

'ARCTIC: TERRITORY OF DIALOGUE' INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM BUSINESS PROGRAMME

March 26–27, 2025, Murmansk

Programme accurate as at March 21, 2025

March 26, 2025

10:00–11:30

AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 1

[The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: A Magnet for Investment](#)

The Enchanting North: Prospects for Tourism Beyond the Arctic Circle

Russia has immense infrastructure and natural potential for developing Arctic tourism: the Northern Lights, the traditional way of life of indigenous northern peoples, the world's longest skiing season, the industrial resources of major corporations, and, of course, the Northern Sea Route (NSR). However, Arctic tourism accounts for only 5% of all tourist trips. The year 2025 has been declared the Year of Arctic Tourism, aiming to draw attention to the industry's development beyond the Arctic Circle. What types of tourism have the greatest potential for growth in the region, and what economic impact could they bring? What challenges does Arctic tourism face? To what extent do new approaches to tourism planning incorporate a comprehensive strategy for Arctic development while ensuring the preservation of its fragile environment and the socio-economic progress of Arctic regions? What do Arctic tourists need? How will government support measures influence tourism development in the region? And what steps are necessary to improve the sector's performance? What role does tourism play in diversifying the economies of cities where major industrial companies operate? Can the NSR and cruise tourism in the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation (AZRF) successfully compete with foreign Arctic cruise lines? What new locations could emerge as key growth areas for Arctic tourism?

Moderator:

- **Bogdan Bulychev**, Traveler, Blogger, Author of the "About Travel" Channel

Panellists:

- **Rishat Bagautdinov**, General Director, Vodokhod
- **Alexander Biba**, President, Cosmos Hotel Group
- **Andrey Grachev**, Vice President for Federal and Regional Programs, Norilsk Nickel; Member, Public Council under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation
- **Mayya Lomidze**, Executive Director, Association of Tour Operators of Russia (ATOR)
- **German Simakov**, General Director, Tirvas
- **Alexander Tsybulskiy**, Governor of Arkhangelsk Region
- **Dmitry Vakhrukov**, Deputy Minister Economic Development of the Russian Federation (online)
- **Nikolay Zapryagaev**, General Director, Corporation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Anna Zhigulskaya**, Head of the Project Office for Internal Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility, Rosatom

Front row participants:

- **Roman Kuryin**, Deputy Minister for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters of the Russian Federation
- **Ksenia Titova**, Executive Director of the Asset Management Unit, VEB.RF

10:00–11:30

ДК им. С.М. Кирова, 1-й этаж
conference hall 3

[The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Developing Key Settlements](#)

State Support for Northern Supply Chains: Challenges and Prospects

Russia's federal law on northern supply chains came into force one year ago. The strategic goal of the new law is to reduce the cost of essential goods for the population. The northern territories that are receiving such supplies experience extremely difficult natural and climatic conditions. Multi-stage logistics results in long delivery times, the risk of supply disruptions, and increased prices for goods delivered to the north. Moreover, in the current economic conditions, the cost of debt financing has increased substantially, which also leads to higher prices for essential goods. What state support measures are needed to reduce the costs of purchasing and delivering goods to the north? Are budget-funded loans currently being provided? Are there plans to introduce preferential tariffs in the northern territories where such goods are delivered? What areas need to be optimized for supply logistics? How will this affect the speed and cost of delivery?

Moderator:

- **Mikhail Kuznetsov**, Director, Eastern State Planning Center (FANU Vostokgosplan)

Panellists:

- **Gadzhimagomed Guseynov**, First Deputy Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Nikolay Kharitonov**, Chairman of the Committee on the Development of the Far East and the Arctic, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Vladislav Kuznetsov**, Governor of the Chukotka Autonomous Region
- **Andrey Nagibin**, Chairman of the Board, Executive Director, Green Patrol; Head of the public environmental project "Clean Arctic"
- **Aisen Nikolaev**, Head of Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- **Vladimir Panov**, Special Representative for the Development of the Arctic, State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM; Deputy Chairman, The State Commission for Arctic Development
- **Alexander Poshivai**, Deputy Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation (**online**)
- **Andrey Shevchenko**, Chairman, Committee on Federal Structure, Regional Policy, Local Self-Government and Northern Affairs, Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

10:00–11:30AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 2

The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Developing Key Settlements

The Muravyov Amursky 2030 Programme: Careers in the Arctic and Far East for the Ambitious

Russia's Arctic zone is a unique territory that has a combination of natural resources, economic potential, and amazing, strong-willed people. Fortitude is one of the key features that distinguishes graduates and cadets of the Muravyov-Amursky 2030 civil service management training programme. The discussion will primarily focus on the problem of recruiting, training, and retaining highly-skilled professionals in areas that have harsh climates and are far away from large urban centres. The session participants will discuss the approaches used by regional management when ready-made solutions cannot be applied and examine modern challenge management training methods and programmes, as well as advanced tools and time-tested methods that have proven their effectiveness. They will pay special attention to the approaches and applied tools used in educational programmes that combine deep regional immersion with growth in professional and personal skills. How can we develop intellectual and complex types of digital activities based on raw materials? How can we attract skilled professionals to the Arctic zone and create a generation of managers who are capable of solving problems instead of just eliminating symptoms? How can we adopt and transform Russian management experience based on the specifics of these territories? Considering that the stable development of human capital is the key to the future of the region, the discussion about training young specialists to work in situations of uncertainty is one of the most pressing topics of the session.

