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Transport Infrastructures and Coastal Communities in the Arctic (updates from Nunataryuk and InfraNorth)

Olga Povoroznyuk, cand. nauk, Ph.D.

APRI General Assembly Meeting, Innsbruck

November 25, 2022



NUNATARYUK



NUNATARYUK: Permafrost thaw and the changing Arctic coast, science for socioeconomic adaptation

Horizon 2020 project (2017-2023)



Fieldwork, 2019



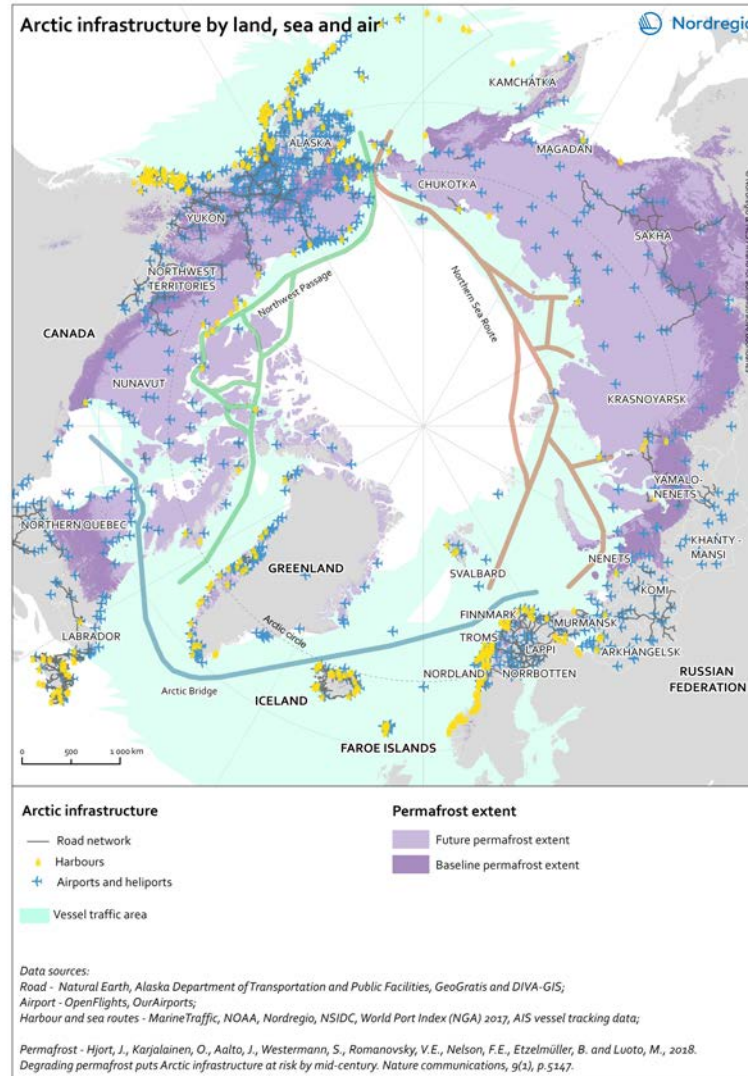
Author with interlocutors from Bykovskiy by the Laptev Sea. Photo by P. Schweitzer

Observations

Interviews and focus groups

Local archives

InfraNorth, Pan-Arctic



Building Arctic Futures: Transport Infrastructures and Sustainable Northern Communities (InfraNorth) (January 2021 – December 2025)

*What Is the Role of Transport
Infrastructures in
Sustaining Arctic Communities?*

