The Institute of International Affairs (IIA) at the University of Iceland is a research, instruction and service institute. The Centre for Small State Studies (CSSS) and the Centre for Arctic Policy Studies (CAPS) are run under the auspices of the Institute.

The Centre for Arctic Policy Studies (CAPS) was launched at the 2013 Trans Arctic Agenda. CAPS is a forum for interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of Arctic research with an emphasis on the role and policies of states and institutions, non-state and corporate actors, and broader aspects of governance, culture and society in the Arctic and High North. CAPS organizes conferences, seminars and lectures on Arctic issues. The centre also runs two publication series, offering occasional papers as well as working papers, available in hard copy and online, www.caps.hi.is

The Northern Research Forum (NRF) launched 1999 provides an international platform for an effective dialogue between members of the research community and a wide range of other stakeholders. The main mission of the NRF is to address the critical issues and highlight the opportunities which face people living in the regions of the Circum polar North. NRF’s main activity is an Open Assembly every second year, where NRF emphasizes open discussion and the participation of young researchers. The 2015 event will be the 8th NRF Open Assembly, now in co-operation with the Centre for Arctic Policy Studies. www.nrf.is

PROGRAMME
14-15 OCTOBER 2015
RADISSON BLU HOTEL SAGA, REYKJAVIK
Wednesday 14 October

13:30 Registration and Coffee
Poster session by young researchers from the University of Iceland

14:30 Opening Remarks
Jón Atli Benediktsson, Rector, University of Iceland
Lassi Heininen, Chairman of the Northern Research Forum (NRF) and Professor of Arctic Politics, University of Lapland
Pia Hansson, Director, Institute of International Affairs, University of Iceland

14:45 First plenary: Cultural heritage and human resources as part of ‘industrial civilization’ - case studies of para-diplomacy and Indigenous / local knowledge

Chaired by Þorsteinn Gunnarsson, Northern Research Forum (NRF), The Icelandic Center for Research, Rannis

i) The Thule-Base – The Struggle over its Existence?
   Maria Ackrén, University of Greenland.

ii) The recognition of Arctic communities in the EU seal regime
    Nikolas Sellheim, (NRF/YR), University of Lapland / Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge.

iii) Change and continuity: tourism framework transitions in the Russian Svalbard settlements
    Andriy Vlakhov (NRF/YR), European University at St. Petersburg.

iv) Conflicting Cultural Representation of the Arctic
    Kristinn Schram, University of Iceland.

15:45 Discussions

16:15-16:30 Coffee and tea break

16:30 First Plenary Continues

v) Sámi people in decision-making processes – Analyzing Sámi people’s possibilities to participate and influence on decision-making processes in Finland, Sweden and Norway.
   Laura Olsén, (NRF/YR), University of Lapland, the Arctic Centre.

vi) Indigenous Lives and Natural Resources in the 21st Century: A view from Alaska
    Tok Thompson, University of Southern California.

vii) Re-scaling sovereignty and development in the Canadian North
    Heather N. Nicol, Trent University, Canada. Discussions

17:30 Discussions

18:00 Reception at Radisson Blu Saga Hotel, hosted by the EU delegation in Iceland

Thursday 15 October

09:30 Second Plenary: Representation of Arctic stakeholders and their internal communication

Chaired by
Alyson Bailes, Adjunct Lecturer, University of Iceland

i) Arctic Voices: The Relevance of Local Stories for a Global Problem
   Ásgrímur H Ingólfsdóttir, Bifröst University.

ii) The Mandate of Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)
    Sigurjón Baldur Hafsteinsson, University of Iceland.

iii) States, SOEs and TNCs and Russian Arctic hydrocarbons
    Jussi Huotari (NRF/YR), Aleksanteri institute, University of Helsinki, Finland.

10:30 Discussions

11:00-11:15 Coffee and tea break

11:15 Second Plenary Continues

iv) Presentation on the EU Arctic Policy
    Dearbhla Doyle, EEAS Arctic Representative.

v) Defining China as a ‘Near Arctic State’: Exercises in Identity-Building
    Maria Ackrén, University of Greenland.

vi) The Future Linkages between the Arctic Shipping Development and China’s Maritime Silk-road plan
    Baozhi Cheng, Shanghai Institutes of International Studies, China.

vii) Permanent Participants and their role in Arctic governance
    Malgorzata Smiezek, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland.

12:15 Discussions

12:45-13:45 Lunch break

13:45 Third Plenary: The interplay between science diplomacy, material and immaterial values: How can the Arctic be a space/model for peace, sustainability and innovation?

Chaired by
Kristinn Schram, Adjunct Lecturer, University of Iceland

i) The Arctic Paradox (and how to solve it): Oil, gas and climate change ethics in the Arctic
    Guðrún Rósa Þórsteinsdóttir, Director, Northern Research Forum Secretariat and University of Akureyri Research Centre

ii) Natives or scientists, who owns traditional knowledge?
    Robert Patrick Wheelersburg, Fulbright Researcher at CAPS.

iii) Arctic Science Diplomacy as a Case of the Role of Knowledge in Global Governance
    Malgorzata Smiezek, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland.

14:30 Discussions

15:15 Third Plenary Continues

iv) Science diplomacy and constructive intercontinental Arctic cooperation
   Egill Þór Níelsson, CNARC.

v) The Arctic as a trans-disciplinary space for resilience and peace-building
   Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland.

15:45 Discussions

16:00 Summaries from NRF/YR

16:30 Closing remarks
Pia Hansson, Director, Institute of International Affairs, University of Iceland
Guðrún Rósa Þórsteinsdóttir, Director, Northern Research Forum Secretariat and University of Akureyri Research Centre