related risks, enhance workplace safety with separate considerations for human factors, and support the wellbeing and working ability of employers and vulnerable employees of Arctic companies. By bringing together experts in OSH, climate science, and community resilience, this session aims to foster a multidisciplinary dialogue on how to strengthen climate resilience in the Arctic. Discussions will highlight innovative approaches to adaptation, such as integrating OSH into climate policies, leveraging technology for real-time monitoring, and fostering collaboration between industries, governments, and indigenous communities. This session will provide a platform for sharing knowledge, best practices, and actionable solutions to ensure that Arctic workers, workplaces, and communities are equipped to thrive in the face of climate change. It will emphasize inclusivity, recognizing the diverse perspectives and needs of those living and working in the Arctic.

30	Communication, listening, and the architecture of climate resilience	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	In the Arctic and beyond, climate resilience doesn't emerge from policy alone. It is built through relationships, voices, and the silences in between. This session invites bold explorations of communication and listening as more than tools for sharing knowledge: as necessary structures that shape how resilience is imagined, practiced, and sustained. We are especially interested in presentations that explore the following question: How do people communicate urgency, memory, and care during times of environmental transformation? How do communication and listening practices enable adaptation to changing ecosystems and to shifting power dynamics? And how might climate communication shift when driven by Indigenous leadership, storytelling, and worldviews? Presentations may draw from communication studies, participatory climate research, community-based resilience planning, Indigenous knowledge systems, intergenerational dialogue, or artistic practice. We welcome both theoretical provocations and grounded case studies, especially from voices and regions that are often excluded from mainstream climate discourse. This session reimagines communication and listening as forms of infrastructure in their own right: flexible, connective, sometimes fragile, but always alive with possibility.
42	Snow and infrastructure in the Arctic	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	Snow falling on or drifting around infrastructure in the Arctic (buildings, roads, utilities) often has to be managed actively (ploughing, shovelling) or passively (snow fences, accelerating melt) to reduce loads and improve access without the displaced snow itself posing risks. Conversely, snow can be used as a building material; the structural and thermal properties of different types of snow have been known to Indigenous Peoples for millennia, and snow is still used for insulation, temporary structures and emergency shelter. This session will welcome presentations on all aspects of use and management of snow in Arctic communities, and how these might have to change for mitigation and adaptation to warming temperatures and increasing economic activity. Although proposed for the "Climate Change in the Arctic" theme, transdisciplinary presentations could overlap with "Sustainable Economic Development" and "Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge" themes.
50	Defining and Observing the	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	How do we perceive and delimit the Arctic region in a time of rapid environmental change and geopolitical tension? Multiple scientific disciplines have traditionally used definitions based on geography, climate, politics, or history. Equally important are the relationships, knowledge

	Arctic in a Time of Rapid Change		systems, and definitions shared by Arctic Indigenous Peoples, who have stewarded Arctic lands and waters for generations and whose perspectives, and rights to self-determination, are essential to any meaningful understanding of the region's future. What are the most important changes in the Arctic affecting the local communities and its inhabitants directly, and how are resilience-building taking place in Arctic ecosystems and communities to strengthen climate resilience and safety? In this open session we invite different views on how to define and observe the Arctic in a time of ongoing climatic and geopolitical changes. We particularly welcome work on adaptation and mitigation strategies for Arctic communities that recognize current geopolitical challenges but still work to strengthen Arctic resilience and safety in the face of climate-related Arctic ecosystem changes such as e.g. permafrost thaw, increasing wildfires and/or natural hazards. We also encourage contributions that center ethical, equitable engagement with Arctic communities and ensure Indigenous Knowledge systems are engaged in the development of Arctic policies. The aim of the session is to explore how our perspectives, observations and definitions of the Arctic best serve the knowledge sharing needed for a more sustainable - and peaceful - Arctic.
63	One Health as an Innovative Strategy for Sustainable Pollution Regulations in the Arctic	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	The Arctic is experiencing unprecedented environmental changes due to climate change, industrial expansion, and long-range pollution transport. These changes pose complex risks to human, animal, and ecosystem health. This session proposes to explore the One Health approach as a transformative framework for developing and implementing sustainable pollution regulations in the Arctic. By integrating human, animal, and environmental health perspectives, One Health offers a holistic strategy to address the interconnected challenges of pollution, biodiversity loss, and public health in Arctic communities. Based on the above assumption, we will discuss the One Health concept and its relevance to Arctic environmental governance. Participants are invited to present case studies where One Health is integrated in pollution monitoring or policy development in Arctic or sub-Arctic regions. Also presentation on the identications of scientitifc gaps and opportunities for cross-sectoral collaboration among policymakers, Indigenous communities, scientists, and health professionals are highly welcomed.

			The session will contribute to a increased awareness of One Health as a regulatory tool for cross-discipliary dialog and as future guideleine of Arctic pollution policies.
144	Submerging Futures: Watery Infrastructures and the Making of Climate in the Polar Regions	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	This session invites reflections on watery infrastructures in the Arctic, where melting ice, fluctuating currents, and volatile hydrological cycles mark a patchy Anthropocene (Tsing et al. 2024) - fragmented, uneven, and locally contingent. We seek contributions that foreground water's mutual character (Hastrup and Hastrup 2015) to explore how oceans, rivers, sea ice, and other water bodies are entangled in sensing, sovereignty, justice, survival, and governance in the North. Seeing beyond infrastructures as purely engineered systems, we welcome work that foregrounds their natural, experimental, and relational dimensions. How do water, ice, tides, fog, or thawing ground act as infrastructural forces? What happens when experimental or improvised technologies—whether developed in labs, on research vessels, or within communities—intersect with local practices, Indigenous knowledge, and environmental rhythms? What does it mean to get infrastructure wet? This session further unpacks watery infrastructures amidst "Western" colonial ideas of Arctic exploration built on "Icy Geopolitics" (Dodds 2008) and portrayals of the Arctic as a sensitive ecosystem, laboratory, or threatened 'last ice area' (Nuttal 2017:138). Bridging Science and Technology Studies (STS), Indigenous studies, anthropology, environmental humanities, and climate science, this session centres hybrid and emergent infrastructures—those that connect material landscapes, epistemic tools, and social relations. Whether attending to novel climate technologies, community monitoring efforts, marine energies, natural water systems, or other tools of observation and adaptation, this session invites dialogue on the resilience, dependency, extraction, and care that might be glimpsed from below the surface.
168	From Detection to Action – Community Resilience to Emerging Arctic Extremes	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	The Arctic is undergoing rapid and profound changes due to a changing climate. At the same time the Arctic also undergo societal and geopolitical changes at an accelerating rate. Arctic amplification is causing the region to warm nearly four times faster than the global average, leading to unprecedented extremes such as heatwaves, wildfires, and sea ice retreat. Together these changes are pushing communities beyond historical experience, creating urgent challenges for adaptation and resilience. Understanding and anticipating these emerging extremes is critical. Climate science offers powerful tools to inform this understanding. Linking observed extremes to human influence, it

			helps clarify risks, guide adaptation planning, and support more targeted and just resilience strategies in Arctic communities. This session invites contributions that explore how new and intensifying extremes in the Arctic can be better understood, anticipated, and integrated into strategies for resilience and adaptation. We welcome studies that examine past or projected events, cascading hazards, or systemic risks, as well as those that address community vulnerability, planning, and governance. Linking climatical and societal changes are particularly welcomed. Submissions from across disciplines are encouraged, including climate science, Indigenous knowledge systems, environmental monitoring, social science, governance, and infrastructure planning. We are particularly interested in co-produced research and community-based approaches that integrate attribution insights into real-world decision-making. By bringing together diverse perspectives, this session aims to deepen our collective understanding of Arctic extremes and explore how attribution science can help build more adaptive, inclusive, and equitable futures in the world's fastest-warming region.
173	Resilience Building in Arctic Communities in Transition	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	Change is said to be the norm in the Arctic. However, the ongoing anthropogenic change is taking place faster than before, causing increasing socio-ecological, economic, and political impacts, instability, and inequality in the region. Recent evidence indicates that the region has warmed nearly four times faster than the globe since 1979 (Rantanen et al., 2022), and even the current climate forcing (+1.2 °C), if sustained, will most probably result an alarming level of melting glaciers and sea ice and permafrost thaw in the future, creating serious impacts and damages to environments, economies, and coastal populations in the region and globally (Stokes et al., 2025). Thus, while we need to strive to take major steps to mitigate climate change, there is an urgent and increasing need for communities to adjust and adapt to the 'New Arctic' characterized by rapid changes and challenges in environment, livelihoods, mobilities, and their sustainable governance. This calls for new kinds of adaptations, ideas, and innovations for Arctic communities and their resilience building (Arctic Resilience Report, 2016). This session will focus on the Arctic resilience building needs in the context of ongoing climate change impacts. The aim is to discuss and share research on the Arctic communities and their resilience building and future policy needs, and how and what ways climate change will impact and create risks, instability and tensions for the Arctic communities and their socio-economic development. The session welcomes both oral and poster presentations.

180	Water-Food-Energy Nexus in the Arctic: Integrated pathways for sustainable agriculture and hydropower production in a changing climate	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	The accelerating impacts of climate change in the Arctic are destabilising coupled hydrological, agricultural, and energy systems, prompting the need for integrated frameworks that address cross-sectoral interdependencies. This session examines the water-food-energy (WFE) nexus as a lens for analysing trade-offs and synergies in Arctic resource systems, with a focus on sustainable agriculture and hydropower production under changing climatic conditions. Emerging research underscores the need to optimise resource use efficiency and enhance systemic resilience by accounting for feedback between water availability, food production systems, and energy infrastructure. In the Arctic, these interactions are compounded by permafrost thaw, altered hydrological regimes, and shifting precipitation and runoff patterns, which challenge conventional planning approaches and threaten local food and energy security. This session invites contributions that apply transdisciplinary methodologies, including systems modelling, socio-hydrology, Indigenous knowledge integration, and scenario-based policy analysis, to explore adaptive strategies for Arctic irrigation, climate-resilient food systems, and renewable energy development. Particular emphasis is placed on hydropower planning under hydrological uncertainty and the role of community-scale agricultural and energy innovations in reinforcing self-sufficiency and sovereignty in Northern communities. We encourage participation from scholars, practitioners, and Indigenous knowledge holders working on nexus governance, climate adaptation, and sustainable development across Arctic and sub-Arctic regions.
185	Climate Interventions in the Arctic: Scoping Risks, Implications, and Governance Pathways	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	As climate interventions—including solar radiation modification and carbon dioxide removal—gain increased global attention, understanding their potential risks and implications for Arctic ecosystems and communities becomes critically urgent. This session, convened by the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), aims to foster dialogue on the potential environmental, social, and geopolitical consequences of climate intervention technologies specific to the Arctic context, including ethical considerations and the need for precautionary governance frameworks. The session aims at exploring policy-relevant questions and at identifying gaps in scientific

			knowledge necessary for substantial contributions to ongoing international discussions and frameworks on climate interventions, ensuring that Arctic-specific concerns—such as impacts on Indigenous Peoples, biodiversity, and climate systems—are adequately addressed. Additionally it will also examine the need for governance mechanisms to ensure responsible consideration of Arctic-specific risks in global climate intervention strategies. With a strong emphasis on ethics, governance, and precaution, by engaging scientists, Indigenous knowledge holders, policy experts, and governance practitioners, the session seeks to provide a platform for interdisciplinary exchange. The outcomes will support the Arctic Council and other relevant international bodies in navigating the complex ethical and scientific dimensions of climate interventions in the region.
205	Staying Cool: Exploring Options for Climate Interventions in the Arctic	3.4 Building resilience to climate-related environmental changes	The Arctic is warming nearly four times faster than the global average. This rapid change threatens not only local ecosystems and livelihoods, but also has far-reaching global consequences – from accelerating sea level rise due to melting ice sheets to the release of potent greenhouse gases from thawing permafrost. Because the region contains several critical climate tipping points, it could be one of the first regions where climate interventions are seriously considered or deployed. This has led to growing interest in a range of measures that aim to slow, stabilize, or even reverse warming in the Arctic. This session invites presentations on the full spectrum of proposed climate interventions – including carbon dioxide removal, albedo modification, and other geoengineering and nature-based approaches – with a focus on their relevance for the Arctic and their potential for meaningful impact within the next two decades. We especially welcome contributions that assess the feasibility, risks, co-benefits, and trade-offs of these measures in Arctic contexts. Submissions may address scientific, technological, social, ethical, governance, or policy dimensions. Our aim is to help clarify if there are options that could realistically contribute to keeping the Arctic frozen – and under what conditions, if at all, they might be pursued.
59	Molecular Frontiers in Marine Biodiversity: Environmental DNA and ‘Omics for Monitoring,	4. Biodiversity	Environmental DNA (eDNA) and advanced ‘omics tools—such as metabarcoding, metagenomics, and transcriptomics—are revolutionizing how we monitor marine biodiversity, assess ecosystem health, and understand species interactions. As these technologies mature, their applications are expanding from species inventories to deeper ecological insights, including food web dynamics, parasitism, symbioses, and biogeochemical feedback. This session invites contributions that apply molecular tools to address pressing challenges in