Moderator:

- **Kseniya Kishkareva**, Director of the Project Office "Muravyov-Amursky 2030", Social Initiatives Development Fund NO

Panellists:

- **Alexey Chekunkov**, Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Andrey Chibis**, Governor of Murmansk Region
- **Pavel Maryandyshev**, Acting Rector, Lomonosov Northern (Arctic) Federal University; Member of the Coordinating Council for Youth Affairs in the Scientific and Educational Spheres of the Council under the President of the Russian Federation for Science and Education
- **Igor Muraev**, Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Arkhangelsk Region
- **Tatyana Terentyeva**, Deputy Director General for Human Resources, State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM
- **Anton Yaremchuk**, Deputy Governor of the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug

12:00–13:30ДК им. С.М. Кирова, 1-й этаж
conference hall 3

The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: A Magnet for Investment

A Special Regime: Incentives for Businesses in the Arctic

The Russian Arctic is a strategically important region where numerous investment projects of various scales are being implemented in a wide range of industries. Many of them receive state support in the form of administrative preferences and tax breaks as part of the preferential regimes that exist in the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation (AZRF) and advanced special economic zones (ASEZ). The federal law on state support for entrepreneurship in the AZRF was adopted on 13 July 2020 and has

been providing assistance to new investment projects. Over the almost five years that have passed since then, more than 900 companies have become residents of the AZRF. The ASEZ regime is also in effect in the Arctic in the Murmansk and Arkhangelsk Regions, as well as the Chukotka Autonomous District. How can we assess the work of the preferential regimes over these five years? What new solutions could be applied in the Arctic to create new enterprises and maintain the capacity of existing ones? What tools will truly help strengthen and develop business in the harsh conditions of the North?

Moderator:

- **Nikolay Zapryagaev**, General Director, Corporation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic

Panellists:

- **Maxim Belov**, Co-founder, Director of Strategic Development, Deputy General Director for Development, Ivekta Group
- **Ilya Chernov**, Director of the Department of the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation and the Implementation of Infrastructure Projects, Ministry of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Elena Dyagileva**, Member of the Committee of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on Budget and Financial Markets
- **Georgy Fotin**, General Director, Baimskaya Management
- **Andrey Grachev**, Vice President for Federal and Regional Programs, Norilsk Nickel; Member, Public Council under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation
- **Vladislav Kuznetsov**, Governor of the Chukotka Autonomous Region
- **Valentina Pivnenko**, Deputy Chairwoman of the Committee on Development of Far East and the Arctic of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Gaia Sobolev**, Advisor to the General Director, Valla-Tunturi

Front row participant:

- **Yanina Svidskaya**, Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Republic of Karelia

12:00–13:30

AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 2

[The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Competing on the Global Stage](#)

The Northern Sea Route: 500 Years of History

The emergence of the Northern Sea Route, possibly the last of today's major logistical corridors, was predicted half a millennium ago, in 1525, by Russian diplomat Dmitry Gerasimov. His hypothesis about the possibility of a maritime passage from Europe to China along Russia's northern coast laid the groundwork for the first map of the NSR. Ultimately, charting a route through the Arctic seas proved as challenging as reaching space. To ensure the uninterrupted transport of goods through the northern waters, Russia built the world's only fleet of nuclear icebreakers. In the 21st century, the Northern Sea Route is not only a strategically vital national transport artery connecting the country's Arctic regions but also a unique logistical corridor attracting growing international interest. What discoveries and achievements have contributed to the development of the NSR, and what is its primary driver today? How does the route impact the standard of living in Arctic regions? What makes its strategic and geopolitical significance unique? In which industries is the NSR becoming a catalyst for technological innovation? And what does the future hold for the Northern Sea Route?

