

The European Arctic in EU post 2020 policies

How to turn local challenges into opportunities with global potential?

October 13, 13h00 – 14h30

Microsoft Teams

Elsi Katainen (RE) and **Erik Bergkvist** (S&D) welcomes you to participate in a virtual roundtable discussion on the Arctic together with the Northern Sparsely Populated Areas (NSPA). Please join representatives from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the European Commission and the European Parliament together with regional representatives from the European Arctic in efforts to answer the question of how to turn local challenges into opportunities with global potential, while discovering the territorial dimension of the EU post 2020 policies.

13h00 Welcome address

Elsi Katainen; *Member of the European Parliament (RE)*

Challenges and opportunities for the NSPA

José Enrique Garcilazo; *Head of Unit, Regional and Rural Policy, OECD*

Territorial dimension of the EU Cohesion Policy post 2020

Normunds Popen; *Deputy Director-General, Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission*

Global Arctic challenges

Urmas Paet; *Member of European Parliament (RE)*

Contributions from NSPA representatives

Nils-Olov Lindfors; *Chair NSPA network, Regional Councillor of Norrbotten, Sweden*

Mika Riipi; *Regional Councillor of Lapland, Finland*

Tomas Norvoll; *Regional Councillor of Nordland, Norway*

Virtual roundtable discussion

Moderator: Mikael Janson; *Director North Sweden European Office*

Co-moderator: Jenna Huhtanen, *Senior Adviser, East-North Finland European Office*

Closing remarks

Erik Bergkvist; *Member of the European Parliament (S&D)*

14h30 End

[Please click here to register!](#) (Last day to register October 11).

Some days in advance you will receive an e-mail with a meeting invitation to your calendar. The invitation will include a link to the webinar organised through Microsoft Teams.



[The Northern Sparsely Populated Areas \(NSPA\)](#)

represents the thirteen northernmost regions of Finland, Sweden and Norway. According to the OECD, the regions of the European Arctic face many common challenges such as harsh climate, long distances and sparse population (only 4.9 inhabitants per square kilometre in NSPA), as well as having economies that are heavily dependent on the performance of raw material-based industries. But at the same time, the regions are highly developed and among the most innovative in Europe with great potential to deliver crucial solutions to many of the global challenges.