



## Nieuwsbrief 83

### Maart 2020

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#### Svalbard of Spitsbergen? Een persoonlijke kijk op de geopolitieke situatie rond Spitsbergen

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*Maarten Loonen*

In het noordpoolgebied is bijna al het land verdeeld en bestaat er vooral onenigheid over rechten op de bodemschatten van de arctische oceaan. Maar juist rond Spitsbergen, of Svalbard zoals de Noren de archipel noemen, bestaat er tot vandaag onduidelijkheid. Toen het Spitsbergenverdrag in 1919 tijdens de vredesbesprekingen in Versailles het licht zag, zijn er bijzondere afspraken gemaakt, die toegang garandeerden voor bewoners en bedrijven uit meerdere landen om economische activiteiten te ontwikkelen. Tot de dag van vandaag ontwikkelt zich de interpretatie van het verdrag en dit is zelfs merkbaar voor de spreker, die momenteel voorzitter is van de Ny-Ålesund Science Managers Committee (NySMAC), waarin onder andere 9 landen samenwerken aan wetenschap.

Tijdens deze lezing gaat Maarten Loonen in op de nieuwste ontwikkelingen ten aanzien van de interpretatie van het verdrag, die langzaam maar zeker Spitsbergen meer Noors zouden kunnen maken. Ook andere aspecten van Arctische geopolitiek komen kort aan bod, zoals het Zeerechtverdrag en de interesse vanuit "near-Arctic" China.

**Maarten Loonen** is onderzoeker bij het Arctisch Centrum en werkt al meer dan twintig jaar in de zomer op (West-)Spitsbergen/ Svalbard. Hij doet daar onderzoek naar ganzen, sterns, predatie en klimaatverandering, en heeft al menig student begeleid.

<b>Wanneer</b>	23 maart 2020
<b>Hoe laat</b>	19:30 uur
<b>Waar</b>	Aweg 30, Groningen – ingang Herman Colleniusstraat
<b>Toegang</b>	€ 2,00; studenten gratis

#### Imaka-lezingen 2020

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<b>Datum</b>	<b>Titel van de lezing</b>
20 april	Erik van Sebille: vervuiling door en transport van plastic in zee
18 mei	Eelco Leemans: vervuiling van de zee, o.a. door scheepvaart
Juni	Excursie???

## Wetenswaardigheden

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### *Belt and Road Initiative in the Arctic: Regulation of the Northern Sea Route*

Jedrzej Gorski

Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong August

The Northern Sea Route (NSR) passes through international waters. The NSR therefore is subjected to multifold international regimes which encroach upon the governance of the NSR and on regulatory sovereignty of states having stakes in the Arctic, primarily Russia. These commitments among others cover freedom and safety of navigation, delimitation of exclusive economic zones. They also cover obligations related to sustainability such as marine pollution, conservation of fisheries, or protection of indigenous peoples. As to freedom of navigation, Russia's/Soviet historical claims to a full sovereignty over the navigation and straits along the NSR have largely been substantiated after the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Published August 2018.

[https://www.academia.edu/37269164/Belt\\_and\\_Road\\_Initiative\\_in\\_the\\_Arctic\\_Regulation\\_of\\_the\\_Northern\\_Sea\\_Route\\_NSR](https://www.academia.edu/37269164/Belt_and_Road_Initiative_in_the_Arctic_Regulation_of_the_Northern_Sea_Route_NSR)

### *Bringing a little 'green' to Longyearbyen all year-round*

Longyearbyen, Svalbard is the world's northernmost town. Although it is a part of Norway, all 46 nations that have signed the Svalbard treaty have rights there. But Longyearbyen is unique for other reasons. For three months of the year, it has sunshine 24 hours a day – followed by another three months of total darkness in winter, when it is a desolate landscape of fjords, snow and ice. Even when the snow melts, it's just tundra, without a tree in sight – an Arctic desert and, as Benjamin Vidmar knows, a difficult place to grow food.



