

Emergency Response in the Arctic

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Arctic Council Structure: U.S. Chairmanship



Working Groups (6)

Arctic Contaminants Action Program

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme

Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna

Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment

Sustainable Development Working Group

Nongovernmental

Organizations (11)

Advisory Committee on Protection

of the Seas

Association of World Reindeer Herders

Circumpolar Conservation

International Arctic Science

International Arctic Social

Sciences Association

International Union for

Circumpolar Health

International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs

Northern Forum

University of the Arctic

World Wide Fund for

Nature- Global Arctic Programme

Union

Committee

Arctic Cultural Gateway

Task Forces (3)

Arctic Marine Cooperation

Arctic Telecommunications Infrastructure

Scientific Cooperation

Observers (32) Countries (12)

China Italy Singapore France Japan South Korea Germany Netherlands Spain

India Poland United Kingdom

Arctic States (8)

Canada Norway
Denmark Russia
Finland Sweden
Iceland USA

Permanent Participants (6)

Aleut International Association Arctic Athabaskan Council Gwich'in Council International Inuit Circumpolar Council Russian Arctic Indigenous Peoples of the North

Saami Council

Intergovernmental and Interparliamentary Organizations (9)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

International Union for the Conservation of Nature

Nordic Council of Ministers

Nordic Environment Finance Corporation

North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission

Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region

United Nations Development Program

United Nations Environment Program

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

U.S. National Interests in the Arctic

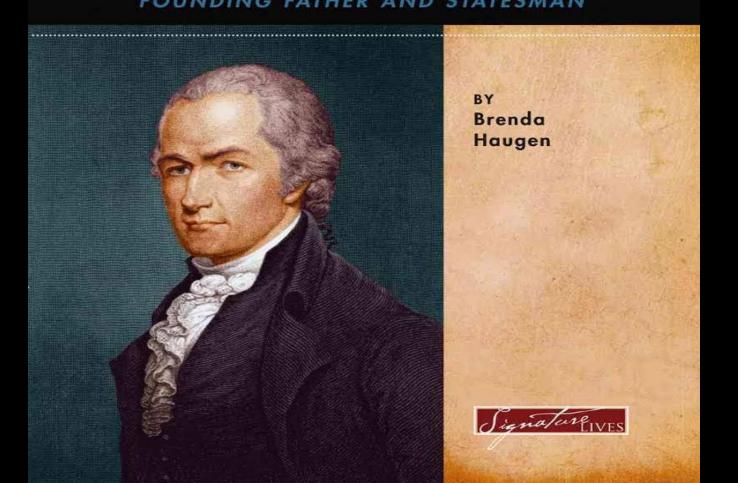
- National defense;
- Sovereign rights and responsibilities;
- Maritime safety;
- Energy and economic benefits;
- Environmental stewardship;
- Scientific research;
- Indigenous peoples and their rights & cultures;
- Preservation of the rights, freedoms, and uses of the sea as reflected in international law.

