

NSPA Forum 29–30 October
Mustaparta Hotels, Hallituskatu 6
Tornio, Finland

Thursday 29 October

PRE-ACTIVITIES

9:30–11:30	Study visit to The Museum of Torne Valley, Torikatu 4, Tornio
10:30–11:00	<i>The Native Kven People: A Thousand Years on the North Calotte: The History, Culture and Enduring Legacy of a Northern People</i> <u>Sigbjørn Rønbeck</u> , <i>Foreningen Norden, Tromsø</i>

THE FORUM

12:00 *Lunch at Mustaparta Hotels, Hallituskatu 6*

A. Welcome to the NSPA Forum

13:00	<u>Hannu Takkula</u> , <i>Regional Governor, Lapland</i> <u>Jonas Andersson</u> , <i>Chair NSPA network, Region Jämtland Härjedalen</i>
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B. Update on the New Arctic Strategy from NSPA perspective

13:30	Keynote on the New Arctic Strategy: Commission's perspective (video message) <u>Raphaël Goulet</u> , <i>Head of Unit, DG MARE</i> Keynote on the New Arctic Strategy: Focus on Arctic cooperation (video message) <u>Kalle Kankaanpää</u> , <i>Arctic Ambassador, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland</i> NSPA Views on the New Arctic Strategy <u>Päivi Ekdahl</u> , <i>Regional Development Director, Regional Council of Lapland, Finland</i>
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14:30 *Coffee break*

C. Panel discussion: Advancing green transition and sustainable development in the European Arctic

15:10	Panel discussion <u>Jaana Sorvali</u> , <i>Research Manager, Associate Professor, FIN Natural Resources Institute</i> <u>Kirsi Johansson</u> , <i>Senior Manager, Environmental Projects and Biodiversity, Outokumpu</i> <u>Political representative (name TBC)</u> <u>Ritva Isomäki</u> , <i>Head of Environment and Natural Resources, Council of Oulu Region</i> <u>Moderator: Tiina Paakkari</u> , <i>Senior Advisor, East and North Finland EU Office</i>
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D. Presentation: Northern Cross-Regional Collaboration (NCRC) project

16:10	Presentation <u>Markus Lundgren</u> , <i>Project Manager, Regio Norrbotten</i>
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16:35 *Interactive exercise: Alias game with NSPA Acronyms*

E. Update on the State of Play on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) discussions

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| 17:00 | Update on the State of Play on the MFF; NSPA perspective
<u>Hanna Honkamäkilä</u> , General Secretary, East and North Finland
<u>Kari Aalto</u> , Director, East and North Finland EU Office |
| 17:30 | Update on the National and Regional Partnership Plan negotiations
<u>Elsi Katainen</u> , MEP, AGRI Committee Rapporteur for NRPPs |
| 17:50 | European Competitiveness Fund and its possibilities for NSPA region
<u>Unna Löppönen</u> , Senior Advisor, East and North Finland EU Office |

18:10 *End of the Day*

19:00 *Dinner at the Mustaparta Hotels, Hallituskatu 6*

Friday 30 October

PRE-ACTIVITIES

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| 8:00 | NSPA Steering Committee Meeting for SC members
<i>Mustaparta Hotels, Hallituskatu 6</i> |
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9:00 Welcome and opening the second day of the Forum

F. Security, resilience, and changing geopolitics in the European Arctic

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| 9:10 | Presentation
<u>Johannes Puukki</u> , Policy Officer, NATO (video message)
<u>Tanja Joona</u> , Professor in Arctic Sustainability Science, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland |
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G. Reflections from EU projects: ACCESS – Aurora Cross-border Coalition for Eastern Strategy and Solutions & Experimentation Journey: Achieving Circularity

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| 9:55 | Presentation
<u>Vilma Ohrankämmen</u> , Project Manager, Local Federation of East Lapland
<u>Unna Löppönen</u> , Senior Advisor, East and North Finland EU Office |
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H. The Arctic Six University Alliance: Collaboration with the NSPA and the way forward

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| 10:30 | Presentation
<u>Kirsi Latola</u> , Co-Director of The Arctic Six |
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I. Views and best practices from Oulu, European Cultural Capital 2026

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| 10:50 | Presentation
<u>Piia Rantala-Korhonen</u> , Chief Executive Director of Oulu Culture Foundation |
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J. Summing up and welcome to the next Forum

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| 11:15 | <u>Jukka Kujala</u> , Mayor, City of Tornio
<u>Nils Sørheim Nilsen</u> , Director, North Norway European Office |
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11:40 *Closing the Forum and networking*

12:00 *Lunch at Mustaparta Hotels, Hallituskatu 6*