	Management, and Conservation		marine biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, and sustainable resource use. We welcome studies that explore biodiversity patterns across spatial, temporal, and environmental gradients, and that evaluate the performance, limitations, and scalability of molecular approaches in environmental assessment. We especially encourage submissions that: * Advance methodological development and validation, including improvements in workflows, bioinformatics, and benchmarking of tool performance. * Use eDNA and 'omics to detect ecosystem responses to climate-driven stressors, marine pollutants (e.g., underwater noise, microplastics), and invasive species. * Integrate molecular data with other platforms—such as satellites, autonomous vehicles, or biogeochemical sensors—to support spatial planning, emergency preparedness, and ecosystem-based management. * Apply eDNA and molecular approaches to assess and monitor commercially important marine species and fisheries, supporting sustainable resource management and policy development. * Incorporate Indigenous Knowledge and community-based monitoring to enhance biodiversity governance and conservation strategies. This session aims to foster dialogue among scientists, resource managers, and policymakers working at the intersection of molecular ecology, ocean observing, and applied environmental monitoring. By highlighting innovative applications and cross-disciplinary collaborations, we seek to advance molecular tools into scalable, policy-relevant solutions for sustaining ocean and Arctic biodiversity.
125	Indigenous Knowledge in Arctic Biodiversity Monitoring	4.2 Strengthening Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP)	Indigenous knowledge systems are place-based and relational. As Arctic and Northern communities face increasing challenges from environmental changes and resulting shifts in local biodiversity, community-based monitoring is essential. Indigenous communities across the Arctic engage in biodiversity monitoring rooted in Indigenous knowledge and methods,

			cultural practices, and relational connectedness to the land. These approaches offer holistic understandings of ecosystems that go beyond Western scientific monitoring and can lead to more impactful and inclusive biodiversity monitoring outcomes. This session highlights the essential contributions of Indigenous-led biodiversity monitoring and the development of culturally respectful study designs and joint protocols. This session brings together Indigenous rights holders, Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers, conservation practitioners, and policymakers to foster cross-cultural dialogue and knowledge exchange. The session presents Indigenous biodiversity monitoring initiatives, explores collaborative frameworks that bridge diverse knowledge systems, and discusses how to support more community-led monitoring efforts in Arctic and Northern regions. The goal is to strengthen local responses to environmental change and help mitigate its impacts on Arctic biodiversity and livelihoods. Case studies and best practices will be shared, alongside reflections on ethical considerations, challenges, and future opportunities.
138	Circumpolar monitoring of terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems: new ideas to meet data needs in the face of accelerating change?	4.2 Strengthening Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP)	Climate change in the Arctic is progressing rapidly. Many areas are moving out of what is defined as an Arctic climate and species are shifting their distributions, reshaping the composition and functioning of Arctic ecosystems. While some changes are rapid, other ecosystem components seem to change little, and trends vary depending on the time scales considered. At the same time, unexpected new stress factors, such as drought in the tundra, appear, and anthropogenic pressures increase. Existing knowledge about the functioning of these ecosystems may become quickly outdated, making robust ecological monitoring essential. Finally, these changing environments make life difficult and less predictable for arctic inhabitants, potentially compromising food security and livelihoods. In 2013, the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment concluded that research and monitoring of terrestrial ecosystems in the Arctic should be ecosystem-based and better cover different environments. The Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CAFF) has developed an ambitious monitoring plan, but the START Report (CAFF 2021) highlighted many important remaining gaps in taxonomic and geographic representativeness, as well as major needs for coordination and harmonization. At the same time, international Arctic cooperation has become more difficult and acquiring funding for long-term ecological research is as challenging as ever. The aim of this session, co-organized by the TN Terrestrial Biodiversity Monitoring and TN on Herbivory, is to discuss new ideas, approaches and methods to renew and improve circumpolar terrestrial biodiversity monitoring together with arctic inhabitants to

			be able to manage these rapidly changing ecosystems in the future and conserve vulnerable biodiversity.
219	Exploring untapped resources on trophic patterns and jellyfish as an essential ocean variable.	4.2 Strengthening Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP)	Gelatinous zooplankton ("jellyfish") occupy a mid-position in marine food webs and respond quickly to environmental changes; making them an essential ocean variable for climate monitoring. In addition, increased jellyfish blooms and arrival of non-native species pose a risk to marine and coastal stakeholders in some Arctic areas. Despite these key roles, jellyfish are often not included in routine monitoring schemes. This session will be anchored to GLObecc, a project running from 2024-2026 that aims to create baseline knowledge on jellyfish in Faroese waters. The project leverages existing datasets, monitoring programs, and citizen science initiatives so that jellyfish data is recorded. The concept of this UArctic session will be to explore untapped resources on trophic patterns and jellyfish as an essential ocean variable. The target groups: • Marine researchers working with relevant datasets o Stomach content analysis, zooplankton and fish surveys with bycatch, video plankton recorders, eDNA • Ocean Stakeholders interested in citizen science o Divers/underwater photographers, representatives of coastal communities, ocean sports and fishing clubs, science educators The session will consist of an introduction of the GLObecc project as inspiration followed by a workshop format for discussing how to leverage the various datasets and citizen science opportunities submitted as abstracts and connect that knowledge across the Arctic and sub-Arctic region. If you are interested in attending the session please submit a short abstract including: • The datasets or citizen science opportunity that you work with • Motivation for joining the session
175	Invasive Alien Species in the Arctic: Strengthening Regional	4.3 Enhancing knowledge to prevent or manage invasive alien species in the Arctic	This session proposal touches upon several core themes of the congress: Biodiversity, Invasive Alien Species, Ocean (Marine IAS), Arctic Communities, Citizen Science The Arctic and sub-Arctic are increasingly vulnerable to the introduction and spread of invasive alien species (IAS), driven by climate change and rising levels of human activity—including tourism, trade, and military operations. As warming temperatures open new pathways for

	Cooperation in a Changing Climate		species movement and establishment, the ecological integrity of these fragile ecosystems is at growing risk. IAS can outcompete native species, alter habitats, and disrupt food webs, with long-term consequences for biodiversity and ecosystem services. To date, responses to IAS threats in the Arctic have largely been managed at the national level, often as matters of self-interest. However, the transboundary nature of species introductions and the shared vulnerability of Arctic and sub-Arctic islands call for a more coordinated and collaborative approach. This session will explore the need for strengthened international cooperation, harmonized monitoring protocols, and active knowledge-sharing networks to effectively prevent, detect, and manage IAS across the region. We will highlight the importance of early warning systems, biosecurity measures, and community-based monitoring, as well as the role of local capacity-building in ensuring long-term resilience. Case studies and policy perspectives will illustrate how joint efforts can enhance preparedness and response, particularly in remote and ecologically sensitive areas. Participants are invited to share experiences, tools, and strategies that support a unified, climate-aware approach to IAS management in the Arctic and sub-Arctic.
18	One Health solutions toward the health of humans, animals and environment in the Arctic	4.5 Addressing the triple planetary crisis: climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss	One Health approach recognizes the interdependence of human, animal, and environmental health. This holistic approach to the well-being of all will lead to improved health outcomes and enhanced resilience. In this session, we will discuss the application of One Health in the context of Arctic changes. One Health is inter- and transdisciplinary and inclusive; hence we invite abstracts from scientists, community members, health practitioners, and government agency personnel to identify problems and discuss realistic sustainable solutions. One Health also provides a platform to integrate different knowledges, such as traditional, local and scientific, to bring a deep knowledge base and allow us to understand and address issues for solutions. The session is part of the activities of two UArctic Thematic Networks “Health and Well-being in the Arctic”, led by Gert Mulvad (University of Greenland) and “Sustainable Strategies for Waste Removal and Restoration of Arctic Mine Waste Areas”, led by Roland Kallenborn, UArctic Chair in Arctic Environmental Pollution Research.

176	Childhood in an Anthropogenic Microbial World	4.5 Addressing the triple planetary crisis: climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss	This session seeks to explore environmental change in the Nordics, highlighting the connections between industrial capitalism and children's ecological living environments, health, and education. In our technoscientific world, environmental change is the "rearrangement of the elements at a planetary scale in the aftermath of colonialism, productivism, and their extractions" (Papadopoulos et al., 2021, p. 6). The concept of Anthropogenic Biology (Landecker, 2024) is useful in this context, referring to human interventions—such as pharmaceuticals, fertilisers, and biocides—designed to enhance vitality, fertility, and productivity. These interventions, however, often yield undesigned consequences disrupting the very bodily, microbial, and ecological systems they aim to protect. These changes trigger cascading effects across ecosystems, leading to the destabilization and alteration of community composition, which in turn reduces local biodiversity and weakens ecosystem resilience—particularly among microbial and fungal communities (see global synthesis by Keck et al., 2025). Anthropogenic Biology draws attention to the afterlife of designed interventions—such as chemicals persisting in air, water, and soil. Microbes offer a compelling lens through which to reintroduce biology into the entangled relations of nature–human and body–society, and particularly into children's lives, amid the ruins of capitalism. We ask the following questions for our chemically compelled times: • What practical obligations do emerge from the ubiquity of anthropogenic chemicals in children's ecological living environments? • How might anthropogenic biology inform education, health and policy for children and for what ends? • What do ecological reparation and justice mean within this context and for these obligations and actions?
31	Inequalities in the Circumpolar Arctic	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	Complex inequalities are multiscalar and persist across the circumpolar Arctic. Multiple inequalities often intersect with one another, reflect a variety of power relations, and are systemically rooted, ultimately affecting socio-economic outcomes and the distribution of