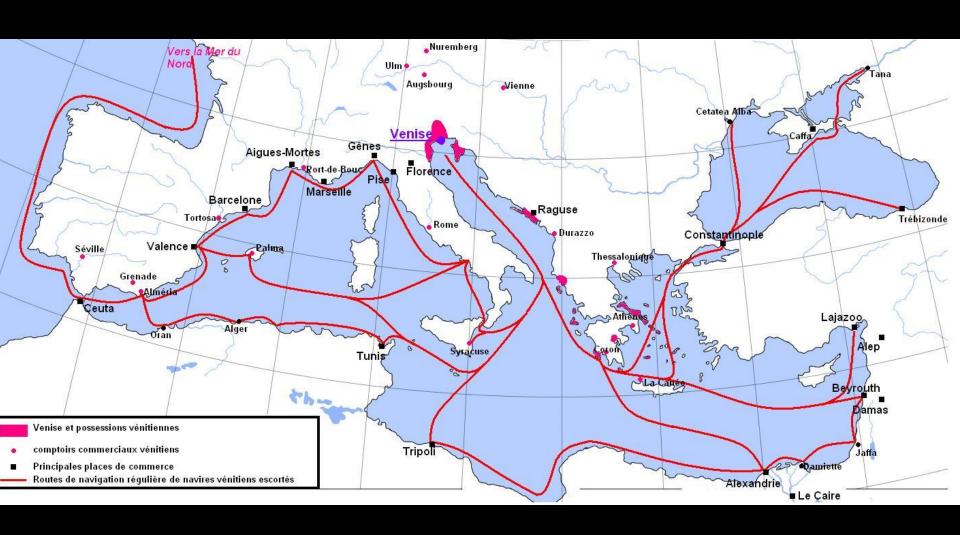
International Arctic Priorities

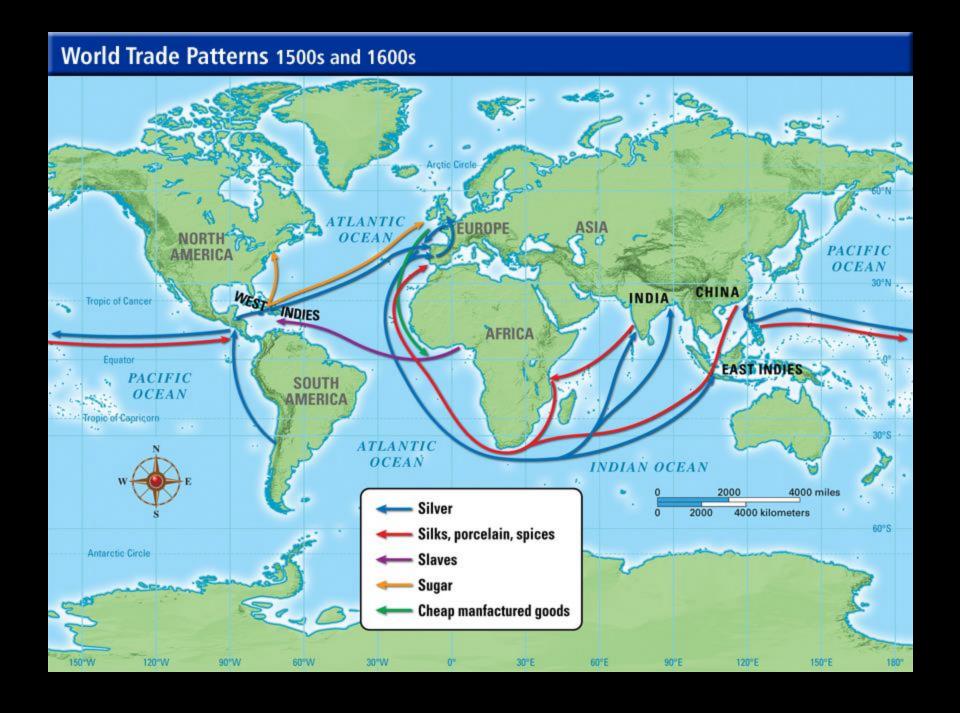
- Balanced thematic pillars of the Arctic Council during the US Chairmanship 2015-17:
 - Arctic Ocean Safety, Security, and Stewardship
 - Improving Economic and Living Conditions
 - Addressing Impacts of Climate Change
- Arctic as a region of stability, peace and international cooperation
- Arctic climate change impacts locally and globally



