



ARCTIC CENTRE
University of Lapland



CALL FOR PAPERS

International Conference on

Human and Societal Security in the Circumpolar Arctic with specific focus on the Barents region: Environment, Sustainability and Development

25-28 March 2017

Enontekiö (Finland) and Kautokeino (Norway)

Introduction

HuSArctic – Human Security as a promotional tool for societal security in the Arctic – is a four year research project funded by the Finnish Academy and based in the Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law in the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland. The project teams up researchers from numerous countries and various backgrounds with different societal stakeholders, to jointly elaborate on multiple vulnerabilities and challenges to the Arctic population, with a specific reference to the Barents region. The research project is hosted at the Northern Institute for Environment and Minority Law (NIEM) at the Arctic Centre of the University of Lapland, which hereby calls for *academic papers from the early career scientists at their advanced level of doctoral research as well as from the post-docs* to present at the above mentioned conference.

Background

The field of Security Studies developed alongside the Cold War, and traditionally focused on military threats to states' survival. However, since the end of the Cold War the concept of security has widened. Today, security does not have any fixed meaning, but relates to a context specific understanding, framing the concept necessarily a contested one with many and differing meanings. Generally it is understood to promote the well-being of human individuals or communities. Multifaceted challenges facing communities at various levels are considered to result from environmental, economic, and societal changes rather than from military threats. Looking at the Barents region illustrates the importance of such a comprehensive security understanding: State sovereignty is widely not perceived as being contested; instead common challenges such as climate change, or shared interests such as in developing the region's abundant natural resources, led to extensive international and subnational cooperation. However, what some may see as an opportunity for their own development or for the development of their community, which not necessarily needs to be on a fixed geographical scope, may hamper the security of other groups or individuals. In order to derivate meaningful support for the development and implementation of targeted policies, it is thus important to analyze security challenges in specific cases.

Description

By the concept “human security” we broadly identify the well-being of the individual as connected to the well-being of the broader community to which they belong. Individuals' sense of belonging are not necessarily territorially-based only; shared values can exist transnationally and connect people across disparate geographies, as is the case of, for instance, the Arctic indigenous peoples in North America as



well as in the Barents region who inhabit in a number of neighbouring countries, hence creating also a broader society beyond territorial scope. Preservation of the society's essential characteristics that link people together is necessary for a society's survival and for a comprehensive sense of security among its members. Since human security is linked to numerous issues that influence societal security, promoting human security as a tool and developing policies addressing specific human security challenges can also promote societal security.

Through this call we seek for contributions to address a comprehensive understanding of security in the Arctic, or in particular with a focus on the Barents region. We also encourage contributions from a comparative perspective to which the Arctic is placed as referent. **We are looking for contributions that address our overarching topic theoretically and / or empirically from various angles and disciplinary approaches.**

Though not exhaustive, issues to be addressed could be for example: How can the concept of human security be interlinked with societal security? How do we define societal security? Does societal security necessarily need to be linked with an identity based meaning? How and why is the concept of human security in response to its philosophical foundation applicable to the Arctic region, and amongst the Arctic communities? Can aspects such as environmental integrity, personal safety, or community well-being offer guidance within the framework of security studies? What relevance does the academic project on security studies have in the promotion of larger security at the local and community level?

More specifically we seek for contributions that address, in which way the challenges facing the Arctic population are important to be looked at from a human security perspective. This could include questions like how the security concept is important for the maintenance of traditional subsistence and livelihood (such as hunting, fishing, reindeer herding etc.)? How can the security concept be applied in regard to community identity and cultural heritage for the northern population and in particular for indigenous peoples and other ethnic minorities? Could applying the human security concept in an Arctic context differ than applying it to other regions? What does globalization or its effects offer, or how is it challenging northern livelihoods? How can current socio-economic developments and environmental changes be perceived from a human security perspective? Could better consultation between industry and local/indigenous communities reduce the adverse impact of industries and enhance indigenous security, and can corporate social responsibility be integrated within the rights based approach of human security? Can the security discourse enable people to achieve a right-based approach of human security? What is the potential of other social dynamics that are caused by demographic changes to contribute to new challenges in the interaction of indigenous, local and incoming population? How is human and societal security in the Arctic measured in response to the contradictory premise of economic development and environmental integrity? How is extraction of natural resources interfering with security issues in regard of both, promoting economic development but also having the potential to cause conflict over land use, biodiversity, or consequently community well-being? Addressing questions like these should help to better understand the complex interplays of various security aspects and help to promote societal security in the Arctic.

Although not exhaustive, the following list should highlight the wide range of topics this call aims to cover. It also constitutes a preliminary division for potential chapters of the planned edited volume. The subtopics should not be seen as fixed, as it is up to the contributor(s) to decide under which chapter their part fits best; however, they should help to clarify the scope of the chapters.

1) General discussion

- Human security
- Societal security
- Societal dimensions of security studies
- Relevance of academic security discourse for individual and community well-being
- Human rights
- Right based approach to human security



- 2) Challenges to local and indigenous population
 - Impacts of environmental changes
 - Migration / out-migration
 - Sustainability of traditional subsistence and livelihoods
 - Adaptation
 - Resilience
 - Health and well-being
 - Food security
 - Civil contingencies

- 3) Identity, culture and community values
 - (Community) Well-being
 - (Community) Identity
 - Vulnerable groups (e.g. elderly)
 - Indigenous peoples and minority groups
 - Language
 - Religion
 - Spirituality
 - Interaction between different groups
 - Cultural heritage

- 4) Local implications of global developments
 - Impacts of and opportunities through globalization
 - CSR (of international corporations)
 - Extractive industries developments
 - Climate change

- 5) Human and societal security discourse in mainstream governance frameworks
 - Interplay of economic development and human well-being
 - Economic development & environmental degradation
 - Human security in current policies
 - Land use behavior
 - Natural resource management

- 6) Democratization & the security discourse
 - Participation of civil society in decision making processes
 - Individuals and communities as securitizing actors
 - Democracy and human/societal security
 - Capacity building
 - Free, prior and informed consent
 - Assessment of risks effecting community well-being

Important Dates

Abstract submission:	July 15, 2016
Notification of abstract acceptance:	July 30, 2016
Paper submission (Draft):	September 15, 2016
Final paper submission:	February 15, 2017
Conference dates:	March 25-28, 2016



Submission guidelines

Language:	The Paper should be written in English.
The Abstract:	(300 words max.): Times New Roman 12 – point font, 1.5 spacing.
Keywords:	Up to five words
Text:	Times New Roman, 12pts, 1.5 spacing, justified, from 7000-8500 (max.) words including citations, with the following margins: Top 2.5 cm; Bottom 2.5cm; Left 3 cm; Right 3cm
References:	All sources should be listed in alphabetical order and in accordance with the Chicago Manual Citation Style.

Technical Info

Conference dates:	25-28 March, 2017.
Organizer:	HuSArctic Project Team, Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law (NIEM), Arctic Centre, University of Lapland.
Registration:	Free of charge (but when abstracts are accepted)
Travel funding:	A number of travel grants are available for selected presenters (Max. 400 Euros for covering travel costs to Rovaniemi, Finland)
Travel to conference venue and accommodation:	The conference will be held in Finnish-Norwegian border cities in Enontekiö (Finland) and Kautokeino (Norway). We will cover bus transportation from Rovaniemi to conference venue and back to Rovaniemi. During the conference we will stay in luxury cottages (http://www.ounasloma.com/) located in Hetta (Enontekiö), between River Narpistojoki and Lake Ounasjärvi with no cost from the participants. We will provide a number of meals including lunch and dinner during the sessions. The participants will have to cover rest of their meals during the conference days.
Excursions:	We organize excursions from Enontekiö (Finland) to Kautokeino (Norway) with no costs from the participants. Destinations: Sámi University College (http://samas.no/en), International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry (http://reindeerherding.org/about-us/). As the seminar will take place during the St Mary's Day (Marianpäivät) in Hetta (Enontekiö), we will also visit the Sámi festival (https://sites.google.com/site/heahtamarjjabeaivvit/en/home)
Contact for more info:	Ms. Anna Petrétei (anna.petretei@ulapland.fi) Associate Professor Dr. Kamrul Hossain (kamrul.hossain@ulapland.fi)

**Submit your Abstracts to
conference@husarctic.org**