

## **U Arctic Thematic Network on Arctic Law (TNAL)**

### **Newsletter #3**

**30<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Welcome to the third newsletter for the *Arctic Archives* subgroup of the U Arctic Thematic Network on Arctic Law. Feel free to share this newsletter with any colleagues that may be interested and direct them to the [website](#) for more information.

### **Membership Update**

Having launched in October 2023, today we have fifty-four members. Please let your colleagues know about the subgroup and remind them that it is open to all who have an interest in the topic (see more below).

### **Recent Events**

#### **Seminar and Workshop, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024**

##### **Danish Institute for International Studies, Copenhagen (hybrid format)**

A public seminar was held in hybrid format on *Sovereignty, History and Archives* at the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS).

Raymond Frogner, Head of Archives/Senior Director of Research, National Center for Truth and Reconciliation, Canada, was the keynote speaker. He was joined by Lisa Mullins, Archivist, Inuit Circumpolar Council, Canada; Njörður Sigurðsson, Assistant Director, National Archives of Iceland; and Bjarni Már Magnússon, Professor of Law, Bifröst University Iceland. Rachael Lorna Johnstone, University of Akureyri, Akureyri, gave a short introduction. Astrid Nonbo Andersen, Senior Research, DIIS, moderated the session and James Lowry, Professor of Archival Studies, Queens College, City of University of New York chaired the roundtable discussion.

A link to the full seminar recording is available here:

<https://www.diis.dk/en/event/the-importance-of-archives-in-decolonisation-processes-in-the-north-and-the-role-of>

A workshop with invited guests, including many members of the networks and new members recruited at the event, was held on the morning of 2<sup>nd</sup> May and all day on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. It was also held in hybrid format.

The events were supported by Nordforsk grant 136266 for the project “Decolonising Nordic Archives” and the International Arctic Science Committee (see more below). Many thanks to Astrid Nonbo Andersen at the events team at DIIS for facilitating the seminar and workshop!

#### **Arctic Circle Berlin Forum, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Romain Chuffart, Nansen Professor, University of Akureyri organised a panel on *Nordic Colonial Legacies, Historical Records, and Indigenous Self-Determination* at the [Arctic Circle Berlin Forum](#). The session explored Arctic Archives and introduced the topic to a new

audience. Astri Dankertsen, Professor of Sociology at Nord University, Norway; Malin Arvidsson, Associate Professor of History, Lund University, Sweden; Maria Press, Section Chief, Archivist, National Archives of Sweden in Östersund; and Rachael Lorna Johnstone, Professor of Law, University of Akureyri, Iceland, gave presentations, followed by a lively discussion moderated by Romain. Well done, Romain!

## **Forthcoming Events**

### **Archives & Heritage for Palestine, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

On 4<sup>th</sup> June, 9am GMT-7 San Francisco (Ohlone); 12pm EST Toronto (Tkaronto); 4pm GMT Iceland; 7pm GMT+3 Jerusalem/Beirut, the *Archives & Heritage for Palestine* will host Dr Salman Abu Sitta in conversation with Ghada Dimashk. Drawing on records, documents and maps from the PLSC collection, the guests will illustrate and explore the role of archives and heritage pertaining to Palestinian history and identity to counter epistemic violence, colonial erasure and the cultural dimensions of genocide.

The series is hosted by Dr Jamila Ghaddar and Tam Rayan.

For more information see:

<https://connect.archivists.org/discussion/archives-heritage-for-palestine-dr-salman-abu-sitta-in-conversation-with-ghada-dimashk-1>

### **17<sup>th</sup> Polar Law Symposium, 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Östersund, Mid-Sweden**

The [17<sup>th</sup> Polar Law Symposium](#) will be held in Östersund from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September. Two panels have been accepted from the Arctic Archives subgroup. Congratulations to us!