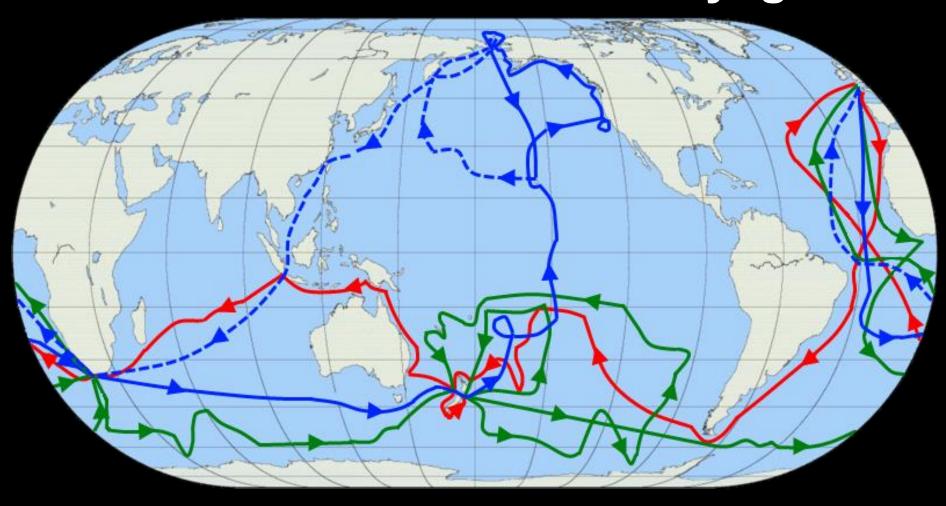








Tracks of Cook's Three Voyages

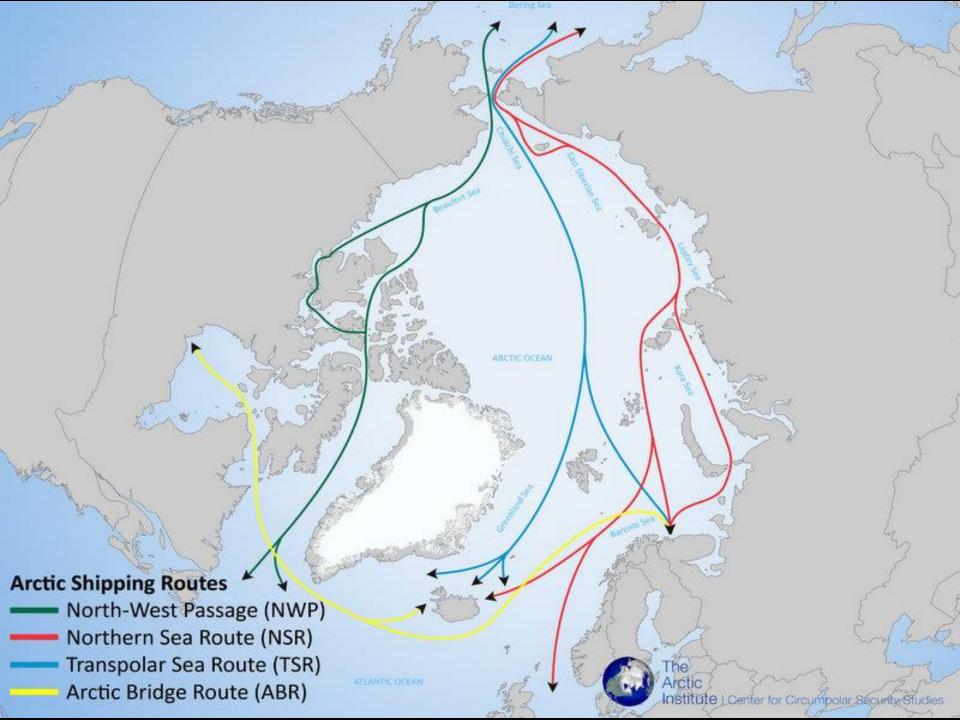


 Red =
 Endeavour (1768-1771)

 Green =
 Resolution & Adventure (1772-1775)

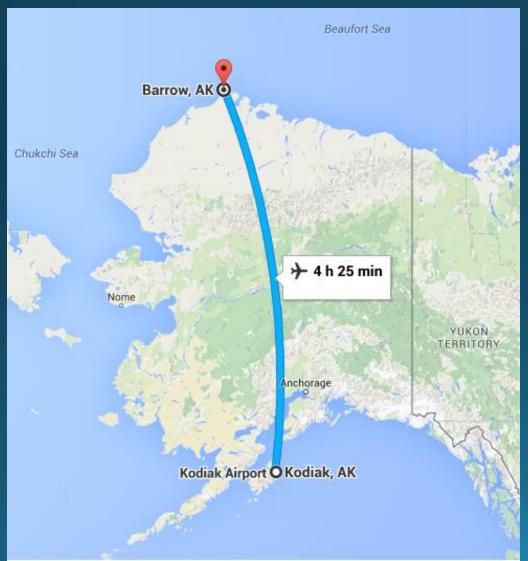
 Blue =
 Resolution & Discovery (1776-1780)







