



International Research Workshop on

Asia and the Northern Sea Route

< Sustainability and the Arctic >

Organized by University of Leeds East Asia's International Political Economy,
and Hokkaido University Arctic Research Center

Expert workshop: Oct.26th 10:00-12:00

at Hokkaido University Seminar room of "Sousei Hall" in North Campus

Public seminar: Oct. 26th 14:00-16:30

at Hokkaido University Community Hall (Enyu Gakusha)

The 'Asia and the Northern Sea Route' programme brings together an international team of scholars from Asia, Europe and North America to undertake a long-term, multi-dimensional, inter-disciplinary comparative study of Asian interests and strategies towards the Northern Sea Route (NSR).

With the receding Arctic ice cap, the seasonal window for NSR voyages is expanding. Annual NSR trade volumes have grown accordingly, albeit from a small base, and within the next decade or two the route could potentially become a major global passage for maritime shipping. However, the NSR's long-term development ultimately depends on a number of commercial, geopolitical, environmental-meteorological, and state strategy factors.

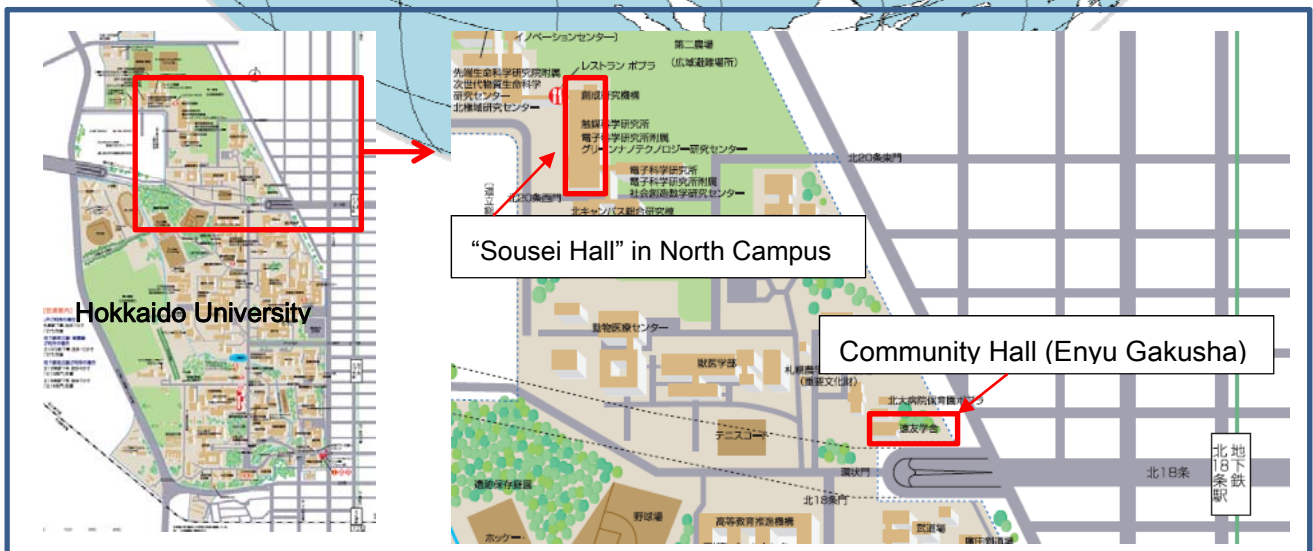
At the same time, ambitious plans to develop the Yamal Peninsula's oil and gas resources into one of world's largest energy production hubs is indicative of how energy trade could become an early driver of the NSR's longer-term development. And this could have major environmental implications for one of the world's most fragile and critically important eco-zones.

The research team lead by Prof Christopher Dent (Unv. of Leeds) founded this project in early 2014 and has since developed it into a network of scholars from various disciplinary (politics and security, economics, business, international relations, energy, maritime affairs, geography, environmental studies) and area-study (East Asia, South Asia, Russia, Europe). A website (<http://asiachangingarctic.com/asia-nsr>) already provides key details about the project, whose *aims and objectives* are to:

- Improve public knowledge and understanding of Asia's approaches to the NSR
- Develop deeper understandings of the NSR's linkages to environmental sustainability in the Arctic
- Strengthen our network of scholars/analysts to track the NSR's development over time, especially from Asian perspectives
- Better inform decision-makers from practitioner communities on NSR-related matters
- Organise events and produce inter-disciplinary analytical outputs that help realize the above

Time Line

<i>Asia and the Northern Sea Route: sustainability and the Arctic, Oct.26(Wed)</i>	
Expert workshop 10:00-12:00 Open for experts Language : English	1: 5~6 presentations about energy resource development of the Arctic, Asian strategies regarding the Arctic, regional development of Asia, and maritime transport via NSR. 2: Discussion
venue	Seminar room of "Sousei Hall" in North Campus (see map below) Capacity : 60
Public Seminar 14:00-16:30 Open for public with English-Japanese translation.	1: General presentations & summaries from the research team. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Perspectives of the NSR and energy resource development ▪ Asian interests and policies on the NSR 2: Discussion
venue	Community Hall (Enyu Gakusha) , see map below Capacity : 50
Speakers(TBC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Christopher Dent(University of Leeds, Britain) • Dr. Aki Tonami(University of Tsukuba, Japan) • Dr. Outi Luova(Turku University, Finland) • Ms. Liisa Kauppila (Turku University, Finland) • Prof Jae-Seung Lee (Korea University, Korea) • Prof. Natsuhiko Otsuka(Hokkaido University, Japan) • Dr. CONG Xiaonan, Dr. Su Hongjian and Dr. Zhuang Li (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China)
Registration (free)	Please send e-mail to "nastuhiko.otsuka@arc.hokudai.ac.jp", with your name, job title and affiliation, e-mail address.



Tentative Program <TBC>

1: Expert workshop Oct.26, 10:00-12:00, (Hokkaido University Sustainability Week)

Chair : Christopher Dent(University of Leeds)

Presentations:

- Four presentations @25min (inc. Discussion) and wrap-up discussion
- Energy and resource development, Asian interest and policy, maritime transport
- Xiaonan, Hongjian and Li: **CGE Analysis of Potential Impact of the Northeast Passage on Global Economics**
- Aki Tonami: **Comparative Study on the infrastructure capitalization of Japan And China**
- Liisa Kauppila: TBC
- Natsuhiko Otsuka: **Overview of the Arctic policy of Arctic Council member states and observer states**

2: Public seminar Oct.26, 14:00-16:30, (Hokkaido University Sustainability Week)

Chair : Natsuhiko Otsuka(Hokkaido University)

Presentations:

- Four to six presentations with English-Japanese translation
- Christopher Dent : **Asia and the Northern Sea Route: Sustainability and the Arctic**
- Outi Luova: **Hubs of the Arctic Route in the Sea of Japan (East Sea). Old Plans with New Vigour**
- Xiaonan, Hongjian and Li: **CGE Analysis of Potential Impact of the Northeast Passage on Global Economics**
- Natsuhiko Otsuka : **Perspective of the NSR from recent activities**