Moderator:

- **Maxim Dankin**, General Director, Arctic Development Project Office Expert Center

Panellists:

- **Pavel Filin**, Deputy Director, Private Institution "Museum and Exhibition Center for Technical and Technological Development of the Arctic"
- **Ke Jin**, Representative, New New Shipping Line
- **Dmitriy Kushnarev**, Senior Vice President, Head of Sales, Commerce and Logistics, Norilsk Nickel
- **Vladislav Maslennikov**, Director of the Department of European Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation
- **Vladimir Panov**, Special Representative for the Development of the Arctic, State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM; Deputy Chairman, The State Commission for Arctic Development
- **Igor Tonkovidov**, Chairman of the Management Board, Chief Executive Officer, Sovcomflot

12:00–13:30

AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 1

The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Developing Key Settlements

Developing Key Settlements: Priorities Set by the People

The Northern Sea Route, the main artery of the Arctic, plays a crucial role in the development of key settlements. But what is life like in these communities, from regional governors to small-town leaders, from business representatives to development institutions that lay the groundwork for enterprises both large and small? How effective are strategic initiatives aimed at improving living and business conditions while accounting for the Arctic's unique climate? How will the master plans developed for key settlements contribute to the macroregion's growth? And to what extent do these initiatives align with the priorities of the people who live and work there?

Moderator:

- **Natalya Litovko**, Anchor, Russia 24 TV Channel

Panellists:

- **Alexey Chekunkov**, Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Andrey Chibis**, Governor of Murmansk Region
- **Artem Dovlatov**, Deputy Chairman, VEB.RF
- **Marina Kirdakova**, Director of the Department for Interaction with Regions, State Atomic Energy Corporation Rosatom
- **Alexander Lomakin**, First Deputy Minister of Construction, Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation
- **Roman Trotsenko**, Founder, Chairman of the Board of Directors, AEON Corporation
- **Alexander Tsybulskiy**, Governor of Arkhangelsk Region
- **Nikolai Utkin**, First Vice President – Head of Government Relations, Member of the Management Board, Norilsk Nickel

Front row participants:

- **Maxim Chengaev**, Head of the City of Polyarnye Zori, Murmansk Region
- **Alexander Danilov**, Director General, Steel Construction Development Association

12:00–13:30

ДК им. С.М. Кирова, 3-й этаж
conference hall 4

International Cooperation and the Environment

Permafrost Thaw: Geotechnical Monitoring and Adaptive Measures

Scientists estimate that permafrost thawing will cause more than RUB 7–10 trillion in damages to residential and industrial buildings and structures by 2050, and this does not include the linear infrastructure of oil and gas companies and future investments in development. Environmental risks are difficult to assess at this point since rising temperatures in the Arctic have a complex systemic effect on the planet's climate. Russia needs to create an effective state system for the geotechnical monitoring of the condition of buildings and structures located in permafrost areas in order to predict the risks that could arise from its degradation. A system of preventive measures also needs to be developed to minimize possible damage. Who should be involved in creating a state system of geotechnical permafrost monitoring and how should areas of responsibility be distributed among the planners of this system? What aspects of developing a state geotechnical monitoring system should be regulated by legislation, and which agencies should create the legislative framework? Do new legislative acts need to be drafted or is it enough to make adjustments to existing legislation? What work is being carried out now, what are the interim results of the work on the draft law on geotechnical permafrost monitoring, and what steps will be taken in the future? What is the international community's role in monitoring the state of permafrost and ensuring the reliability of infrastructure in the Arctic? What best permafrost monitoring practices that have been developed by corporations operating in the region can be replicated?

Moderator:

- **Mikhail Kuznetsov**, Director, Eastern State Planning Center (FANU Vostokgosplan)

Panellists:

- **Sakhamin Afanasyev**, Member of the Committee of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on Federal Structure, Regional Policy, Local Government and Northern Affairs
- **Sardana Avksentieva**, Deputy Head of the Faction, "New People" Political Party
- **Nikolay Kharitonov**, Chairman of the Committee on the Development of the Far East and the Arctic, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Alexander Makarov**, Director, Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute
- **Stanislav Seleznev**, Vice President for Environment and Industrial Safety, Norilsk Nickel
- **Nazar Sotiriadi**, Executive Director of the Risks Block, Sberbank
- **Mikhail Zheleznyak**, Director, Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science "P.I. Melnikov Permafrost Institute of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences"

14:00–15:30

AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 2

International Cooperation and the Environment

Protecting the Arctic Environment: Strategies for Cooperation Between the State and Business

In partnership with Norilsk Nickel

The Arctic is one of the most fragile ecosystems on the planet. The priority for Arctic development should be environmental conservation, ensuring a balance between economic activity, human presence, and the preservation of nature. Since 2018, Russia has been implementing the Ecology national project, aimed at improving environmental conditions and enhancing public health. In 2025, Russia launched the national project Environmental Well-Being, which includes six federal programmes: General Cleaning, Closed Cycle Economy, Water of Russia, Clean Air, Forest Conservation, and Preservation of Biodiversity and Development of Ecotourism. What achievements have been made under the Ecology national project? What are the government's plans for the Environmental Well-Being project by 2030? What investment initiatives have businesses implemented, and how have they contributed to environmental improvements? What forms of cooperation between the state and businesses can enhance the effectiveness of environmental policies?