Lees hele artikel: [https://arcticwwf.org/newsroom/the-circle/resilience-in-the-arctic-facing-the-future/bringing-a-little-green-to-longyearbyen-all-year-round/?utm\\_source=WWF+Arctic+Programme&utm\\_campaign=100b849f6b-polarpanda\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_bda212f775-100b849f6b-712502025](https://arcticwwf.org/newsroom/the-circle/resilience-in-the-arctic-facing-the-future/bringing-a-little-green-to-longyearbyen-all-year-round/?utm_source=WWF+Arctic+Programme&utm_campaign=100b849f6b-polarpanda_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_bda212f775-100b849f6b-712502025)

### *Canada C3 Expedition*

Canada C3 is a Signature Project for Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation in 2017. The center piece was an epic 150-day sailing journey from Toronto to Victoria via the Northwest Passage. Through this unprecedented journey, Canada C3 is celebrating our environment, sharing the stories

of coastal communities and connecting Canadians from coast to coast to coast.



*Prince Leopold Island. Photo: Jan de Groot, 2019*

The expedition in 2017 was just the beginning. The legacy of Canada C3 continues to grow and have positive impacts across the country. Retrace the historic 150-day journey by watching the newly released and inspiring documentary. The film weaves together touching stories from coast to coast to coast and features never before seen footage from the world's longest coastline.

Link: <https://canadac3.ca/en/homepage/>

Voor de route: <https://canadac3.ca/en/expedition/expedition-map/the-map/>

Zie ook de video's over *Hantzsch Island*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56N67TgKwt0> en over *Arctic Ice*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Y9I9xjDDw0>

### *Ice in Motion: Satellites Capture Decades of Change*

Kae Ramsayer  
NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

December 10, 2019

New time-lapse videos of Earth's glaciers and ice sheets as seen from space – some spanning nearly 50 years – are providing scientists with new insights into how the planet's frozen regions are changing.

At a media briefing December 9 at the annual meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco, scientists released new time series of images of Alaska, Greenland, and Antarctica using data from satellites including the NASA-U.S. Geological Survey Landsat missions. One series of images tells illustrates the dramatic changes of Alaska's glaciers and could warn of future retreat of the Hubbard Glacier. Over Greenland, different satellite records show a speed-up of glacial retreat starting in 2000, as well as meltwater ponds spreading to higher elevations in the last decade, which could potentially speed up ice flow. And in Antarctic ice shelves, the view from space could reveal lakes hidden beneath the winter snow.

