



INFORMATION DIGEST

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THE ARCTIC

KEY TOPICS

March 2019



- On 9 April, Russian President Vladimir Putin is to participate in a plenary session of the Arctic Forum in St. Petersburg and hold meetings with foreign leaders.
- Business Programme of the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum Published.
- President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin instructed the cabinet to speed up the preparation of a program for the socio-economic development of the Arctic.

THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM BUSINESS PROGRAMME PUBLISHED

1 April 2019, TASS, RT, Rossiyskaya Gazeta, Gazeta.ru and others

President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin is to Participate in a Plenary Session of the International Arctic Forum 2019

On 9 April, Russian President Vladimir Putin is to participate in a plenary session of the Arctic Forum in St. Petersburg and hold meetings with foreign leaders, as reported by the Kremlin press service. Vladimir Putin will meet with the President of Iceland Guðni Thorlacius Jóhannesson, the President of Finland Sauli Niinistö, the Prime Minister of Norway Erna Solberg, and the Prime Minister of Sweden Stefan Lofven at the Forum.

tass.ru/politika/6282631



25 March 2019, Rossiyskaya Gazeta, TASS, RIA Novosti, Komsomolskaya Pravda and others

Business Programme of the ‘Arctic: Territory of Dialogue’ 5th International Arctic Forum Published

The programme of the ‘Arctic: Territory of Dialogue’ 5th International Arctic Forum, which is to take place in St. Petersburg on 9–10 April 2019, is published on the official Forum website.

The business programme consists of three main pillars: Coastal Territories, The Open Ocean, and Sustainable Development. A Youth Day will be held on the zero-day of the Forum.

The published Forum’s business programme reveals that the ‘Coastal Territories’ pillar also includes sessions on the digitization of the Arctic, the development of aviation and tourism in the Arctic. “The Forum is one of the world’s leading platforms for discussing international cooperation not only concerning the development of the Arctic economy, but also its social development, preservation, and improvements to its ecology and climate. Russia’s central economic project in the Arctic is the development of the Northern Sea Route. I am certain that effective solutions will be found within the framework of the business programme to increase the cargo base from 20 million to 80 million tonnes in five years pursuant to the goal set by Russian President Vladimir Putin,” Advisor to the Russian President Anton Kobayakov said.

rg.ru/2019/03/25/opublikovana-delovaia-programma-mezhdunarodnogo-arkticheskogo-foruma.html

STATE POLICY IN THE ARCTIC REGION

29 March 2019, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

Vladimir Putin Instructed to Accelerate the Development of the Arctic

Russian President Vladimir Putin instructed the cabinet to speed up the preparation of a program for the socio-economic development of the Arctic.

He called to take full advantage of international cooperation, given that the companies from abroad show great interest in such opportunities. “We are open for a broad partnership with other states for the implementation of large-scale mutually beneficial projects, from the development of natural resources and global transport corridors to science and environmental protection,” Vladimir Putin said. At that, Russia’s interests in the Arctic should be adequately protected. It is the main task in the region for the Ministry of Defence and the Federal Security Service.

rg.ru/2017/03/29/putin-poruchil-uskorit-razvitie-arktiki.html

28 March 2019, TASS

Vladimir Putin Instructed to Submit to the State Duma a Draft Law on State Support of Investments in the Arctic by 1 July

“To ensure that the State Duma receives the draft federal law, which provides for special measures of state support for investments in the Russian Arctic, encouraging geological exploration and building infrastructure facilities through private investment,” the instruction states.

