



FRIDTJOF NANSENS INSTITUTT
FRIDTJOF NANSEN INSTITUTE

Fisheries management in the Arctic

Geir Hønneland

6th CNARC symposium

Tromsø, 23 May 2018

'The scramble for the Arctic'

- Scott Borgerson (2008), 'Arctic Meltdown', *Foreign Affairs* 2008:
 - 'The Arctic Ocean is melting, and it is melting fast. [...] It is no longer a matter of if, but when, the Arctic Ocean will open...'
 - 'The situation is especially dangerous because there are currently no overarching political or legal structures that can provide for the orderly development of the region.'
 - 'The Arctic countries are likely to unilaterally grab as much territory as possible. [...] In this legal no man's land, Arctic states are pursuing their narrowly defined national interests.'



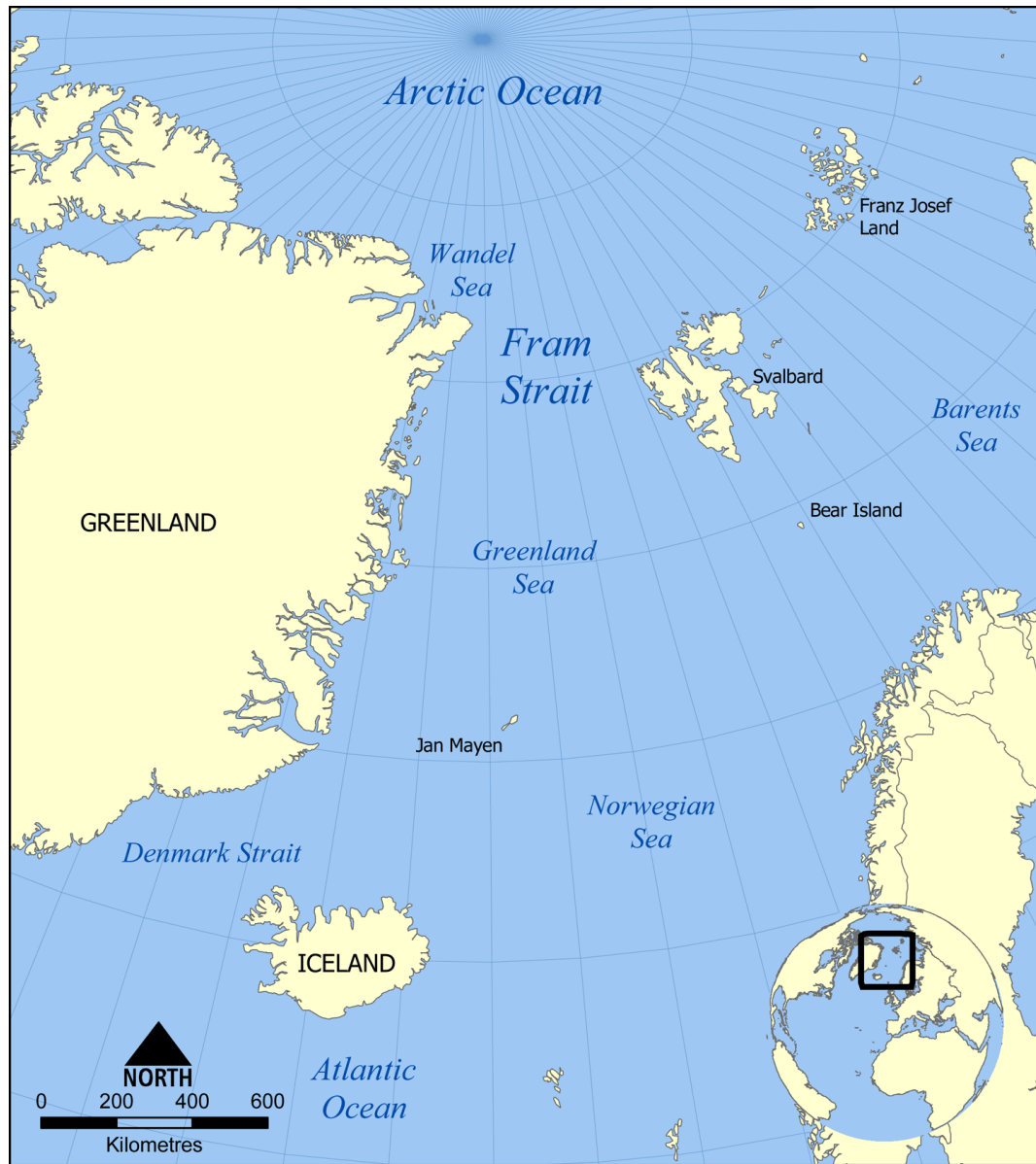
The scramble for the Arctic

- the public debate about Arctic affairs dominated by a few simplistic storylines
- in relation to fisheries management:
 - the Arctic Ocean is getting warmer
 - fish move up there
 - where there is no legal framework
 - nor political cooperation among states to ensure sustainable management



■ So do fish move up there?





Will the fish head north?

- not necessarily, depends on
 - light conditions, water column stratification, ocean currents etc.
 - demersal or pelagic species?
 - demersal or pelagic spawners?
 - spawning range, migration patterns etc.
- location of spawning area and migration patterns between spawning, feeding and wintering areas more resistant to change than the location of feeding area
