



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: The Aula
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, the Kingdom of Denmark's Head of Delegation to the Arctic Council working group Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)

Panellists:

- Tom Christensen, Aarhus University, Co-Lead for Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CAFF)
- 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
- Christine Creyke, Board of Director for Gwich'in Council International (GCI), Head of Delegation to the Arctic Council's Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Working Group, and the Lands Manager for Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

12:20-13:30

Lunch

13:30-14:45

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

Moderator:

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

Panellists:

- Dr Victoria Qutuuq Buschman, Marine Management Advisor, Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) - Greenland
- 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

Speaker:

- Torsten Kjølby Nielsen, Senior Arctic Official, Kingdom of Denmark

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