Vladimir Putin also gave the Cabinet eight months to devise a draft strategy for the development of the Russian Arctic.

tass.ru/ekonomika/6270318

13 March 2019, RBK

The Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment Has Found a Way to Implement Vladimir Putin's Decree on Filling the Northern Sea Route Cargo Capacity

The Ministry of Natural Resources updated the cargo turnover forecast for the Northern Sea Route (NSR), bringing it up to the volume specified in the Presidential May Executive Orders, as stated in a document prepared by the agency under the government's instruction. The outlook was included in the plan for the 'Implementation of the Mineral and Logistical Potential of the Arctic', prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment together with the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Energy and the governors of the Arctic regions, forwarded to the Government on 11 March.

rbc.ru/business/13/03/2019/5c87d7af9a7947460f9c78e

NEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM

29 March 2019, TASS, Komsomolskaya Pravda, Izvestia, Russian.RT.com and others

The President of Iceland is to Lead the Country's Delegation at the International Arctic Forum

The President of Iceland Guðni Jóhannesson is to lead his country's delegation at the 5th International Arctic Forum, Ambassador of Iceland to Russia Sigríður Berglind Ásgeirsdóttir stated at a meeting with the Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation Anton Kobayakov on Thursday.

"Iceland is at the forefront of the international effort to develop the Arctic, and the Forum participation is to foster the cooperation between the countries," the diplomat noted.

She also reported that the delegation plans to meet with leaders of major Icelandic companies with representative offices in Russia.

tass.ru/ekonomika/6270246

26 March 2019, Forbes Russia, RT, Komsomolskaya Pravda, RIA Novosti and others

Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs Anders Samuelsen is to Lead the Country's Delegation at the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum

According to the Ambassador of Denmark in Moscow Carsten Sondergaard, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark Anders Samuelsen will participate in the International Arctic Forum 2019. It will be the second visit of the Minister, which signifies the high efficiency of the Forum's business programme and has a positive impact on the development of trade and economic relations between the two countries. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark would like to meet with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Sergei Lavrov on the sidelines of the Forum in St. Petersburg since a similar meeting in 2017 yielded tangible results."

forbes.ru/forbes-agenda/mezhdunarodnyy-arkticheskiy-forum-2019/373811-ministr-inostrannyh-del-danii-anders

26 March 2019, TASS, RIA Novosti, Rossiyskaya Gazeta, Komsomolskaya Pravda and others

Prime Minister of Sweden is to Take Part in the Arctic Forum in St. Petersburg

On 9 April, the Prime Minister of Sweden Stefan Lofven is to participate in the Arctic Forum in St. Petersburg. There he plans to hold a bilateral meeting with Vladimir Putin. The Forum provides an outstanding opportunity for a political dialogue with Russia and other participating countries on environmental and other Arctic issues, the Government Office also reports. Several countries of Northern Europe are to join in the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum in St. Petersburg.

tass.ru/politika/6261199

 ROSCONGRESS

22 March 2019, TASS, News.ru, Rambler.ru

8 April 2019: Youth Day at the International Arctic Forum

Russia's Federal Agency for Youth Affairs (Rosmolodezh) is co-organizing a Youth Day on 8 April at the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum.

Building communication is the fundamental idea of the Forum's entire Youth Day programme, communication between young Russian specialists, their foreign colleagues, and seasoned professionals in various fields of economics.

Youth Day will kick off with a networking session in a unique format that combines networking and education. Participants will be able to get to know each other, share their experience, and socialize with businesspeople and academics.

tass.ru/novosti-partnerov/6249039

21 March 2019, Izvestia, Russian.RT.com, Forbes Russia, RIA Novosti and others

Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Norway is to Lead Official Delegation at the International Arctic Forum

Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation Anton Kobayakov met with Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Norway to Russia Rune Resaland in Moscow. The parties discussed current issues of cooperation between the two countries, as well as the format of collaboration within the business programme of the International Arctic Forum.

"Norway is committed to the continuation of meaningful dialogue and the development of mutually beneficial relations with Russia. The Prime Minister of Norway Erna Solberg is to visit Russia for the first time since 2014. Together with the Minister of Foreign Affairs Ine Eriksen Søreide, they will take part in the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum," said Mr Resaland.

iz.ru/859182/2019-03-21/premer-ministr-norvegii-vozglavit-oficialnuiu-delegatsiyu-strany-na-mezhdunarodnom-arkticheskom

18 March 2019, Komsomolskaya Pravda, Forbes Russia, TASS, FederalPress and others

Support for Entrepreneurship in the Arctic – One of the Topics of the Forum

The Coastal Territories pillar of the business programme of the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum includes a special session on the development of small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) in the Russian Arctic regions. The session 'Small Business, Big Potential' is supported by the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation. The participants of the event are to discuss the particularities of running small and medium businesses in the Arctic region, which should be considered when envisioning state policies to support it.