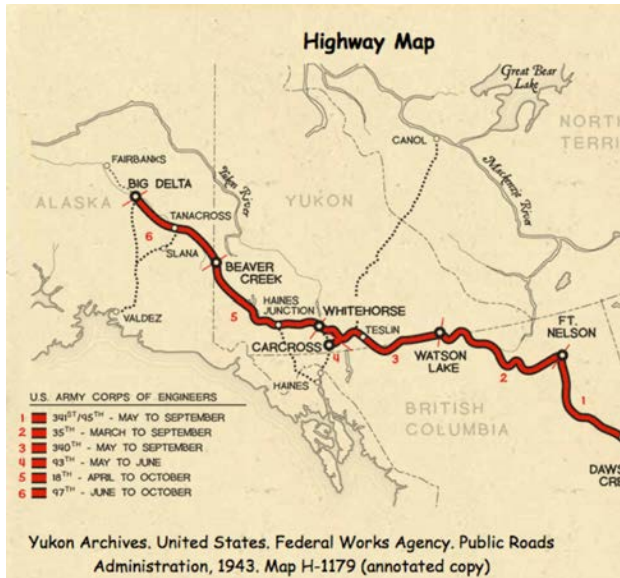


European Research Council
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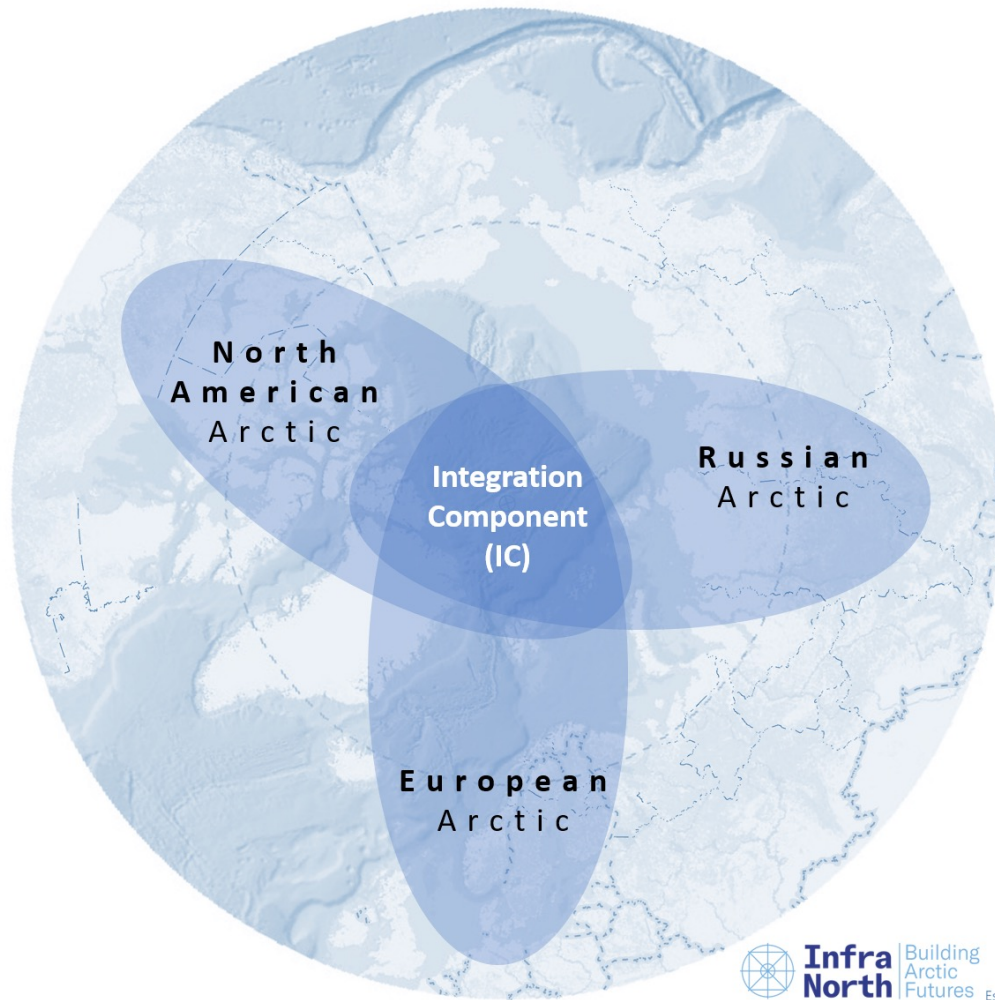
**INFRA
NORTH**

Focus on Transport Infrastructures



Without forgetting about other infrastructures needed for transport (energy, information, etc.)