			wealth. Change can occur through different mechanisms, including institutional change. In this session, we hope to bring together both theoretical and empirical contributions. They will contribute to the current portrait of inequalities and the trends they display; they will promote understanding of how inequalities are created, reproduced and overcome. This session is proposed by the WAGE Circumpolar Partnership (WAGE: Wealth of the Arctic Group of Experts), a research program funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Members of WAGE will be presenting some of their most important findings. We also welcome proposals from researchers not affiliated with WAGE, including early career and established researchers, that address these issues in multiple regions across the circumpolar Arctic and who work on all types of inequalities: economic (e.g. income inequalities), social (e.g. racism, sexism or systemic agism, marginalization and discrimination experienced), political (e.g. political disenfranchisement or civic participation), and others. The session will be of interest to scholars, northerners, advocates for social justice, and policy makers alike. It is aligned with the priorities of the Arctic Council Chairship, in particular Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities, and Sustainable Economic Development and International Cooperation.
38	Governance and Autonomy in Indigenous and Small Island Jurisdictions in the Circumpolar North	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	The circumpolar north is home to a significant number of Indigenous and small island jurisdictions that have varying degrees of autonomy and sovereignty but have not achieved full independence. All these jurisdictions are associated politically and economically with larger states and regions and, therefore, must carefully manage their multilevel relationships with and dependencies on these states and regions to maintain and strengthen their autonomy. This session welcomes presentations that explore the innovative and diverse Indigenous and small island governance models that exist throughout the circumpolar north, both individually and in comparative context, the ways in which these jurisdictions are evolving in response to internal and external pressures and the complex intergovernmental relationships they have with larger states and regions. In particular, the session encourages papers that compare the political, jurisdictional and administrative challenges facing Indigenous and small island jurisdictions. The session is sponsored by the University of the Arctic Thematic Network on Northern and Arctic Island Studies Research and focuses on two

			of the overarching themes of the Arctic Congress: sustainable economic development and international cooperation; and Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities. However, papers that relate to issues of Indigenous and small island governance and politics in the other conference themes (oceans, climate change in the Arctic and biodiversity) will also be considered.
44	Child Welfare in the North: Examining implementation of southern policy on Indigenous communities' and the path to Indigenous Led Reform	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	This roundtable brings together students, researchers, and community advocates to critically examine the impact of transferring southern Canadian child welfare policies to Nunavut and to explore pathways toward Inuit-led alternatives. Despite being well-intentioned, southern-derived child welfare models have often proven ineffective in Inuit communities, resulting in high rates of child apprehension, culturally misaligned interventions, and intergenerational trauma. These systems tend to ignore Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ), kinship-based care, and community-led models of well-being, reinforcing colonial power structures and erasing Indigenous knowledge systems. Grounded in policy research and community insight, this session will address three core themes: the cultural incompatibility of southern policies with Inuit ways of life; the socio-geographic challenges that limit service accessibility; and the promise of Inuit-led reforms rooted in cultural safety and sovereignty. Participants will reflect on how government funding structures, historical trauma, and systemic racism intersect with policy design and implementation in the Arctic. The roundtable aims to foster discussion on how universities, policymakers, and communities can work collaboratively to support Inuit control over child welfare. It also invites conversation on the broader implications for decolonizing social policy in northern and Indigenous contexts. This session is particularly relevant to UArctic's priorities around Indigenous empowerment, decolonization, and sustainable development in the North. It welcomes students, scholars, and practitioners committed to advancing community-led solutions and restoring culturally grounded care systems for Inuit children and families.
56	Enacting Relational Accountability in Indigenous Community-Based	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	Overview: Community-based and partnered research is increasingly recognized as a meaningful approach to generating relevant and impactful knowledge – particularly when grounded in the priorities, leadership, and worldviews of local Indigenous communities. Alongside its

	Research: Practices, Challenges, and Inclusive Approaches		demonstrated value, there remains a need to strengthen capacity among both researchers and community members to engage in equitable, respectful, and accountable research relationships. This session will explore how researchers, Knowledge Holders, and community partners develop and enact relational accountability in practice. We invite presentations and creative contributions that share the strengths, tensions, and lessons learned in building and sustaining research partnerships rooted in the principles of responsibility, reciprocity, relevance, and respect. Guiding Questions: · How do you move beyond principles into everyday practices that foster trust, transparency, and shared ownership? · What challenges – structural, systemic, or relational – have you encountered, and how have you addressed them? · What does it look like to meaningfully uphold Indigenous values, languages, governance, and knowledge systems within your research relationships and processes? · What lessons have emerged through missteps or tensions, and how did they shape future practices? Submissions may take many forms: oral presentations, community stories, visual or arts-based pieces, or participatory activities. We strongly encourage contributions from Indigenous Elders, youth, Knowledge Holders, researchers, and scholars. Collaborative proposals are welcome.
65	Strengthening Indigenous Models of Maternal and Child Health in the Arctic	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	There is a growing shift in maternal and child health research across the Arctic toward strengths-based models that centre Indigenous knowledge, community leadership, and relational care. We invite Indigenous knowledge holders, health personnel, researchers, and community members to share experiences, practices, and innovations that are sustaining healthy pregnancies, births, and families across Arctic regions. With a focus on comparative

			learning, the session welcomes perspectives from across Inuit, Sámi, and Alaska Native contexts and beyond. We aim to highlight examples of continuity of care, culturally grounded reproductive health education, and traditional knowledge systems that are already transforming maternal and child health outcomes in the Arctic.
71	Safe and secure water for all in the Arctic	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	In this session we will explore the challenges and recent developments relating to water supply in the Arctic region. Presentations related to all aspects of water supply are welcomed, including: * Water accessibility and vulnerability * Water quality including risk of contamination from sanitation * Indigenous peoples perceptions and preferences * New water sources * Emergency preparedness * Management and economy * Legislative aspects The session is hosted by the UArctic TN of Arctic WASH.
93	Ageing well in the North: public health and place-based challenges for elderly care	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	This open session invites contributions that explore health and well-being among older adults in northern and remote communities. As populations age, ensuring equitable access to healthcare becomes increasingly urgent—especially for those living in rural areas, small settlements, or indigenous communities, where access to specialised care may be challenged by limited health infrastructure. We welcome submissions that examine disparities between urban and rural settings in access to health and social services, including preventive care, mental health, rehabilitation, and ageing-in-place strategies. Contributions may draw from public health research, policy analysis, community-based initiatives, or personal narratives. We particularly encourage work that integrates traditional knowledge, place-based practices, and intergenerational approaches to elder care. Presentations focusing on lived experiences, health equity, innovative care models, or culturally grounded practices will also be welcome. This session aims to foster cross-disciplinary dialogue and create a space where community

			voices, academic research, and policy ideas intersect to address one of the region's most pressing demographic challenges: caring for the ageing population in ways that are sustainable, inclusive, and culturally relevant.
100	Electronic Monitoring and Indigenous Self-Determination: Advancing Data Sovereignty and Stewardship in Arctic and Northern Fisheries	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	An increased use of Electronic Monitoring (EM) systems in fisheries, such as on-board video cameras, gear sensors, and geospatial data tools, presents a pivotal opportunity for Indigenous communities across the Arctic to enhance and assert their roles in fisheries governance, stewardship, and self-determination. This presentation explores how Indigenous-led or co-developed EM initiatives can enhance data sovereignty, strengthen local monitoring capacity, increase safety, and embed Traditional Knowledge systems (TKS) into modern fisheries management. When EM technologies are developed and managed in alignment with Indigenous priorities and principles, they can be a key tool to promote data sovereignty and self-determination in fisheries, actively supporting territorial rights, marine conservation, food security, and more. We will examine real-world examples of EM projects that have been co-developed with Indigenous communities, highlighting strategies for ensuring community data ownership, supporting equitable co-management, and bridging TKS with Western science. We will also address the challenges of implementing EM systems, such as regulatory harmonization, securing funding, and ensuring cultural relevance in EM design. Ultimately, this presentation advocates for EM as far more than a compliance tool; it is a vital mechanism for reinforcing Indigenous governance, rights recognition, and sustainable futures in northern fisheries.
115	Indigenous and Decolonial Approaches to Arctic Research	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	Decolonization of research in academia has become an agenda for many scholars globally and one of the most discussed topics especially among the Indigenous scholars actively advocating for decolonized research. Historically, researchers from dominant societies extracted knowledge from Indigenous communities, often without appropriate consideration of local perspectives, people's agency, and their consent. Western science thus has often been a tool to colonize Indigenous Peoples and their homelands around the world, including the Arctic. The process of decolonization in academia enables Indigenous communities to center their own knowledge systems and perspectives in research, allowing Indigenous scholars to

			propose their research methodologies and epistemologies. This Indigenous-led session, focusing on Indigenous and decolonial approaches to Arctic research, invites scholars to share their research approaches and methodologies, which assist decolonization processes, actively challenge dominant perspectives in research, prioritize the inclusion of marginalized voices and Indigenous knowledge systems, and avoid perpetuating colonial power dynamics. Presentations from Indigenous scholars and knowledge holders are especially welcome.
159	The Nunavut Law Program: Bringing Legal Education to the Canadian North	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	The Nunavut Law Program provided access to legal education for Indigenous students in remote northern communities in the Canadian Arctic. These students faced geographic, financial, and cultural barriers to enrolling in and graduating from traditional law schools in southern Canada. The solution was to bring the law school to the North. Offered by the University of Saskatchewan College of Law from 2018 to 2022, this unique program graduated over 20 lawyers, most of whom were Inuit. The Nunavut Law Program contributed to capacity-building in the Nunavut legal profession and to the empowerment of northern Indigenous peoples. It provided a new cadre of culturally relevant legal expertise to serve and support the needs and circumstances of Nunavut residents and their local communities. In doing so, it contributed to the ongoing evolution of Indigenous rights and self-determination in the Canadian North. The Nunavut Law Program serves as a model for providing higher education opportunities to northern Indigenous peoples.
164	Intergenerational Healing, Inuit Leadership and Partnership in Addressing Health Crises in Nunavut	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	This roundtable centers on Inuit-led intergenerational storytelling as a powerful tool for healing, justice, and public health awareness in the Arctic. It explores how listening to and learning from the experiences of Inuit TB Sanatorium survivors—evacuated without consent in the mid-20th century—and their descendants can strengthen wellbeing and address ongoing health disparities in Nunavut. This includes the current TB and mental health crises there, worsened by climate change. The discussion highlights a unique collaboration with a social purpose organization committed to reconciliation and health equity, between Inuit Elders, youth, and medical-humanitarian practitioners working in community-led partnerships. Programs include Inuit leaders and youth in healing journeys to a former TB sanatorium site to storytell, reclaim history, honour survivors and those who never returned, and foster truth-telling across generations.

