

## Understanding China's Arctic Policy

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#### China's Arctic Policy



- The Arctic Situation and Recent Changes
- China and the Arctic
- Policy Goals and Basic Principles on the Arctic
- Policies and Positions on Participating in Arctic Affairs

## An interpretation on the white paper

- Functions of the white paper;
- The characteristics of the white paper;
- The Marine management in the white paper;
- Polar Silk Road.



# **Function** A Explain China's Policies and Positions on Participating in Arctic Affairs to the outside world

- 1. Deepening the understanding of the Arctic
- 2. Protecting the Eco-environment of the Arctic and addressing climate change
- 3. Utilizing Arctic Resources in a Lawful and Rational Manner
- 4.Participating Actively in Arctic governance and international cooperation
- 5. Promoting peace and stability in the Arctic

## Function B, Coordinating with other Policies of China

- China's Policy tackling the challenge of Climate change;
- China's Belt and Road Initiative;
- China's Governing philosophy about the shared future of mankind;
- China's policies in UN, IMO, SDGs and other international regimes;
- The policies mentioned in the report of 19th national congress, CCP

# Function C. to guide relevant Chinese govt departs, institutions in Arctic-related activities

Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Ministry of Natural Resources
National Development and Reform Commission	Ministry of Education
Ministry of Industry and Information Technology	Ministry of Science and Technology
Ministry of Agriculture	Ministry of Finance
National Natural Science Foundation	Ministry of Transport
State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping	State Meteorological Administration
Private sectors	institutes and universities



#### Chinese Government promise

to regulate and supervise the activities of Chinese citizens, legal persons or other organizations in the Arctic in accordance with the law to ensure that their activities accord with international law and respect the relevant national laws on environmental protection, resource conservation, and sustainable development.

## Participating the Arctic Affairs in a *Lawful* Manner

- committed to the existing framework of international law including the UN Charter, UNCLOS, treaties on climate change and the environment, and rules of the IMO.
- It respects the environmental protection laws and regulations of the Arctic States.
- "law" appears 34 times.
- in accordance with law, law-based governance,
   follows international law, respect the laws of the Arctic
   States, enjoying their lawful right.... run through the

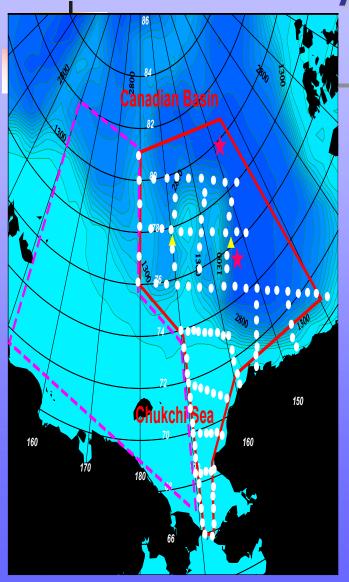


China respects the sovereign rights of Arctic
 States over oil, gas and mineral resources in the
 areas subject to their jurisdiction in accordance
 with international law, and respects the
 interests and concerns of residents in the region.

## Participating the Arctic Affairs in a *Rational* Manner

- The Arctic has abundant resources, but a fragile ecosystem.
  - China prioritizes scientific research, underscores the importance of environmental protection, rational utilization, law-based governance and international cooperation.
- As participating the activities such as shipping, resource development, submarine fiber-optic cables, should proceed in a sustainable way on the condition of properly protecting the Eco-environment of the Arctic
- be engaged in improving the Arctic environment by enhancing the environmental investigation and the assessment of their environmental impact.
- follows international law in the protection of the natural environment and ecosystem of the Arctic and conservation of its biological resources.
   Protecting the Environment, Protecting the Eco-system, Addressing climate change

#### **Arctic Marine Survey**



- 1.China has carried on 8 times Arctic Marine Survey in 1999,2003,2008,2010, 2012,2014,2016,and 2017 by R/V Xuelong
- 2. Scientific Purpose: the role of the Arctic in global change and its impact on China; the water mass exchange between Arctic ocean and the north Pacific and its impact on the north Pacific Ocean circulation variation, the Arctic ocean ecology system etc....



#### Marine Issues



 China plays a constructive role in IMO, and makes solid efforts to fulfill its international responsibilities for ensuring maritime navigational security and preventing its ships from polluting the maritime environment. advocates international cooperation in maritime technology and a globally coordinated solution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from maritime transport under the IMO framework.