The Structure and Fieldsites of InfraNorth



Research activities in Russia have been suspended after February 24, 2022

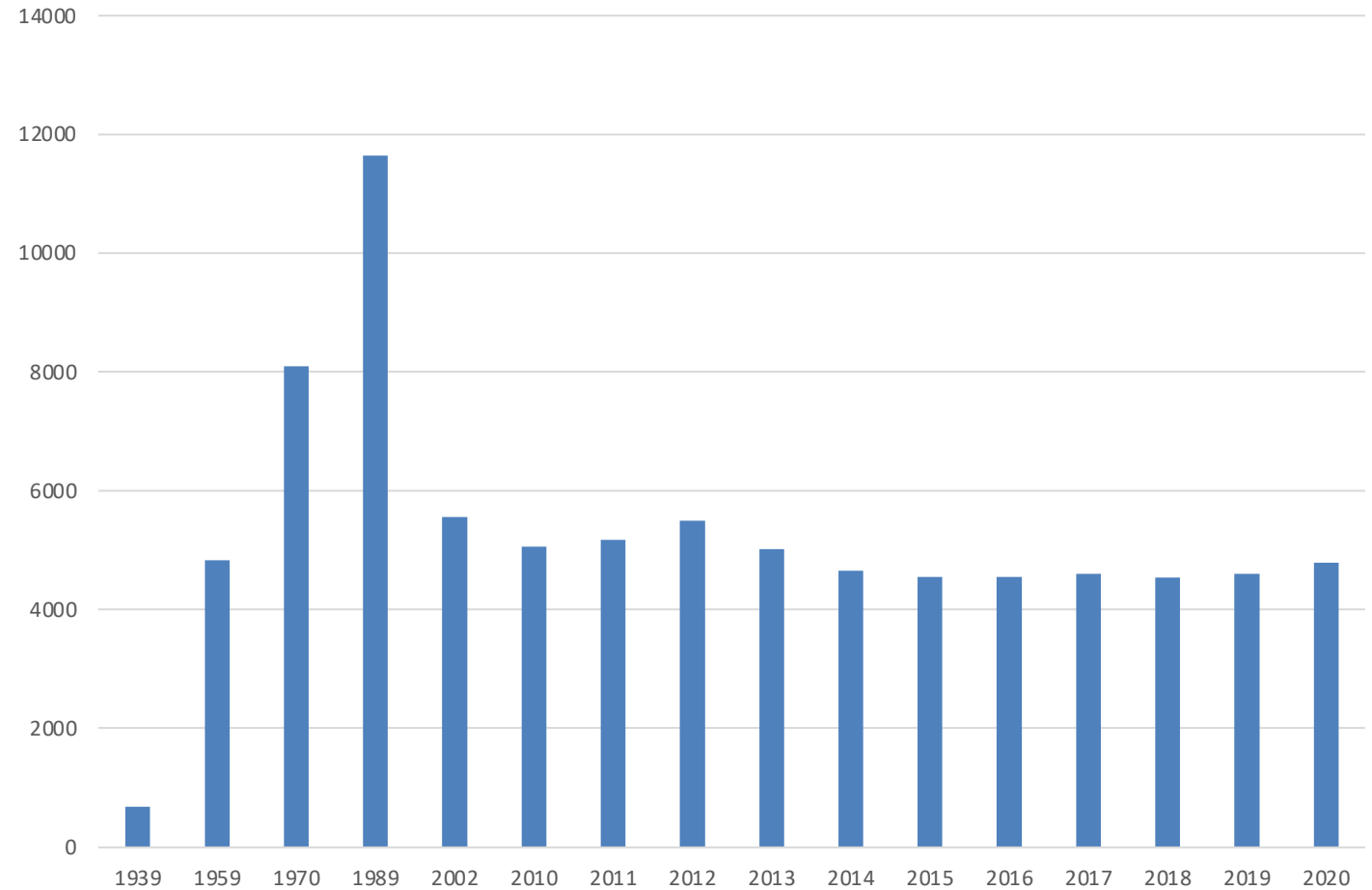


 Northern Sea Route (NSR) (officially defined by Russian legislation)

Tiksi



Painting depicting history of the sea port in Tiksi. Courtesy of the Museum of Fine Arts and Culture of the Arctic, Tiksi



Population dynamics in Tiksi in 1939-2020. Source: Wikipedia

Post-Soviet Transformations



Renovated stela with symbolics of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutiya) in front of the administration building