			The impacts of colonial practices—medical removals, forced relocation, and the silencing of Inuit voices—continue to reverberate today through intergenerational trauma, mistrust in health systems, and disproportionate TB rates, 300 times higher for Inuit compared to the non-Indigenous population in Canada. Yet, Inuit knowledge systems such as qaujimajatuqangit, and deeply relational practices rooted in stewardship and survival, remain vital sources of strength. By sharing these healing journeys and community-driven responses with Inuit and non-Inuit partners, this roundtable spotlights the importance of Indigenous knowledge, culturally grounded care, and intergenerational resilience in addressing public health and social wellbeing. It calls for meaningful inclusion of Inuit voices in shaping responses to contemporary crises and for deeper recognition of Indigenous rights, histories, and leadership.
174	Representations of Indigenous Peoples in Medieval Literature	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	This panel is proposed with acknowledgement of and sensitivity to the historic and ongoing mistreatment of indigenous peoples and their lands. We hope to foster meaningful discussion about representations of indigenous peoples in medieval literature, which has previously and erroneously been presented from a solely white, Christian, Euro-centric perspective. Important work on the Global Middle Ages is seeking to rectify this narrow view of the medieval world, and engagement with the history of indigenous peoples in history and literature is an essential component of such scholarly reclamation. We invite papers on literary engagements with Sámi, First Nations, and Indigenous Peoples across the globe in medieval texts (c.500–c.1500 CE). Topics may include, but are not limited to: * Representations of indigenous peoples in literary texts * Engagement with texts and artworks of indigenous origin * Ecocritical analysis, particularly in relation to stolen lands and seas * Movement of peoples across land and sea * Intersectional identities, such as race, religion, gender, and sexuality Our aim for this panel is to create meaningful dialogue based on dignity and understanding. Literary and historical sources provide essential windows into past lives, individual and collective, that broaden and deepen our engagement with each other. This panel aims to learn

			from the past to create a better future. This session is organised by the UArctic Thematic Network in the Environmental Humanities.
193	Co-designing a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Circumpolar Health	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	This session will bring together professionals, researchers, Indigenous leaders, students, scholars, and educators from across Arctic states to collaboratively design the framework for a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on human health and wellbeing in the circumpolar Arctic. The session aims to harness diverse regional expertise, lived experience, and pedagogical innovation to shape an accessible, inclusive, and community-informed learning experience. The MOOC will center Indigenous knowledges and self-determined approaches to wellness, while also addressing the impacts of colonization, climate change, and health system inequities from a circumarctic perspective. Session participants will explore and map potential modules and contributors for the course, with space for thematic dialogue and knowledge exchange. Topics may include: * Indigenous models of health and healing * Land, climate, and health interconnections * Arctic mental wellness and cultural safety * Food systems, sovereignty, and nutrition * Environmental contaminants and chronic disease * Digital health innovations in remote and Indigenous communities * Gender, youth, maternal and intergenerational health * Arctic health systems and governance Particular attention will be paid to finding a balance among local, regional and national topics in different circumpolar regions and cross-cutting circumpolar themes. Participants will also discuss methods of co-teaching, storytelling, multilingual content delivery, and assessment tools suited to diverse audiences. The session is intended to ensure that the MOOC reflects the voices, priorities, and pedagogies of Arctic peoples, and supports

			both global learners and local capacity-building. All interested delegates are welcome to contribute to this evolving educational initiative.
226	Trust and Reconciliation: Addressing Indigenous Urgencies Through Restored Research Partnerships	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	* Historical mistrust toward science continues to limit collaboration with Indigenous communities—particularly in emerging fields like AI, where solutions for education and health are urgently needed. Strict EU data protection laws and Indigenous data sovereignty policies, while essential, often make such development nearly impossible without trusted partnerships. This session invites participants to identify sources of mistrust, discuss concrete challenges and scientific opportunities, and explore strategies for reconciliation that can remove roadblocks and enable equitable, trust-based research collaborations. * In December 2025, the two separate Sámi Truth- and Reconciliations Commissions in Sweden and Finland will finish and deliver their reports to the authorities in Finland and Sweden. It will happen in Helsinki and Stockholm. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Norway finished its investigation and report in June 2023. These topics are important to follow up in the next session in 2026.
208		5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	
229	Resilient Futures: Decolonial and Participatory Pathways for Arctic Health and Well-being	5. Indigenous Peoples and Northern Communities	The Arctic is undergoing profound and rapid transformations, ranking among the regions most affected by climate change. These shifts have cascading effects on health and well-being, posing significant challenges for northern communities. They call for urgent collaboration and a deeper understanding of the region's territories, environmental dynamics, socio-political contexts, and the far-reaching impacts of ongoing change to produce knowledge that supports adaptation. Arctic research is rooted in histories marked, in many contexts, by colonialism—legacies that have caused lasting harm and continue to shape relationships today. In response, a new generation of researchers is advancing approaches grounded in ethics, collaboration, and meaningful change. Decolonial, participatory, and transdisciplinary methods are increasingly valued for their ability to strengthen resilience, promote cultural continuity, and reconnect with traditional Indigenous ways of life, including land-based education and intergenerational knowledge transmission. This session will explore how to improve health and well-being while fostering cultural

			continuity in the context of rapid change. We particularly welcome contributions that: * Engage with decolonial, participatory, and transdisciplinary approaches * Focus on youth and intergenerational knowledge transmission * Highlight innovative methodologies or community-led initiatives We particularly encourage submissions from Indigenous people including youth, early-career researchers and those working in close partnership with Arctic communities. By bringing together diverse perspectives, this session aims to spark dialogue, share practical tools, and inspire collaborative pathways toward healthier, more resilient Arctic futures.
36	Indigenous language policies, Local politic making and Implementation	5.1 Indigenous rights and self-determination	Indigenous languages in the Arctic are both thriving and endangered. During the UN international decade of Indigenous languages the languages have received more attention. Still, on the local level indigenous people have experienced the threat against their language for centuries and have excessively worked to strengthen the vitality of their languages. This has in some areas led to more comprehensible language policies on the national level and a need for the implementation of new national policies on local level. This session deals with the question of how national policies on indigenous languages are carried out on the local level in the Arctic. It investigates local level language politic making and implementation of policies on the local level in indigenous communities across the Arctic. The aim is to share practices on how indigenous language vitality is strengthened through revitalization efforts and find better practices for safeguarding indigenous languages. The session will accept four 15 minutes oral presentation and conclude during a 30-minute panel discussion among the presenters.
89	Contested frontiers: Constitutional conflict in settler-state Arctic territories	5.1 Indigenous rights and self-determination	Between Indigenous (or local) self-determination and settler colonization lie contested frontiers – the Yukon and Northwest Territories in Canada, Finnmark in Norway, Lapland in Finland, and maybe even Alaska, Greenland, and Svalbard. Such frontiers are pulled between "us" and "them," "theirs" and "ours." As such, they are subject to constitutional contestation – to fights over the framing of the polity. In the past, settlers used force to ingest frontiers. Recent decades have seen an Indigenous resurgence, rekindling contestation, particularly on the few frontiers that remain, especially in the Arctic. With the advent of the rights revolution, contestation is increasingly pursued through appeals to "constitutive principles": Is the frontier domestic or foreign? Is its demos universal or divisible? Should individual or collective rights prevail? Should democracy or self-determination decide? This panel will promote discussion

			of such contestation, reaching across circumpolar borders and across disciplines (political science, constitutional law, political theory, and beyond).
95	Negotiating Populism, Indigeneity, Environmentalism in Northern and Arctic Sovereignties	5.1 Indigenous rights and self-determination	Indigenous Knowledges (IKs) are at the heart of many discussions and debates around the so-called green transition, considerations of green colonialism, and responses to climate change challenges. Increasingly, however, these discussions are taking shape within a political context shaped by rising populism and contested assertions of Northern and Arctic sovereignty. Western scholarship and policymakers are recognizing not only the importance of Indigenous Knowledges in addressing the challenges of the Anthropocene, such as environmental and climate adaptations, consultation protocols, and long-standing stewardship practices, but also their centrality in resisting extractive logics and asserting jurisdiction over sovereign territories. In this shifting political climate, Indigenous Knowledges offer critical tools for confronting industrial interventions and redefining the terms of engagement in regions where sovereignty, self-determination, and environmental futures are deeply entangled. This interdisciplinary panel invites proposals from scholars, professionals, and community members who approach the role of Indigenous Knowledges from various backgrounds and perspectives to share their unique view of the role that IKs can or should play in addressing current environmental, climate, and industrial mitigations.
116	Indigenous food systems and foodways of the Arctic	5.1 Indigenous rights and self-determination	Indigenous Peoples food systems and foodways are deeply linked to the environment and to the health and wellbeing of Indigenous communities. This session will engage Arctic Indigenous Peoples knowledges and experience of Indigenous food systems and foodways, exploring the intersections of food sovereignty, culture, wildlife, environmental health and community wellbeing to support strong, secure and healthy communities. This session will privilege lived experiences and human elements of oceans, climate change, and sustainability through discussions of the central role of Indigenous food systems and foodways in a healthy Arctic.
196	Reclaiming Indigenous forms of governance within and across colonial states	5.1 Indigenous rights and self-determination	Indigenous forms of governance and legal traditions are crucial to the well-being of Indigenous peoples and the environment, and the sustainability of northern communities across the Arctic. In many colonial states, including many across the northern hemisphere like Canada, Indigenous systems of governance and legal systems existed before contact. As colonial forms of governance and laws began to dominate the lives of Indigenous peoples on their lands, Indigenous forms of governance and legal traditions became increasingly marginalized and viewed as inferior by the newly developing settler state. While many colonial states have made

			attempts to reconcile relationships with Indigenous Nations through legislative and other policy constructs, efforts towards reconciliation are filtered through a colonial lens of Indigenous recognition politics that some scholars argue continue assimilative policies and laws around Indigenous identity and relationships. By drawing attention to colonial laws and policies that impact Indigenous peoples' lands and lives, this session critically examines the multifaceted role of colonial states in developing and enacting legislation that creates barriers to reclaiming Indigenous forms of governance, thereby impeding recognition of cultures, histories, identities, rights, and responsibilities. This session is an opportunity to critically engage with issues of ongoing colonization in areas that profoundly impact Indigenous peoples' exercise of governance, and indeed, their very existence. Finally, the session provides an opportunity to learn from the histories of diverse countries, including diverse Indigenous nations, as we collectively envision sustainable futures in the Arctic and the north that necessarily begin with enacting Indigenous governance.
8	Advancing Low-Resource Language Technologies through State-of-the-Art AI algorithms: The Case of Faroese Automatic Speech Recognition and Beyond	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	Developing robust, socially impactful and practically useful Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) systems for low-resource languages such as Faroese presents unique challenges due to limited data availability. This session explores effective strategies for improving ASR performance in such contexts, leveraging state-of-the-art AI algorithms, including advanced transfer learning techniques from closely related languages. We will discuss research demonstrating significant improvements in Faroese ASR by training multilingual models on Faroese data and by strategically employing cross-lingual transfer from other languages. While language family connections play a part, our research shows that the actual sounds of words and how they're spoken are more important for sharing information between languages. The session will also highlight ongoing efforts to expand Faroese language resources, including creating a new 1300-hour ASR speech corpus using public Faroese recordings with rich metadata. Our research methodologies are designed to be highly applicable to other low-resource language settings, which means our methods can be easily transferred to help other communities. This initiative will contribute significantly to the development of robust and inclusive speech recognition technologies for underrepresented languages, with broader implications for the preservation and guarantee of the digital accessibility of cultural heritage in the Arctic and similar low-resource regions.
15	Youth, values, and compromise: building resilient	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of	The future of the Arctic depends on how Northern communities—especially youth—respond to challenges such as climate change, demographic shifts, and social polarization. These developments are not only threats; they may also bring new opportunities. However, they often

	Northern communities across generations	Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	involve value-based trade-offs: for example, land used for renewable energy infrastructure may undermine traditional livelihoods or disrupt local ecosystems. Choosing a development path should therefore not only be an economic or ecological decision, but a reflection of how people value different aspects of life—how they prioritize, negotiate, and accept trade-offs, a central concept long studied in economics. This session explores how community resilience is shaped by the capacity to reconcile diverse preferences through cooperation and compromise. What one group regards as opportunity, another may perceive as loss. Yet sustainable development in the Arctic depends on collective decisions that reflect both the availability of resources, and the values people assign to them—what is worth preserving, adapting, or sacrificing. We invite contributions that examine how generational and cultural differences in values influence community choices, how tensions over land use and economic development can be managed, and how inclusive dialogue can lead to shared visions for the future. How can communities find common ground amid conflicting value priorities? By emphasizing values and priorities of local and Indigenous people, this session highlights that resilience in Northern communities is not only about infrastructure or planning, but about trust, participation, and the ability to build compromises grounded in shared values.
26	Qaggig discussions on schools and schooling	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	A qaggiq is a large communal iglu, it is a place of community renewal, celebration and sharing. With this in mind we will use this time to share papers which (re)vision schools and education from a decolonial and Indigenous perspectives. Schools and schooling remain central features in all Indigenous communities, yet in many communities they continue to perpetuate the colonial values and academic traditions. In this open session we invite discussion of circumpolar education from K-12 to post-secondary traditions and community-grounded practices in the light of decolonizing and Indigenizing structures, curriculum and approaches to knowledge.
47	Breastfeeding as Food Security: Revitalizing Land- and Body-Based Knowledge in	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	This session explores breastfeeding as a vital, often overlooked component of food security, cultural continuity, and sustainable community development in Northern and Indigenous contexts. As the first food, breastfeeding is not only nutritionally complete, but also a deeply relational, land- and body-based practice rooted in intergenerational knowledge systems.

