



INFORMATION DIGEST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARCTIC

November 2020

KEY TOPICS:

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
DEFENSE AND SECURITY
TOURISM IN THE ARCTIC
NORTHERN SEA ROUTE



STATE POLICY IN THE ARCTIC

26 November 2020, Rossiyskaya Gazeta, Lenta.Ru, etc.

A Committee to prepare Russia's chairmanship in the Arctic Council is set to work

The President of the Russian Federation has signed a decree 'On establishing the Committee to prepare Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council in 2021–2023'.

Yury Trutnev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation and Presidential Plenipotentiary Envoy to the Far Eastern Federal District, is appointed the Chairman of the Organizing Committee.

The Organizing Committee will function in accordance with the action plan adopted to support Russia's chairmanship in the Arctic Council in 2021–2023. This plan will ensure achieving Russia's strategic goals on economic and social development of the Arctic and improving the country's global image.

The Arctic's sustainable development is among Russia's top priorities for the years of chairmanship in the Arctic Council," noted Anton Kobayakov, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation.

m.lenta.ru/pressrelease/2020/11/26/arcsovet/

23 November 2020, Izvestiya, The Arctic, TASS, MK, etc.

Mikhail Mishustin announced eight Russian development institutions to be liquidated

According to the Government plan, the functions of eight development institutions will be redistributed between VEB.RF and federal agencies.

The Far East and Arctic Development Fund, the Far East Human Capital Development Agency, Special Economic Zones JSC, and the Monocities Development Fund will be liquidated.

Also in accordance with the optimization plan, Prime Minister proposed to make the Federal Corporation for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME Corporation), Rusnano, Russian Export Center, the Russian Agency for Export Credit and Investment Insurance (EXIAR), Skolkovo Foundation, and three other funds part of VEB.RF Development Corporation.

"All of it will allow us to eliminate duplicate functions and form five major development institutions," noted Prime Minister.

ru.arctic.ru/economics/20201123/987646.html

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

25 November 2020, The Arctic, TASS

Experts told about the programme of Russia's future presidency in the Arctic Council

In the programme for its chairmanship in the Arctic Council in 2021–2023, Russia will build on a strong foundation of cooperation in the Arctic and use an inclusive approach to managing the Arctic region. "It is based on the concept of sustainable development, which implies a harmonious combination of the three components – social, economic and environmental," said Nikolay Korchunov, Ambassador-at-large of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for International Cooperation in the Arctic, senior official in the Arctic Council. In addition, Mr. Korchunov emphasized the importance of supporting regional proposals and initiatives of regional organizations, primarily to promote those projects that would be competitive and useful to partners of other Arctic states.

He also added that the issue of biosafety would be Russia's focus. The country intends to support projects to reduce emissions and address the consequences of accumulated environmental damage to the region.

Interest in addressing the consequences of climate change was also expressed by Deputy Minister for Development of the Russian Far East and Arctic Alexander Krutikov.

ru.arctic.ru/international/20201125/987983.html

20 November 2020, RIA Novosti, Izvestiya, etc.

Russian Foreign Ministry called for keeping the Arctic a peaceful region

"Moscow is concerned that the U.S. is projecting its military activities in the Arctic region, Russia advocates that it remains a field for peaceful cooperation," Nikolay Korchunov, Ambassador-at-large of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for International Cooperation in the Arctic, senior official in the Arctic Council.

"At present, we are witnessing Washington's attempts to securitize its approaches to the Arctic region. And those three strategies that have been adopted – the U.S. Department of Defence, the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Air Force – are the evidence of Washington's focus on primarily

projecting its military potential in this region, which we are, of course, concerned about," said Korchunov.

ria.ru/20201120/arktika-1585539815.html

DEFENCE AND SECURITY

17 November 2020, RIA Novosti, Izvestiya, etc.

Russia will place the newest Nebo-M radars

The airspace in the north of Russia and over the Arctic will be covered by the latest Nebo-M long-range radars.

According to the Ministry of Defence, the radars have already been installed and put into operation. They were instrumental in creating an impenetrable radar belt. The radars are capable of detecting any aircraft flying at a high altitude 600 km away and medium-range ballistic missiles flying high above the ground 1.8 thousand km away.