- source: Haug, T. et. al (2017)



- So do fish move up there?
 - in the Northeast Atlantic:
 - the most important demersal stocks such as cod and haddock have probably reached their northern limit (but more of it in the northernmost areas of their distribution)
 - shrimp also moving more east- than northwards
 - a deep-water stock such as redfish has more potential to move further north
 - pelagic species are increasing their area of distribution, but no 'moving northwards' per se; mackerel and blue whiting have potential to move further north, herring less so
 - source: Haug, T. et. al (2017)



- So no legal framework or political cooperation?



- the general Law of the Sea (LOSC, FSA)
- Northeast Atlantic
 - ICES (science)
 - NEAFC ('coordination', high seas, port state control)
- Barents Sea
 - the Norwegian–Russian Fisheries Commission
- Norwegian Sea
 - 'coastal states agreements'
- the new CAO agreement?



Barents Sea Fisheries

- the world's largest cod stock
- Norwegian–Russian management since 1975
- Joint Fisheries Commission sets total quotas
 - most important fish stocks split 50/50
- more than 40 years of successful fisheries management



Barents Sea Fisheries

- more than 40 years of successful fisheries management
 - science well integrated in management
 - ‘mechanization’ of quota setting/harvest control rules
 - harmonization of regulations between the parties
 - generally high level of compliance
 - systematic non-compliance effectively dealt with

