



Northern Institute for
Environmental and
Minority Law



UNIVERSITY OF LAPLAND
LAPIN YLIOPISTO



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Protecting the Sacred: Recognition of Sacred Sites of Indigenous Peoples for Sustaining Nature and Culture in Northern and Arctic Regions

International Conference

11–13.9.2013,

Arktikum building, Pohjoisranta 4, 96200 Rovaniemi, Finland

www.arcticcentre.org/sacredsites2013

PROGRAMME (PRELIMINARY)

WEDNESDAY - 11 September 2013

Venue: Arktikum building, Pohjoisranta 4, 96200 Rovaniemi, Finland

8.00 Registration (Arktikum - Main Hall behind the glass door - ticket sales area)

8.45-9.00 Opening Prayer by the Innu First Nation

9.00-9.15 Welcoming Words (Venue: Polarium, Arktikum)

Presenters to be confirmed

Opening (Venue: Polarium)

9.15.-9.40

Ana Persic, UNESCO "TBA"

9.40-10.00

Taisto Karjalainen, Metsähallitus; Finland

"Cultural Heritage and Forestry in Metsähallitus"

10.00 –10.15 *Tea/Coffee*

Plenary Keynotes (Venue: Polarium)

10.15-11.00

Keynote : "Nomadic and sedentary understandings of sacred space"

Piers Vitebsky, Vice-Director of research, Scott Polar Institute, University of Cambridge

11.00-11.45

"Recognition of indigenous customary laws and systems: realities, prospects and challenges."

Alexandra Xanthaki, Brunel Law School

12.00.-13.30 *Lunch*

PANEL SESSIONS

13.30 – 15.00

A. Recognition of Sacred Natural Sites in Policy, Law and Protocols I

(Chair: *Dr. Leena Heinämäki*, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland; Co-Chair: *Bas Verschuuren*, Sacred Natural Sites Initiative) (Venue: Polarium)

1. Introduction to the Recognition of Sacred Natural Sites.
Bas Verschuuren
2. The Recognition of Saami' „Sacred Sites“ in the Context of Wilderness Protection in Finish Lapland Lessons learnt from the test application of the Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines.
Antje Neumann
3. Recognition of Collective Religious Rights as a Means to Legal Protection of Sacred Natural Sites.
Dwight Newman
4. Access to and Use of Sacred Natural Sites and the Freedom of Religion under the European Convention on Human Rights.
Stefan Kirchner
5. Legal protection of sacred sites: an assessment of the international law toolbox.
Elisa Ruozi

B. Intangible Cultural Heritage Connected to Sacred Sites I: Mythology, and the Role of Sacred Sites for Indigenous Cosmologies

(Chair: *Dr. Florian Stammer*, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) (Venue: Auditorium)

1. Recognition of Collective Religious Rights as a Means to Legal Protection of Sacred Natural Sites. Mythology of “Island” in the Sacred Geography of Russian North and Arctic Indigenous People.
Nikolay Terebikhin; Andrey Podoplekin
2. “The Word of God calls these places the abomination of desolation”: Evangelical missionaries’ view on the Nenets sacred sites in Arctic Russia.
Laur Vallikivi
3. Ecosophy as Perception of Cosmophysical Origin of Sacred Places of the Arctic People.
Uliana Aleseevna Vinokurova
4. Sharing the same place: people and spirits, who is the owner?
Roza Laptander

C. Multiple Meanings of Sacred Sites I: Identity, Ethnicity, and Transmission of Culture

(Chair *Dr. Anna Stammer-Gossmann*, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) (Venue: Classroom)

1. Russian Indigenousness: Rethinking anthropological views on sacred landscapes in relation to the concept of ‘indigenous’.
Veronika Simonova
2. Gosa bássi várit leat jávkan? Where have all the sacred mountains gone?
Marit Myrvoll
3. Dialogue between traditional culture and national identity: sacred natural sites in Estonia
Ott Heinapuu
4. Multiple meanings of Sámi sacred places.
Tiina Äikäs
5. Supernatural Phenomena, Sacred Sites and Indigenous Identity in the Bering Strait Region of Alaska.
Julie Raymond-Yakoubian

15.00-15.30 *Tea/Coffee*

15.30-16.00 Meeting of the Declaration Drafting Committee

16.00 Departure to Pyhätunturi, a sacred natural site, 120 km from Rovaniemi. See at: <http://www.pyha.fi>

17.30 Arrival at Pyhä Conference site, distribution of rooms, time to walk in the nature.

19.30 Reception hosted by municipality of Pelkosenniemi at the Pyhätunturi Hotel

THURSDAY 12 September 2013

Venue: Hotel Pyhätunturi, 98530 Pyhätunturi, Finland

8.45-9.00 Opening Prayer / Purification Ceremony by the Innu First Nation

Plenary Keynote (Venue: Isokuru)

9.00-10.00

Keynote: "Sacred places on exhibition and the right to cultural heritage?"

