

The First Call

Perceptions of the Arctic: Rich or Scarce, Mass-scale or Traditional, Conflict or Cooperation?

Calotte Academy 2017

in Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden
June 1–11, 2017

The Calotte Academy 2017 will be organized between June 1 and 11, 2017 in the European Arctic, starting in May 31 in Rovaniemi, Finland and finishing in June 11 Umeå, Sweden. The planned schedule and route is the following: June 1 in Inari (Finland), June 2-3 in Kirkenes (Norway), June 4 travelling via Murmansk, June 5-6 in Apatity (Russia), June 7 travelling via Salla (Finland), June 8 in Tornio (Finland), and Haparanda and June 9-11 in Umeå (Sweden).

The theme of the 2017 Academy is '*Perceptions of the Arctic: Rich or Scarce, Mass-scale or Traditional, Conflict or Cooperation?*'. The focus is inspired by the fact that there is a growing global interest, even a hype, from many actors, also from outside, towards the Arctic region and its resources, as well as Arctic issues. Furthermore, the North Pole and northernmost regions of the globe and related issues, such as northern dimension, are widely discussed in politics and academia, also misunderstood, or simply not understood. Due to rapid climate change within the circumpolar North and the expected consequences of mass-scale utilization of the region's resources, there are several different perceptions of the Arctic, or the North Pole region, and its real nature, depending on one's position, profession, interest or mind-set. Indeed, the Arctic, as well as the entire circumpolar North, can be perceived in many different ways, and various viewpoints can focus, for example on the environment and nature (richness – scarcity, darkness – brightness), reindeer (Rudolf-style – freely pasturing), economics and livelihoods (mass-scale – traditional), people(s) and nation(s) (indigenous – settlers), knowledge and expertise (Western science – traditional/local knowledge), politics and power (hegemony – empowerment, conflict – cooperation).

At the same time, the dominant Arctic studies discourse is about how the Arctic region should be defined or re-defined, if any strict definition is necessary at all. To put it in another way, the question asked is if we speak about one Arctic or several Arctics. The Arctic states (re)define themselves as Arctic nations, and are mapping their northernmost regions as part of the Arctic in their national policies, and numerous non-Arctic states are also repositioning themselves towards the Arctic. Unlike that, Northern indigenous peoples have their origins in the region as Arctic people, as well as there are younger generations of settlers who identify themselves as Northerners.

The Academy will discuss Arctic perceptions in the context of the regional and globalized Arctic theoretically and holistically from many angles and disciplinary approaches, from academic and policy-oriented ones – including exploration, exploitation, shipping and aviation, infrastructure, tourism - and from the perspectives of past(s), present(s) and future(s), and from global, or international, Arctic and local contexts in the European Arctic.

This is the first call for established researchers and early-career scientists, particularly PhD candidates and post-docs, with different academic backgrounds to participate and present their work in the 2016 Calotte Academy.

We ask you to submit a title and a brief abstract (250-300 words) of your paper with your name, affiliation and e-mail address. The organizers will cover the costs of bus travel throughout the entire route (Rovaniemi-Inari-Kirkenes-Murmansk-Apatity-Salla-Tornio-Haparanda-Umeå) as well as accommodation expenses (except in Umeå) for all PhD candidates whose abstracts are accepted to the symposium.

Abstract submission and PhD candidate funding application deadline: February 28, 2017.

Abstracts and freely formulated funding applications should be submitted to Researcher, PhD candidate Laura Olsén (e-mail: laura.olsen@ulapland.fi) AND to Researcher, PhD candidate Gerald Zojer (e-mail: gerald.zojer@ulapland.fi), University of Lapland.

About Calotte Academy

The international travelling symposium, Calotte Academy, organized since 1991, is an annual doctoral summer school for PhD candidates from the Arctic states, as well as from the observer countries of the Arctic Council (see Final Reports of the Calotte Academy – <http://arcticpolitics.com/index.php/calotte-academy>). It is also one of the main annual gatherings of the *UArctic-NRF Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security*, as well as a sub-forum for the *Northern Research Forum* (NRF). Furthermore, the 2017 Academy will also act as an annual regional forum for a discussion on the *GlobalArctic* handbook (see www.globalarctic.org), and a training exercise for the Model Arctic Council 2017-2018, which will take place in October 2017 and 2018 in Finland. Finally, it is a pre-conference symposium for the ICASS IX *People & Place* in June 8-12, 2017 in Umeå. Sweden.

More Information and Contact

For more information about the 2017 Calotte Academy please contact Prof. Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland (e-mail: lassi.heininen@ulapland.fi); or Rector Liisa Holmberg, Sámi Education Institute, Inari (e-mail: lholmber@sogsakk.fi); or Director Marianne Neerland Soleim, Barents Institute at UiT – Arctic University of Norway (e-mail: marianne.n.soleim@uit.no); or Senior Researcher Ludmila Ivanova, Lulin Institute for Economic Studies of RAS (e-mail: ludmila_ivanova@mail.ru).