

# 18TH POLAR LAW SYMPOSIUM

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22. - 24. OCTOBER 2025

Ilisimatusarfik - University of Greenland  
and University of Akureyri



Háskólinn  
á Akureyri  
University  
of Akureyri



CARLSBERG  
FONDET



# 22 OCTOBER

8:30 - 9:30

entrance

## Registration

9:00 - 9:30

plenumlokale 1

## Welcome Plenary

Gitte Adler Reimer **Rector, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Maria Ackrén **Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

*Moderator:* Rachael Lorna Johnstone **University of Akureyri, Iceland, and Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

9:30 - 10:00

plenumlokale 1

## Keynote presentation: *There is no such thing as a better colonizer*

Sara Olsvig **Chair, Inuit Circumpolar Council**

*Moderator:* Timo Koivurova **University of Lapland, Finland**

10:30 - 11:00

lobby

## Coffee

11:00 - 12:00

plenumlokale 1

## Plenary: The Growing State Obligations around Indigenous self-determination and the use of Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Governance, Inuit Circumpolar Council

*Moderator:* Aviaja Tindbæk-Jørgensen **Marine Governance Advisor, Inuit Circumpolar Council - Greenland**

*Panellists:* Sara Olsvig **Chair, Inuit Circumpolar Council**

Eirik Larsen **Head of Human Rights Unit, Saami Council**

Vernae Angnaboogok **Inuit Arctic Policy Director, Inuit Circumpolar Council - Alaska**

Axel Ingeman-Jeremiassen **Oceans and Inuit Knowledge Coordinator, Inuit Circumpolar Council - Greenland**

12:00 - 13:00

lobby

## Lunch

# 22 OCTOBER

13:00 - 14:00

plenumlokale 1

**Keynote presentation: *The Antarctic Treaty System Trumped: The State of Antarctic Governance Today***

Alan Hemmings Professor, University of Canterbury, Aotearoa / New Zealand

*Moderator:* Akiho Shibata Polar Cooperation and Research Centre, Kobe University, Japan

14:10 - 15:10

plenumlokale 1

**The future of Greenland-EU relations: aspirations, chances, and limits**

*Moderator:* Patrick Flamm Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Germany

*Panellists:* Mininnguaq Kleist Greenlandic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Research/Science, Government of Greenland

Rasmus Leander Nielsen Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland  
Simon Bojsen-Møller European Commission Office in Greenland, European Union

Andreas Raspotnik Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway

plenumlokale 3

**Arctic Shipping**

*Moderator:* Kentaro Nishimoto Tohoku University, Japan

*Panellists:* Yoshifumi Tanaka Centre for Private Governance, Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

*Environmental Regulation of Arctic Shipping*

Maxim Usynin University of Copenhagen, Denmark, SHOC – Shipping and Ocean Law Group, CEPRI – Centre for Private Governance, Law Faculty

*The Northern Sea Route: The role of private law and sustainability considerations*

15:10 - 15:30

lobby

**Coffee**

# 22 OCTOBER

15:30 - 16:30

plenumlokale 1

## **Climate Commodification: Law, extraction and resistance**

*Moderator:* Karen Scott **Faculty of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand**

*Panellists:* Romain Chuffart **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

*The Patchy Law'fe of Arctic Sea Ice and the Troubles of Techno-care Governance*

Apostolos Tsiouvalas **UiT – The Arctic University of Norway**

*Cryopower Unfrozen: The Arctic Ocean as a Testbed for Sea Ice Geoengineering and International Law*

Christine Schwöbel-Patel **Warwick University, UK**

*Green Frontiers: International Law and Inter-Imperial Battles for Greenland in the Green Transition*

plenumlokale 3

## **Antarctic Governance**

*Moderator:* Nengye Liu **Singapore Management University**

*Panellists:* Trevor Daya-Winterbottom **University of Waikato, Aotearoa/New Zealand**

*Protecting Antarctic Biodiversity under National Law*

Antje Neumann **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

*The Silence of Polar Regions – A value to be protected or just a privilege of stressed and well-heeled city dwellers?*

Alejandra Mancilla **University of Oslo, Norway**

*Indigenous voices in Antarctic governance*

Eric Rubenstein **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

*Aesthetic Values and Antarctica's Environmental Protocol*

18:00 - 20:00

selskablokale

## **Reception**

Sponsored by the Consulate General of Iceland in Greenland

# 23 OCTOBER

8:30 - 9:30

plenumlokale 1

## **Inuit Circumpolar Council: Indigenous Peoples' Rights in a Just Transition**

*Moderator:* Aviaja Tindbæk-Jørgensen **Marine Governance Advisor, Inuit Circumpolar Council – Greenland**