	Northern Communities		In the face of colonial disruptions to traditional food systems, maternal-infant care, and Indigenous self-determination, breastfeeding stands as an act of resistance and reclamation. This session invites interdisciplinary dialogue on how breastfeeding intersects with food sovereignty, Indigenous knowledge, public health, and policy in Arctic and Subarctic regions. It will highlight both research and community-based perspectives, including those grounded in lived experience, storytelling, and visual methods. We welcome contributions that examine the structural determinants affecting infant feeding, the revitalization of cultural practices, and the role of community support systems. The session also encourages reflections on breastfeeding in relation to gender, caregiving, climate change, and maternal mental health within remote and Northern settings. By framing breastfeeding as more than a biomedical choice, and instead as a knowledge practice shaped by land, kinship, and sovereignty, this session seeks to broaden how we understand food systems in Northern communities. We especially encourage submissions from Indigenous scholars, early-career researchers, youth, healthcare providers, and community leaders. Together, we will reflect on how nourishing the next generation from the body and the land can support more just and resilient futures.
54	Sense of Place as a foundation for Value Driven Tourism Development in Small Rural and Coastal Communities	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	Tourism is seen as one of the key contributors to economic sustainability of communities in small rural and coastal destinations in the Arctic and the North Atlantic. Yet, sustainability needs of each community are greatly shaped by its context and are influenced by how benefits, impacts and value of the tourism development is perceived by residents, which, in turn, is driven by their sense of place. This sense of place is rooted in the relationship between people and place, place and cultural identity, traditions and heritage, and will be different across the seemingly similar geographical regions. It is argued that when aligned with the attributes of the sense of place, tourism can bring higher value to the residents, support sustainable and regenerative community development, preserve cultural heritage, foster sense of ownership and inclusion and make the destinations a nice place to live. The session invites members of Indigenous communities and knowledge keepers, researchers and other stakeholders in small rural and coastal destinations in the Arctic and the North

			Atlantic, to talk about the sense of place in their communities and how it affects perceptions of tourism development in their place. The session also invites best practice examples of developing tourism in alignment with the sense of place, where tourism brings value for the local people, not just economic, but also social, cultural and environmental, supporting sustainable and regenerative practices. Both oral presentations and posters are welcome.
94	Indigenizing Academia: Lessons across the Arctic	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	The event aims to identify good practices for creating space and infrastructure at academic institutions and venues for Indigenous experts as equal and valued contributors to Arctic research. During the event, participants are invited to share their experiences of knowledge co-creation between Indigenous and Western knowledge systems and their perspectives on how to sustain these initiatives in the face of current and emerging challenges. Together, this session will explore ways to combine scientific rigor, lived experience, and artistic creativity to enable Indigenous ways of knowledge sharing, such as storytelling, performances, films, and crafts. The event will include both oral presentations and other forms of knowledge sharing to identify next steps for meaningful knowledge co-production efforts. The list of topics includes, but is not limited to, the following: 1. Practices of upholding ethics and principles of Respect, Relevance, Reciprocity, and Responsibility within knowledge co-production research and safeguarding Indigenous Data Sovereignty in Arctic Research 2. Major systemic barriers (financial, structural, cultural, etc.) for meaningful knowledge co-production 3. Pathways to promote Indigenous-led research and integrate Indigenous perspectives in research projects and institutions 4. Academic opportunities for students to interact with Indigenous Knowledge Holders, Elders, and Indigenous epistemologies
99	Interdisciplinary Connections & Creative Capacity Building in Small	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	This session will discuss the importance of fostering Interdisciplinary collaboration in the interest of building sustainable, healthy, and flexible Northern communities. Mindful to the contexts of reconciliation in Northern Indigenous societies, as well as the ever-present challenges of capacity and skills development in small remote communities, these presentations will demonstrate the ways in which a focus on true Interdisciplinarity can

	Northern Communities		develop the tools, skills and relationships required for real problem-solving. Participants may draw upon any range of case studies that serve to link previously disparate academic fields, civic institutions, government agencies and public/private sectors, in the service of developing sustainable and future-orientated communities. The urgency of finding creative Interdisciplinary approaches is now clear in Arctic and Subarctic regions with lower population numbers and rapidly shifting social, political, and environmental situations. The conveners of this session argue that Interdisciplinarity is not only inherently place based, but that such approaches also afford a practical model to encourage meaningful dialogue both within and between professional, traditional and cultural groups in the North, as well as nurturing the kind of land-based epistemological humility that must be the future of attempts to tackle the challenges of contemporary Arctic society. We welcome submissions from across the academy as well as from outside of it, with the explicit intention of building bridges and relationships in communities where such artificial divides only impede knowledge sharing to the detriment of everyone.
112	Meaningful involvement of affected communities and individuals: re-thinking participation to ensure good practice in process, decisions and outcomes	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	Hydroelectrics, wind energy and of 'transition' minerals mining are key for climate-change mitigation; but social and environmental impacts/implications of these activities often generate opposition. A push for better forms of involvement is underpinned by FPIC-norms and international guidelines. Yet, research highlights that affected people experience frustration with involvement. Processes are frequently experienced as top-down check-boxing that allow governments and proponents to meet obligations to consult, but which are not experienced as meaningful by affected actors. This can lead to tensions, protests and lawsuits, which despite their merits may impede much-needed energy transitions. This calls for re-thinking current models and approaches, and exploring, describing and sharing good practices for participation. Energy transition activities in the Arctic frequently affect land, water and other resources. Simultaneously, efforts are growing to protect and conserve land and culture, often in adjacent areas, typically requiring local participation. This also invites exploration around what constitutes good practice and meaningful engagement, including comparisons across invasive and more conservational projects. We INVITE PROPOSALS from scholars interested in advancing this interdisciplinary conversation and discuss what makes involvement 'meaningful', what constitutes such good

			practice, and how it may be multiplied across highly diverse Arctic regions. Confirmed presentations include: 'What constitutes 'meaningful engagement' in renewable energy contexts? Experiences and views of potentially and actually affected communities' (Buhmann/CBS, Stoddart/MUN and Larsen/AAU); 'Cutting through the Deadlock: A Dynamic Values Approach to Meaningful Engagement' (Sidortsov/MTU); 'More-than-human actors as stakeholders in the energy transition: Lessons from Finnish case studies' (Varfalomeeva/Oulu).
119	Braiding Knowledge Systems: Indigenous-Led Pathways to Arctic Sustainability	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	The session explores Indigenous sustainability practices in the Arctic by centring Indigenous knowledge systems at the heart of ecological resilience and community development. Indigenous communities face the impacts of climate change and rising global interest in Arctic resources. Yet, they lead sustainable solutions based on their extensive historical knowledge, gained through observation, stewardship, and relational understanding. The session welcomes presentations and discussions on how Indigenous governance, combined with land-based education, cultural revitalization, and youth leadership practices, promotes comprehensive sustainability in northern communities. The submissions can take the form of case studies, co-designed research, or policy innovations which merge Traditional Knowledge with scientific methods to support climate adaptation, biodiversity protection, food and energy sovereignty, and community wellness. The session will promote collaborative work between different generations and disciplines while prioritizing Indigenous voices, youth insights, and community-established success indicators. The session fosters respectful dialogue among academic, community, and policy stakeholders to develop locally based solutions that hold global significance.
195	Arctic Life Stories - connecting past and future for better understanding of Indigenous Identities as well as environmental	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	When considering the changing nature of security issues in the Arctic in terms of geopolitical, economic, cultural and environmental - especially climate, food and health - related conditions, the ongoing analyses tend to focus on contemporary consequences of such a process. To understand changes and build up on them for a sustainable future a long-term perspective on such analyses is needed. This can be achieved by focusing on cultural continuity and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous knowledge, bridging the past and the future, for better understanding of Indigenous identity and Arctic Life Stories. This session explores how historical narratives can connect the past with the present and future, fostering greater understanding of Indigenous cultures, values, and identities as the basis for respectful

	and cultural changes		cooperation and coexistence. The aim of the Arctic Life Stories approach is to contribute to bringing valuable and little-known knowledge from the archives and/or other written or oral sources about past generations of women, men and children to current generations living in the Arctic. Focus will be on how to preserve, portray and teach historical knowledge and recorded story telling for better understanding of values as well as cultural and societal identity.
199	Arctic Agriculture and Food Sovereignty—Community-Led Solutions for Wellness, Sustainability, and Self-Determination	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	This poster session will be led by the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Self-Governing First Nations Teaching and Learning Farm, a pioneering initiative in northern food security, located in Dawson City, Yukon. The session invites Arctic agriculture and food sovereignty projects from across the Circumpolar North to participate and present their own posters. The session will create an open space for community-led knowledge sharing, dialogue, and mutual learning. The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Farm works with a year-round growing model adapted to the harsh realities of the subarctic climate: short growing seasons, permafrost, and harsh winters. Still, the farm produces organic vegetables, meat, and eggs for the local community. Their presentation will explore the barriers the farm has encountered, offering insights for researchers, policymakers, and funders to better support northern food initiatives. This session will also explore agriculture as a pathway to self-determination for Indigenous communities, cultural preservation, climate adaptation, and community wellness. Arctic agriculture blends traditional knowledge with contemporary practices, creating jobs, opportunities, and a strong sense of community. The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Farm provides a powerful example of how agricultural initiatives can integrate land-based learning, Indigenous Knowledge systems, and sustainable development. The session invites participation from Indigenous communities, grassroot initiatives, youth-led projects, and Arctic-based organizations working on food production and food systems transformation. Participants will have the opportunity to showcase their models, share challenges and success, and build relationships with across the Arctic region.
202	Community Engagement with Indigenous communities:	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of	Graduate students occupy a unique position within the research ecosystem. Often early in their academic journeys, they navigate limited financial resources and tight timelines. Despite these constraints, many are deeply committed to building long-term, respectful relationships with Indigenous communities. These collaborations aim to co-create research that is both

	Perspectives from Student-Researchers and Indigenous Collaborators	Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	impactful and grounded in social and sustainable community development and the inclusion of Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge. Indigenous Studies have long emphasized experiential, community-based research rooted in lived realities and Indigenous epistemologies. However, such approaches can conflict with dominant academic models that prioritize theoretical, experimental, and peer-reviewed paradigms. Indigenous scholars and community members have critiqued these frameworks for reinforcing colonial biases and marginalizing Indigenous ways of knowing (Smith 2008; Tuck & Yang 2013; Vowel 2016). In contrast, co-constructive and participatory methodologies (Kovach 2009; Restoule et al. 2018) offer a more ethical and reciprocal path forward. This session invites presentations that explore the lived experiences of student-researchers and Indigenous collaborators engaged in community-based research. We welcome contributions from diverse disciplines that examine ethical challenges, methodological innovations, and reciprocal partnerships. Presenters are encouraged to share case studies, fieldwork insights, collaborative processes, and critical reflections on how these partnerships shape research outcomes, community impact, and institutional change. Recognizing that research is rarely linear, we also welcome stories of mistakes, challenges, and setbacks that contributed to their personal and scholarly learning journey. The session aims to foster a space of collective reflection toward more inclusive, respectful, and transformative research with Indigenous communities.
213	Indigenous Knowledge in Transdisciplinary Research: Towards IPY 2032-33	5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge	Transdisciplinarity moves beyond traditional academic disciplines to address complex societal challenges that resist established solutions—often termed "wicked problems" like climate change, biodiversity loss, and health crises. It advocates for a shift toward transdisciplinary research, which integrates diverse knowledge systems, including scientific and Indigenous ways of knowing, while collaborating with communities and policymakers to develop real-world solutions. Indigenous Knowledge (IK) is essential to developing these solutions and addressing sustainability challenges. Yet, despite growing recognition of IK's value, significant barriers remain in bringing Indigenous knowledge into dialogue with academic research and policy-making. Institutional structures, funding mechanisms, and evaluation criteria often prioritize conventional disciplinary science over other ways of knowing.

