



Mayvi Johansen

Innspill til nøkkelfordelte stipendiatstillinger IRN

Institutt for reiseliv og nordlige studier (IRN) sender over innspill til to prosjekter for fordeling av stipendiatstillinger med oppstart i 2022. Instituttet har gjort følgende prioriteringer av prosjektene:

Instituttets vurdering finnes i vedlagte skjema. Som vedlegg er også de to prosjektbeskrivelsene.

- 1) Narrating the North: Sámi and National Minority Media Practices and Performances during Revitalization, Resilience and Reconciliation
- 2) Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution Applied to Arctic Geopolitics & Security Issues

Vennlig hilsen

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Instituttets/senterets vurdering

Prosjekttittel:	Narrating the North: Sámi and National Minority Media Practices and Performances during Revitalization, Resilience and Reconciliation
Strategisk forankring	<p>Prosjektet er forankret i «Drivkraft i nord», spesielt under kunnskapsområdet «Samfunnsutvikling og demokratisering» hvor det pekes på at: «Det er avgjørende for samfunnsutvikling og demokratisering at hele befolkningen inkluderes gjennom utdanning, arbeid, innflytelse og tilhørighet.» Her er media viktige aktører.</p> <p>Under kunnskapsområde Helse, velferd og livskvalitet trekkes samisk språk, kultur og livskvalitet fram. Prosjektet støtter også opp om dette målet i UiT sin strategi, samt at det også dekker FNs bærekraftsmål om bærekraftige samfunn.</p> <p>Prosjektet støtter opp under HSLs mål om at fakultetets fagmiljø skal delta og være aktiv i forskning som angår de globale samfunnsutfordringene (HSL-strategi «Mennesker og samfunn i arktisk») hvor urbefolknings perspektivet er særlig relevant. HSL har i sin handlingsplan et særlig fokus på samiske forhold.</p> <p>Prosjektet er også i tråd med instituttets strategi i forhold til å fremme kunnskap om kvenske og samiske perspektiver.</p>
Gjennomstrømming (navn på fullførte dr.gradskandidater)	IRNs kandidater har ikke kommet så langt i phd-løpet ennå. Nettopp gjennomført midtveisevaluering for en kandidat og skal gjennomføre for to andre i løpet av semesteret.
Forankring i fagmiljø	Søknaden er forankret i forskningsgruppa Narrating the Post Colonial North (nivå 2) som har høy kompetanse innenfor tematikken. Søknaden utfyller allerede eksisterende faglige perspektiver og peker på noen nye.
Rekrutteringsgrunnlag	Antas at det vil være et godt søkergrunnlag. Interessen for tidligere utlyste stipendiatstillinger har vært god.
Kvalitet på søknaden (herunder evaluering av prosjekt/fagmiljø)	Søknaden er gjennomarbeidet og peker på et tematisk område som forskningsmessig er lite belyst, men som det er viktig å utvikle kunnskap om. IRN har en sterk forskningsgruppe – Narrating the Post Colonial North (nivå 2) som prosjektet vil være koblet til. Forskningsgruppen og fagmiljøene ved IRN har over år utviklet kompetanse innenfor områdene prosjektet søker å belyse. IRN har 5 phd-stillinger med faglige koblinger til denne søknaden. Det nyskapende i søknaden er koblingen mot media og mediafag.
Forslag til veileder(e)	

	Professor Trine Kvidal-Røvik, Professor Britt Kramvig, Professor Kjell Olsen, førsteamanuensis Stine Sand
Instituttets rangering av søknaden	1 av 2

Forskningsgruppa *Narrating the Postcolonial North: Travel, Writing, Performance*
Institutt for reiseliv og nordlige studier, Fakultetet for humaniora, samfunnsfag
og lærerutdanning, UiT Norges arktiske universitet

Innspill, stipendiatstilling PhD 2022: Narrating the North: Sámi and National Minority Media Practices and Performances during Revitalization, Resilience and Reconciliation

As a meeting place for different ethnic groups and cultures, Northern Norwegian societies have always been multi-cultural. However, Kvens and Sámis have been on the receiving end of long-lasting and determined policies, which aimed to make the cultural heterogeneous population linguistically and culturally Norwegian, silencing the histories of Sámi people and minorities such as the Kvens. In 2017, the Norwegian parliament approved the establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, with the aim of looking into historic abuses against Norway's Sámi and Kven minorities. This can be seen as part of supporting national processes regarding the strengthening of Indigenous and national minority resilience and (re)vitalization.

