The German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

The German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina brings together the expertise of some 1,500 distinguished scientists to bear on questions of social and political relevance, publishing unbiased and timely scientific opinions. The Leopoldina represents the German scientific community in international committees and pursues the advancement of science for the benefit of humankind and for a better future.

The Council of Finnish Academies

The Council of Finnish Academies is a cooperative body for the four science academies in Finland. The Council works to promote high quality scientific research and the impact of research in society. The Council connects the Finnish and international fields of science. The Council promotes the use of scientific knowledge in policymaking and governance; and, it grants financial support for activities in scientific organisations.

Human Rights Committee (HRC) of the Leopoldina

The Human Rights Committee (HRC) was established in 2001 and consists of members of the Leopoldina from Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The current chairman is Professor Hans-Peter Zenner. In 2003, the HRC joined the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies (The H.R. Network). As a member of the H.R. Network, the HRC assists scientists around the world who are subjected to repression. Moreover, it periodically organises the symposium “Human Rights and Science” to debate human rights aspects and bioethical questions in science and to discuss worldwide cases of scientists who are victims of human rights violations. The Council of Finnish Academies, based in Helsinki, is this year’s partner.

Scientific Organisation

Prof Jukka Kekkonen, Chair of the Human Rights Committee of the Council of Finnish Academies, Finland
Dr Judith Miggelbrink, Coordinator of the research area “The production of space: state and society” at Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography in Leipzig, Germany

7th Symposium “Human Rights and Science”
Topic: Human Rights and the Arctic

German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
Council of Finnish Academies

Contact

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The organisers kindly thank the Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters for sponsoring the lunch break.
Programme

09:00 | Welcome
Hans-Peter Zenner ML
Human Rights Committee of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
Jukka Kekkonen
Human Rights Committee of the Council of Finnish Academies

09:10 | Opening Words
Finland as the Chair of the Arctic Council
Aleksi Härkönen
Ambassador for Arctic Affairs

09:30 | Keynote
Erkki Tuomioja
Member of the Finnish Parliament, Former Finnish Minister for Foreign Affairs

10:00 | A Commentary and Discussion
Timo Koivurova
Director of The Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

10:15 | Coffee Break

Session 1

10:35 | Introduction to Environmental Changes and Livelihood in the Arctic
Moderator: Aili Pyhälä
University of Helsinki
Atte Korhola
University of Helsinki
Antje Boetius ML
University of Bremen and Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology
Timo Koivurova
The Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

12:00 | Lunch Break with Screening of the Documentary “The Reindeer belong to the Wind”

Documentary on the traditional lifestyle of a Sami reindeer herding cooperative in Finnish Lapland is screened as an introduction to topics in Session 2. In the documentary, members of the cooperative describe the kind of threats their livelihood faces in the modern world.

13:00 | Discussion on Scientific Perspectives on Human Rights of Indigenous People Living in the Arctic
Moderator: Ari Laakso
The Arctic Centre, University of Lapland
Speakers:
Maria Sapignoli
Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology
Marjo Lindroth
University of Lapland
Tiina Sanila-Aikio
President of the Finnish Sámi Parliament

14:30 | Coffee Break

Session 3

14:50 | Discussion on the Work and Rights of Researchers in the Arctic
Moderator: Nuccio Mazzullo
The Arctic Centre, University of Lapland
Speakers:
Reetta Toivanen
University of Helsinki
Gail Fondahl
University of Northern British Colombia
Konstantin Zamyatina
University of Helsinki

15:40 | Wrap Up of the Day
Nuccio Mazzullo
The Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

15:45 | Closing Words
Hans-Peter Zenner ML
Human Rights Committee of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
Jukka Kekkonen
Human Rights Committee of the Council of Finnish Academies

16:30 | Official Reception by the City of Helsinki in the Old City Hall (Aleksanterinkatu 20)