Deployment of the system brings Russia closer to the completion of a single air defence circuit over the Northern Sea Route and territories north of the Arctic Circle.

iz.ru/1087999/2020-11-17/v-rossii-razmestiat-noveishie-radary-nebo-m

NORTHERN SEA ROUTE

17 November 2020, The Arctic

Arktika icebreaker is on her maiden voyage along the Northern Sea Route

Arktika, the multi-purpose nuclear icebreaker, left the port of Murmansk for her maiden voyage along the Northern Sea Route. The vessel has set sail in the direction of the Kara Sea. The voyage will last until mid-December.

"Maiden voyage is a special event for the vessel's crew and for the whole company. Arktika, the nuclear icebreaker, is ready to provide escort along the whole Northern Sea Route. Now, it's the season of active ice formation in the Arctic. It's our opportunity for a good trial run. This is a normal process for any vessel after commissioning," said Leonid Irlitsa, First Deputy General Director, Director for Shipping at Atomflot.

After her maiden voyage is completed, the icebreaker will return to the port of Murmansk to resupply and will return to the Northern Sea Route in late December. During winter/spring navigation, the icebreaker will operate in the Arctic.

ru.arctic.ru/infrastructure/20201117/987390.html

TOURISM IN THE ARCTIC

26 November 2020, The Arctic

National project is planned to include a service for promoting tourism in the Arctic

The Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East and Arctic proposed to create a platform for promoting tourism in the Arctic. It is planned to be launched with the support of the Federal Agency for Tourism (Rostourism) as part of the corresponding national project.

As part of the service, any tourism operator that works in the Arctic and offers Arctic tours can contact professional consultants who are involved in marketing of tourism products. This service is free of charge. According to the First Deputy Minister of the Russian Federation for the

Development of the Far East and Arctic Alexander Krutikov, they can help with professional design and presentation of such products.

ru.arctic.ru/tourism/20201126/988455.html

16 November 2020, The Arctic

The Arctic Embassy visitor centre in Arkhangelsk will appear by the end of 2020

In December, Arkhangelsk will open a modern multifunctional interactive platform for those who want to learn more about the Arctic. Governor of Arkhangelsk Region Alexander Tsybulsky supported this platform for environmental education and training based on the Russian Arctic National Park.

The Arctic Embassy visitor centre will boast the total area of 700 sq. metres and will be located in the building of the Northern Shipping Company on the embankment of the Northern Dvina River. It will be one of city's landmarks.

ru.arctic.ru/infrastructure/20201116/987267.html

15 November 2020, TASS

16 projects in Murmansk Region will receive grants from Rostourism

"Murmansk Region will receive RUB 42 million for tourism projects. Out of 4,000 projects from all over the country that competed for a federal tourism development grant, 472 won. Murmansk Region will implement 16 of them," said Governor Andrey Chibis.

Governor Chibis specified that the subsidy will be given to the project of a restaurant on Sredny Peninsula with seafood and Arctic cuisine. One of the tour operators will use the grant funds to purchase an equipped minibus for people with disabilities. Hotel and mini-hotel owners plan to improve the quality of services through this grant.

tass.ru/obschestvo/10007621

The Roscongress Foundation – a socially oriented non-financial development institution and a major organizer of international conventions, congress, exhibitions, business, social and sporting, public, and cultural events.

The Foundation was established in 2007 with the aim of facilitating the development of Russia's economic potential, promoting its national interests, and strengthening the country's image. One of the roles of the Foundation is to comprehensively evaluate, analyse, and cover issues on the Russian and global economic agendas. It also offers administrative services, provides promotional support for business projects and attracting investment, and helps foster social entrepreneurship and charitable initiatives.

Each year, the Foundation's events draw participants from 208 countries and territories, with more than 15,000 media representatives working on-site at Roscongress' various venues. The Foundation benefits from analytical and professional expertise provided by 5000 people working in Russia and abroad. In addition, it works in close cooperation with 131 economic partners; industrialists' and entrepreneurs' unions; and financial, trade, and business associations from 70 countries worldwide. roscongress.org

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