Moderator:

- **Alexander Zakondyrin**, Director, All-Russian Research Institute for Environmental Protection

Panellists:

- **Alexander Makarov**, Director, Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute
- **Igor Muraev**, Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Arkhangelsk Region
- **Vladimir Panov**, Special Representative for the Development of the Arctic, State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM; Deputy Chairman, The State Commission for Arctic Development
- **Tatiana Sakharova**, Deputy Chairman of the Federation Council Committee of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on Agricultural and Food Policy and Environmental Management
- **Valery Semenov**, Deputy Governor of Krasnoyarsk Krai
- **Nikolai Utkin**, First Vice President – Head of Government Relations, Member of the Management Board, Norilsk Nickel

Front row participant:

- **Andrey Nagibin**, Chairman of the Board, Executive Director, Green Patrol; Head of the public environmental project "Clean Arctic"

14:00–15:30

ДК им. С.М. Кирова, 1-й этаж
conference hall 3

The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Developing Key Settlements

Best Practices for Relations Between Indigenous Peoples and Businesses: Achievements and New Opportunities

Even though projects in the Russian Arctic have a major impact on the global economy, they also pose potential risks for fragile ecosystems and vulnerable communities, in particular Indigenous peoples who live in harsh natural and climatic conditions, while preserving and leading traditional lifestyles and economic activities. This requires the introduction of special systemic measures to protect the native habitat of such peoples. To prevent these risks, an open and honest dialogue is needed between all stakeholders – government bodies, industrial companies, and associations of Indigenous peoples. An effective solution would be to harmonize the mandatory and voluntary measures taken by the authorities and businesses to ensure environmental safety and the sustainable development of Indigenous peoples.

Moderator:

- **Aleksey Tsykarev**, Chairman, Center "Young Karelia"; Program Director, All-Russian competitive educational program "Indigenous Peoples. School of Public Diplomacy"

Panellists:

- **Andrey Ageev**, Chairman of the Council of Representatives of Indigenous Peoples of the North under the Government of the Murmansk Region
- **Igor Barinov**, Head, Russian Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs
- **Vladimir Chernogradsky**, Minister for the Development of the Arctic and Affairs of the Peoples of the North of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)
- **Vasiliy Chikinov**, Director of Legal, Corporate and Regulatory Affairs, Nordgold Management
- **Grigorii Diukarev**, Commissioner for the Rights of Small-Numbered Indigenous Peoples in the Krasnoyarsk Krai

- **Natalia Dorpeko**, Executive Director, National Network of the United Nations Global Compact in Russia (**online**)
- **Antonina Gorbunova**, Executive Director, Union of Indigenous Peoples "SOYUZ"; Member, United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- **Andrey Grachev**, Vice President for Federal and Regional Programs, Norilsk Nickel; Member, Public Council under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation
- **Hanieh Moghani**, Vice-Chair of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- **Aleksandr Noviukhov**, First Vice President, Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and Far East of the Russian Federation; Member of the Committee of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on Rules and Organization of Parliamentary Activities
- **Prabindra Shakya**, Head, Asia Indigenous Peoples Network on Extractive Industries and Energy (AIPNEE); Director, Community Empowerment and Social Justice Network (CEMSOJ) (**online**)

14:00–15:30

AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 1

An Integrated Approach to the Development of the Arctic: the Formation of the National Project "Development of the Arctic and the Northern Sea Route"

Moderator:

- **Alexander Krutikov**, General Director, Crystal of Growth Foundation

Panellists:

- **Dmitry Artyukhov**, Governor of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Region
- **Alexey Chekunkov**, Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Andrey Chibis**, Governor of Murmansk Region
- **Kirill Dmitriev**, Chief Executive Officer, Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF); Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for Investment and Economic Cooperation with Foreign Countries
- **Igor Levitin**, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation; Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for International Cooperation in the Field of Transport
- **Nikolay Patrushev**, Aide to the President of the Russian Federation; Chairman of the Maritime Collegium of the Russian Federation
- **Alexander Tsybulskiy**, Governor of Arkhangelsk Region
- **Alexey Tsydenov**, Head of the Republic of Buryatia

Front row participants:

- **Rostislav Goldshtein**, Acting Head of the Komi Republic
- **Vladislav Kuznetsov**, Governor of the Chukotka Autonomous Region
- **Arthur Parfenchikov**, Head of the Republic of Karelia
- **Mikhail Ratmanov**, Deputy Head, FMBA of Russia
- **Sergey Shishkarev**, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Delo Group of Companies
- **Sergey Vakhrukov**, Head of the Presidential Administration of the Russian Federation for National Maritime Policy

16:00–17:30

AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 2

The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Competing on the Global Stage

A Long Term Development Model for the Northern Sea Route

In partnership with the State Atomic Energy Corporation Rosatom

Modern achievements in the Arctic have been made possible by the 500-year history of the Northern Sea Route. Throughout this history, Russia has led the way in the discovery, exploration, and development of both the route and the Arctic as a whole. Expanding the capabilities of the Northern Sea Route remains one of the state's key priorities. Russia is creating a global transport corridor that can unlock the potential of the challenging Arctic territories. Cooperation with Southeast Asian countries, India, and the Persian Gulf in this endeavour is opening new opportunities and strengthening trade and logistics ties. The development of the Northern Sea Route involves the formation of a new economic model, the expansion of the Arctic icebreaker and cargo fleets, and ensuring year-round navigation along the route. What are the key aspects of this new economic model? What are the prospects for the Northern Sea Route, and how can they be utilized? How can logistics within the route's waters be made more predictable and efficient? What directions and mechanisms of international cooperation will drive the development of the Northern Sea Route?

