

The Regional Northern European Arctic Partnership invites you to

**Sustainable development of the Arctic region
to the benefit of all of Europe**

14:30-16:00, 9 October 2018,

Followed by a reception with an Arctic Award ceremony

Scotland House, Rond-Point Schuman 6, Brussels, Belgium



The Regional Partnership of **Northern European Arctic**, consisting of northern Sweden, Finland and Norway in the Northern Sparsely Populated Areas (NSPA), the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and Arctic Consensus, North Denmark, hereby invites to a workshop on **Sustainable Development of the Arctic Region to the benefit of all Europe**, hosted by Scotland Europa and the Scottish Government EU Office at Scotland House.

The European Arctic is situated at the heart of an on-going revival and revitalisation of the global peripheries, a process which will have impacts and benefits for the whole of Europe. The European Arctic is both vulnerable and scattered societies on the edge of Europe, as well as being at the front-line of climate adaptation and providing innovative solutions to common European challenges. These regions are also **at the centre of new geopolitical landscapes and tensions**, situated on globally needed resources and new global trading routes, which are facing many colliding interests.

There are several different “Arctics”. For the EU, the European Arctic is the gateway to the northern hemisphere at large, connecting central Europe to the Arctic Ocean north-south and to northern Asia respectively America east-west. Due to this, **EU is increasingly engaged in the sustainable development of the Arctic and so are the regions in the European Arctic in the North Atlantic and the Nordics**. The way ahead is a more adapted support and strategic cooperation cross borders. Research and innovation play an important role for a more integrated development.

The workshop will present relevant directions for the European Arctic to cope with external pressures and foster its own development capacity and will discuss the facilitating role the EU can play, focussing on smart specialisation, innovation and capacity building. It will feature a debate with leading research representatives, policy makers and practitioners from the region and the EU, together with a scene setter by the Nordic Council of Ministers research institute Nordregio.

The workshop will be **followed by the 2018 Arctic Award reception, where Arctic Cooperation, the network of EU Arctic programmes, will announce the winners** of the best Arctic cooperation projects.

You are cordially invited to register via the European Week of Regions and Cities registration site: https://europa.eu/regions-and-cities/programme/sessions/45_en. More information about the European week of Regions and Cities may be found on: <https://europa.eu/regions-and-cities/>. The Session Code for this workshop is: **9WS225**.

For further information, please contact Mikael Janson at North Sweden European Office for the Lead Partner Region Västerbotten: mikael.janson@northsweden.eu; +32 282 18 22; +32 485 14 69 66.