

Abstracts

The Arctic Region: The new dimension in danish security policy

Nikolaj Petersen, Professor, em.
Institut for Statskundskab,
Aarhus Universitet, nikolajp@ps.au.dk

The Arctic seems destined to become the new dimension of Danish security policy as a combined effect of the accelerating melting of the Arctic Ocean and new estimates of oil and gas reserves north of the Polar Circle. Thus coincides with the introduction of “self-rule”, including the right of independence, for Greenland. The future may spell either anarchy or cooperation among the five states bordering the Arctic Ocean. In either case, there is a need for increased sovereignty watch, fishery inspection and other authority tasks and corresponding new capabilities in infrastructure, material and personnel, which Self Rule Greenland is unlikely to live up to. Self Rule Greenland is therefore likely to be more dependent on the protection of the Danish Realm than its predecessor Home Rule Greenland.

Greenland and the double climate strategy

Af Lill Rastad Bjørst, ph.d.-stipendiat
Institut for Tværkulturelle og Regionalstudier,
Afdeling for Eskimologi og Arktiske Studier,
Københavns Universitet,
lillbj@hum.ku.dk.

In this article the author analyses Greenland's role in the international climate debate and

the related strategies and discourses. Greenland has become an international showcase but global developments have also spilled over into domestic politics. The article discusses the actual dilemma between economic and ecological priorities in the development of Greenland, where the choice is between the preservation of nature and existing live styles on the one hand, and the economic and industrial development on the other. Only very recently has this dilemma emerged, however, and it now filtered into the public discourse and concrete policy development in Greenland.

A Post-Colonial Arctic Labour Market – A Challenge to Greenlandic Unions

Aksel V. Carlsen, Lektor
Iisimatusarfik - Grønlands Universitet,
avca@adm.uni.gl

The debate about Greenland's future and its labour market has so far mainly departed from a narrow economic rationale, which does not reflect the complexity of problems in Greenland, as well as those facing other indigenous populations. The paper asks for alternative approaches to development, which include non-economic post-colonial conditions, such as the role of social actors and their roots in a particular cultural background. It is pointed out that the largest union, SIK, has an instrumental role concerning the everyday life and ethnicity of ordinary people. But the SIK has underestimated the effort to

socialize employees and to express visions for the society as such. Taking into account the socio-economic, cultural and political conditions in the modern society of Greenland the SIK is faced with both opportunities and limitations.

Reorganisations in the Greenlandish health care system. The population's preferences for establishing nephrology facilities

Mickael Bech, professor
Institut for Sundhedstjenesteforskning,
Syddansk Universitet
mickael.bech@ouh.regionsyddanmark.dk

Trine Kjær, adjunkt
Institut for Sundhedstjenesteforskning,
Syddansk Universitet
tkj@sam.sdu.dk

Christian Kronborg, lektor
Institut for Sundhedstjenesteforskning,
Syddansk Universitet
cka@sam.sdu.dk

This study illustrates how studies using stated preference elicitation methods can provide information which is applicable to actual political decision making. The purpose of this study is to elicit and analyse the Greenlandic people's attitudes and preferences for providing treatment for patients suffering of end-stage renal failure in Greenland rather than in Denmark. In a discrete choice experiment respondents are asked to choose between hypothetical scenarios which enables estimation of willingness to pay (WTP) estimates. The results indicate a positive welfare gain of establishing nephrology facilities at Dronning Ingrid's Hospital in Nuuk, Greenland, while WTP exceeds the actual cost.