Moderator:

- **Mikhail Bazhenov**, Partner, Head of the Strategy, Investments and Operations Consulting, Technologies of Trust

Panellists:

- **Alexey Chekunkov**, Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Andrey Chibis**, Governor of Murmansk Region
- **Roman Kurynin**, Deputy Minister for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters of the Russian Federation
- **Igor Levitin**, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation; Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for International Cooperation in the Field of Transport
- **Alexey Likhachev**, Director General, State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM
- **Aisen Nikolaev**, Head of Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- **Andrey Shevchenko**, Chairman, Committee on Federal Structure, Regional Policy, Local Self-Government and Northern Affairs, Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Sergey Shishkarev**, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Delo Group of Companies
- **Alexander Tsybulskiy**, Governor of Arkhangelsk Region

16:00–17:30

ДК им. С.М. Кирова, 3-й этаж
conference hall 4

International Cooperation and the Environment

The Arctic: Building Bridges Between Nations and Communities

The Arctic is a unique region that has been attracting more and more attention from the international community in recent years. Climate change is opening up new opportunities for the development of this hard-to-reach region of the planet, also known as the land of white silence. The growing interest in the Arctic is due to a complex set of geopolitical, economic, environmental, cultural, and other factors. The Arctic is taking on greater strategic, economic, resource, environmental, transport, and logistics importance. From its remote location on the globe, the Arctic is gradually turning into a centre of attraction with which many countries link their future development. Revived interest in the Arctic is clearly being seen among Asian countries, which have had sustainable economic growth in recent decades. During the session, the participants will discuss key aspects of international cooperation, including the development of the Northern Sea Route as a global transport artery, as well as how to attract foreign investment for Arctic projects and strengthen partnerships with non-Arctic countries to implement joint initiatives. How is transport infrastructure developing in the Arctic? Which investment projects are most in demand within Russia's Arctic zone? What kind of international research centres are being built in the Arctic? What measures are being taken to preserve the region's ecosystem and develop educational and cultural exchanges? How can we unlock the potential of Arctic tourism?

Moderator:

- **Natalia Vyahireva**, Senior Research Fellow, Head of Canada Section, Georgy Arbatov Institute for U.S. and Canada Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences

Panellists:

- **Anurag Bisen**, Senior Fellow, Vivekananda International Foundation (**online**)
- **Elizabeth Buchanan**, Senior Fellow, Australian Strategic Policy Institute (**online**)
- **Vladislav Maslennikov**, Director of the Department of European Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation
- **Igor Muraev**, Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Arkhangelsk Region
- **Ildar Neverov**, General Director, State Trust Arktikugol

Front row participants:

- **Gavril Kirillin**, Minister of External Relations and Ethnic Affairs of the Republic of Sakha Yakutia
- **Lily Ong**, Owner, Geopolitics360 SP

16:00–17:30

AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 1

The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Competing on the Global Stage

Strategic Session

A Development Pathway for the Arctic in the New Reality

The development of Russia's Arctic zone remains one of the country's top strategic objectives. Given the new challenges and limited resources, it is crucial to identify priority areas for the region's sustainable socioeconomic development, balance the interests of the state, business, and society, and reconceptualize international cooperation. During the panel discussion, leading experts and representatives of the federal authorities, major corporations, and development institutions will discuss key issues concerning the implementation of the Arctic development strategy, evaluate key initiatives,

and propose practical solutions for the effective development of the region. What results have been achieved in the first stage of implementing the strategy for Russia's Arctic zone? Which industries are expected to become the main drivers of Arctic development in the coming years? How can we balance the interests of the state, business, and the population when developing the Arctic? What strategic initiatives deserve priority attention? How can we ensure the sustainable development of the region given budget constraints? What role does the Arctic play for Russia and the international community? What aspects of international cooperation should be taken into account when formulating a strategy?

