



Arctic Council

Chairship of the Kingdom of Denmark 2025-2027

Melting of the Arctic: The way ahead for Arctic Council work on climate change – An Arctic Council Chairship event

Programme

Date: 27 March 2026

Venue: Aulaen
Aarhus University

TIME	TOPIC	MODERATOR/PANELISTS/SPEAKER
09:00-09:10	Welcome and status update, and perspectives on the future work of the Arctic Council	Speaker: - Kenneth Høegh, Senior Arctic Official Chair (Kingdom of Denmark Chairship), Arctic Council
09:10-09:50	Perspectives on the Arctic Council and the evolving realities and dynamics in the Arctic. Followed by audience Q/A.	Speaker: - Ambassador Michael Sfraga (ret), Ph. D., Interim Chancellor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks
09:50-10:50	Climate Update with latest trends and implications. Followed by audience Q/A.	Speakers: - Rolf Rødven, Executive Secretary for the Arctic Council working group Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) - Jason Box, Professor at the Department of Glaciology and Climate at the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS)
10:50-11:05		Coffee break



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11:05-12:20

FIRST SESSION: The Triple Planetary Crisis.
Followed by audience Q/A.

Moderator:
- Inge Thaulow, Head of Delegation to the Arctic Council working group Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)

Panellists:
- Tom Christensen, Aarhus University, Co-Lead, Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program
- Elizabeth McLanahan, former Co-chair of the Arctic Council working group Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)
- Drummond Fraser, Co-chair of the Arctic Council working group Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment's Shipping Expert Group
- Permanent Participant of the Arctic Council (tbc)

12:20-13:30

Lunch

13:30-14:45

SECOND SESSION: Climate change impact on communities, including Indigenous Peoples, and the local environment. Science policy interphase.
Followed by audience Q/A.

Moderator:
- Gunn-Britt Retter, Head of Arctic- and Environmental Unit at Saami Council

Panellists:
- Sophie Crump, Climate and Environmental Advisor at Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)
- Malene Simon Hegelund, Head of Department at Greenland Climate Research Centre and Greenland Institute of Natural Resources
- Thomas Ingeman-Nielsen, Associate Professor and Head of Studies Arctic Civil Engineering at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU)
- Monika Szkarłat, PhD, Chair of the Social and Human Working Group at the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

14:45-15:00

Wrap up by the Kingdom of Denmark Chairship of the Arctic Council

The Kingdom of Denmark Chairship of the Arctic Council

15:00-16:00

Coffee and connecting

You are welcome to stay for a coffee and take the opportunity to connect with others before we say goodbye.

Venue directions:

**Aarhus University
Building 1412
Address:
Nordre Ringgade 4
8000 Aarhus C**