The Arctic single-industry towns call for custom solutions, where small and medium-sized businesses are the only way to solve employment problems and diversify local economies.

"The national project 'SMEs and Support for Individual Entrepreneurial Initiatives' meets the critical objectives of developing the small business sector by 2024. The key indicators are the growth of the number of people employed in SMEs to 25 million and of GDP to 32.5% and support for small and medium-sized businesses in the Arctic," said Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation Vadim Zhivulin.

kp.ru/daily/26954/4008292/

12 March 2019, Interfax, TASS, Gazeta.ru, Rossiyskaya Gazeta, Komsomolskaya Pravda and others

International Arctic Forum 2019 to Focus on Developing Global Shipbuilding

Modern vessels construction development will be the topic of a special session as part of the 'Open Ocean' pillar of the business programme of the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum.

At present, the shipbuilding industry is actively developing advanced engines that run on more eco-friendly and cost-efficient fuels along with materials and structures, on-board systems, and technologies to protect vessels from ice and reduce the ice load. Four icebreakers are to be built by 2024 that run on liquefied natural gas and can ship raw materials year-round from the port of Sabetta. United Shipbuilding Corporation (USC) President Alexei Rakhmanov will take part in the session. "Even though USC is actively working to develop the export of our products further, the Russian market is the core market for us. It is why we will be extremely active at the Forum, exchanging experience with our colleagues on the introduction of the latest innovative solutions."

interfax.ru/events/news/653858

5 March 2019, Federal News Agency

President of Finland Arrives at the Arctic Forum in St. Petersburg in April

President of Finland Sauli Niinistö will lead the country's official delegation at the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum, reported the Ambassador of Finland to the Russian Federation Mikko Hautala on Tuesday at a meeting with the Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation Anton Kobayakov in Moscow. Sauli Niinistö plans to take part in the plenary session of the Forum together with the President of Russia Vladimir Putin.

The diplomat emphasized that in recent years there has been a strengthening of economic ties between the two countries, as well as the deepening of cooperation in the energy sector. In 2018, trade grew by 25% to USD 10 billion.

riafan.ru/1157514-prezident-finlyandii-priedet-na-arkticheskii-forum-v-peterburg-v-aprele

NEW DEVELOPMENT MECHANISMS FOR THE ARCTIC: SUCCESS STORIES

30 March 2019, VESTI Yamal

Nuclear Container Ship Sevmorput Delivered Cargo for the Arctic LNG 2 Project

The world's only nuclear-powered carrier, the container ship Sevmorput, undertook its first voyage for the Arctic LNG 2 project in five days. It is a project for the construction of three phases of liquefied natural gas production line based on the Utrenneye field. The atomic container ship Sevmorput independently passed through the Kara Strait, demonstrating excellent shipping qualities. In the Gulf of Ob, a nuclear-powered carrier took on the nuclear icebreaker 50 Let Pobedy, and then the atomic vessel Taimyr led the container ship to the unloading site for the pipes, steel structures, containers and construction equipment. Unloading will be completed by 5 April. In April, the second consignment will be delivered to Arctic LNG 2.

vesti-yamal.ru/ru/vesti_arktiki/atomnyiy_konteynerovoz_sevmorput_dostavil_gruz_dlya_proekta_arktik

For reference:

The Roscongress Foundation is a socially oriented non-financial development institution and a major organizer of international conventions, exhibitions, and public events.

The Roscongress Foundation was founded 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.

The Foundation's events draw more than 80,000 participants each year from 195 countries, with more than 10,000 media representatives working on-site at Roscongress' various venues. The Foundation benefits from analytical and professional expertise provided by 2,500 people working in Russia and abroad. In addition, it works in close cooperation with economic partners from 75 countries worldwide.



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