Media have a key role in the development of historical narratives, nationbuilding, self-articulation, and empowerment. A colonial past is not just about historiography, it is also about contemporary communities and how performances are played out and enabled via different media platforms and among media users and audiences. Media provide a potential means through which to challenge established discourses through memory contestation, de-colonization dynamics, and public debate. It can also be a means through which to explore relations to Indigenous pasts and futures. We are currently experiencing a media-infused change in thinking, which, by facilitating processes of self-articulation and empowerment, is poised to have a major impact on Sámi youth and the futures of their broader transnational communities. Examples are television shows with Sámi artists such as Ella Marie H. Isaksen and Keiino, and Sámi films that are screened worldwide. Sámi filmmakers also participate in transnational projects in increasing degree. The attention generated via media representations of Sámi culture has been used by the tourism industry, for instance with products and destinations in Sápmi explicitly connecting themselves to Disney's *Frozen* movies. While the national Kven minority is less visible in mediated public discourse, key Kven institutions are calling for visibility, acknowledging the role media arenas can play in revitalization processes.

Minority and Indigenous youth actively and creatively use new media platforms. These uses can change processes of sociality, networking, and power relations vis à vis the majority society, including existing media institutions. However, empirical research investigating how digital technology impacts Indigenous peoples and the implications for Sámi society, is lacking. Little is known about how the use of contemporary media may contribute to the polarization, reconciliation or unification of interethnic relations, or to the development of social cohesion. Media can enable minorities to speak up and create counter-narratives challenging existing stereotypes and advancing vernacular perspectives in the public sphere. Indigenous and minority people exploit affordances of new digital media, for example by developing language resources, and arenas for self-expression and activism. Considering this, we need to understand how media matter in terms of developing new narrative paths to deal with the past. Simultaneously, media provide arenas and channels for sharing and expressing racist and hateful rhetorics. The recent Folkehelseundersøkelsen in Troms og Finnmark, shows that both Kven and Sámi people have experienced discrimination.¹ One extreme form of such articulations is cyberhate, the communication of messages and information that are racist, bigotist or extremist (Blaya, 2019). Cyberhate usually targets communities rather than individuals and can negatively impact social cohesion and democracy, but there is a lack of research exploring these experiences and their consequences for processes of self-articulation and empowerment in Indigenous and minority communities in Norway.

¹https://fido.nrk.no/a638cb7368b1ee2631e368cf24b8c9023bd15439e595e90697f07b43cf369a4e/Rapport_Troms_Finnmark_SSHF_redigert_april2020.pdf

The proposed PhD will speak to such problematic aspects of communication, and address a gap in understandings of how contemporary media facilitate processes of identity formation, language use, memory work, cultural resilience, and interethnic relations in the North. Drawing on interdisciplinary perspectives, for instance from Indigenous and minority media studies and critical theory, the PhD-project will shed new light on media institutions, media producers and audiences when it comes to addressing troubled pasts and on-going processes of self-articulation and empowerment. Furthermore, the PhD will explore the role of media narratives and anticolonial transformations, including positive and negative aspects of the potential for self-articulation in new media environments.

Articulations in contemporary media take many forms, and include film and journalism produced by established media institutions, music videos produced by Indigenous and minority artists, and interpretations, remixes and mashups of this same content produced in platforms such as Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat. As articulations, these forms of content can be considered temporary units of discursive elements grounded in power relations and reflecting different discursive positions (Slack, 1996). Analyses of these expressions must therefore pay attention to the power struggles, negotiations, and tensions they reflect. The results from the PhD will be important to the Sámi parliament's development of a Sámi media policy, and the Norwegian government's further development of policies to fulfil national obligations concerning Indigenous and national minority rights, including the development of legislation regarding freedom of expression and hate speech.

Strategic Grounding

With the proposed PhD, we aim to strengthen **Sámi perspectives** in our research and education, in alignment with the **HSL strategy** and **årshjul**. According to this strategy, the faculty will especially commit to leading research environments. This PhD will strengthen our department and research group, as we aim to be in the **forefront of Sámi media studies**. The proposed PhD is also part of the HSL Faculty's overarching alignment with UN's Sustainable Development goals, specifically in terms of sustainable societies. It relates to UiT's **Drivkraft i Nord Strategy**, in particular the **community development and democratisation**-area, where society development and democratization rely on *inclusion of the entire population through involvement and belonging*, processes for which media are pivotal. Also, the PhD will address *diversity in the context of social development*, as well as *societal and cultural changes* stemming from globalization and technological development. The project will contribute to understandings of *collaboration and potential conflicts in the North* and help build *culture and identity*. The PhD relates to the area **Health, welfare and quality of life** when it comes to *Sámi language, culture and quality of life*.

Furthermore, the **Norwegian Government** recently underscored the importance of working against racism, discrimination and prejudice, and as part of this focusing on the need to address hate speech.² Media research situated in communities at the core of long-lasting assimilating and marginalizing policies, has a lot to offer in terms of understanding more about such processes. Also, the proposed PhD is developed in line with the **Department of Tourism and Northern Studies' strategic emphasis** on contributing to culture and identity production processes in the North, focusing specifically on *Kven and Sámi perspectives*.

The PhD will be part of the research group *Narrating the Postcolonial North: Travel, Writing, Performance (NPN)*, ranked as one of UiT's **HSL top-level research groups**. NPN has a long history of research on cultural and ecologically sustainable development related to media, tourism, and new interaction practices in the Arctic and explores **interdisciplinarity** and **new academic and mediatory practices** in research. Key members in the group have backgrounds from media work and several of the scholars have high expertise in media studies, film, communication and cultural research. NPN is involved in **several relevant international and national research projects** to which the PhD candidate will be given access, such as: *ARCTISEN-Culturally Sensitive Tourism in the Arctic* (Northern Periphery, Arctic Programme); *Okta: Kunst og friksjonsfylte fellesskap i Sápmi*

² <https://www.regjeringen.no/no/aktuelt/atte-millioner-kroner-til-ny-tilskuddsordning-mot-rasisme-diskriminering-og-hatefulle-ytringer/id2830724/>

(Kulturrådet/Nordisk kulturfond); *Mediated Arctic Geographies* (Academy of Finland); *IMMKven: Contemporary kven articulations in fields of family, museum, and culture industry* (NRC); *Sami entrepreneurs and research collaborations* (RFF Nord), *TRUCOM: Forventninger, sannhet og forskning en demokratisk velferdsstat* (NRC), and *Čatnat: Forskning med og for innovasjon i samisk reiseliv og kreative næringer* (RFF Nord). Several PhD-projects in the department deal with Sámi and/or Kven narratives and cultural representations.

We anticipate **the proposed PhD will recruit well**. Our social science and humanities-based profile attracts scholars from a wide range of fields, f.ex. media studies, Indigenous studies, history, film, sociology, socio-linguistics, and culture. Potential applicants might come from Sámi Allaskuvla's master in *Indigenous Journalism*³, master in *Medie- og dokumentasjonsvitenskap* (UiT), *Journalistikk* (Nord University), as well as from our own master in *Tourism Studies* and from other countries. Both our last PhD-position calls generated more than 20 applications, the majority of whom were qualified.

The research group consists of **experienced researchers** and has a high publishing rate.⁴ Members create exhibits as well as produce film and other media content. Its steering group consists of four professors and one associate professor. Prof. Trine Kvidal-Røvik - a media studies and communication scholar - is research group leader. The group provides a **strong arena for a PhD candidate**. Our connections to other institutions and networks from past, ongoing, and in-planning research projects represent resources for our PhD fellows. While the Department of Tourism and Northern Studies has not been allowed to recruit PhD candidates until 2018 (when we became part of HSL-faculty), the research group has extensive PhD-supervision and teaching experience, and current PhD-students have good progress. Professor Britt Kramvig is our **experienced PhD-coordinator**. We work systematically to **support our PhD students and junior members in the research group**, for instance by organizing seminars streams in the philosophy of social science, to support young scholars in their process of theoretical and methodological positioning. PhD-students in our department have initiated a **PhD-network**, and the research group connects and supports the PhD-network in several ways. Also, the research group emphasizes continuous academic development. Several steering group members have completed the UiT Pedagogical Training, the CBS Research leadership course, and the UiT PhD supervision course.

We work in **supervision teams** of at least two. We strive to put together supervision teams based on specific PhD project descriptions and candidate profiles, and several of us are relevant, available, and interested in supervising a potential candidate in minority and Indigenous media practices and performances: Professor Trine Kvidal-Røvik, Associate Professor Stine Sand, Professor Britt Kramvig, and Professor Kjell Olsen.

³ Associate Prof. Stine Sand is Professor II at Sámi Allaskuvla's master in *Indigenous Journalism*.

⁴ Scientific publications in the last five years: 66 (2020: 14; 2019: 9; 2018: 10; 2017: 18; 2016: 15). For an overview of publications, films, exhibits and activities, visit the research group web page: https://en.uit.no/forskning/forskningsgrupper/sub?p_document_id=409092&sub_id=561734

Instituttets/senterets vurdering

Prosjekttittel:	Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution Applied to Arctic Geopolitics & Security Issues
Strategisk forankring	<p>Prosjektet er forankret i «Drivkraft i nord», spesielt under kunnskapsområdet «Samfunnsutvikling og demokratisering» hvor det står følgende: UiT skal utvikle kunnskap om grunnlaget for samarbeid og konflikter i nordområdene.</p> <p>Prosjektet støtter opp under HSLs mål om at fakultetets fagmiljø skal delta og være aktiv i forskning som angår de globale samfunnsutfordringene (HSL-strategi «Mennesker og samfunn i arktisk»).</p> <p>Prosjektet er faglig relevant i forhold til IRNs bachelorprogram Northern Studies.</p>
Gjennomstrømming (navn på fullførte dr.gradskandidater)	IRNs kandidater har ikke kommet så langt i phd-løpet ennå. Nettopp gjennomført midtveisevaluering for en kandidat og skal gjennomføre for to andre i løpet av semesteret.
Forankring i fagmiljø	Prosjektet har relevans for fagmiljøet knyttet til Northern Studies, men har også klare koblinger til andre fagmiljø utenfor IRN. Det framkommer ikke av søknaden om prosjektet er tenkt koblet til forskningsgruppe(r). Forankringen i fagmiljøet kan være noe svak foreløpig. Det må eventuelt styrkes i et arbeid med å omarbeide prosjektet.
Rekrutteringsgrunnlag	Prosjektet er internasjonalt i sin tematikk og har statsvitenskapelig/geopolitisk innretning. Det antas at rekrutteringsgrunnlaget er stort.
Kvalitet på søknaden (herunder evaluering av prosjekt/fagmiljø)	<p>Søknaden er ambisiøs og foreløpig for omfattende i sin tematikk og problemstillinger i forhold til krav om gjennomføring i løpet av 3 år. Det kan synes som om søknaden er et utsnitt av et langt større forskningsprosjekt. Det er svært få kildehenvisninger for å underbygge påstandene i søknaden.</p> <p>Søknaden trenger omarbeiding og spissing før den eventuelt er tilpasset et phd-løp.</p> <p>Søknaden lener seg mye mot andre fagmiljøer enn IRN, og en kan tenke seg at en kandidat vil knytte seg vel så mye mot disse fagmiljøene, som fagmiljøet ved IRN, da fagmiljøet ved BNS er lite og det innenfor prosjektets tematikk er få med nødvendig kompetanse. Samtidig vil en dr.grad innenfor tematikken styrke fagmiljøets kompetanse.</p>
Forslag til veileder(e)	Førsteamanuensis Gunnar Rekvig
Instituttets rangering av søknaden	2 av 2 innsendte søknader.

Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution Applied to Arctic Geopolitics & Security Issues

The PhD candidate will work with Associate Professor Gunnar Rekvig on peacebuilding and conflict resolution in the Arctic in relation to maritime industries. The case will focus on peacebuilding and conflict resolution in the Arctic as the Arctic is becoming an arena for conflict. The Arctic is subject to increased economic and military activity. This activity comes with climate change that gives access to the previous hostile environment. The Arctic is furthermore rich in marine resources, and an ice-free Arctic Ocean will enable the Northern Sea Route—shipping goods from the factories of Asia to European markets.

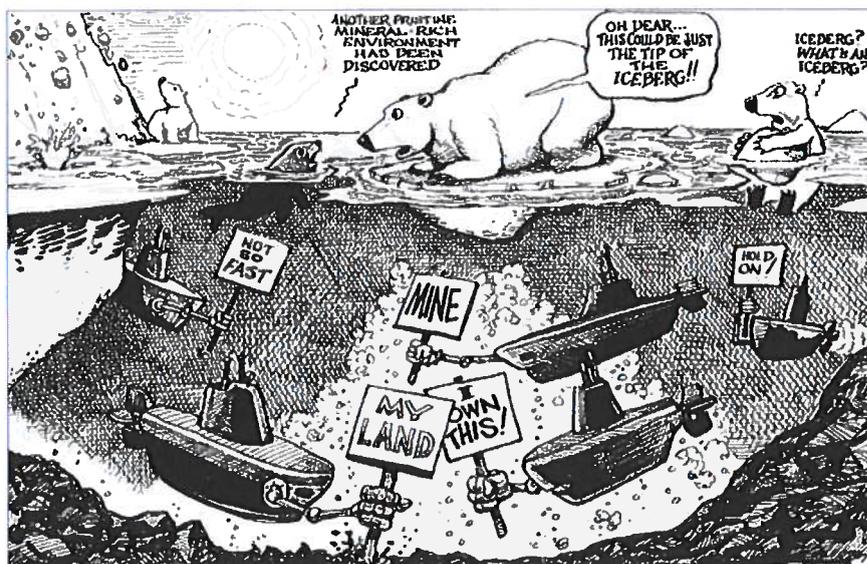
The Ukrainian crisis of 2014 however, sparked power shifts and conflict between the West and Russia. This led Norway to depart several policies that acted as reassurance towards Russia both during and after in the Cold War, e.g. the base policy and other self-imposed military restrictions. These policies balanced the deterrence of NATO and the US military in the Arctic of which the Globus II radar in Vardø is part of.

The project will focus on developing knowledge and model peacebuilding and conflict resolution in the Arctic. The PhD candidate will integrate with research groups at UiT in Alta and in Tromsø: *Arctic Governance*; *Northern Studies*; *From North Front to Ice Front*; and *Russian Space—Concepts, Practices, Representations*; in addition to the Research Network: *War and Peace Dynamics*. Rekvig is in contact with external candidates who have a background in Arctic matters.

Supervisor: Gunnar Rekvig. Collaborators: Barents Chair in Politics, Professor Rasmus Bertelsen, ISV, UiT; Barents Chair in Russian Studies, Professor Kari Aga Myklebost, AHR, UiT; Dr. Mariia Kobzeva; ISV, UiT; Assoc. Professor Nils Vidar Vambheim, UiT; Professor Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland; Professor Stein Tønnesson, PRIO; Professor (Emeritus) Matthias Finger EPFL.

Short Project Description

Arctic International Relations is lacking in understanding the foreign and security policy effects a shifting power dynamic has on the Arctic. Norway has since the Cold War invested in cultural, scientific, environmental and



other state-to-state and people-to-people activities vis-à-vis Russia in the Barents Region. These activities highlight a will to collaborate in the High North. This in turn creates good relations and as such for Norwegian state security aims. As illustrated in Kevin Kallaughter's cartoon, the Arctic is subject to expansionism under the framework of sovereignty as defined in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, leading to open conflicts over resources and forgetting the impact of military and economic activities, on top of climate change, over the Arctic environment and biodiversity. Furthermore, the illustration highlights stakeholders and the relevant fields in Arctic affairs and economic development: States with military and strategic contingency fighting over marine resources, involving maritime industries. However, the Arctic environment and biodiversity appear as the great losing party, and a key stakeholder is missing in this picture, part of the losing party as well: The individual. Then, the cartoon shows a clear trend: Military and economic tensions in the Arctic, where States are ready to face each other for resources that are worth putting at stake the fragile Arctic environment and showing the potential for conflict and the lack of peace in the region. However, as the cartoon highlights: This is only the tip of the iceberg. Therefore, this is the context in which the research will be developed, in which I will provide a precise analysis of the intra and interstates relations and international relations trends that influence peace, trust-building and conflict resolution in the Arctic and provide relevant solutions for

mediation and pacification through education, governance and policymaking, with a focus on the role of maritime industries and the individual. This research will follow two main objectives:

- a. Achieve the mapping of the relevant disciplines and fields for the research, such as peace philosophies and current international relations theories applied in the Arctic; the current governance and policymaking approaches for each Arctic State and Asian Arctic Council's Observers (China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore and India); the current and potential future impact of maritime industries on both Arctic and non-Arctic States' behavior in the Arctic region; and connect the Arctic regionalism with Northeast Asia to understand the role the Arctic plays in the international system.
- b. Use the different analysis and mappings to build two different models: State's behavior and governance processes. The first model targets the analysis and definition of states' behavior based on traditional (Waltz, 1979) and original levels of analysis, providing a precise mapping of stakes, interests, needs, strengths, weaknesses, economies, society, military and security involvement. The second targets the analysis of governance and policymaking processes happening within Arctic States in order to provide solutions for the implementation of future peace philosophies and help governments to evolve towards the positioning of the individual at the center of the stage for conflict resolution, peace and trust building. Both models target to provide a precise analysis of the current state of the Arctic from the perspective of Arctic and non-Arctic States, as well as a mapping of relevant national processes for peacebuilding, conflict resolution, mediation and pacification in the region. The individual will be introduced in the analysis by challenging the Westphalian concept of state (UN Charter Article 2 Para 7) and democracy (Galtung, 1995), highlighting the current role of the individual in statehood. Governance will be analyzed theoretically and separately to consider the most suitable solutions for developing the role of the individual and assess the role of states (Galtung, 1995). Finally, the analysis targets the drafting of new paths and solutions to the conflict escalation and path dependency happening in the Arctic oriented towards applied peace and conflict resolution, targeting field application.

In order to achieve the above objectives, the project will seek to answer the following research questions:

1. *Does the Arctic need a new, tailored and innovative approach to peace?”* that comes from the current military escalation and the growing conflict potential happening in the Arctic region. In this sense, the research targets to answer to such question by tackling three secondary questions:
 - 1.1. *What is the current state of peace theories, diplomatic philosophies, International Relations theories, conflict resolution tools, and mediation and pacification tools?;*
 - 1.2. *Is there room for new approaches, and which would be the possible solutions?;*
and
 - 1.3. *What is the role and influence of maritime industries and the individual in shaping such solutions and thus contribute to peacebuilding in the Arctic?*

Strategy

This project complies with the UiT-HSL-strategy concerning Russia and China: to strengthen Northern Studies research at UiT-HSL with explicit focuses on the Barents Region (Barents Chair in Politics); Russian Studies (Barents Chair in Russian Studies); and in relation to Indigenous Studies. The project has the aim of developing research on political processes in the High North, and the aim of developing research on Russian policy, decision-making and relations to other Arctic states. UiT is and has formalized collaboration with Chinese and other Asian partners. This project also complies with the NORRUSS primary objectives of developing long-term and strategic competences in Norway on important and under-explored High North topics and disseminate the research to the Norwegian public, businesses, and public administration.

Relevant and Good Academic Environment

The project is based at the Department of Tourism and Northern Studies at UiT Alta Campus. It will have close collaboration with the Department of Social Science and the Department of Archaeology, History, Religious Studies, and Theology at Tromsø Campus. The project will furthermore be cooperating with Arctic Frontiers, the Fram

Center, the Fritjof Nansen Institute, and the Norwegian Polar Institute, which are leading national research and practitioner environments for Norwegian Arctic Science towards Russia and other new actors in the Arctic such as China.

UiT has strong expertise in Arctic International Relations through the Arctic Governance Group: Hernes, Hoogensen, Bertelsen, etc; Asia Studies: Rekvig, Bleie, Bertelsen, Kobzeva, Lanteigne; Norwegian-Russian historical research: Myklebost, Bones, etc. These groups coupled with Arctic Frontiers (Øvretveit) and the Norwegian Polar Institute makes for an environment unparalleled in expertise on Arctic natural science, environmental and collaboration on conferences with Russia, especially the Russian Geographical Society (a major scholarly society founded in 1845 and instrument of science diplomacy, President Putin is Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Minister of Defense Shoigu is President of the society). Sergunin at St Petersburg State University is a leading Russian scholar of International Relations and Russia in the Arctic. Winther (NPI) has presented Norway in CNARC since 2013. Rekvig has a strong network among Japanese peace and conflict, arctic, and maritime scholars in addition to Chinese CNARC member institutions. The broader international network of the project is the rapidly developing interest in the Arctic from, e.g. Professor Emeritus Finger (EPFL), Professor Heininen (U. of Lapland).

