

An International & Transdisciplinary Conference  
Bridging Indigenous and Scientific Knowledge

# ARCTIC WEEK 2019

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

9-13 December 2019

At the **Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs**  
27, Rue de la Convention, 75015 Paris (France)

*In collaboration with the French Ambassador for the Arctic and Antarctic Poles, Mrs Ségolène Royal.*

The Arctic (including sub-Arctic) is one of the regions of the world most affected by ongoing and increasing changes. To understand, anticipate and adapt to these environmental, socio-economic, climatic and cultural changes, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches that involve Arctic and non-Arctic actors are necessary. The idea for the first Arctic Week (2018) was developed by the Arctic Network “Environment and Societies facing Global Issues” of the Observatory of the University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines (OVSQ/UVSQ) in cooperation with an indigenous reindeer herder and co-researcher who all wanted to bring together social and environmental scientists, Arctic indigenous peoples and students. The Arctic Week 2018 was a great success and we have therefore decided to organise the second Arctic Week in December 2019 with new partners.

Just like in 2018, the idea for the Arctic Week 2019 is to create **synergies between social and environmental scientists** and between scientists and Arctic indigenous peoples while also engaging students and youth in these projects. It is also very important to hold public events and photograph exhibitions in order to **raise public awareness** in France about Arctic climate change and biodiversity issues.

The **participation of Arctic indigenous peoples from Siberia, Northern Europe, Greenland, Alaska and Canada** is crucial for the conference because they are frontline witnesses of the profound effects that global and climate changes have on the environment and they want their knowledge and observations to be heard. Climate change has reached a crescendo in Siberia from 2005, as observed by both climatologists and Arctic indigenous peoples.

Several scientific projects in the Arctic have proven the valuable input of indigenous knowledge systems, and the latter should be fully involved in and recognised by the scientific community.

The **participation of students** – as future direct or indirect actors in the Arctic (early career scientists, economic agents or policy-makers) – is central for the preparation and organization of the Arctic Week. It is crucial to convince the students of the importance of the Arctic on international environmental, economic, social and cultural levels, and also to heavily engage them with transdisciplinarity and indigenous knowledge as means for improving sustainability and adaptive practices related to climate change and biodiversity.

### **Suggested themes (including transdisciplinary research):**

- Environmental and societal changes (e.g. perceptions and adaptations, impacts on wildlife and ecosystems);
- Indigenous peoples facing changes in climate and in biodiversity (vulnerability, adaptation and resilience);
- Indigenous knowledge and science collaboration (e.g. community-based observatories/community-driven observatories);
- Circumpolar reindeer herding: co-constructing the future;
- Narrating the Arctic: internal and external perspectives;
- Arctic climate: climatology, physics and atmospheric physics (e.g. ozone, polar lows, UV);
- Climate change and pollution: sources and impacts for the environment and society;
- Retroactions on climate from Arctic regions via greenhouse gas production;
- Permafrost degradation under recent climate change (e.g. thermokarst, carbon fate, mitigation);

- Arctic Hydrology: changes in river dynamics (impact, perception and adaptation);
- Arctic permafrost landscapes in transition (e.g. landslides, debris flow hazards, risk management);
- Glacial and paraglacial dynamics;
- Oceans (e.g. acidification, currents, circulation of PTS/POPS, communities relying on maritime resources, sea routes);
- Urban and industrial development in the Arctic;
- Impact and regulation of Arctic tourism development;
- Education, transmission, social work and well-being;
- Youth and gender studies;
- Science communication and knowledge transfer;
- Arctic archaeology;
- Indigenous languages: past, present and transmission;
- Indigenous creativity (e.g. literature, music, arts, handicrafts);
- Arctic technologies and innovation (industrial and indigenous);
- Development and use of Information and Communication Technologies;
- Energies (renewable, non-renewable and ecological transition);
- Economic and security issues of global warming for the Arctic;
- Sustainability assessment of climate policies and the economic conditions for both low carbon and blue growth paths in the Arctic;
- Environmental scarcity and critical natural capital in the Arctic;
- Governance and rights.

**Call for:**

- Coordinated sessions;
- Individual presentations (15-20 minutes);
- Film screening and commenting;
- Posters.

**Deadline for submission:** Abstract (10-15 lines) and max. 5 keywords. **15 September 2019.** To be sent to [arcticweek.ovsq@gmail.com](mailto:arcticweek.ovsq@gmail.com)

**Further information:** Online: [www.arctique.ovsq.fr](http://www.arctique.ovsq.fr) | Contact: [arcticweek.ovsq@gmail.com](mailto:arcticweek.ovsq@gmail.com)

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## Partners