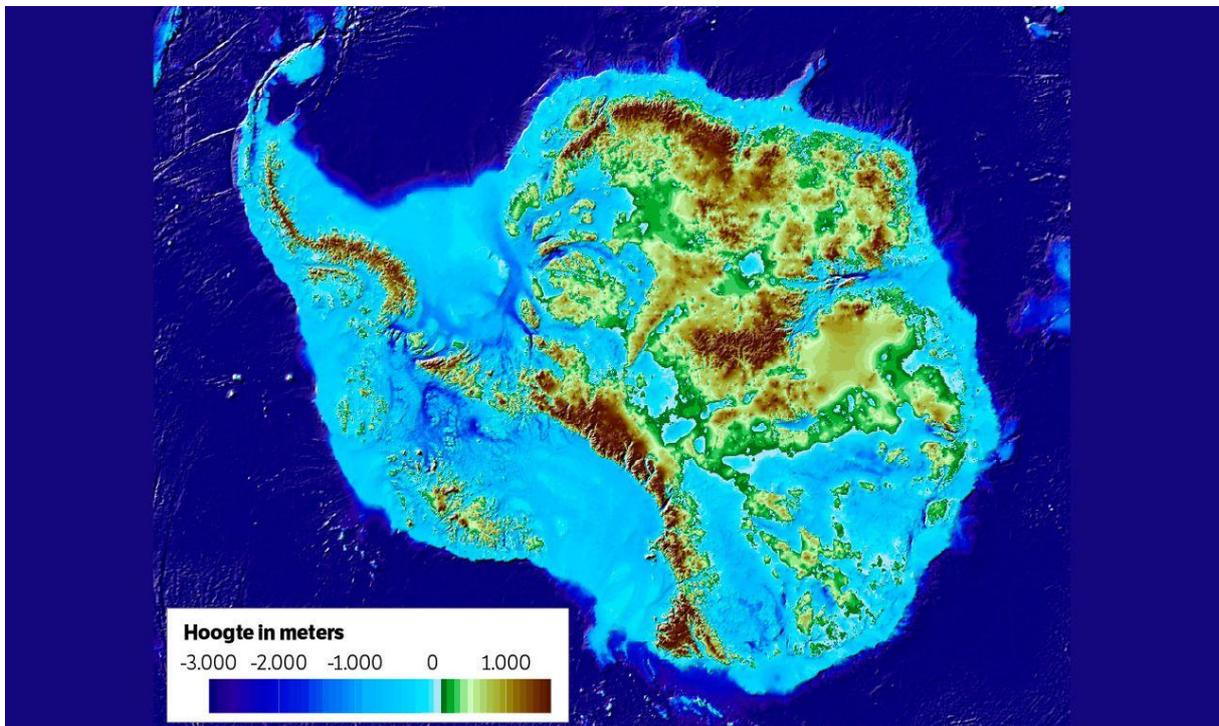


Meltwater lakes form on the surface of Greenland's Petermann Glacier, seen here in a June 2019 Landsat image. A new study finds that the number – and elevation – of meltwater lakes in Greenland is increasing. Credit: NASA/USGS

Read further: <https://climate.nasa.gov/news/2939/ice-in-motion-satellites-capture-decades-of-change/>

### *Nieuwe kaart toont de bergen en kloven van Antarctica*

Marcel aan de Brugh



Weergave van het nieuwe hoogtebestand van Antarctica. Kaart MEaSURES BedMachine Antarctica, Version 1.

De bodem van Antarctica bepaalt hoe snel smeltend landijs in zee terechtkomt. Een nieuwe kaart toont verrassende details.

Bergen, valleien en kloven onder het kilometers dikke ijs van Antarctica zijn scherper dan ooit in beeld gebracht. Het diepste punt in de continentale korst van de hele aarde blijkt zich hier te bevinden, in het oosten van dit ijskoude continent. Het punt ligt 3,5 kilometer onder zeeniveau.

Wetenschappers [publiceerden de nieuwe kaart](#) vorige week in *Nature Geoscience*. Het nauwkeurigere beeld van Antarctica is vooral bedoeld om beter te kunnen voorspellen hoe gletsjers, bij verdere opwarming van de aarde, zullen afvloeien naar zee en bijdragen aan de stijging van de wereldwijde zeespiegel.

Gepubliceerd 17 december 2019. Bron: <https://www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2019/12/17/bergen-en-kloven-onder-het-ijs-van-antarctica-a3984132>

## Websites en downloads

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### *Downloads*

*NORTH OF 60. Toward a Renewed Canadian Arctic Agenda*. Edited by Edited by John Higginbotham and Jennifer Spence; Copyright © 2016 by the Centre for International Governance Innovation.

Download via:

[https://www.academia.edu/28788398/NORTH\\_OF\\_60\\_TOWARD\\_A\\_RENEWED\\_CANADIAN\\_ARCTIC\\_AGENDA\\_SPECIAL\\_REPORT?email\\_work\\_card=view-paper](https://www.academia.edu/28788398/NORTH_OF_60_TOWARD_A_RENEWED_CANADIAN_ARCTIC_AGENDA_SPECIAL_REPORT?email_work_card=view-paper)

### *Websites*

*De Nieuwe Zijderoutes (Belt and Road Initiative)*

<https://multimedia.scmp.com/news/china/article/One-Belt-One-Road/index.html>

*Svalbard: een jarig Svalbard-verdrag én geopolitiek*

<https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/arctic/2020/02/amid-jubilant-celebration-svalbard-norway-sends-strong-signal-it-will-not-accept>

*The Independent Barents Observer*

The Barents Observer is a journalist-owned online newspaper covering the Barents Region and the Arctic

<https://thebarentsobserver.com/en>

*Willem Barentsz Pool Instituut*

Het virtuele instituut van alle Nederlandse poolonderzoekers, een netwerk voor kennis, onderzoek en onderwijs over de Arctis en Antarctica: <http://www.wbpi.nl/>.

*Archief Imaka-Nieuwsbrieven*

<http://www.rug.nl/research/arctisch-centrum/imaka/nieuwsbrieven/>.