Editorial
by Kamrul Hossain

The research project – HuSArctic – has already completed almost two years of its journey. As we are stepping in the third year on the 1st of January 2017, it is now time to highlight an update the activities we carried out since the last newsletter. Our first project meeting was held in April 2015, where we brought almost all the project partners – since then, the project has, through its various efforts, contributed significantly in the advancement of the understanding of human and societal security in the Arctic.

The concepts of human and societal security in the Arctic are more relevant today than ever before: last months have seen record temperature rise globally, but particularly throughout the Arctic; melting and thinning of multi-year Arctic ice-sheets are having multiple effects, such as animal species normally found in more moderate climates started to show up in the High North; despite harsh climatic conditions causing hesitations, slow but gradual expansion of shipping activities through the Arctic sea routes are taking place; while there is seemingly a halt or limited presence of major oil and gas companies because of low prices in the hydrocarbon market, rise of mining and extractive industrial activities in many parts of the Arctic result in new realities – both positive and negative; population aging and out-migration of the youths bring demographic challenges. Those and other challenges are to be added to well-known difficulties of living in the Arctic (remoteness, harsh conditions, limited infrastructure or limited and/or uncertain, unstable and unsustainable economic opportunities, among others), are adding new threats that directly affect the local inhabitants in the Arctic. By identifying particular threats as well as by employing the indicators of human security, we analyse the (different perceptions of the) diverse threats to security, hence engaging ourselves in a multi-level dialogues throughout last two years.

We have organized a series of seminars and workshops to discuss scientific topics in connection to these threats and challenges, where we successfully engaged not only the academics from diverse disciplines, but also stakeholders from a number of sectors and local population in dialogues with a view to promoting their status as both securitizing agents as well as referent objects of security. In a nutshell, we endeavoured to highlight the importance of active voices and roles of these groups of actors to elaborate their security concerns. At the same time, our project collaborators have participated in different events both in Arctic states as well as in many other states around the world. The results of our activities are published as several articles in peer-reviewed journals. We have also published a thematic volume on the indigenous peoples of the North focusing their concerns bringing diverse faces of human security.

Our upcoming second project meeting will be held in March 2017 in the border cities between Finland and Norway (Hetta and Kautokeino) followed by an international conference. As we move forward, we continue working to deploy the concept of human security as a promotional tool for societal security. We trust this newsletter gives you an overview of the activities conducted so far and the progress achieved since our last issue.

DR. KAMRUL HOSSAIN

 Principle Investigator, Project Lead
 Director at the Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law, Arctic Center

HUSSARTIC NEWSLETTER

Issue 2/2016

UPDATE ON HUSSARTIC RESEARCH PROJECT

HuSSArctic Newsletter

Issue 2/2016
HuSArctic activities

PARTICIPATION OF HU SARCTIC IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

2015
HuSArctic team member J. Miguel Roncero, participated at the 10th edition of the ‘Vienna Anthropology Days’ – or Tage der Kultur- und Sozialanthropologie’, which took place from 23 to 25 April 2015. His presentation on resource fairness was titled ‘Arctic Resources: Development for Whom?’

Between 25th and 30th of April Kamrul Hossain represented HuSArctic project at the Arctic Science Summit Week in Toyama, Japan. As part of the HuSArctic project, Kamrul presented a paper arguing for states’ assertive actions for the promotion of the governance of human security to the extent the concept is applicable to the indigenous peoples of the Arctic.

On 7th and 8th of May Anna Petrétei attended the “Meeting of mining and EIA researchers” at the University of Eastern Finland (Joensuu).

On 12th and 13th of May Kamrul Hossain represented HuSArctic at the Workshop “Society, integrity and cyber security” held at the Thistle City Barbican Hotel in London.

On 30th of May Kamrul Hossain gave a presentation on the complex dynamics of the right to culture of indigenous peoples with special reference to Sámi living in (or moving to) the urban regions at the conference ‘Culture on the Move: Migration, Living traditions and cultural heritage protection’ at Brunel University London, School of Law.

Between 31st of May and 7th of June Gearld Zojer attended the Calotte Academy (theme of the 2015 academy was Resources and Security in the Globalized Arctic) and gave a presentation about Arctic environmental governance as a venue for socio-economic power struggles.