			This session will bring together Indigenous knowledge holders and researchers to examine these systemic barriers. The discussion will inform preparations for the International Polar Year (IPY) 2032-33, focusing on how UArctic and its member institutions can contribute to creating equitable spaces for Indigenous Knowledge to shape polar research agendas and inform responses to Arctic and global challenges.
10	Healthy Ageing for all in the Arctic	5.3 Medical preparedness, supply chains, mental and social well-being	Population ageing is a major demographic trend observed across all Arctic regions. How people get old in the Arctic is also co-affected by climate change, pollution, and other regional stressors. Trans- and interdisciplinary research with inclusion of local communities is crucial to get a holistic understanding of the multifaceted challenges and opportunities presented by an ageing population. We welcome to share the innovative research, practice and policy solutions that consider health, social, and other aspects of healthy ageing in the unique context of the Arctic region. Key Topics of this parallel session may include but are not limited to: · make input to the congress vision of “Healthy Humans in the Arctic” regarding the health and well-being of older adults in urban and rural Arctic settlements; · inform on the strategies enabling older people to be active in the outdoor environment in the Arctic, as key element of healthy ageing; · methodological considerations to integrate the knowledge and voices of local and Indigenous peoples into ageing research. In summary, our session would like to foster dialogue and collaboration among researchers, practitioners, and policymakers on topics related to healthy ageing research and practice. Join us in this engaging session to discover how interdisciplinary impact narratives presented by scholars and other stakeholders can transform healthy ageing research and contribute to a more sustainable future of the Arctic. The session is part of the activities of two UArctic Thematic Networks “Health and Well-being in the Arctic” and “Ageing and Gender in the Arctic”.

51	Social Inequalities in Health in the North Atlantic	5.3 Medical preparedness, supply chains, mental and social well-being	Despite global improvements in health, social inequalities remain a persistent challenge across populations. This session explores how such disparities manifest in the North Atlantic with a specific focus on small-scale welfare societies such as the Faroe Islands and Greenland, highlighting both adult and child health outcomes. In Greenland, social differences in health among adults have been documented for over a century. Health inequalities are increasing with individuals of lower socioeconomic status disproportionately affected. There is little evidence about social inequalities in health among children, but preliminary results suggest that children of unemployed mothers are at higher risk of being born preterm and are less likely to comply with the child vaccination program. Greenland's health surveys and registers provide a strong foundation for monitoring these developments and informing targeted interventions. In the Faroe Islands, limited research has examined how social determinants such as education, income, and geographic location influence health outcomes. Although the population is relatively small and homogeneous, and often perceived as socially equal, growing evidence suggests that health outcomes differ by socioeconomic position. Preliminary findings show disparities in well-being, chronic disease, and health-related behaviours. These patterns raise important questions about how structural and cultural factors interact in shaping health inequalities in a Nordic welfare context, and how they can be addressed through targeted public health strategies. The session will include oral presentations and a short panel debate discussing shared and unique challenges in addressing health inequalities in small, northern welfare societies.
55	Youth-led mental health action in Greenland	5.3 Medical preparedness, supply chains, mental and social well-being	In Greenland, young people are stepping forward to address mental health challenges through peer-led, culturally grounded initiative. "Agency When Life Hurts" is a project by Greenlandic Red Cross Youth (INUA) that strengthens mental wellbeing through peer-led action and community-based tools across Greenland. At the heart of the project are young facilitators who lead workshops and create safe spaces for dialogue, reflection, and collective agency among peers in their local communities. In this session, Greenlandic youth facilitators will share their personal experiences from the project: what it means to take action when life hurts, how peer-led approaches foster trust and

			connection, and why cultural and geographical context matters so much in mental health work. Their stories highlight how young people, when given tools and trust, can become drivers of change. The session will also present core elements of the project's methodology, including workshop design, local collaboration, and local adaptation. Reflections will include the challenges of working with sensitive topics such as suicide prevention and breaking taboos, as well as navigating adult–youth dynamics and promoting sustainable support in remote Arctic settings. This contribution aligns with UArctic's emphasis on youth engagement, Indigenous inclusion, and mental and social well-being. It invites dialogue on how Arctic youth can move from being recipients of care to active co-creators of solutions, on their own terms, and in their own voices.
98	Building and Retaining a Generalist Medical Workforce for Remote Northern Communities	5.3 Medical preparedness, supply chains, mental and social well-being	This 90-minute open session will consider educational solutions to one of the North's most stubborn problems: too few doctors willing or prepared to serve remote, rural, coastal and island communities. The session will comprise 7× 8-minute talks, each followed by a focused 3-minute Q&A, which will be selected from peer-reviewed abstracts that demonstrate concrete, scalable solutions. Illustrative topics include: * community-embedded undergraduate and postgraduate medical education models; * bonded-scholarship or bursary schemes that align graduate obligations with local workforce gaps; * digital mentorship, tele-supervision and learning networks that combat professional isolation; * integrating indigenous and other local knowledges into curricula to enhance cultural relevance; and * policy levers (licensing flexibilities, rotational career paths, housing incentives) that improve retention. Speakers may present both published evidence and lived experience, which will enable representation from universities, community/political leaders, indigenous organisations and early-career clinicians. Emphasis will be placed on measurable outcomes (e.g. practice location after five years) and on lessons transferable across different national systems.

126	Youth Engagement and Mental Wellbeing: A Powerful and Impactful Approach through Video Storytelling	5.3 Medical preparedness, supply chains, mental and social well-being	Suicide is a serious global public health issue that disproportionately affects Arctic regions, especially Indigenous youth. Many northern communities are facing urgent challenges surrounding mental health, and there is a growing call to focus not just on crisis support, but also on preventing suicide by promoting mental wellness through innovative approaches and methods. Across the Arctic, there is increasing recognition of the need for preventative approaches that protect Indigenous youth from suicide, in addition to support and treatment for those at high risk. For almost two decades now, the Government of Canada, through the SDWG of the Arctic Council, has partnered with other Arctic States to champion mental wellbeing initiatives. Two key projects that have emerged from these efforts are Project CREATeS and Local 2 Global. Project CREATeS facilitated Arctic youth tell their own stories about mental health using digital storytelling – a creative and powerful way for young people to share their experiences, connect with other and inspire change. Local 2 Global built on that work, offering more youth digital storytelling workshops, and helping to launch the Arctic Youth Wellbeing Network which connected young leaders across the North. This panel discussion will feature some of the video stories and bring together youth alum, healthcare professionals and policymakers to talk about the networks and relationships built through CREATeS and Local 2 Global. The conversation will also help shape the next phase of this important work – Project CREATeS II, focused on continuing to support Indigenous youth voices and well-being in the Arctic.
150	Community Based Participatory Research on Social and Mental Well-being in Northern Communities: Recent Research and Advances in Methods	5.3 Medical preparedness, supply chains, mental and social well-being	An increased scholarly emphasis on well-being is both an outcome of research programs that variously emphasize happiness, flourishing, or positive psychology, and the continued growth in culturally appropriate and Indigenous methodologies. Well-being is a concept that has the potential to better incorporate local definitions and understandings of social and mental health into research and health service delivery. This session invites research that employs systematic methods to uncover understandings of well-being in Northern Communities. Informed by Inuit definitions of well-being (qanuinngisiarniq in Inuktitut), we adopt a broad definition of well-being that places an emphasis on values, livelihood practices, and relationships.

			Papers in this session report on Community Based Participatory Research projects in Ulukhaktok, NT, Kangiqsujuaq, Nunavik, and communities elsewhere in the Arctic, with a specific focus on empirical methods for eliciting understandings of well-being and its measurement. Contributors to the session will present research documenting Inuit conceptions and understandings of wellbeing, with specific attention to mechanisms that connect livelihoods, support networks, and local practices to wellbeing. Contributions will also focus on how to adapt and expand the toolkit of methods and techniques, typically employed in CBPR and associated projects, to better elicit the relational component of well-being and to understand how respondents interpret and experience phenomena such as stress.
216	Paediatric Mental Health & Wellbeing in the Arctic	5.3 Medical preparedness, supply chains, mental and social well-being	Arctic Peoples face a host of obstacles related to extreme weather and changing climate. The effects of climate change on the health and mental health of children, in particular, is reaching existential levels requiring urgent attention. Together with other critical upstream factors such as food insecurity, geographic isolation and child maltreatment, these issues, among others, contribute to the high prevalence of mental illness and suicides among Arctic Indigenous youth. These challenges are further exacerbated by systemic inequities, such as ethnic discrimination, loss of Indigenous identity and language, and reduced access to culturally sensitive services, which disproportionately impact Indigenous youth. This session will explore the intersection of mental health with self-determination, sovereignty, and security rights, while emphasizing the importance of culturally informed approaches to care. By showcasing innovative strategies and community-led solutions, the session aims to highlight how Arctic communities support themselves and generate opportunities for improved paediatric mental health services. Building on the research presented and discussed on this topic at the 2024 Arctic Congress, this session will continue to develop an understanding of the current issues in support of wellbeing for young Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic, but also in favour of self-determination, sovereignty and security rights. This session will begin with a panel presentation of 3 experts sharing their experiences and knowledge, followed by a series of oral presentations, and concluding with an open Q&A period. This session aims to foster a multidisciplinary dialogue on enhancing mental health, strengthening resilience, and promoting healthy development in the Arctic.

16	The use of play in Higher Education to promote inclusion and equity.	5.4 Gender equality, diversity, inclusion, and youth engagement	This action research presents updated findings from Masters research, which aligns with the Sustainable Teacher Education for Social Justice theme by uniquely focussing on a group of young people studying for a one-year programme in UHI Orkney, Scotland, to work in Early Learning, Childcare and Education settings. Orkney has a strong connection to the Nordic countries and celebrates its uniqueness in education through language, place and digitalisation. UHI Orkney provides students with the opportunity to achieve Higher Education in their rural community, connecting to the wider university network and beyond. The study introduced a soft start to the day through play-based activities as an experiential means of creating an inclusive environment where students could learn in a socially just way. Having experienced COVID-19 disruption to their school-based education students reported increased anxiety regarding studying. This study was undertaken in response to this situation and applied grounded theory qualitative research using semi-structured interviews and focus groups to gather student views. These results were analysed by response categorisation and assessed the use of play as an inclusive pedagogy. Results showed this play-based approach reduced anxiety and promoted strong relationships, providing staff with the opportunity to create tailored support for individual learners.
32	Belonging and barriers: Gender, diversity and inclusion in technical and other professions in the Arctic	5.4 Gender equality, diversity, inclusion, and youth engagement	This session explores the lived experiences of underrepresented groups, including women, indigenous people, immigrants and other minority groups who are working in key sectors of significance to Arctic resilience, such as technical professions or health care providers in the Arctic region. Many fields face challenges in recruiting AND retaining diverse professionals, due to geographic isolation, limited opportunities, infrastructure and social exclusion. This session aims to explore how equality and inclusion can be promoted in sectors that are essential to the stability and viability of Arctic communities. Sense of belonging: How do underrepresented groups experience inclusion or exclusion in Arctic workplaces? Recruitment and as importantly retention of (underrepresented, indigenous) diverse work force: What are the specific challenges in attracting and keeping e.g. engineers, doctors and nurses in rather remote Arctic communities? Cultural expectation and career choices: How do gender norms, indigenous values and community expectations shape educational and career decisions?

