

Overview from wck|planning...

The Arctic is full of richness; ecological and cultural as well as economic. The competition has started on which nation will dominate; who will get the oil and gas and what happens to the indigenous populations. The Arctic Council is the only organization other than the United Nations with any responsibility. The international “no touch” policy applicable to Antarctica and Outer Space is not in place. Articles in CharacterTowns.org, #144, present part of the action. Lots to learn...

The Arctic Council

About

The Arctic Council is the leading intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, in particular on issues of sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic. It was formally established in 1996.

Arctic States

[The Ottawa Declaration](#) defines these states as Members of the Arctic Council: [Canada](#), [The Kingdom of Denmark](#), [Finland](#), [Iceland](#), [Norway](#), [The Russian Federation](#), [Sweden](#), [The United States](#)

Permanent Participants

Permanent Participants are organizations representing Arctic Indigenous peoples in the Council. They are supported by the [Indigenous Peoples Secretariat](#).

[Aleut International Association](#), [Arctic Athabaskan Council](#), [Gwich'in Council International](#), [Inuit Circumpolar Council](#), [Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North](#), [Saami Council](#).

What doesn't it do?

The Arctic Council is a forum; it has no programming budget. All projects or initiatives are sponsored by one or more Arctic States. Some projects also receive support from other entities. The Arctic Council does not and cannot implement or enforce its guidelines, assessments or recommendations. That responsibility belongs to individual Arctic States or international bodies.

The Arctic Council's mandate, as articulated in the Ottawa Declaration, explicitly excludes military security.

LINK: <https://arctic-council.org/en/about/>