On 3rd and 4th of June Anna Petrétei participated in the “Seminar on Rule of Law: A Dialogue between Chinese and Nordic Young Jurists” (in Shanghai (China), Nordic Center of Fudan University), and gave a presentation on the rights and future perspectives of the Sami people related to mining activities.

On 21st of September Kamrul Hossain gave a presentation at the Ainu Centre located in Sapporo, Japan. The title of the talk was “International Human Rights Law with Focus on Indigenous Peoples: A look for the promotion of the Ainu rights”.

On October 16th Anna Petrétei gave an introductory presentation about HuSArctic project at Arctic Centre.

On 2nd and 3rd of November Kamrul Hossain and Anna Petrétei attended the conference: Raw Materials University Days, “Enhancing the development of the mining regions”, at the University of Lapland – Multidimensional Tourism Institute.

2016
On 25th and 26th of January Kamrul Hossain attended the conference “Understanding Sovereignty and Security in the Circumpolar Arctic” [University of Toronto (Canada)], and gave a presentation entitled “Security – a shared concept? Are the Sámi legitimate actors in the securitization move?”

At Arctic-FROST annual meeting conference in St. Petersburg (Russia), that was held on 15th and 16th of August, Gerald Zojer gave presentation titled “Arctic hydrocarbon resources: Curse or blessing for societal security in the Arctic?”

In late August, HuSArctic team member Stefan Kirchner participated in a Skillshare on climate change organized by 350.org and Sámi activists in Jokkmokk (Jåhkåmåhkkie / Dálvavadis), on the Swedish side of Sápmi. Dr Kirchner gave a presentation on climate change and reindeer herding and on the potential role of human rights as a tool in the fight against change.

On 18th of September Kamrul Hossain gave a guest lecture at the Arctic Research Centre at the Hokkaido University. The title of his presentation was “Governance of the Arctic: What future do we see?”

From 14th to 16th of March Anna Petrétei was participating in the Nordic Research Network for Sámi and Indigenous Peoples’ Law (NORSIL) seminar – [in Tromsø
On 19th of April Annai Petrétei attended the Seminar on Global Environmental Law at the University of Lapland, and gave a presentation about Sami rights related to mining activities.

In May Gerald Zojer gave a guest lecture at the International Summer School in Karelia (ISSK) at the Petrozavodsk State University. His lecture was titled: “Main discourses in Arctic governance: A comparative analysis of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council and the Arctic Council.”.

In June HuSArctic researchers (Gerald Zojer, Laura Olsén, Miguel Roncero) attended the Calotte Academy. Miguel Roncero gave his presentation on “Sustainable Development, Resilience or Resource Fairness? A Pan-Arctic Approach for Sustainability”; Laura Olsén gave a talk on “Indigenous peoples’ possibilities to influence on decision-making: case study of Finland”; and Gerald Zojer spoke about “The Arctic Council between global interests and regional development. A continuation of the prevailing economic order”.

On 7th and 8th of June Anna Petrétei attended the seminar “Integrated governance of natural resources - law, policy and practices”, held in Ilomantsi (hosted by the Institute for Natural Resources, Environment and Society (LYY), University of Eastern Finland), where she gave a presentation about mining best practices in Northern Europe.

On 28th and 29th July Dr Kamrul Hossain participated in the Second International Symposium organized by the Polar Cooperation Research Centre (PCRC) at Kobe University, and gave a presentation on the role of indigenous peoples in legal order making in Arctic governance.

Between August the 31th and September the 3rd Gerald Zojer was participating in the third edition of the Petrocultures conference series, hosted by the Memorial University in St. John’s, Newfoundland, Canada; and gave a presentation entitled “The Role of Hydrocarbon Development in Arctic Governance and its Interplay with Human Development in the Region”.

On May 5, 2015 HuSArctic has gladly met Matti Särkelä, representative of the Reindeer Herders’ Association, at the Arctic Centre of the University of Lapland. Reindeer Herders’ Association works as a link between the herding cooperatives. HuSArctic was represented by Dr. Kamrul Hossain and Ms. Anna Petrétei.

