

Special Issue

Indigenous Peoples and Sustainable Development in the Arctic

Message from the Guest Editors

In 2015, the United Nations introduced Transforming the World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. At the core of the Agenda are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that serve as benchmarks for achieving equality, prosperity, and environmental sustainability. In 2017, the Arctic Council adopted the United Nations' SDGs to inform its own strategic policy direction; noting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is global in scope, but also applicable to Arctic regions. While Agenda 2030 has been heralded as a platform for protecting the environment for current and future generations, it has also been criticised for advancing the notion that sustainable development is a universal concept irrespective of social, political, or cultural differences.

Through this Special Issue, we intend to demonstrate that the sustainable development of the Arctic requires the deliberate inclusion of cultural sustainability and recognition of Indigenous collective rights to land, health, education, and preferred ways of living.

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