			What unique pressures, such as professional isolation, lack of peer networks or cross-cultural challenges affect the work force in the Arctic? How does the lack of diversity among, e.g. healthcare and technical service providers affect indigenous and local communities? Who stays, who leaves and who comes back? What factors encourage people, especially indigenous and/or female professionals to remain in, leave or return to work in Arctic regions?
69	Migration in the arctic	5.4 Gender equality, diversity, inclusion, and youth engagement	The Arctic is a vast region with a relatively small population. Out-migration - whether from rural settlements to urban centres within the Arctic, or from the Arctic altogether – alters population compositions, leaving the region increasingly vulnerable (Heleniak, 2014). Several places in the Arctic experience high youth out-migration, which is often also gendered or intersected with Indigineity or place. This has left many regions of the Arctic demographically unsustainable with a (sometimes highly) scewed sex-ratio and an unhealthy population pyramide. Such changes can have adverse effects on the stock of human capital, innovation, democratic processes, social diversity, and wellbeing in general (Becker, 1964; Kettunen, 2022; Lange & Toppel, 2006). Despite being a serious issue for the Arctic, knowledge on out-migration, return migration and the effects of these for the individual and society in the Arctic is limited. Consequently, there are calls for more research and more data concerning out-migration (Hayfield et al., 2021). The purpose of this session is to delve into the contextual and intersecting nature of out-migration and its effects (for the individual or society) in the Arctic. In doing so, we look for contributions which examine outmigration and return migration in the Arctic. Furthermore, studies, which contribute to knowledge on the effects of out migration and return migration on the individual and societal level are also encouraged. We especially welcome multimethod or intersectional approaches (although not exclusively), which can provide more holistic views on the topic at hand.
190	Intersectional Gender Equality in Arctic Academia – engaging with	5.4 Gender equality, diversity, inclusion, and youth engagement	Arctic universities are actively engaged in fostering resilient, diverse, and inclusive Arctic communities through the co-production of knowledge. However, intersectional gender inequality remains a topical issue for research, education and policy development in both the northernmost societies and Arctic higher education institutions (HEIs). Without appropriate

	Communities and interacting with youth		consideration there is a concern that the overlapping inequalities limits the full participation of all individuals in academic knowledge production and hinders the development of research practices that are responsive to the needs of Arctic communities. Particular challenges are faced by both rural men and women, Indigenous peoples, and other minority groups in pursuing meaningful education and further academic careers. These challenges are compounded by traditional academic cultures and interaction, both horizontal and vertical gender segregation within academic disciplines, which are further linked to occupational segregation, gender pay gaps, and the reproduction of systemic biases. Despite the significance of these issues, there is a notable lack of research on intersectional gender equality (GE) in circumpolar and Arctic regions, especially within HEIs. This session aims to explore the research on the theme conducted by scholars affiliated with Arctic universities or institutes focused on the Arctic. The goals are to highlight key equality challenges revealed by research and proposals for solutions. The session will also discuss the implications of these findings for academic knowledge production and the broader understanding and advancement of intersectional gender equality in the Arctic context. Papers presented in this session will be considered for inclusion in a forthcoming book proposal on the theme.
194	Mapping Women+ of the Arctic Mapathon	5.4 Gender equality, diversity, inclusion, and youth engagement	Mapping Women+* of the Arctic is a prototype digital mapping project that spotlights the lives and geolocations of women of the Arctic from all walks of life – women who live in, work in, or engage with the Arctic. This project and map challenge conventional ideas of “notability” and resist dominant colonial and male-centered Arctic histories, which have often sidelined the central roles of Arctic women+*, especially Indigenous women, knowledge transmission, survival, navigation, climate observation and action, and cultural life. Inspired by global efforts to (re-)map women’s stories through female place names and toponymies in Antarctica and other contemporary digital mapping initiatives, Mapping Women+ of the Arctic seeks to honour and amplify women’s contributions across the Arctic. In particular, it aims to recognize Indigenous Women+* whose knowledge, leadership, languages, and resilience have shaped Arctic life for generations.

			Join us to Map Women+ of the Arctic*. This is a “Mapathon” -- a living, participatory mapping event -- where you can contribute to a collective effort to make these stories visible and learn about (as well as meet) other Women+ of the Arctic and their champions. Help crowd-map the told—and especially untold—stories of women+* from across the circumpolar North. Come to nominate (or self-nominate), share a story, exchange together, map digitally or on an interactive art piece available at this session and throughout the UArctic Congress. *: Women+ *includes any individual who identifies as a woman
214	Voices of the North: Intergenerational dialogue for societal diversity in Arctic future	5.4 Gender equality, diversity, inclusion, and youth engagement	The unique strength of Arctic lies in its diversity and traditions across generations, genders, cultures and languages. This session aims to look into how intergenerational dialogue can become a driving force for societal diversity, equity and inclusion in shaping Arctic future. By bringing youth leaders together with elders, policymakers, community advocates and Indigenous knowledge holders members of with modern academia, the solutions are sought to tackle the systemic barriers limiting the participation of women, Indigenous people and youthin decision-making spaces. This exclusion has historically reduced resilience, and undermined community well-being by neglecting a considerable portion of the society. Therefore, the discussion aimed in this session will spotlight initiatives that have successfully dismantled such barriers in world practice giving examples from youth-led governance programs, gender-sensitive policymaking and culturally responsive leadership models. We also plan to discuss how traditional and Indigenous knowledge systems can be combined with modern approaches in research and create a richer foundation for sustainable Arctic societies trying to co-develop practical recommendations implementable in governance, education and community programs.
4	Cultural Management of Fish Resources: Diversity for the Future	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	Throughout history and across the globe, human societies have developed unique ways of interacting with, utilising, and coexisting with nature. Fish have played diverse and significant roles. From shaping dietary traditions to influencing the layout of cities and trade routes, fish hold profound cultural and historical importance. In temperate and Arctic regions, the interplay of strong seasonality and ecosystem diversity—rivers, lakes, oceans, and ice—has given rise to varied perceptions of resource use and exhaustibility. Yet, in modern times, our understanding of what constitutes "good" fish resource

			management has often become narrow and homogenised. Should we pass this limited perspective on to the next generation of algorithms? This session invites participants to explore the rich diversity of cultural strategies that have emerged across time and space to manage or coexist with fish resources. What can we learn from historical and indigenous practices that were deeply rooted in local environments and cultural contexts? How have these strategies evolved—or disappeared—under the pressures of dominant paradigms? We aim to spark a creative and critical discussion on the variety of approaches to managing this vital resource. Can we embrace a diversity of perspectives for the future? This session is organized by the UArctic Thematic Network on Environmental Humanities in collaboration with Craft Research Lab at UiT The Arctic University of Norway. https://uit.no/research/craft
5	Living with the Ocean – A Travelling Exhibition	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	Living with the Ocean is a dynamic travelling exhibition that evolves with every new location it visits. It shares interdisciplinary research on the past, present, and future of coastal cultures, raising awareness of local, regional, and global challenges. Designed for diverse audiences, it creates a co-creative space where arts and sciences converge, encouraging communities worldwide to reimagine their relationship with water. Launched in Europe in 2024, the exhibition will have visited three continents by the end of 2025, including the American Arctic. Its collection is also available globally in open-access format: https://oceanpastfutures.weebly.com. This collection has served as a foundation for interactive activities with the public, researchers, and students. As part of the Arctic Future Pathfinders course, the collection will grow with new canvases as the tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl sails the Northwest Passage. Each canvas, available in 180 x 180 cm or 60 x 60 cm, is weather-resistant and suitable for indoor or outdoor display. The number of canvases will be agreed with organisers. While local printing is possible, we prioritise reuse to reduce environmental impact. We will guide visitors, invite them to draw on the white canvas, conduct visitor surveys, and encourage UArctic

			Congress participants to submit photos and questions for potential inclusion in the exhibition. This session is organised by the UArctic Thematic Network on Environmental Humanities in collaboration with the Craft Research Lab and the Centre for Arctic Humanities at UiT The Arctic University of Norway. https://uit.no/research/craft https://uit.no/research/archum
21	Harnessing Arctic Art for Sustainable Creative Ventures	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	This interactive session introduces an "artpreneurship" framework designed to help Arctic communities convert cultural heritage into small-scale, market-ready ventures. Drawing on interdisciplinary pilot projects, we demonstrate how design thinking, market analysis, and stakeholder engagement can identify unique artistic assets—from traditional crafts to contemporary media—and adapt them to remote northern regions' logistical, environmental, and seasonal realities. Indigenous leadership and Traditional Knowledge are central to our approach, which informs material sourcing, storytelling, and equitable benefit-sharing to safeguard cultural integrity. Through case studies, participants will gain practical insights into optimising cost structures, building locally rooted distribution networks, and leveraging digital platforms to connect creators with global audiences. This session is ideal for practitioners, policymakers, and scholars seeking replicable strategies to foster sustainable creative ventures, strengthen community cohesion, and advance self-determination in Arctic contexts.
45	The postcolonial identity of the post-Soviet Arctic: the experience of the Karelians in Russia	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	The Arctic can be viewed as a post-colonial region, which provides greater insight into the current problems of indigenous peoples, their resolution, and possible risks in the future if the national policies of the colonising countries are insufficient. The postcolonial significance of the Arctic is confirmed by the fact that the capital cities of small nations are currently undergoing a period of self-awareness and self-determination. In this context, we can consider northern Canada, Greenland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands, northern Russia, Finland, Norway and Sweden. The northern countries used the classic methods of colonising countries, such as restricting the use of native languages, standardising clothing, banning traditional types of work, ect. It allows us to consider the tools and methods for restoring the indigenous peoples of the Arctic primarily from the perspective of postcolonial discourse. The peoples of northern Russia occupy a special place, as this region combines the

			discourses of the postcolonial Arctic and Soviet postcolonialism, which complicates the overall process of decolonisation of the indigenous peoples of the north in Russia. In my research, I plan to examine the key features of the self-awareness of the Karelians in Russia and the influence of classical post-Soviet discourses on them, and also to compare the discursive practices of the peoples of the northern post-Soviet Arctic with other Arctic postcolonial regions where Soviet practices were not present.
74	Arctic territories in the indigenous gaze: films and short films	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	This session offers a space for reflection and dialogue between Indigenous perceptions of the Arctic territory, through the screening of a selection of short films directed or co-directed by Indigenous creators from different generations. It explores an assemblage of circumpolar visions that contribute to a reconfiguration of Arctic geographies by mobilizing shared representations among Arctic peoples. In an effort to move beyond “Arcticism” and the persistent cliché of the Great White North, the session seeks to imagine a redefined Arctic geography, to examine the visual sovereignties being asserted, and to foster an inter-Arctic dialogue rooted in Indigenous visual storytelling. Presentations may take the form of a film screening followed by a discussion with the creators, or a more conventional talk about a visual project, accompanied by a time for collective exchange
80	Thinking Back and Looking Forward:Circular Cultures, Shared Pasts and Fluid Identities In the Far North and the Arctic	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	This panel brings together arts and humanities scholars and practitioners to explore cultural circularity across the Far North and the Arctic. Crossing boundaries of time and discipline, it proposes to investigate the temporal continuum in which cultural heritage and history on one side, and contemporary cultural and artistic practices on the other, may enable a joint approach to questions of environmental and cultural sustainability in the Arctic and the Far North. Stemming from a strong intention to engage with indigenous and local traditional knowledge, and the contemporary responses to such traditions from artists, writers, and storytellers belonging to these communities, the panel further considers the breakdown of conventional scientific thinking about the environment, proposing, instead, a cultural ecological model based on non-anthropocentric interspecies entanglements. Whilst blurring thresholds of time, discipline, and species, the panel will also encourage a transnational, circular cultural dialogue among the diverse cultural groups in the Far North and the Arctic to lay the foundations for mutual support and seek solutions to shared problems (indigenous and local agency, cultural and environmental colonialism, cultural identity, etc.) together.
91	Analyses of Contemporary Cultural	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and	This session invites papers dedicated to the analysis of contemporary cultural Indigenous representations in and of the Arctic, be they textual and/or visual, mobilising various techniques and modes of expression such as fiction, poetry, life writing, blogs, photography