On the 10th of December HuSArctic organized an inter-disciplinary seminar entitled: “Looking through the lens of Human Rights: Human Security and the Arctic communities” at the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland. Amongst others, Kamrul Hossain, Gerald Zojer, Anna Petrétei and Miguel Roncero gave presentations about issues relevant to the topic of HuSArctic project.

On 5th of December HuSArctic organized seminar on Indigenous Knowledge, IPRs and Human Rights, together with the Faculty of Law of the University of Lapland. Event gathered over sixty scholars and students who shared information about intellectual property rights and human rights in relation to indigenous peoples’ knowledge.

On 16th of August HuSArctic project hosted, seminar: “Globalization and Food Security in the Barents Region”, (Arctic Centre, University of Lapland). Lecturers presented information on the topics related to food security in the Arctic region. Participants took part in the workshop which focused on searching for new ideas for the future projects.

Between 5th and 9th of October Kamrul Hossain, Anna Petrétei and Gerald Zojer was attending the 9th Polarc Symposium (held in Akureyri from 5-6 October 2016), and the Arctic Circle Assembly (held in Reykjavik from 7-9 October 2016). Kamrul Hossain and Anna Petrétei gave a presentation at the Polarc Symposium, entitled “Resource development and Sámi rights in the Sápmi region: integrating human rights impacts assessment in license granting process”; while Gerald Zojer gave a talk at the Arctic Circle Assembly, entitled “Arctic governance under the influence of a global fossil-industrial way of life”.

Events organized within the HuSArctic project

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Find us online

On our website we regularly publish updates and news about the project. Furthermore publications and other resources are available for download.

Our Website:
http://www.husarctic.org
HuSaRctic project lead Prof. Kamrul Hosssain has given a talk at the 3rd International Academic Conference on Human Security!

The Director of the Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law (NIEM) and the leader of the HuSaRctic project, Prof. Kamrul Hossain has given a presentation at the 3rd International Academic Conference on Human Security held at the Rectorate building at the University of Belgrade in Serbia. The conference took place from 04-05 November 2016. The conference has brought a big number of high profile distinguished scholars of human security research from all around the world and, diplomats and policy makers involved in human security sectors both at the United Nations and European Union levels to further promote the dialogue and debate on the current challenges in human security. The two-day conference attracted approximately fifty academic research presentations on various aspects of human security. Prof. Hossain’s presentation focused on the status of actorness of the Sámi living the European High North within the framework of securitization structure. By exploring the meeting points of Sámi’s human security concerns interacting to the notion of securitization, he explains the agencies of the Sámi capable of identifying the referent objects of security for them affecting essential characteristics of their societal identity.

Brief News on theory paper:

How is the understanding of societal security perceived in the context of Arctic in general, and Barents, in particular? How does the concept – human security, as a tool – contribute to the promotion of societal security? These important questions were comprehensively discussed during the first project meeting in 2015. As result of those debates, the project team, with the support of some project collaborators, took up the challenge and delved into the history and theory of human and societal security. The team, led from Rovaniemi, discussed during several months around that topic, and intense and constructive debates took place both via online and face-to-face interactions. A number of thematic seminars and workshops with the objective of shedding light on different aspects and interactions of human security were also held throughout 2015 and 2016 with academics and stakeholders. The process helped not only to analyze ontological, epistemological and theoretical positions, but also to put in common different ideas and interpretations and thus answer the question how can human security contribute to address societal security? One of the outputs of this process is a peer-reviewed article that is available in the Polar Record (Cambridge University Press) in early 2017.
Book Launching

In August 2016 the book Understanding the Many Faces of Human Security: Perspectives of Northern Indigenous Peoples was launched

The book Understanding the Many Faces of Human Security: Perspectives of Northern Indigenous Peoples addresses the different aspects of the human security challenges threatening Northern indigenous peoples. These peoples, whose unique, nature-based livelihoods maintain their identity, face difficulties linked to a changing natural and social environment. Their traditional worldviews are challenged as the world they have known for generations is literally melting away. The North experiences numerous pressures linked to rapid modernization, industrialization, demographic pressure and cultural changes. These threats are presented from various angles, such as indigenous understanding of security, governance, sustainability, livelihood practices, mining, nature-based resources and land use management, gender and the elderly. The focus groups of the book are the Ainu, Inuit, Nenets, Sámi and the Mongolian indigenous.

HuSArctic publications:

Researcher Laura Siragusa has published two socio-linguistic articles relating to the Vepsian language in north-western Russia, which both are available online:


Laura has written also another published article:


A publication written jointly by Sandra Cassotta, Kamrul Hossain, Jingzheng Ren, Michael Evan Goodsite entitled “Climate Change and China as a Global Emerging Regulatory Sea Power in the Arctic Ocean: Is China a Threat for Arctic Ocean Security?” investigates through a political and legal analysis the role of China as an emerging regulatory sea power in the Arctic Ocean given its assertive “energy hungry country behaviour” in the Arctic Ocean. The article can be electronically accessible at the link: http://www.scirp.org/Journal/PaperInformation.aspx?PaperID=60014

In his article entitled: “Securitizing the Arctic indigenous peoples: A community security perspective with special reference to the Sámi of the European high north”, Dr. Kamrul Hossain has examined the securitizing move by the Arctic indigenous peoples, in particular the Sámi of the European high north, to embrace non-traditional aspects of security, such as human and societal security. The article can be downloaded from the link: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1873965216300253
Dr. Kamrul Hossain has coauthored with Damian Castro & Carolina Tytelman the recently published article in the Polar Geography entitled “Arctic ontologies: reframing the relationship between humans and rangifer”. The article examines the reframing of the Arctic by recognizing the existence of different ontological assumptions about what is the Arctic and who dwells in it. In this connection, the article illustrates the relations between indigenous peoples and rangifer in two very different parts of the world, Labrador in Northern Canada and Northern Scandinavia. The article is available for download at: http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/3cclSpGvzF32yVwnzC/full

Dr Kamrul Hossain and Anna Petrétei in article “Interacting with Stakeholders: Society and Human Security” have explained what the term security means when it refers to promoting human welfare in Lapland. Article can be found in ArCticles - a series of entries by Arctic Centre staff relating to current Arctic issues, published by the Arctic Centre at the University of Lapland; http://www.husarctic.org/en/publication/interacting-stakeholders-society-and-human-security

On HuSArctic website can be found also reports from some of HuSArctic project events:

• Stakeholder meeting report which highlights the most important issues discussed during the HuSArctic Stakeholder Meeting in April, bringing up the most pressing challenges from the viewpoint of different stakeholder groups: http://www.husarctic.org/en/publication/stakeholder-meeting-report

• Report from HuSArctic seminar prepared by Katarzyna Lisirska and Marcin Dymet. Seminar “Globalization and food security in the Barents Region” was held at the Arctic Centre on 16 August 2016. Report is summary of the seminar, it shortly introduce the topics that were presented by the researchers: http://www.husarctic.org/en/publication/workshop-report-globalization-and-food-security-barents-region

Our new members and collaborators

Bamidele “Dele” Raheem

Dele had his Masters and doctoral degrees from the University of Helsinki. His Masters degree was from the department of Food Chemistry & Technology while the doctoral degree in Food Sciences was from the department of Applied Chemistry and Microbiology (now known as Food and Environmental Sciences since 2010). He has gained extensive research and industrial experience in Nigeria, Finland, Turkey, Sweden and UK in the last three decades. He also obtained the Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) from the University of Greenwich, London and a certificate on Vocational Teachers Pedagogy from Haaga-Helia University of Applied Science, Helsinki. Dele’s research interest is in food bio-processing, preservation and other crosscutting issues related to food security.

ABOUT DELE

Dele is a member of the Food Climate Research Network based at the University of Oxford and he will be making contributions to the HuSArctic project.

Julia Loginova

Currently a PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne, Julia has a graduate degree in Economics and Law from the Syktyvkar State University in the Komi Republic of Russia and completed Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies based in the Finnmarch campus of the Arctic University of Norway – the University of Tromsø. Within her studies she focused on natural resource governance and environmental security in northern Russia. Later, Julia developed her interest in political ecology, justice studies, transparency and human rights framed in the context of resource extraction and climate change. Julia’s PhD project explores the distribution of environmental and social impacts of resource extraction in Russia and community-level responses through engagement with emerging information and communication technologies.

ABOUT JULIA

Julia is a participant in the HuSArctic project. She is at the moment a PhD candidate at Melbourne University, Australia. Her research focuses on the impacts on environment and society of resource extractions and community level responses in the context of Russian North.
Shaun Cormier

Shaun is a Researcher under the Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law (NIEM) at the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland.

“I came to Rovaniemi for the first time when I was 13 years old. I was with a group of youth that was playing ice hockey and visiting orphanages and schools across Scandinavia and Russia for a two week trip. Since then, I have come back to Rovaniemi many times to play hockey. In the fall of 2012 I came for an exchange year, which ended up being one of the best times of my life. Upon returning to Canada and finishing my Bachelors degree, I knew I wanted to come back in some way. This led me to apply for the Masters of International and Comparative Law program at the University of Lapland. After graduating in May I left back to Canada, I thought that my time was done here and that I would continue to work back in Canada. However, my thesis and internship supervisor invited me back to work with him on a five-month project”

This project is under HuArctic, where Shaun will assess the legal and policy tools governing food security in the Barents Region and formulating it into a report. Food security became of primary interest for Shaun after founding a food redistribution project at the University of Northern British Columbia in 2014.

His background is in international and northern studies from the University of Northern British Columbia, which has focused on global and international issues such as sustainability, business development, governance, in relation to the Arctic. His primary work and research interests are in food security, human security, sustainable development, business development and Indigenous Peoples in the circumpolar regions.

Dorothée Cambou

The right to self-determination: an enduring academic and political issue

On 12 October 2016, I was awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws at the Vrije Universiteit Brussels for my dissertation on ‘The legal significance of the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination and its implications for the Sámi People’. This event was an important milestone for my research that was mainly conducted in Belgium, Finland and Norway during these last years. I am now hoping to publish the thesis so as to further contribute to the clarification of the state of the law on the question of self-determination in relation with the rights of indigenous peoples and more particularly those of the Sámi people.

While I have now defended my PhD, the topic of Sámi self-determination remains nonetheless an important topic of academic and political interests.

The day after my PhD defense, I flew to Norway to present a short part of my doctoral research on the right of the Sámi People to self-determination during the Changing Arctic conference which was organised by the French Embassy together with the Fram Center on the 14 October in Tromsø. Invited speakers had the opportunity to present their research concerning the environment and the governance of the Arctic. Within this framework, I addressed more particularly the topic of the Draft Nordic Sámi Convention, an instrument that has been negotiated for more than 10 years by the governments of Finland, Norway and Sweden together with the three Sámi Parliaments. While it remains uncertain how the negotiations will further proceed, it is still hoped that the instrument will one day be adopted and contribute to the furtherance of the right of the Sámi People to self-determination.
Work of HuSArctic collaborators

New book: Overview over Arctic key topics in German language

The 2016 volume of the large series “Edition Weltregionen/World Regions” focuses on the Arctic from its history to the present. Gertrude Saxinger, Peter Schweitzer and Stephan Donecker invited 18 international authors to talk about oral history, colonisation and early exploration, climate change, modern Inuit art, gender dynamics, the legacy of the residential school system and many more topics. HuSArctic members Miguel Roncero and Gertrude Saxinger are contributing with the issues of geopolitics and human security as well as with resource extraction to this new book.

SEARCH IN THE LIBRARY!


Article in Arctic Yearbook

HuSArctic contributors, Rachel Kohut and Tahnee Prior, share their commentary on gender and the Arctic in this year’s Arctic Yearbook on “The Arctic Council: 20 Years of Regional Cooperation and Policy Shaping”. Despite some Arctic states being heralded as utopia for gender equality, they argue, all Arctic states must assure the inclusion of gender across Arctic policy and law. Read the piece, “Overlooking a Regional Crux of Vulnerability: Missing Women in the Arctic”, here.
Security challenges in Greenland
by J Miguel Roncero

Visiting Greenland last summer to interview local politicians about their perceptions of security challenges was a magnificent experience. In fact, Greenland is a very good example of how in the Arctic human and societal security challenges are more relevant than traditional security challenges. In Greenland, most current challenges are associated to socioeconomic development as well as the preservation and promotion of indigenous culture. And time and again, these also go hand-in-hand, as indigenous peoples are often more vulnerable to economic challenges. Partly because of that, Greenland is also a very good example of how human security, if understood as the collective well-being of individuals and the communities they belong to, can be used to promote societal security with a focus on the specific challenges faced by indigenous peoples.