*Panellists:* Aviaaja Isaksen **Human Rights Coordinator, Inuit Circumpolar Council Greenland**

Eirik Larsen **Head of Human Rights Unit, Saami Council**

Naja Graugaard **Associate Professor, Center for Gender, Sexuality & Difference, Dept. of Nordic Studies & Linguistics, Copenhagen University, Denmark**

David Heilmann Ottosen **Filmmaker and ICC Inuit Youth Engagement Program Participant, Greenland**

plenumlokale 2

## **Implementation of the BBNJ Agreement in the Arctic: Selected Issues on Regime Interaction**

*Moderator:* Karen Scott, **Faculty of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand**

Hilde Woker **Leiden University, Grotius Centre of International Legal Studies, The Netherlands**

*Revisiting an Asked and Answered Question: The Arctic Council (Secretariat) as an International Organization?*

Kristine Dalaker **Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources & Security (ANCORS), Australia**

*The Implications of the BBNJ Agreement for Submarine Cable Activities within the Arctic Context*

Maria Madalena das Neves **Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, Norway**

*The Implications of the BBNJ Agreement for Norway's Seabed Mining Activities*

plenumlokale 3

## **Contested frontiers: Exploring the (re)constitution of Arctic peripheries**

*Moderator:* Aaron Spitzer **Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen, Norway**

# 23 OCTOBER

*Panellists:* Aaron Spitzer Department of Comparative Politics,  
University of Bergen, Norway

*Exceptional Circumstances: Electoral Boundary Conflict in  
Canada's Territories*

Ragnhild Nilsson Department of Comparative Politics, University  
of Bergen, Norway

*How to share land – Sámi norms of relations: What Historical  
Conflicts Regarding Reindeer Grazing and Fishing Can Tell Us  
About Law*

Anja Tucker Department of Comparative Politics, University of  
Bergen, Norway

*Constituting self-determination: Constitution-making in a  
former Danish colony*

Andrew Newman Department of Comparative Politics, University  
of Bergen, Norway

9:40 - 10:40  
plenumlokale 1

*Theorizing the Frontier: Examining Alternative Forms of  
Sovereignty"*

## **Keynote presentation**

Kenneth Høegh Arctic Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark,  
Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials of the Arctic Council  
2025-27

10:40 - 11:00  
lobby

*Moderator:* Maria Ackrén Ilisimatusarfik - The University of  
Greenland

11:00 - 12:00  
plenumlokale 1

## **Coffee**

**Meaningful engagement with communities for a just  
transition in the Arctic: A workshop to share research  
outcomes and invite feedback from the audience**

*Moderator:* Karin Buhmann Copenhagen Business School,  
Denmark

*Panellists:* Karin Buhmann Copenhagen Business School,  
Denmark

# 23 OCTOBER

Rachael Lorna Johnstone Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland and  
University of Akureyri, Iceland

Dorothee Cambou University of Helsinki, Finland

plenumlokale 2

## Hybrid Defence and Security roundtable

*Moderator:* Jeppe Strandsbjerg Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik  
Greenland and Royal Danish Defence College

*Panellists:* Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland  
Rasmus Leander Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland  
Christoph Humrich University Groningen, The Netherlands  
Mira Kleist Kaya Partners, Greenland (TBC)

plenumlokale 3

## Governance of Antarctic Air Tourism

*Moderator:* Antje Neumann University of Akureyri, Iceland

*Panellists:* Kees Bastmeijer University of Groningen, the  
Netherlands

*The origin and progress of the current negotiation within the  
ATCM on a comprehensive and consistent framework for the  
regulation of tourism*

Osamu Inagaki Kobe University, Japan

*Legal issues concerning Antarctic air tourism under the  
Antarctic Treaty System*

Yousra Makanse Wageningen University, the Netherlands

*Issues and concerns posed by the growth and diversification of  
Antarctic air tourism on environmental, safety, and other  
Antarctic Treaty System values*

12:00 - 13:00

canteen

## Lunch

13:00 - 14:00

plenumlokale 1

## GANG: Achievements and Challenges of Indigenous Autonomy

*Moderator:* Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland

*Panellists:* Nicolò P. Alessi UniDistance, Switzerland and  
Francesca Maria Cavalcant University of Tilburg, The  
Netherlands

# 23 OCTOBER

*Variations of indigenous peoples' autonomy beyond consolidated paths: privatized autonomy and urban reserves*

