



The Arctic Institute of North America presents the 2020 – 2021

Arctic Speaker Series

Exploring *Diplomacy and the Arctic Council*

Speaker:

Danita
Burke

Date:

Thursday,
February 18, 2021

Time:

12:00 – 1:00 pm
Mountain Time

Location:

[AINA YouTube](#)



Created in 1996, the Arctic Council has facilitated over twenty years of successful regional cooperation between Russia and the seven other Arctic states - the United States, Canada, Norway, Kingdom of Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, and Finland. What has allowed this unity to continue despite political turmoil between these nations? Drawing on research in her book [Diplomacy and the Arctic Council](#), Dr. Danita Catherine Burke will discuss why major international events, such as the 2014 Russian-Ukrainian conflict over the Crimea region, did not cause the Arctic Council to implode. Burke argues

that the juxtaposition of the internal relationships and relative standing between the forum's key members (especially the Arctic states) with their reasoning behind forming and leading the forum in the first place is central to understanding how the Arctic Council works. Specifically, Burke argues that the practice of handling daily challenges to the Arctic Council's operations provides us with a fuller understanding of how and why the Arctic Council has been able to weather political storms such as the Crimea conflict. [For a preview of this talk's content please visit the Center for War Studies, SDU YouTube page.](#)

Biography: Dr. Danita Catherine Burke is based at the Center for War Studies, University of Southern Denmark and is the Founder of the [Women in the Arctic and Antarctic](#) initiative. Dr. Burke is currently a Fellow of the JR Smallwood Foundation and has previously held a Carlsberg Foundation Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship and a Rothermere Fellowship. Her work covers topics such as the evolution of Canada's national relationship with the ideas of the Arctic and North; Arctic regional cooperation, security and diplomacy; and the influence and impact of environmental organisations and animal rights groups on rural and vulnerable people throughout the wider Circumpolar North. Her publications include [Diplomacy and the Arctic Council](#), [International Disputes and Cultural Ideas in the Canadian Arctic: Arctic Sovereignty in the National Consciousness](#) and ["Re-establishing Legitimacy after Stigmatization: Greenpeace in the North American North."](#)

This event is **free and open to the public**

Email: arctic@ucalgary.ca Webpage: www.arctic.ucalgary.ca Phone: 403-220-7515