Moderator:

- **Mikhail Kuznetsov**, Director, Eastern State Planning Center (FANU Vostokgosplan)

Panellists:

- **Tatyana Gromova**, Deputy Head, The Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography (Rosreestr)
- **Nikolay Kharitonov**, Chairman of the Committee on the Development of the Far East and the Arctic, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Alexander Krutikov**, General Director, Crystal of Growth Foundation
- **Pavel Maryandyshev**, Acting Rector, Lomonosov Northern (Arctic) Federal University; Member of the Coordinating Council for Youth Affairs in the Scientific and Educational Spheres of the Council under the President of the Russian Federation for Science and Education
- **Svetlana Panfilova**, Deputy Governor of the Murmansk Region; Minister of Arctic Development and Economy of the Murmansk Region
- **Alexander Pilyasov**, General Director, Regional Consulting Institute; Professor, Lomonosov Moscow State University

16:00–17:30

ДК им. С.М. Кирова, 1-й этаж
conference hall 3

[The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: A Magnet for Investment](#)

The Northern Creative Route: A Hub of Opportunities for Business

The Arctic is a land of endless ice, virgin landscapes, and extreme living conditions that over the centuries have given birth to a unique indigenous culture and people of indomitable spirit. Besides a wealth of natural resources, the region also represents untapped potential for the development of the creative industries that are driving economic growth and cultural exchange in this 21st century and playing an increasingly vital role in the modern world. More than just creating products and services, they shape trends, stimulate innovation, and help the nation gain a better understanding of itself. For the creative industries to develop effectively in the Arctic, we must help business, the government, and cultural institutions learn how to interact more sustainably with each other. Doing so will benefit the regional economy and contribute to the preservation of its unique culture and nature for the generations to come. What role do the creative industries play in the modern economy and where can we find unrealized opportunities for growth? How can we effectively build sustainable interaction between business, government, and cultural institutions to create sustainable growth models? How can we use the wealth of Russia's cultural traditions to create unique brands that will be in demand on the international stage? How can public policy and private initiatives work together to support creative industries in the Arctic? How can the northern regions become a hotspot for innovation, creativity, and creative entrepreneurs?

Moderator:

- **Vera Podguzova**, Senior Vice President, Director of External Relations Directorate, Promsvyazbank

Panellists:

- **Andrey Fedotov**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) to the President of the Russian Federation – First Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)
- **Alexander Kott**, Director, Screenwriter, Producer
- **Denis Kravchenko**, Deputy Chairman of the Committee of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on Economic Policy (**online**)
- **Ruslan Kukharuk**, Governor of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Territory - Ugra
- **Ilya Kuzubov**, Founder, Taibola
- **Elena Marinina**, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Roscongress Foundation; Director, Innosocium Foundation
- **Albina Mukhametzhanova**, General Director, General Producer, YARKO
- **Elvira Nurgalieva**, Deputy Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Grigory Solomin**, Managing Partner, NOVAYA
- **Olga Vovk**, Deputy Governor of the Murmansk region

Front row participants:

- **Maria Mikhailenko**, Chairman, Murmansk Regional Public Branch of the All-Russian Creative Public Organisation of the Union of Artist of Russia
- **Svetlana Soldatova**, Director, Producer, Northern Character Producer Center

March 27, 2025

09:30–11:00

'Heroes' Wives' Arctic lounge
Terrace Garden banquet hall, 69, Prospekt Lenina

Heroes' Wives Arctic Lounge

The 'Heroes' Wives' Arctic lounge is supported by the Council of the Eurasian Women's Forum in a discussion format with an Arctic breakfast. The event is devoted to women's role in and contribution to development of the Arctic.

How has women's role on Arctic territory changed under today's conditions? How are new leaders formed? What socially significant projects may be rolled out to improve people's lives and development of the Arctic? What tools for supporting women living in northern territories, including closed administrative territorial entities, are the most effective? What role is played by women's personal stories in launching new projects?

Moderator:

- **Evgenia Chibis**, Head, United Volunteer Center of the Murmansk Region; member of the Council of the Eurasian Women's Forum; author of the Star of the North project for military wives

Panellists:

- **Oksana Demchenko**, First Deputy Governor of the Murmansk Region
- **Galina Karelova**, First Deputy Chairman of the Federation Council Committee of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on Federal Structure, Regional Policy, Local Self-Government and Northern Affairs
- **Polina Kharybina**, Member of the Council of Representatives of Small Indigenous Peoples of the North under the Government of the Murmansk region; member of the Public Chamber of the Murmansk region; member of the tribal community of the small indigenous Sami people "Loparskaya"
- **Svetlana Kirillova**, Captain of the medical service; Chairman of the Women's Council of the Radiation, Chemical and Biological Protection Forces of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation; veteran of special risk
- **Elvira Nurgalieva**, Deputy Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Elena Trapeznikova**, Participant of the Star of the North project; graduate of the Senezh Management Workshop of the presidential platform "Russia - the Land of Opportunities"
- **Alexander Tsybul'skiy**, Governor of Arkhangelsk Region
- **Irina Umnova-Konyukhova**, President, Law of the World Center; Russian scientist; specialist in constitutional and international law

10:00–11:30

AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 1

[The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: A Magnet for Investment](#)