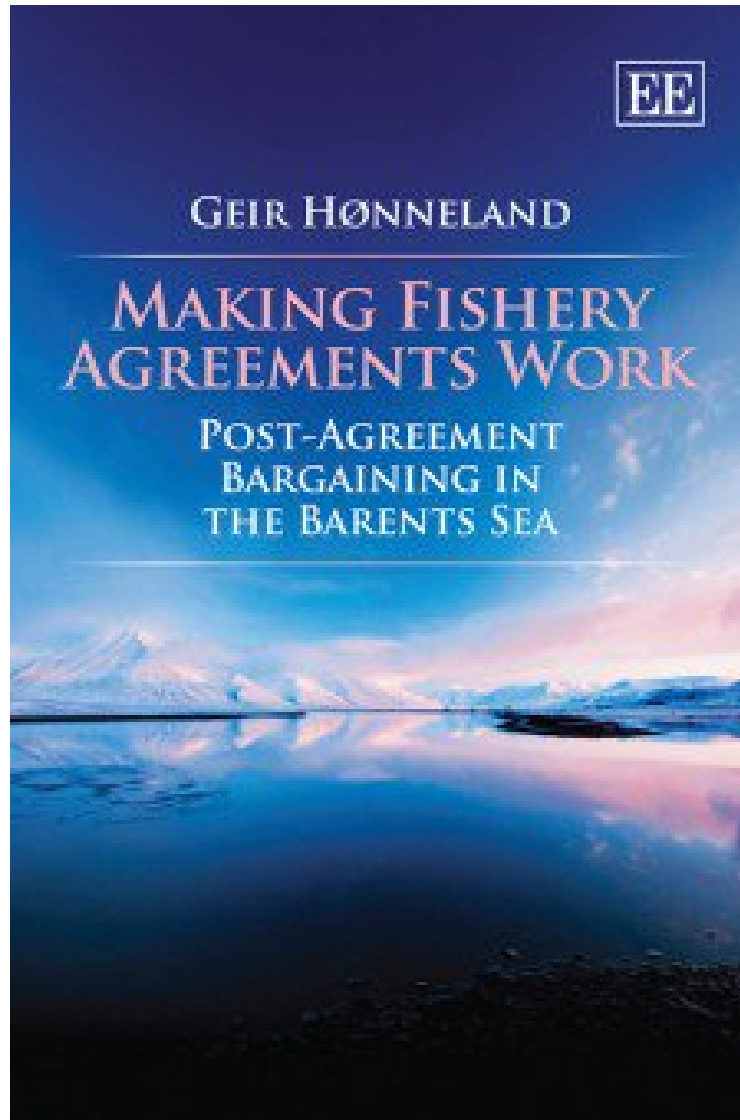


EE

GEIR HØNNELAND

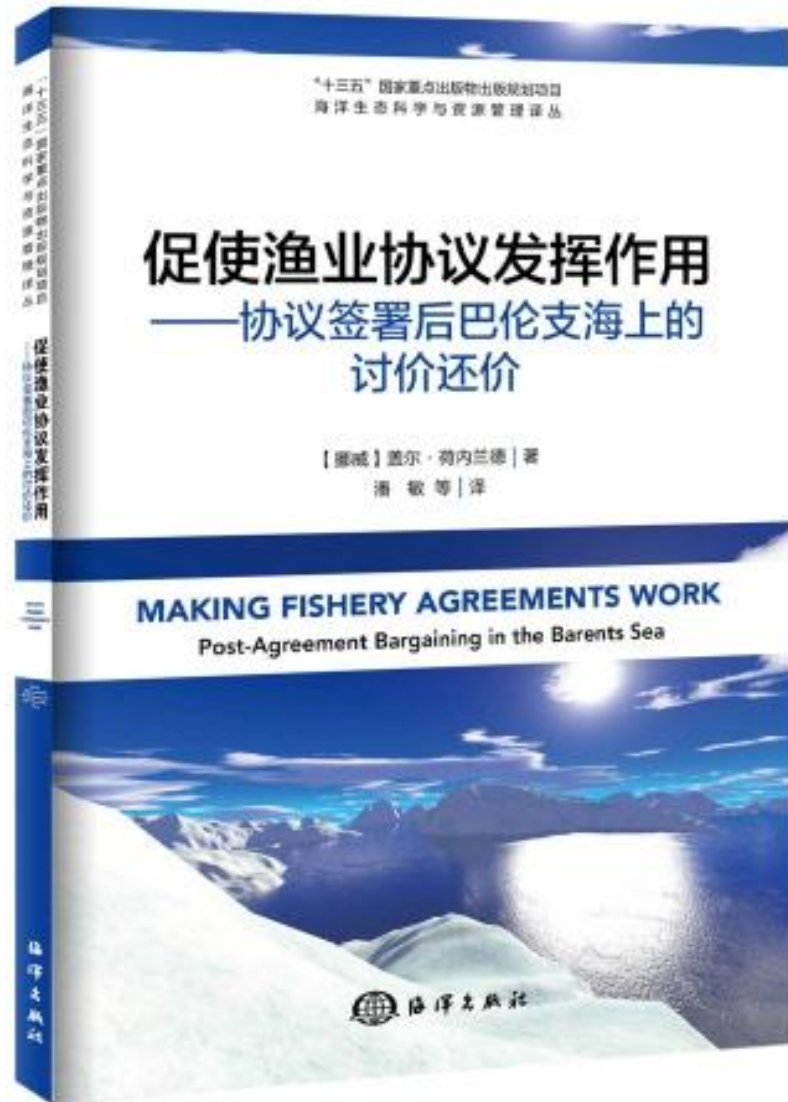
MAKING FISHERY AGREEMENTS WORK

POST-AGREEMENT
BARGAINING IN
THE BARENTS SEA



FRIDTJOF NANSENS INSTITUTT
FRIDTJOF NANSEN INSTITUTE

www.fni.no



- to be continued – see you after lunch!



Start at 10.50

