

Call for Abstracts

The Second Inter-Polar Conference: Connecting the Arctic with the Third Pole HKH - *Cryosphere, People, and Climate Change*

Kathmandu, Nepal, September 3-5, 2025

The second “Inter-Polar Conference: Connecting the Arctic with the Third Pole HK” will be held on September 3-5, 2025, in ICIMOD premises in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Conference will be jointly organized by the Arctic Centre of the University of Lapland, ICIMOD, and the Ocean Policy Research Institute (OPRI) in collaboration with the UArctic Chair in Arctic Legal Research and the UArctic Law Thematic Network. The special theme for the conference is ***Cryosphere, People, and Climate Change***

The Conference aims to promote and share knowledge and understanding on how to best respond to changes in the cryosphere in the Arctic and the Third Pole HKH region and build resilience in the face of already occurring changes in both regions. It will bring together scholars, experts, and knowledge holders to share their perspectives and jointly produce novel insights that can be translated into concrete actions and long-term strategies with a forward-looking approach.

Under the special theme – ***Cryosphere, People, and Climate Change*** – the Conference will focus on the following sub-themes and their relevant disciplinary angles:

Understanding cryosphere changes and their impacts

- What are the socio-ecosystem impacts of climate change in both regions?
- What are the effects of climate change on local and indigenous livelihoods?
- What are the risks of extreme events in both regions?
- How does climate change impact food and water security in both regions?
- How does climate change in either region influence the other?

Protection, preservation, and conservation

- What legal and governance regimes are available in both regions in the context of climate change-cryosphere interactions?
- How do traditional knowledge systems in both regions interplay with other knowledge frameworks?
- What novel or traditional measures exist to adapt to or mitigate the effects of climate change in both regions?
- What are the geopolitical challenges arising from cryospheric decline in both regions?
- How can international collaboration be enhanced through science diplomacy in both regions?

Socio-cultural dimensions of cryosphere-climate change interactions

- How do different local and indigenous communities experience and understand the climatic and environmental changes occurring in both regions?
- How does the resilience of local and indigenous communities manifest itself in response to climatic and environmental changes?
- How are the climatic and environmental changes depicted artistically?
- How do local and Indigenous communities' religious or spiritual beliefs interact with the climatic and environmental changes?

- How can local and Indigenous communities come together to learn from each other's experiences?

Abstract format:

1. Presentation title
2. Author(s)
3. Email address(es)
4. Abstract text (Up to 200 words)
5. Keywords (4-5)

Important dates:

- January 15, 2025: Call for Abstracts open
- April 30, 2025: Deadline for Abstract submissions
- June 15, 2025: Notification of acceptance
- June 30, 2025: Registration deadline following confirmation of participation
- August 01, 2025: Submission of draft papers (up to 2000 words)
- September 3-5, 2025: Conference
- December 01, 2025: Final papers submission (for consideration to be published in *IL POLO* - Italian Polar Journal)

Practicalities:

- Selected presenters to the Conference will receive email notification of the acceptance of the abstracts.
- Upon confirming their participation following the timeline suggested, presenters must arrange their travel and accommodation in Kathmandu, Nepal. The conference organizer(s) do not provide any financial and/or practical assistance.
- Abstracts should be submitted to this email, following the instructions below: interpolarconference2025@gmail.com
- In the email's subject box: Author's last name followed by "Abstract_IPC_2025". Example: "Anthony_Abstract_IPC_2025"

Inquiries:

- Detailed information about the Conference is found [here](#). For inquiries, please email at interpolarconference2025@gmail.com