Birgitta Fossum, Head of South Sami Museum and Cultural Centre Snåsa, Norway

10.10-10.15 *Tea/Coffee*

PANEL SESSION

10.15-12.00

D. Recognition of Sacred Natural Sites in Policy, Law and Protocols II

(Chair: Dr. Leena Heinämäki, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland; Co-Chair: Bas Verschuuren)

(Venue: Isokuru)

1. Self-determination and right-based approaches to development. The politics of recognition and the limits to Indigenous Peoples' Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC).
Robert Rode
2. Are human beings the owners and protectors of the land? Inuit perspectives on nuna, sila and tariuq in Nunavut (Canada).
Frederic Laugrand
3. Sacred Sámi sites of Finland – The Challenges of protection.
Eija Ojanlatva
4. Right of Indigenous People to Own Law.
Dawid Bunikowski
5. The Sacred Lake Imlor: The experience of protecting an ethno-cultural object in Yugra (West Siberia, Russia).
V.N.Tyurin; G.P.Vedmid

E. Intangible Cultural Heritage Connected to Sacred Sites II: Ritual and Other Spiritual Relevant Practices, Taboos, and Oral History

(Chair: TBA) (Venue: Pikkukuru)

1. Sacred places and nowadays ritual activities by indigenous residents of the Middle Ob region.
Alexey Rud; Nicholas Shatunov
2. Sacred Natural Sites: "Affordance" and religious practice.
Elin Rose Myrvoll
3. Tenacity of sacrality in Nenets narration.
Karina Lukin
4. Votive crosses as transcultural phenomena.
Dmitry Petrov; Andrey Tutorsky
5. The kyuryue (fence) as a boundary of a sacred space of the Sakha.
Dambaeva

F. The Role of Sacred Natural Sites for Nature-Culture Interlinkages, Ecosystem Conservation and Socio-Ecological Resilience

(Chair: Prof. Thora Herrmann, Université de Montréal, Canada) (Venue: outdoor session)

1. The religious, social and ecological significance of the sacred places of the Forest Nenets.
Rudolf Havelka
2. The circular life of the Innu and the caribou.
Anne-Marie André; Evelyne St-Onge; Madeleine Dominique; Jean St-Onge; Gaby McKenzie; Réal McKenzie; Gary MacFarland; Annie Cyr; Caroline Vollant; Lucien St-Onge; Dolores Andre; Georges Guanish; Sandy Shecanapish; Thora Herrmann
3. Mobile religion: the changing relations between spirits, nomads and the land in Yamal.
Florian Stammer
4. The use of indigenous place names to establish sacred site constellations and networks, a critical issue for defining traditional cultural properties among Alaska Native communities.
Thomas F. Thornton
5. Mapping the sacred: a global map of sacred natural sites.
Shonil Bhagwat

12.00 – 13.30 *Lunch*

PANEL SESSION

13.30 – 15.00

G. Educating for Sacred Natural Sites

(Chair: Prof. Thora Herrmann, Université de Montréal, Canada) (Venue: outdoor session)

1. Integrating the Sacred into Curricula for the University of the Arctic.
Kathleen Osgood
2. De-provincializing decolonization in education.
Cash Ahenakew; Vanessa de Oliveira Andreotti; Garrick Cooper; Hemi Hireme
3. Helping Seekers find the Non-Christian Sacred in their everyday lives: A perspective from an American Saami Woman.
Shelley S. Olson

H. Sacred Natural Sites and Industrial Developments

(Chair: Dr. Florian Stammler TBC) (Venue: Isokuru)

1. "Protecting by Consuming": the Design Interpretation of Sacred Space with Reference to the Tourism Industry.
Svetlana Usenyuk; Maria Gostyaeva; Kristina Zorina
2. Threat of industrial activity on sacred sites in the Arctic.
Michael Burger
3. Protection of Rock Paintings in Finland
Francis Joy

J. Protecting Sacred Natural Sites in the Context of Socio-Environmental Change

(Chair: Dr. Anna Stammler-Gossmann TBC) (Venue: Pikkukuru)

1. Safeguarding Bhutan's Sacred Natural Sites in a changing world.
Liza Zogib
2. Burning the sacred: challenges for the protection of indigenous sacred sites within the context of internal cultural changes.
Tatiana Vagramenko
3. The diversity of Estonian sacred natural sites in the context of contemporary governing.
Auli Kütt
4. Sacred Sites inside northern city: creating new identity.
Lena Sidorova

15.00 – 15.30 *Tea/Coffee*

15.30- 16.30 Meeting of the Declaration Drafting Committee

15.30 -18.30 Guided tour to Sacred Sites by Pirjo Rautiainen from Metsähallitus

18.30.-20.00 Participants have the option to take part in a Sweat lodge guided by spiritual guides of the Innu First Nation

20.00 Dinner at Pyhäntunturi Hotel

21.30.-22.30 Sacred Sites Film Screening

FRIDAY 13 September 2013

Plenary Keynote (Venue: Isokuru)

9.00-10.00

Keynote: "The protection of sacred natural sites of indigenous peoples - an issue at the intersection of religious freedom law, cultural rights and environmental law."

René Kuppe, Professor of Law, University of Vienna

Plenary - WAY FORWARD

10.00 – 11.00

Declaration on Recognition of Sacred Sites of Indigenous Peoples for Sustaining Nature and Culture in Northern and Arctic Regions

11.00 – 11.15 *Tea/Coffee*

11:15 Closing words

John Scott, Programme Officer, Traditional Knowledge, Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD)

Professor Thora Herrmann, Département de géographie, Université de Montréal, and Québec Centre for Biodiversity Science &

Leena Heinämäki, Research Fellow NIEM, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland and Vice-leader of the University of Arctic Thematic Network on Arctic Law

Announcement of the Book

12.00 – 13.00 *Lunch*

14.30 Departure for Rovaniemi,

16.00 Arrival in Rovaniemi, Arktikum

Possibility for participants: Rovaniemi city-tour including the visit in the Santa Claus Village (until 18.00): Possibility to visit Arktikum exhibitions (Arctic Centre exhibition and the Provincial Museum of Lapland).

For details, practical information and updates, visit our website: www.arcticcentre.org/sacredsites2013

Practical information and schedules: Johan-Erik Kukko, jkukko@ulapland.fi

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Facebook profile: <https://www.facebook.com/events/376890749057547/>

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