U.S. Emergency Response Capabilities: Coast Guard D17



U.S. Polar Icebreaker Capabilities

Source: July 28, 2015 Congressional Research Service Report

Table 1. U.S. Polar Icebreakers

	Polar Star	Polar Sea	Healy	Palmer
Operator	USCG	USCG	USCG	NSF
U.SGovernment owned?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Noa
Currently operational?	Yes (reactivated on December 14, 2012)	No	Yes	Yes
Entered service	1976	1978	2000	1992
Length (feet)	399	399	420	308
Displacement (tons)	13,200	13,200	16,000	6,500
Icebreaking capability at 3 knots (ice thickness in feet)	6 feet	6 feet	4.5 feet	3 feet
Ice ramming capability (ice thickness in feet)	21 feet	21 feet	8 feet	n/a
Operating temperature	-60° Fahrenheit	-60° Fahrenheit	-50° Fahrenheit	n/a
Crew (when operational)	155b	155b	85=	22
Additional scientific staff	32	32	35d	27-37

Sources: Prepared by CRS using data from U.S. Coast Guard, National Research Council, National Science Foundation, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General, and (for *Palmer*) additional online reference sources. n/a is not available.

- Owned by Edison Chouest Offshore (ECO) of Galliano, LA, and leased to NSF through Raytheon Polar Services Company (RPSC).
- b. Includes 24 officers, 20 chief petty officers, 102 enlisted, and 9 in the aviation detachment.
- c. Includes 19 officers, 12 chief petty officers, and 54 enlisted.
- In addition to 85 crew members 85 and 35 scientists, the ship can accommodate another 15 surge personnel and 2 visitors.



The Need for Reliable Access to Remote Arctic Communities





The "Renda," a Russian tanker carrying fuel for Nome, Alaska (January 2012)

U.S. Efforts to **Improve Emergency-**Response Preparedness and Capabilities in the Arctic



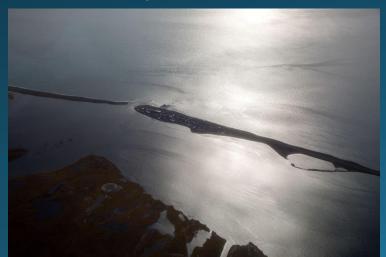
President Obama Speaking at GLACIER



President Obama in Alaska Visiting Seward, Kivalina, and Kotzebue



Official White House Photo by Pete Souza



Official White House Photo by Pete Souza



Official White House Photo by Chuck Kennedy



Official White House Photo by Pete Souza

President Obama's Visit to the American Arctic

Safety and security

New Icebreaker(s)

Enabling safe marine operations and transportation

 Mapping and charting efforts in the Bering, Chukchi and Beaufort Seas

Advancing Climate Resilience

 Naming of Denali Commission to coordinate Federal, State, Tribal resources to assist communities to address impact of climate change

Access to Clean Energy Solutions

 New \$4 million initiative by remote Alaskan communities to adopt sustainable energy strategies, through a competitive effort

Releasing new climate data and tools

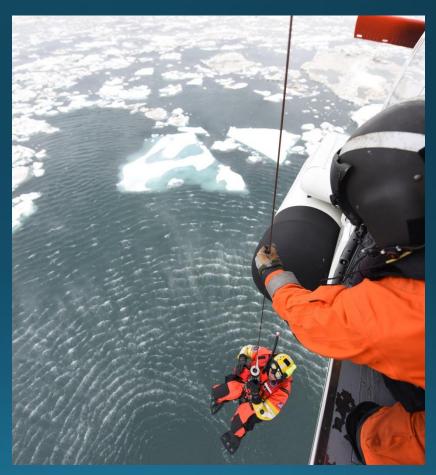
 NSF is making available in both hard-copy and explorable-digital formats the most comprehensive pan-Arctic map ever published by USG

U.S. Arctic Council Chairmanship Priority:

Arctic Ocean Safety, Security and Stewardship

Search & Rescue

- October 2015 "Arctic Zephyr" SAR tabletop exercise
- Proposed Summer 2016 live SAR exercise in the Beaufort Sea.



U.S. Arctic Council Chairmanship Priority:

Arctic Ocean Safety, Security and Stewardship

Marine Oil Spill Response

- September 2015 Marine Oil Spill Pollution Agreement Workshop
- 2016 tabletop exercise



Thank you