Alexander Osipov The Åland Islands Peace Institute, non-resident fellow, Germany

*Setting the indigenous legal framework in Russia: agendas, agencies and rationalities*

Sébastien Brodeur-Girard Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, School of Indigenous Studies, Canada and Suzy Basile Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, School of Indigenous Studies, Canada

*Between Rights and Recognition: Implementing UNDRIP in Greenland and Canada*

## plenumlokale 2

### **Unveiling Green Injustice? Indigenous Rights, Migrant Workers, and Non-Human Recognition in the Arctic Transition**

*Moderator:* Dorothee Cambou University of Helsinki, Faculty of Law, Finland

*Panellists:* Dorothee Cambou University of Helsinki, Faculty of Law, Finland

Sade Mäntylä University of Helsinki, Finland

Tero Kivinen University of Helsinki, Finland

Berfin Osso University of Helsinki, Finland

## plenumlokale 3

### **Decolonial Sociology of Law in a Nordic Context roundtable**

*Panellists:* Ida Nafstad Sociology of Law Department, Lund University, Sweden

Michael Molavi Sociology of Law Department, Lund University, Sweden

Vasilis Galis IT University of Copenhagen

David Struthers IT University of Copenhagen



# 23 OCTOBER

14:10 - 15:10

plenumlokale 1

## **Regulation of Extractive Industries**

*Moderator:* Kamrul Hossain Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland

*Panellists:* Dwight Newman University of Saskatchewan, Canada  
*Implications for Resource Projects of Transborder and Localized Indigenous Consultation/FPIC Processes in the Arctic*  
Seita Vesa Center for Climate Change, Energy, and Environmental Law (CCEEL), University of Eastern Finland and the Finnish Environment Institute's Climate Solutions Unit (SYKE)

*Critical Raw Materials, Sustainability, and Environmental Law in the Arctic*

Mar Campins-Eritja Faculty of Law, University of Barcelona, Spain

*Arctic critical minerals for a sustainable future: The EU-Greenland MoU and its legal implications*

Helga Númadóttir Stefansson Arctic Institute, M.A. in Polar Law from the University of Akureyri, Iceland

*Mining Encounters in South Greenland: Exploring Local Perceptions and Socioeconomic Dimensions of the Nalunaq Goldmine*

plenumlokale 2

## **Ice Governance as a Component of Global Polar Law**

*Moderator:* Akiho Shibata Polar Cooperation Research Centre, Kobe University, Japan

*Panellists:* Kirsty Langley Asiaq (Greenland Survey), Greenland  
*Greenlandic ice today and tomorrow: Governance challenge*  
Corine Wood-Donnelly Nord University, Norway

*Ice & self-determination: Norms, sovereignty & justice*

John C. Moore Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland

*Geoengineering in the polar regions: Antarctic ice today and tomorrow*

Miharu Hirano Graduate School of Law, Kobe University, Japan  
*Giving legal frames to ice: A value-based approach*

# 23 OCTOBER

plenumlokale 3

## **Emerging Issues in Law of the Sea**

*Moderator:* Romain Chuffart University of Akureyri, Iceland

*Panellists:* Karin Buhmann **Copenhagen Business School, Denmark**

*Deep-Sea Mining: What a Business-and-Human-Rights Approach may Contribute*

Chie Sato **Meiji University, School of Law, Japan**

*Designating MPAs in the Arctic - Due Diligence Obligation under UNCLOS?*

Niall Janssen **University of Akureyri, Iceland, Arctic Youth Network (AYN)**

*Submerged Rights: State-centrism in the 1982 LOSC as a challenge to Arctic Indigenous Self-determination*

15:10 - 15:30

lobby

## **Coffee**

15:30 - 16:30

plenumlokale 1

## **International Law and Displaced Archives in Arctic Countries: Book presentation**

*Moderator:* Timo Koivurova **Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland**

*Panellists:* Rachael Lorna Johnstone **University of Akureyri, Iceland and Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

*Interdisciplinary Research on Decolonising Archives: A Call and an Answer*

Bjarni Már Magnússon **Bifröst University, Iceland**

*The role of the 1918 Danish - Icelandic Act of Union in the resolution of Icelandic archival claims in the 1920s*

Rebecca Bourgeois **University of Alberta / Western University, Canada**

*The Role of Archives in Reconciliation in Canada: Untangling Systemic Barriers to Contribute to Sustainable Change*

# 23 OCTOBER

Apostolos Tsiouvalas **UiT, The Arctic University of Norway**

*The "Double Life" of Arctic Archives: Perpetuation of Normativity or Obsolescence on Display for the 1929 Thule Law of Northwest Greenland*

Romain Chuffart **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

*Bordering as Archives: Cross-border mobilities and self-determination in Sápmi*

plenumlokale 2

## **Biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)**

*Moderator:* Yoshifumi Tanaka **Faculty of Law, Copenhagen University**

*Panellists:* Karen Scott **Faculty of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand**

*Cold Collaboration? Managing MGRs under the BBNJ Agreement and the Antarctic Treaty*

Kentaro Nishimoto **Tohoku University, Japan**

*Marine Protected Areas in the Southern Ocean: The BBNJ Agreement and the Antarctic Treaty System*

Osamu Inagaki **Kobe University, Japan**

*The Significance of the Central Arctic Ocean Fisheries Agreement (CAOFA) in the Current Arctic Scientific Cooperation*

Ekaterina Antsygina **Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea – A UiT Aurora Centre, Faculty of Law, UiT the Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø**

*Interpreting the Non-Undermining Clause of the BBNJ Agreement: Restrictive or Complementary Roles for the COP within RFMO Competences?*

18:00

selskabslokale

## **Conference Dinner**

*(separate registration)*

# 24 OCTOBER

08:30 - 09:30

plenumlokale 1

## **Working with and for Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic**

*Moderator:* Romain Chuffart **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

*Panellists:* M. Sigvanna Tapqaq **Kawerak, Inc., Alaska/USA**

*Building Together: Imagining a Circumpolar Inuit Law Association*

Anna-Lise Kappel **Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

*What sense does that make? - about the psychological work environment in Greenlandic workplaces.*

Åsmund Aamaas **University of South-Eastern Norway, Norway**

*Engaging with Saami perspectives in Norwegian teacher education: Practices and paths toward decolonial indigenization*

plenumlokale 3

## **Climate change and the polar regions**

*Moderator:* Sara Fusco **University of Akureyri, Iceland and University of Lapland, Finland**

*Panellists:* Øyvind Ravna **Faculty of Law, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø, Norway**

*The Green Transition: Balancing Indigenous Rights Against Interventions Arising from the Right to a Healthy Environment*

Louis Galo McDonough **Ghent University, Belgium** and Jianping Guo **Xi'an Jiaotong University, China**

*The ITLOS Advisory Opinion on Climate Change: Remaining Gaps and Challenges for Arctic Fisheries*

Marlene Payva **Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland**

*Establishing interconnectedness between the Arctic and Small Island States*

Rachael Lorna Johnstone **University of Akureyri, Iceland and Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

*Just Transition in a Low-Carbon Economy: Making Sense of the Discourse in Iceland*

# 24 OCTOBER

09:40 - 10:40

plenumlokale 1

## **Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Self-determination**

*Moderator:* Timo Koivurova **Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland**

*Panellists:* Diana J. Fox **Bridgewater State University, USA**

*Toward Self-Determination: An Ethical Framework for Enhancing Engagement with and Support for Indigenous Peoples of the Caribbean—Implications for the Polar Regions*

Sara Fusco **University of Akureyri, Iceland and University of Lapland, Finland**

*Whose Future? Rethinking Conservation Through Indigenous Sovereignty and Intergenerational Justice*

Ekaterina Zymvalova **Mid Sweden University, Sweden**

*Law and Language Revitalization: Saami Children's Right to Language Education in Sweden, Norway, and Finland*

Elena Kavanagh **University College Cork, Ireland**

*Language Rights and Self-Determination in the Arctic: Identity Building Through Language in Arctic States"*

plenumlokale 3

## **Issues in International Relations**

*Moderator:* Maria Ackrén **Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

*Panellists:* Christoph Humrich **University Groningen, The Netherlands**

*Autonomy, Democracy and Polar Law*

Cécile Pelaudeix **Pacte Sciences Po Grenoble-UGA France**

*The US, Denmark, Greenland and EU's securitizations of Greenland: what options for a (post-colonial) security architecture?*

Judy Boyd **The Arctic Institute, USA**

*Untangling Polycrisis: A Framework for Complex Crisis Analysis in the Modern World*

Pavel Tkach **Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland**

*Arctic 2035: Russian legal vision for the future of the International Arctic Governance. Russia in the Arctic Council and/or BRICS in the Russian Arctic?*

# 24 OCTOBER

10:40 - 11:00

lobby

## Coffee

11:00 - 12:00

plenumlokale 1

## Rights of Indigenous Peoples and resources

*Moderator:* Kamrul Hossain Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland

*Panellists:* Jade Owen Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Canada  
*Supporting Inuit Self-Determination in Commercial Fisheries*  
Lotta Viikari University of Lapland, Finland

*Food Sovereignty Of Sámi Reindeer Herders & (Un)Sustainable Space Activities*

Elisabeth Alber Eurac Research and Eva Maria Belser University of Fribourg, Switzerland

*Who owns natural resources? Conceptual frameworks and comparative insights*

Medes Malaihollo University of Groningen, The Netherlands  
*Different Trends on 'Consent' in EU Law and International Human Rights Law: Implications for the Sámi in Finland?*

plenumlokale 3

## GANG: Law and Agency – Nordic and Global Experiences

*Moderator:* Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland

*Panellists:* Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland  
*Nordic cooperation in troubling waters?*

Annegret Eppler Hochschule Kehl, Germany

*Multi-level Arrangements: Glue or Split*

Hasan Akintug Centre for Nordic Studies, University of Helsinki, Finland

*NATO in the eyes of Greenland, the Faroe Islands and Åland*  
Bjarni Már Magnússon Bifröst University, Iceland

*Lessons from the 1918 Act of Union Between Iceland and Denmark in a Changing Arctic Geopolitical Landscape*

12:00 - 12:45

canteen

## Lunch

# 24 OCTOBER

12:45 - 13:45

plenumlokale 1

## **New Insights in Polar Law**

*Moderator:* Rachael Lorna Johnstone **University of Akureyri, Iceland, and Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

*Panellists:* Maja Normann Sandgreen, Debora Kleist, Winnie Harder Evaldsen, Norja-Celine Walther, and Ditte Lillholm Post Weibull **Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland**

Billy Starkey, Emma Lipoff, Jolanda Lipu, Katarina Wellerstedt, and Mathieu Gelinas **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

plenumlokale 3

## **Environmental law and policy**

*Moderator:* Antje Neumann **University of Akureyri, Iceland**

*Panellists:* Tomohiko Kobayashi **Otaru University of Commerce, Japan**

*Public Morals, Trade Measures, and Small Cetacean Hunting in the Arctic: The Need for Interstitial Legal Norms"*

Gor Samvel and Apostolos Tsiouvalas **UiT-The Arctic University of Norway, Faculty of Law**

*Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment in the Institutional Memory of the Arctic Council: International Law and Policy Revisited*

D. S. Pensley **Widener University Commonwealth Law School, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, U.S.A**

*Multi-Level Regulation of PFAS in the U.S. Arctic and Subarctic*  
Adriana Craciun **Boston University, USA**

*The Independence of Greenland's Plant Life*

13:55 - 14:55

plenumlokale 1

## **Emerging Voices: Growing Our Own Inuit Lawyers and the Future of Sovereignty in Inuit Nunaat**

*Panellists:* M. Sigvanna Tapqaq **Kawerak, Inc., Alaska/USA**

Lisa Navraq Ellanna **Mitchell Hamline School of Law recent law graduate, Kawerak, Inc., Alaska/USA**

Allaryce Agloinga **University of Seattle School of Law, Kawerak, Inc., Alaska/USA**



# 24 OCTOBER

plenumlokale 3

## Global Polar Law

*Moderator:* Corine Wood-Donnelly Nord University, Norway

*Panellists:* Kanagavalli Suryanarayanan UiT Norges arktiske universitet, Norway

*Legal Transplant of the Arctic Model of Cooperation in the Third Pole Region: Science Diplomacy and Neocolonialism*

Patrick Flamm Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Germany and  
Jonas Franken Technical University Darmstadt, Germany

*A cable to Antarctica: Exploring the Geopolitical Dimension of Connecting the Last Frontier of the Material Internet*

Yuanyuan Ren The University of Dayton School of Law, USA

*Historic Titles and Historic Rights in the Law of the Sea: A Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL) Inquiry*

14:55 - 15:10

lobby

## Coffee

15:10 - 16:10

plenumlokale 1

## Plenary: Asia and International Polar Law

*Moderator:* Nengye Liu Singapore Management University

*Panellists:* Nengye Liu Singapore Management University

Julia Xue Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

Akiho Shibata Kobe University, Japan

Kamrul Hossain University of Lapland, Finland

Michelle Lim Singapore Management University

16:10 - 16:40

plenumlokale 1

## Closing Plenary

*Moderator:* Maria Ackrén Nasiffik, Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland

*Panellists:* Akiho Shibata Polar Cooperation and Research Centre, Kobe University, Japan

Timo Koivurova University of Lapland, Finland

Trevor Daya-Winterbottom University of Waikato, Aotearoa/  
New Zealand



Háskólinn  
á Akureyri  
University  
of Akureyri