	Indigenous Representations in the Arctic	contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	and film, mixed media and educational material. More and more Indigenous writers, artists and filmmakers from the Arctic are reaching broad international audiences, challenging received views about the region, affirming the right to self-determination of Arctic Indigenous communities and encouraging them to continue storying their territories through cultural and linguistic expression which has been the central bond between indigeneity and territoriality since time immemorial. This session seeks to shed new light on how cultural continuity is operated through such new creative work which also strives to decolonise mentalities and how it is received by the communities, the media and educational institutions.
198	Exploring and Co-Creating Ocean Futures: Towards Engagement with Arctic Youth through Digital Technologies	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	This session explores how youth (ages 16–30) in remote Arctic communities engage with the ocean —locally and globally—through digital technologies like video games, virtual worlds, immersive environments, and virtual storytelling. We focus on how these platforms could facilitate the co-creation and sharing of local and Indigenous knowledge, cultural identities and heritage, as well as visions for sustainable Arctic ocean and oceans futures. It also examines how Arctic Indigenous and island youth engage with state-of-the-art digital technologies, focusing on the potential of immersive experiences to support reflection on their relationship with the ocean. It considers how their knowledge can enrich diverse knowledge ecologies and how digital tools might empower youth to represent and reshape their connections to the Arctic Ocean and its wider networks, drawing on Henry Jenkins' concept of "generative environments." Presenters will share past and ongoing research on digital design related to cultural heritage, sustainable craft practices, and co-creation. We aim to bridge diverse discussions through themes of resilience, speculative, and participatory design. Particular attention is paid to ethical collaboration with Indigenous and island communities, acknowledging the need to protect against knowledge extraction and to foster mutual learning. This session invites dialogue on how youth from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous backgrounds can engage in shared, respectful futures through digital creativity. Centering ethical collaboration and inclusive design, this panel highlights the role of immersive technologies in connecting heritage, craft, and intergenerational knowledge across Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

211	Biocultural Heritage: Understanding, Applying and Governing for Sustainable Future	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	The most pressing issues of climate change require new transdisciplinary approaches to understanding connections between biological and cultural components of human-environment relations. The notion of biocultural seems particularly relevant in Arctic local and Indigenous contexts, where "being on the land" is an important dimension. At the same time, it goes beyond traditional definitions of tangible and intangible heritage, evokes ambitions of sustainability and community well-being, and invites novel approaches to the preservation of cultural and biological diversity. This session is built on the Belmont Forum project ARCA, which raises the question whether biocultural heritage embodied in Arctic urban green spaces and natural landscapes can serve as a resource for climate adaptation. Our project combines the methods of social anthropology, climate science, remote sensing, human geography, as well as of the arts and of community engagement, to co-create publicly accessible and place-specific science and arts products. The session, however, has a broader geographical and methodological scope and addresses the ways in which biocultural heritage is conceptualized, applied and governed by different actors in different environmental, cultural, and political contexts. We invite researchers, practitioners, knowledge holders and artists to share their perspectives and experiences in a variety of presentation forms – from classical academic papers, to posters, to artistic explorations and performances.
212	Digital Mapping, Indigenous Knowledge, and Heritage Futures	5.5 Cultural heritage preservation and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions	Maps are powerful cultural objects, capable of both preserving and establishing sociocultural norms. Since 1993 when the first digital map went live, the influence of maps is only increasing, informing how we move, think, act and interact with the world around us. However, what exactly does it mean to "be on the map" in the 21st century? The session will discuss how digital cartography transcends spatial data to encompass the multitude of digital images, stories, and ideas that form local cultures. Discussions will surface how this digital documentation interfaces with indigenous knowledge, land-based heritage, and cultures of geography. It will frame the discussion from the perspective of the Faroe Islands; the archipelago having seen significant increases in digital visibility through the repeated and clever use of technology to represent the islands to a global audience. It will also create knowledge exchange between

			the Faroe Islands and international indigenous leaders and experts in transformational digital infrastructure. Suggested speakers include: Guðrið Højgaard (Director, Visit Faroe Islands), Nika Collison (Director, Haida Gwaii Museum, Canada), Dr Tomas Borsa (Researcher, Rural internet infrastructures), and Linda Mortansdóttir (Archivist and Digital Storyteller). Hannah Andrews (Director of Digital Innovation, British Council) will moderate, building on her research project "Land as socio-technical imaginary on the Faroe Islands". The session will be part of Land, Sea, Sky, an initiative supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, bringing together artists, media practitioners, scholars, and curators to generate knowledge about the shifting realities of northern, non-urban digital infrastructures.
92	Strengthening Canadian UArctic Engagement	6. Other	This full-day breakout session brings together Canadian UArctic members in advance of the 2026 UArctic Congress for a focused dialogue on strengthening collaboration, advancing shared priorities, and maximizing the value of UArctic engagement. As a dedicated pre-event, the session offers a timely opportunity to build national momentum and coordination ahead of the wider international gathering. The morning program will highlight key developments in Canadian UArctic participation, with updates on membership engagement, national coordination efforts, and the evolving landscape of Arctic research and education in Canada. Participants will receive information on current and emerging funding supports available through UArctic and Global Affairs Canada, including updates on the Global Arctic Leadership Initiative (GALI) and other related initiatives. The afternoon will feature a panel session showcasing leaders from UArctic-affiliated projects that have received Canadian funding support. Panelists will share insights and lessons learned from initiatives focused on Indigenous Peoples and Northern communities, highlighting practical approaches to sustainable community development and inclusion of traditional/Indigenous knowledge. The session will offer space for open dialogue, enabling participants to exchange perspectives and explore opportunities to strengthen the impact of Canadian-led projects across the Circumpolar North.

			This session is open to all Canadian UArctic Members- university representatives, researchers, students, Indigenous and Northern partners and is designed to strengthen national coordination while advancing collective impact within UArctic.
108	On-road and off-road transportation in arctic areas	6. Other	The topic for this session is motorized on-road and off-road transportation in Arctic areas, particularly the use of terrain vehicles like ATVs, UTVs, and snowmobiles. However, other types of vehicles can also be relevant. Snow scooters are often used in the reindeer industry, but also for recreation, social meetings, and outdoor activities among adolescents and young adults. They have also been used for fishing and hunting, school transportation, snow ploughing, emergency transport, and sports. ATVs and UTVs are commonly used in farming and industrial settings, and for personal transportation and leisure use, particularly in rural areas. For adolescents and young adults in rural areas, having their own vehicle has practical and social significance. They use the vehicles to go to school or work, to meet friends, and to be independent. Studies show a high number of accidents for ATVs, UTVs, and snow scooters, and a high number of fatal accidents for all road traffic in rural areas. Papers in this session can focus on topics within work-related use, leisure use, personal transportation, how social and cultural norms affect driving behaviour and risk-taking, and the social significance of motorized transportation. Topics may also include accidents, training, and the use of safety gear. It can also be relevant to look at commercial uses in tourism, and industrial development in arctic areas, and the use of snow scooters and terrain vehicles in areas where it can have negative effects on wildlife and nature.
141	Navigating ethical challenges in Arctic research and how to imagine otherwise	6. Other	What does it mean to practice ethical research in the Arctic? How can we work across different disciplines, knowledge systems, and social and cultural backgrounds with research integrity in mind? What are the challenges and opportunities when moving ethical, equitable and co-creative research from theory into practice? How do scholars and practitioners navigate consent, guidelines, protocols, co-authorship, data ownership, institutional ethics procedures, and power dynamics? What spaces and formats can help us engage with the ethical dimension of our work, and reflect on how researcher's positionality, biases, status, and interest affect research relations?

			This session invites contributions by Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers from all disciplines to present formats and methods for navigating, and thinking through ethical challenges -- whether you're a natural scientist wondering about environmental ethics and how to work respectfully with and on the land; a group of transdisciplinary researchers working closely with Indigenous Peoples and northern communities; or conducting research at the science-policy-society interface. We encourage submissions that engage with one or more themes raised in the questions above, consider both the personal and professional dimension, and share experiences, stories and insights focused on process rather than concrete results. The session will foster exchange and dialogue on navigating ethical challenges in Arctic research, while sharing lessons learned from the ICEBERG Project, focused on the impact of pollution on ecosystems and communities in the European Arctic (Iceland, Kalaallit Nunaat/Greenland, and Svalbard), and the SQUEEZE project, looking at Arctic tundra biodiversity, landscape management, and conservation planning in Canada.
167	Nutrition and food security in the Arctic	6. Other	Food production beyond the arctic circle in Scandinavia is limited and the region cannot produce the food for the people living there, thus the region is dependent on food supply from other areas, both national and international. However, traditional food systems were capable of producing enough food for the number of people living in the North in former times, and traditional foods and preparation methods also ensured that critical micronutrients, e.g. vitamin D was provided. Traditional food and their preparation methods are endeavored by changes in the population, loss of traditional knowledge and climate change. In general, the arctic is highly affected by pollution with persistent organic pollutants and heavy metals which also limit traditional food items (e.g. sea mammals) for human use. Overall, a transition towards predominantly plant-based diets is to ensure global nutrition and food security. Since the agricultural options are limited in the Arctic, other potential solutions to ensure protein supply are needed. These could be so called novel proteins: single cell proteins such as microbial or mycoproteins produced by fermentation. Consequences of cultural changes, climate change and pollution for food security, indigenous communities, local food production and fishing are discussed in this symposium. We

			anticipate to have 3-4 speakers from Norway, Finland, Denmark and Iceland. The symposium is organized by the Nutrition Societies from Norway, Finland, Iceland and Denmark.
201	Solid Waste Management in the Arctic: Issues, Complexity, and Sustainable Future	6. Other	Solid waste management (SWM) in the Arctic is fraught with unique and complex challenges, such as extreme weather conditions, inadequate infrastructure/facilities, insufficient diversion programs, and geographic remoteness. These factors contribute to improper SWM practices such as open dumping and burning, which pose significant threats to human health and the environment, and exacerbate the impacts a warming climate is having on Arctic communities. Remote and coastal communities are disproportionately affected by these poor practices, inclusive of Indigenous Peoples and communities, whose livelihoods depend on the land. While initiatives and programs have and/or are being implemented in the region at varying levels and intensity, the complexity of management requires more research, learning, and the exchange of ideas to achieve sustainable SWM in the Arctic. This session invites researchers, local people, Indigenous communities, policymakers, youth, and those working on SWM in the Arctic to share their work, to foster learning across countries and cultures. Topics to be covered will include but not limited to: Solid waste governance and strategies, community-based approaches and methods to SWM, policies and regulations, Indigenous environmental knowledge, Culture and solid waste management, and sustainable waste management approaches. The session will consist of oral and poster presentations, and a roundtable dialogue, and fits four subthemes of Congress 2026, including 1.4 - Circular economies and community-led initiatives; 2.4 - Marine pollutants and ecosystem impacts (incl. marine litter); 3.2 - Mitigation of black carbon and methane emissions; and 5.2 Sustainable community development and inclusion of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge.