

## **UARctic Annual Report for 2022**

Just as most research, education and meetings began to return to “the new normal” following two years of COVID restrictions, UARctic faced another crisis that threatened the principles of circumpolar cooperation upon which we were founded. Following Russia’s actions in Ukraine, the Board moved to pause the membership of all 55 Russian members of UARctic. In addition, all three Russian members of the Board of UARctic stepped down, and the UARctic Congress 2022, scheduled for in October in Moscow, did not take place.

The exclusion of Russia from international cooperation has been transformational for UARctic, and will have far reaching consequences for circumpolar cooperation for many years to come. But just as scientific and civil society partnerships were key to bringing the West and Russia together after the Cold War, UARctic and its partners will be prepared to once again play that role when the conditions are possible.

Despite this significant disruption, UARctic saw increased activities among Thematic Networks, Institutes, north2north mobility, and the new set of UARctic Chairs. Operating within the framework of the [Strategic Plan 2030](#) and Strategic Implementation Plan, new reporting procedures and goal indicators have made it easier and more efficient for UARctic to track activities and outcomes.

The Board held meetings online in February, as well as in-person meetings in St. Prex, Switzerland (March/April) and Copenhagen, Denmark (October). Responding to events in Ukraine, reviewing UARctic’s activity reports, budget and finances, and overseeing fundraising efforts was the core of the Board’s agenda.

The third meeting of the [UARctic Assembly](#) was organized in Portland, Maine, hosted by the University of New Hampshire, University of Maine, University of New England, University of Southern Maine, and Dartmouth College. The meeting brought together over 100 participants from across UARctic’s membership. The Assembly elected the new Board Chair Frederik Paulsen, other new Board members and a student representative, as well as re-elected Board members for 2nd and 3rd terms. The Assembly also welcomed 11 new members to the network and approved establishment of four new Thematic Networks.

In the absence of the UARctic Congress 2022, planning began for the next Congress. Being organized jointly with the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) and the High North Dialogue, the [Arctic Congress 2024](#) will be hosted by Nord University and the Nordland Research Institute in Bodo, Norway in May/June.

The first set of [UARctic Chairs](#) were appointed in 2022, totalling 24. Chairs implement and drive collaborative actions in research and education among UARctic members and Thematic Networks, and build partnerships with the broader Arctic community. Several chairs also constitute Mimir, the UARctic Academic Advisory Committee, which serves as a high-level advisory body for UARctic.

Several new communications initiatives were launched in 2022 designed to improve service to our members. These included a redesign of the website, a monthly email Member Bulletin, and improvements to member fee payment processes.

In 2022 the philanthropic fundraising team focused on establishing relationships with prospects, planning future events, and increasing understanding of fundraising within the network. Two online trainings and one face-to-face training were arranged for Thematic Network leads on philanthropic fundraising. A new volunteer group, the President's Cabinet, was also established to support UArctic in our fundraising efforts. Donations were put to use through the Frederik Paulsen Arctic Academic Action Award (winners: Hanne H. Christiansen and Marius O. Jonassen, UNIS for the PermaMeteoCommunity project), and through supporting student mobility to the Arctic Circle Assembly.

## Action Plan Indicators for 2022

Members in Thematic Networks	65%
Scientific publications from Thematic Networks	171
UArctic Chairs	24
Awards and High-Level Seminars	1
Student exchanges (north2north)	157
Virtual mobility courses	NA
Mobility activities within Thematic Networks	9
Project funding for Thematic Networks	€634 818
Arctic Research and Education Assessment reports	NA
Members	173
Arctic Council partnership with Congress	Active for 2024
Thematic Networks with Arctic Council projects	NA
National/Regional/Indigenous govt agreements	13
Income from philanthropic fundraising	€260 250
Endowment fund principal	€47 679