Semi-abandoned apartment building

Promise of the NSR

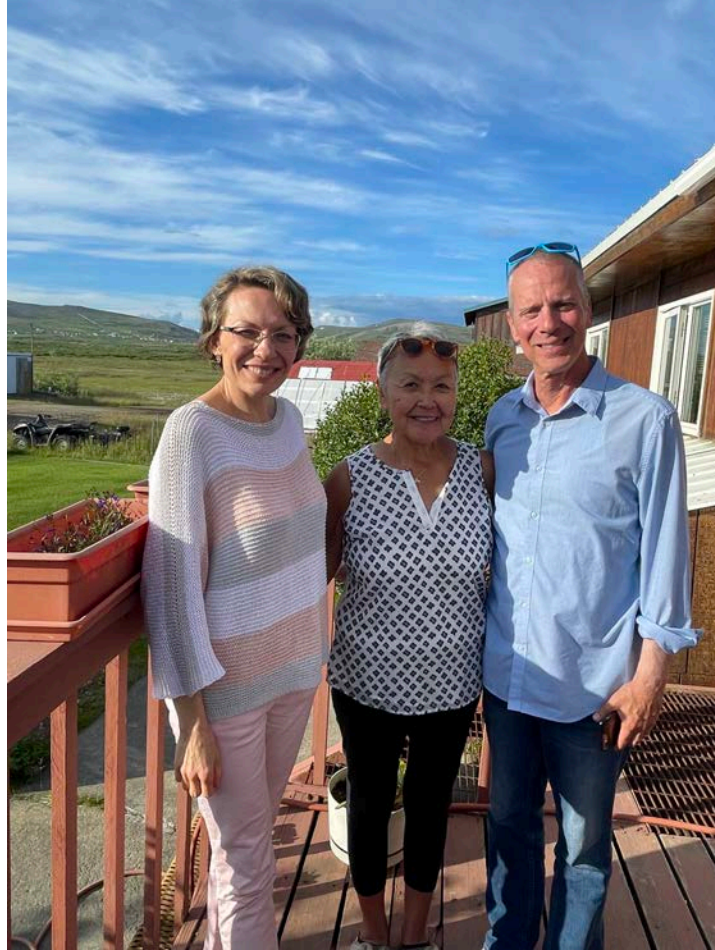


Painting on the the concrete fence of the local school depicting milestones of history of Tiksi



A rusting boat carcass

Fieldwork, 2022



Visiting a local family in Nome.
Photo by P. Schweitzer

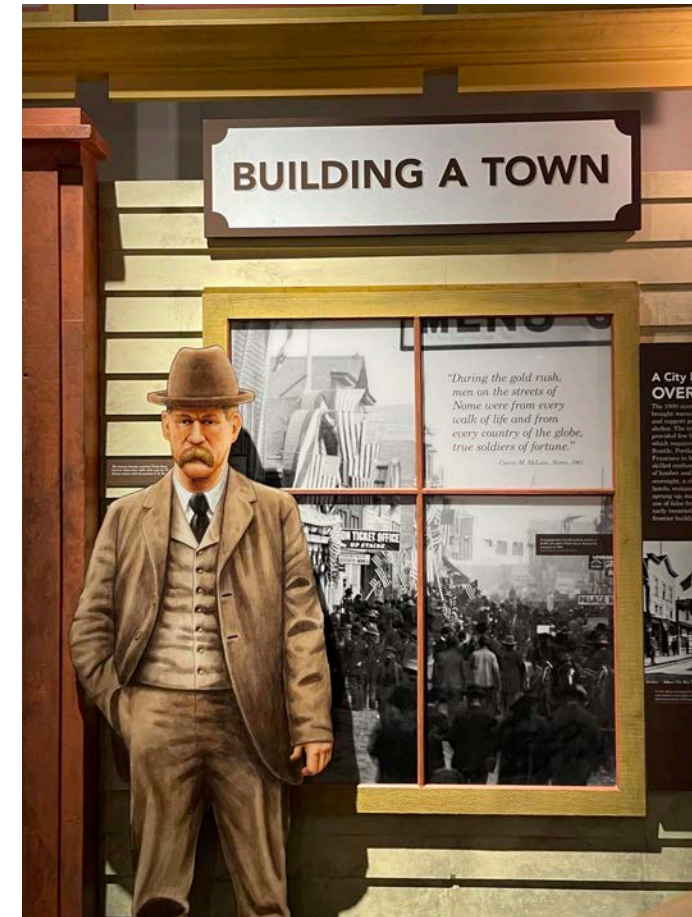


Meeting with experts at Barents Institute,
Kirkenes. Photo by P. Schweitzer

Nome, Alaska, USA



Sculptures of Inuit hunters on the central Square in Nome as a sign of recognition



Gold rush history of Nome in C. McClain's Memorial Museum

Sea Port Expansion



Presentation of the port expansion



Port of Nome in July 2022

Kirkenes, Norway



City center, Kirkenes



Border guard office, Kirkenes

Port of Kirkenes



Russian ships in the port of Kirkenes



Cruise ship, port of Kirkenes

Preliminary Conclusions

- NSR and Russia's coastal communities
- NSR modernization program
- Promise of development vs. reality
- Affects on bordering coastal communities
- Uncertain futures and long-term impacts

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ous Connections: On the Promise and Menace of Railroad Projects

fers

Peter Schweitzer and Olga Povoroznyuk

ps://doi.org/10.3167/TRANS.2020.1002311

ds: infrastructure; materiality; mobility; modernization; precarity; promise

Articles

Infrastructural legacies and post-Soviet transformations in Northern Sakha (Yakutiya)

Peter Schweitzer  & Olga Povoroznyuk 

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Arctic roads and railways: social and environmental consequences of transport infrastructure in the circumpolar North

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Christopher Arp , Bruce C. Forbes , Pascale Roy-Léveillé, and Donald A. Walker  [AUTHORS INFO & AFFILIATIONS](#)

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