## high seas fisheries regulation in the Arctic

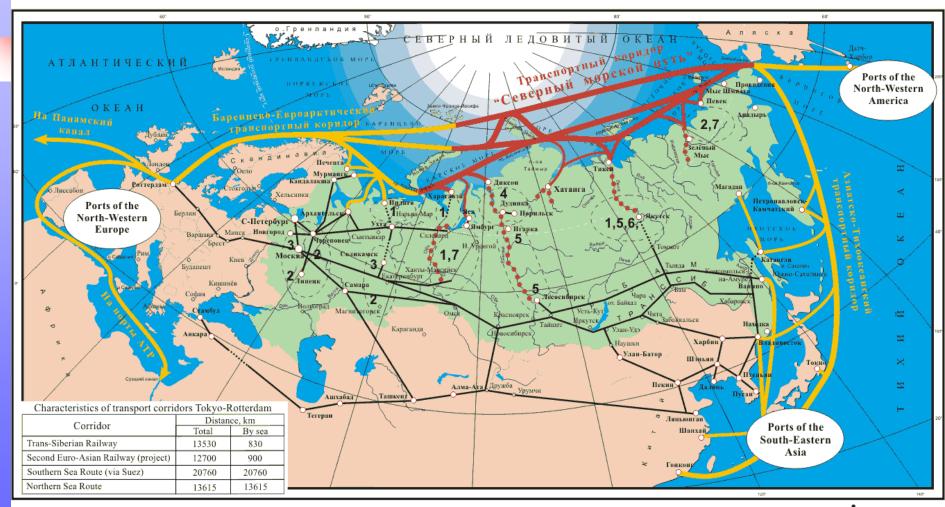
- China takes an active part in negotiations over high seas fisheries regulation in the Arctic, and calls for a legally binding international agreement for managing fishery resources in the high seas portion of the Arctic.
- The agreement should allow scientific research and exploratory fishing activities in the high seas portion of the Arctic, and protect the freedom of all States on the high seas in accordance with international law.

## China and Arctic: realities and possibilities

- a non-arctic state,
- an important stakeholder in Arctic affairs,
- a state near to Arctic,
- a user of the resources, or sea routes,
- a market of products from Arctic
- a participant of Arctic governance
- a partner of the sustainable development in Arctic
- a joint-builder of the new arctic economy,
- a provider of regional public goods
- a provider of the capital

MAT HET

#### NORTHERN SEA ROUTE AND TRANSPORT CORRIDORS "East-West-East"



Export: 1 - hydrocarbons, 2 - ferrous metals, 3 - mineral fertilizers, 4 - non-ferrous metals, 5 - timber, 6 - coal.

Import: 7 - food stuffs.

#### Symbols:

Sea transport corridors.

Railways.

Railways to be constructed.



River shipping lines.

Areas of the formation of cargo sources for the Northern Sea Route.



### Polar Silk Road: trace to the source

- 2011, Mr. Putin said, we see NSR future as an international transport artery capable of competing with traditional sea routes. The minister of Emergency management of Russia, Sergey Shoygu put forward the concept Polar silk road (Silk road on Ice) firstly in the "The Arctic: Territory of Dialogue".
- In 2013, Mr. Xi launched BRI first time. COSCO, Chinese shipping group, sent a ship from Chinese port to Rotterdam via the NSR.
- In May 2017, Mr. Wang Yi, China foreign Minister said to his Russian counterpart China will to support Russian initiative to jointly build polar silk road.
- In June 2017, a policy paper co-released by China's NDRC and SOA, which
  provided new insights into how the Arctic may be more closely tied to international
  trade and BRI.
- In November 2017 Mr. Xi and Mr. Medvedev, agreed that China and Russia should jointly develop and cooperate on the use of the North Polar sea route and build a Polar Silk Road.
- In January 2018, New-published "China's Arctic Policy" support joint-building a "Polar Silk Road". and facilitate connectivity and sustainable economic and social development of the Arctic.

#### China's Arctic Policy about PSR

- China hopes to work with all parties to build a "Polar Silk Road" through developing the Arctic shipping routes.
- It encourages its enterprises to participate in the infrastructure construction for these routes and conduct commercial trial voyages in accordance with the law to pave the way for their commercial and regularized operation.
- China attaches great importance to navigation security in the Arctic shipping routes. It has actively conducted studies on these routes and continuously strengthened hydrographic surveys with the aim to improving the navigation, security and logistical capacities in the Arctic.
- China abides by the Polar Code, and supports the IMO in playing an active role in formulating navigational rules for the Arctic.
- China calls for stronger international cooperation on infrastructure construction and operation of the Arctic routes.

#### China's advantage in PSR

 China advocates protection and rational use of the region and encourages its enterprises to engage in international cooperation on the exploration for and utilization of Arctic resources by making the best use of their advantages in capital, technology and domestic market.

#### Polar Silk Road Projects

- Yamal LNG projects;
- Arctic corridor railway project;
- China-Iceland cooperation;
- Tech cooperation for Science ,Monitoring and S&R.



## Green Tech emphasized in a Fragile Environment

- Huawei, one of the world's leaders in 5G, working with its partners in Europe, expects to play a major role in 5G in Finland. It will likely have a role aligned with the Arctic Corridor smart rail.
- China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and China Telecom Corp. are participating in discussions about building a 10,500-kilometer (6,500 miles) fiberoptic *Maritime Cable* link across the Arctic Circle. The proposal, which also involves Finland, Japan, Russia and Norway, aims to create the fastest data connection between Europe and China as soon as 2020.

# New Experience and Challenges

Cooperation with Arctic states is a new experience;

There are many differences between the cooperation in Arctic region and the ones in other regions along the Belt & Road

Multi-dimension of objectives for social-economic development in Arctic

Stricter environment protection law system