The Economy of Future Generations: Developing the Resource Base

In partnership with PhosAgro

Russia's Arctic zone is a strategically vital economic region. The development of the Russian Arctic is mainly driven by the utilization of its mineral and raw material potential, including its extensive resources of hydrocarbon raw materials, ores, and coal. What are some of the key issues that must be resolved for the integrated development of deposits, including the need to develop and introduce advanced technologies for sustainable subsoil use that will ensure the maximum efficiency of extraction as well as environmental safety? What is essential to creating effective infrastructure for the implementation of major investment projects? The development of new logistics arrangements is becoming a critical factor in ensuring the timely delivery of resources and the economic efficiency of projects. What is the most important condition for attracting investors and ensuring the sustainable socioeconomic development of the Arctic?

Moderator:

- **Mikhail Grigoryev**, Member of the Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences for the Study of the Arctic and Antarctic; Member of the Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences for the Problems of Geology, Geophysics, Development and Processing of Hydrocarbons

Panellists:

- **Dmitry Artyukhov**, Governor of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Region
- **Sergey Chernyshev**, Vice President, Russian Academy of Sciences
- **Andrey Chibis**, Governor of Murmansk Region
- **Kirill Dmitriev**, Chief Executive Officer, Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF); Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for Investment and Economic Cooperation with Foreign Countries

- **Oleg Kazanov**, Head, Federal Agency for Mineral Resources
- **Ruslan Kukharuk**, Governor of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Territory - Ugra
- **Vladislav Kuznetsov**, Governor of the Chukotka Autonomous Region
- **Leonid Mikhelson**, Chairman of the Management Board, Member of the Board of Directors, NOVATEK
- **Mikhail Rybnikov**, Chief Executive Officer, Member of the Board of Directors, Member of the Management Board, PhosAgro
- **Nikolai Utkin**, First Vice President – Head of Government Relations, Member of the Management Board, Norilsk Nickel

Front row participant:

- **Dmitry Yalov**, Deputy Chairman of the Leningrad Region Government, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development and Investment Activity of the Leningrad Region

12:00–13:30AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 1**The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: A Magnet for Investment****Arctic Brands: A Driver of Macroregional Growth**

The Arctic region is a land of extreme climate and unique conditions, shaping the nature of entrepreneurship. Only brands that adapt to these harsh environments thrive, drawing inspiration from the North's distinctive culture and natural wealth. The Russian government, development institutions, and regional authorities are actively implementing special support measures for small and medium-sized businesses in the Arctic. These initiatives include training programmes and consultancy support aimed at improving the region's business climate. The goal is to stimulate entrepreneurship, create jobs, and ensure the sustainable economic development of Arctic territories. How can businesses effectively scale and expand Arctic brands? What unique characteristics help them stand out and attract customers? And how can a platform-based economy support their promotion in the domestic market while addressing its specific challenges?

Moderator:

- **Mikhail Khomich**, Chief Managing Director, Chief Strategist, VEB.RF; Deputy Director of the "New Business" Direction, Agency for Strategic Initiatives to Promote New Projects (ASI)

Panellists:

- **Andrey Chibis**, Governor of Murmansk Region
- **Mikhail Degtyarev**, Minister of Sport of the Russian Federation
- **Alena Domnicheva**, Founder, Purpur coffee shop
- **Aleksandr Isayevich**, General Director – Chairman of the Management Board, Russian Small and Medium Business Corporation
- **Tatyana Kim**, Founder, Wildberries; Head, RVB
- **Vladislav Kuznetsov**, Governor of the Chukotka Autonomous Region
- **Maksim Oreshkin**, Deputy Head of the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation

Front row participant:

- **Grant Babasyan**, Advisor to the General Director, GPB-Infrastructure Holding

12:00–13:30AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 2**The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Competing on the Global Stage****Development of Logistics Centres to Increase Container Transport via the Northern Sea Route**

The Arctic already accounts for about 15% of Russia's GDP, and maximizing the economic potential of the Northern Sea Route (NSR) as an international transport corridor is a key national objective. To achieve this, the NSR must continuously improve its economic efficiency, becoming a competitive global transport route for both Russian and foreign cargo shippers. In the long run, this could also reduce the need for government investment in its development. At the same time, the NSR's growth is inseparable from Russia's broader transport system, and increasing cargo volumes is impossible without the necessary port infrastructure. This infrastructure is not just a component of the transport network; it is also a vital factor in the development of Arctic regions, ensuring the country's sovereignty and security. But what comes first: the cargo base or the port infrastructure? What are the possible scenarios for developing container transit along the NSR? Are the current transport hubs sufficient to meet both present and future demand? What should logistics centres look like, and where should they be located?

