

Geopolitics of the Arctic: Cooperation and Security

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Exploring the European model in the Arctic

Abstract:

The concept of Security Community is based on the model of the Post-Cold War European Union. It has been defined by Karl Deutsch as group of states among which war had become unthinkable.

This class will assess the Arctic as a potential Security Community and cross the following issues:

Can the European model be applied in the Arctic? If not, does it mean that Greenland cannot follow his own path through the concept of Security Community. Can the Arctic actually constitute its own kind of security community?

Constructivist and critical approaches will be used to distinguish the normative and analysing criteria, in order to rebuild the analysis of the Arctic (with a strong emphasize on Greenland) in its geopolitical environment as a thought-provoking subject of study in the field of International Relations

Outline:

Introduction: the concept of Security community

- I. Definitions and criteria
- II. The distinction between security community and the other multilateral cooperation

Chapter 1: The EU as a security community – functioning and organization

- I. The European Communities and European Union as an inspiration model of integration
- II. Institutions and organization
- III. EU security policy towards the rest of the world

Chapter 2: Greenland and the Arctic in their Geopolitical environment

- I. Regional cooperation and international security priority
- II. Security and securities - thematic and territorial
- III. Periphery of Europe and center of the World's diplomacy routes

Chapter 3: Assessing the Arctic as a potential Security Community

- I. Deconstruction of a Western concept
- II. Analysis of the notion of "unthinkable" war
- III. Towards a more neutral definition

Conclusion: The Arctic as a Security community: a deepening process