Security in the Arctic
by Wilfrid Greaves

Ideas are changing about what security means in the Arctic, who is affected by it, and how Arctic security is impacted by a wide variety of factors such as climate change, a geopolitically resurgent Russia, and a resource-hungry China. The institutions of Arctic governance are also changing, as the Arctic Council continues to evolve as a policy-shaping organization, as territories and northern regions assume new powers and areas of jurisdiction, and as Arctic Indigenous peoples continue to work towards greater self-determination and political control over their homelands and traditional territories. As a result, there is more need than ever for research investigating the changing nature of Arctic politics, security, and the environment.

2016 has been a busy year for examining these and related themes in Arctic research.

In January, I organized (with Professor Whitney Lackenbauer) an academic workshop for more than forty researchers and analysts from across Canada, the United States, and Europe at the University of Toronto. Under the theme “Understanding Sovereignty and Security in the Circumpolar Arctic,” the workshop provided expert insights into various facets of security and sovereignty issues in the Arctic region, including explorations of the Arctic priorities of Canada’s new federal government, food security in Nunavut, the Arctic Council’s Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program, and the need to reflect upon and update our academic conceptualizations of what security means. Keynote speakers included distinguished scholars of Arctic politics from Canada, the United States, and Norway, as well as Carolyn Bennett, Canada’s federal Minister of Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development. We are working hard to disseminate the findings from this workshop, and to ensure this research reaches as wide an audience as possible. Professor Lackenbauer and I wrote a column for the website ArcticDeeply.org, I wrote an article for The Arctic Institute: Centre for Circumpolar Security Studies synthesizing my views on the need for a critical approach to security in the Arctic, and we are working on an edited book based on the papers presented at the workshop.

Related discussions on current Arctic issues were held at The Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars in Washington, DC in April, but with a specific focus on the “One Arctic” theme of the current U.S. chairmanship of the Arctic Council. The Wilson Center and its partners hosted a two-day workshop attended by more than fifty American, Canadian, and European scholars and students. I presented a paper examining the climate and energy security policies of the Obama
Administration and their implications for the Arctic region, which will be published as a chapter in a forthcoming book based on the workshop. A short version of my analysis was published with the World Policy Institute’s Arctic in Context project, along with a separate article in which I argue that there are actually many Arctics, and cautioned about the implications of overlooking the diversity of peoples, places, and politics across the circumpolar Arctic.

I have also authored or co-authored several peer-reviewed articles published or accepted in leading international journals. An article based on original findings from my doctorate at the University of Toronto, which I successfully defended in April, has been accepted by Security Dialogue. Titled “Arctic In/Security and Indigenous Peoples: Comparing Inuit in Canada and Sámi in Norway,” this article provides the first comparative analysis of state and Indigenous understandings of security in the Arctic, with a particular focus on better representing the views of Indigenous peoples on the many challenges facing Arctic inhabitants. An article in which I lay out a detailed critique of how environmental changes impact security in the Arctic, and how our understanding of security must also change to reflect the changing climate, was published in Polar Record. Together with colleagues in geography and earth sciences from Canada and the United States, I co-wrote an article published in Polar Record on how the Canadian Arctic is defined differently through government and Inuit maps, resulting in distinct conceptions of what the Arctic region is and whom it includes. And as part of HuSArctic, I co-authored (with Kamrul Hossain, Gerald Zojer, Jose Miguel Roncero, and Michael Sheehan) an interdisciplinary account how to understand security in the Euro-Barents region, which was also published by Polar Record. Overall, it has been a big year for research on Arctic security, with more research on still to come.

**Marcin Dymet**

Marcin is working as an intern in the Arctic Centre. He is a student of Scandinavian studies at University of Szczecin. Within HuSArctic project he helped to organize the “Food Security” seminar and to prepare this newsletter.