They are:

*Arctic Archives I: Shared Archival Heritage in the Arctic*, with Njörður Sigurðsson, Assistant Director, National Archives of Iceland; Maria Press, Section Chief, Archivist, National Archives of Sweden in Östersund; Apostolos Tsiouvalas, PhD Fellow, UiT The Arctic University of Norway; and Romain Chuffart, Nansen Professor, University of Akureyri, Iceland

and

*Arctic Archives II: Decolonial Practices, Historiographic Sovereignty, and the Right to Know*, with Astri Dankertsen, Professor of Sociology, Nord University, Norway; Astrid Nonbo Andersen, Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for International Studies, Denmark; and Rachael Lorna Johnstone, Professor of Law, University of Akureyri, Iceland.

For more information and to register, see the symposium website here:

<https://www.miun.se/en/Research/subject-research/law/polarlawsymposium2024/>

### **Visit to the Swedish National Archives, Östersund, 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024**

Maria Press, Section Chief, Archivist, National Archives of Sweden in Östersund, has kindly invited interested researchers to visit the archives in Östersund to learn more about issues

pertaining to Saami archives on the afternoon of 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Arrive early for the Polar Law Symposium to take part!

Please let Rachael know if you would like to come along: [rlj@unak.is](mailto:rlj@unak.is).

### **18<sup>th</sup> Polar Law Symposium, November 2025 Nuuk, Greenland**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Polar Law Symposium will be held in Nuuk in the second week of November 2025 in conjunction with *Greenland Science Week*. Watch this space!

### **Publications**

#### **Special Issue of [\*International Journal of Heritage Studies\*](#).**

The call for abstracts for a special issue on Arctic archives for the International Journal of Heritage Studies was very successful. Many of the papers in progress were presented and discussed at the afore-mentioned workshop at DIIS in May 2024. Final submissions are requested by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

### **Call for Participants: Transnational Archives**

Do you have artefacts and memories from Greenland and are you interested in taking part in a digital transnational design and archive project of private collections of Greenlandic artefacts in Denmark? If so, please reach out to Gudrun E. Havsteen-Mikkelsen at [gudrun\\_eriksen@hotmail.com](mailto:gudrun_eriksen@hotmail.com) to learn more about the [project: \*Transnational archives: a cultural exchange of memories between Greenland and Denmark\*](#).

### **Funding Opportunities**

The application to the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) to support participation at the seminar and workshop at the Danish Institute for International Studies was successful. It facilitated in-person attendance of two additional subgroup members.

At the workshop, a decision was taken *not* to apply to the Icelandic Research Fund (Rannís) in 2024 as the parameters for the funding are not compatible with the need for ethical, Indigenous participation. Subgroup members are seeking more suitable funding calls and everyone is encouraged to share news of funding opportunities.

An application to the University of the Arctic to support the subgroup activities was submitted in February 2024. We await a response.

### **Other Publications, Events and Initiatives**

Please send news of recent publications on Arctic archives from our members and any forthcoming events, initiatives or grant calls that could be of interest to Rachael for inclusion in future newsletters: [rlj@unak.is](mailto:rlj@unak.is).

## Membership of the Subgroup on Arctic Archives

If you are not yet a member or would like to invite colleagues to the subgroup please send the following information to Rachael at: [rlj@unak.is](mailto:rlj@unak.is). The subgroup is non-hierarchical and does not require any academic or professional qualifications or affiliations. We ask only that all members uphold the [Basic Standards of Mutual Respect](#) as outlined on the home page.

By joining the subgroup, you are automatically included in the main Thematic Network on Arctic Law and will also receive periodic updates by email from them.

By completing this information, you consent to receive emails with news of opportunities, events and publications by other members in the subgroup. The mailing list is managed by Rachael Lorna Johnstone at the University of Akureyri. You may withdraw from the list by emailing [rlj@unak.is](mailto:rlj@unak.is) at any time. There are no other rights or obligations attached to membership.

Name	Email	Main Position	Main Affiliation	Already a member of the TNAL? Yes/No

The subgroup lead is Rachael Lorna Johnstone, University of Akureyri, Iceland: [rlj@unak.is](mailto:rlj@unak.is) .

The overall lead for the TNAL is Kamrul Hossain: Kamrul Hossain, University of Lapland, Finland: [kamrul.hossain@ulapland.fi](mailto:kamrul.hossain@ulapland.fi) .