Moderator:

- **Mikhail Grigoryev**, Member of the Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences for the Study of the Arctic and Antarctic

Panellists:

- **Sergey Chemarda**, General Manager, DP World
- **Petr Ivanov**, General Director, Rosatom Logistics
- **Ke Jin**, Representative, New New Shipping Line
- **Igor Levitin**, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation; Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for International Cooperation in the Field of Transport
- **Svetlana Panfilova**, Deputy Governor of the Murmansk Region; Minister of Arctic Development and Economy of the Murmansk Region
- **Alexander Tsybulskiy**, Governor of Arkhangelsk Region

14:00–15:30AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 1[International Cooperation and the Environment](#)**The Arctic: New Opportunities for Scientific, Technological, and Humanitarian Cooperation**

Amidst the new geopolitical and economic challenges, the Arctic's importance as a macro-region of the future is growing. Effective international communication is crucial to maintaining peace and stability in the northern latitudes, ensuring a high quality of life, and protecting the region's unique ecosystem. To this end, key goals include attracting young people, professionals, and responsible businesses to the Arctic, launching research projects and cultural programmes, and involving the global community in solving the environmental challenges of the Arctic that affect the entire planet. With new foundations for international public and business life taking shape, now is the time to promote and advance the potential of the Arctic by disseminating and exchanging knowledge, implementing educational programmes, and engaging in humanitarian cooperation with a priority focus on creating opportunities for people to realize their potential and a human-centred approach to the development of the macro-region. What are some of the existing mechanisms for humanitarian cooperation and the implementation of joint international projects in the Arctic? How is knowledge about the Arctic disseminated today? What information about the Arctic do people need most of all? What projects in culture, education, science, the creative industries, tourism, and the social agenda are under way in the Arctic and how should we tell the world about them? How can we develop economic and technological collaboration through humanitarian cooperation? How can we attract skilled workers from Russia and other countries to develop the macro-region? How can we unite and systematize the efforts of all parties involved in international Arctic activities to make the Arctic more popular?

Moderator:

- **Alexander Basalaev**, Head of the Analytical Department, Interregional Public Organization "Association of Polar Explorers"

Panellists:

- **Maxim Dankin**, General Director, Arctic Development Project Office Expert Center
- **Gasán Gasanbalayev**, Executive Director for Social Development, Corporation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Maria Gruzdeva**, Public figure; artist; photographer
- **Sakiko Hataya**, Research Fellow, Ocean Policy Research Institute, Sasakawa Peace Foundation
- **Elena Kudryashova**, Chairman, National Arctic Scientific and Educational Consortium
- **Sergey Pershin**, Deputy Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation
- **Andrey Sokolov**, Deputy Director General, Russian News Agency TASS

14:00–15:30AZIMUT, 2-й этаж
conference hall 2[International Cooperation and the Environment](#)**A Favourable Living Environment: The Key to Successful Arctic Development**

The enormous challenges of developing Russia's Arctic zone and implementing major investment projects to extract minerals and improve the infrastructure of the Northern Sea Route require measures to ensure the sanitary and epidemiological safety of the population and create a favourable habitat and safe working conditions. Today, it is crucial to minimize health risks for both those who are just arriving in the Arctic as well as the Indigenous population living in the extreme climatic conditions of the North. This involves providing high-quality water supply in permafrost conditions, ensuring the disposal of municipal waste, supplying high-quality and safe food, and creating the conditions needed for people to manage and correct their diets, particularly among children, all of which are crucial to reducing the incidence of disease among the population. Maintaining the health of the working population amidst low temperatures and different daylight patterns, as well as the use of preventive measures, should be based on following a system of hygienic regulation as a component of public health management. The climate change and warming that have been seen in recent years, as well as the reduction in permafrost, are causing complications in the epidemiological and hygienic situation due to the pollution of soil and water sources.

Moderator:

- **Anna Popova**, Head of the Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing; Chief State Sanitary Physician of the Russian Federation

Panellists:

- **Vasily Akimkin**, Director, Central Research Institute of Epidemiology
- **Roman Buzinov**, Director, North-Western Scientific Center for Hygiene and Public Health Hygiene and Public Health
- **Sergey Kuzmin**, Director, F.F. Erisman Federal Scientific Center for Hygiene
- **Konstantin Nikiforov**, Head of the Genetic Engineering Sector of the Microbiology Department, Russian Anti-Plague Research Institute "Microb"
- **Dmitry Nikityuk**, Director, Federal Research Centre of Nutrition and Biotechnology
- **Elvira Nurgalieva**, Deputy Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic
- **Stanislav Seleznev**, Vice President for Environment and Industrial Safety, Norilsk Nickel
- **Areg Totolian**, Director, Pasteur St. Petersburg Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology

Front row participants:

- **Omarzhan Tusupov**, General Director, JSC "FITOVIT"; Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Scientific Journal "Russian Arctic".
- **Tatiana Ungureanu**, Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation, Northern State Medical University of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation
- **Sergey Zhdanov**, Managing Director, Director of the Health Industry Center, Sberbank

17:00–18:00**Plenary Session**