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# **NORAD & USNORTHCOM Arctic Perspective**

## **RUSI Nova Scotia**

**November 2020**

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# NORAD

## MISSION STATEMENT

North American Aerospace  
Defense Command Defends  
Our Nations - Deters,  
detects, & defeats air  
threats to the United States  
& Canada & provides  
aerospace & maritime  
warning



# USNORTHCOM

## MISSION STATEMENT

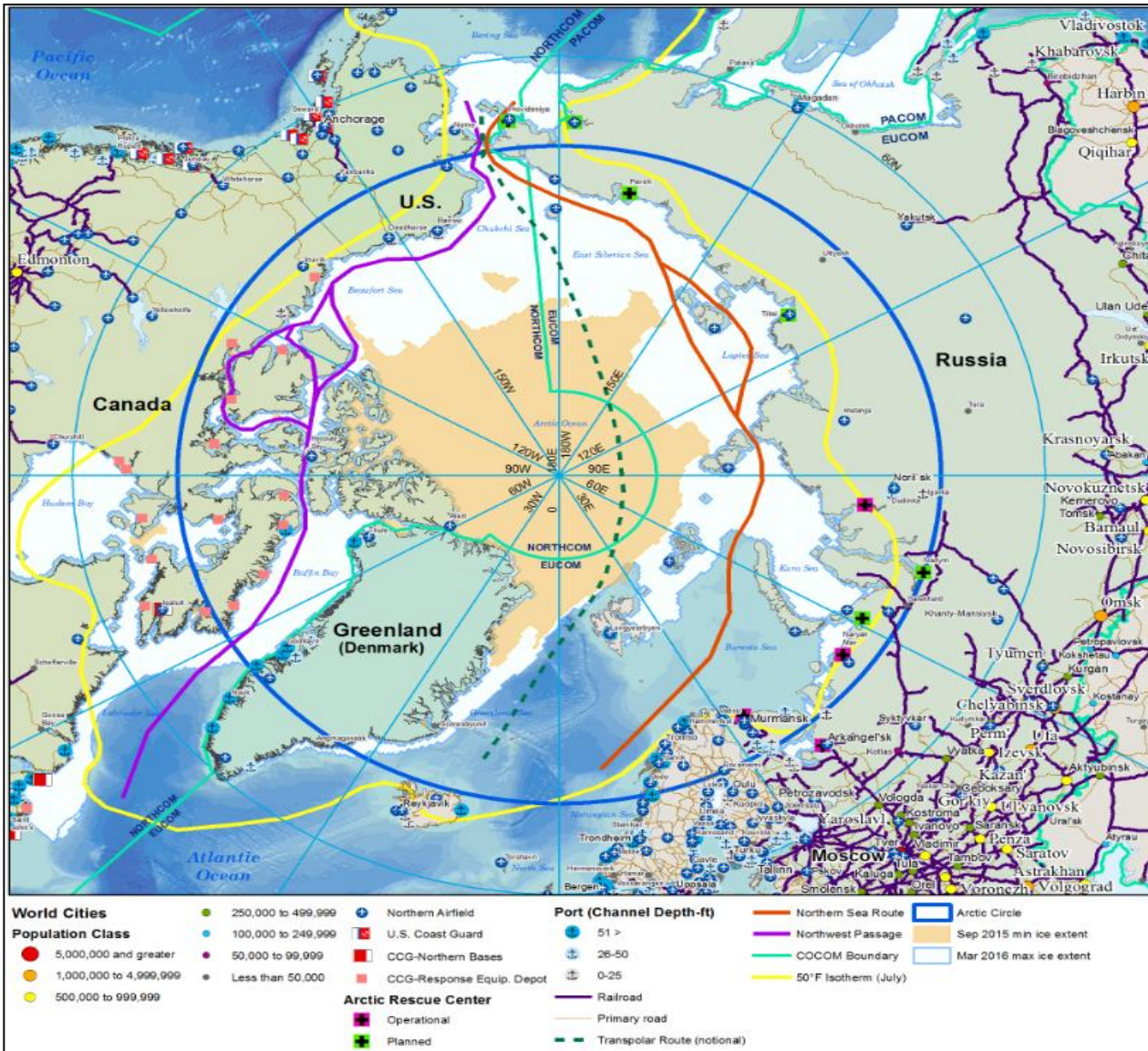
United States Northern  
Command Defends Our  
Homeland - Deters, detects,  
& defeats threats to the  
United States, conducts  
security cooperation activi-  
ties with allies & partners,  
& supports civil authorities





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# U.S. Arctic Definition



## Section 112 of the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984:

*“All U.S. and foreign territory north of the Arctic Circle and all U.S. territory north and west of the boundary formed by the Porcupine, Yukon, and Kuskokwim Rivers (in Alaska); all contiguous seas, including the Arctic Ocean and the Beaufort, Bering, and Chukchi Seas; and the Aleutian chain.”*

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# Canadian Arctic Definition



## Canadian Arctic

- The three Canadian Territories North of 60 degrees

## Canadian North

- Sometimes expanded to North of 55 degrees or beyond

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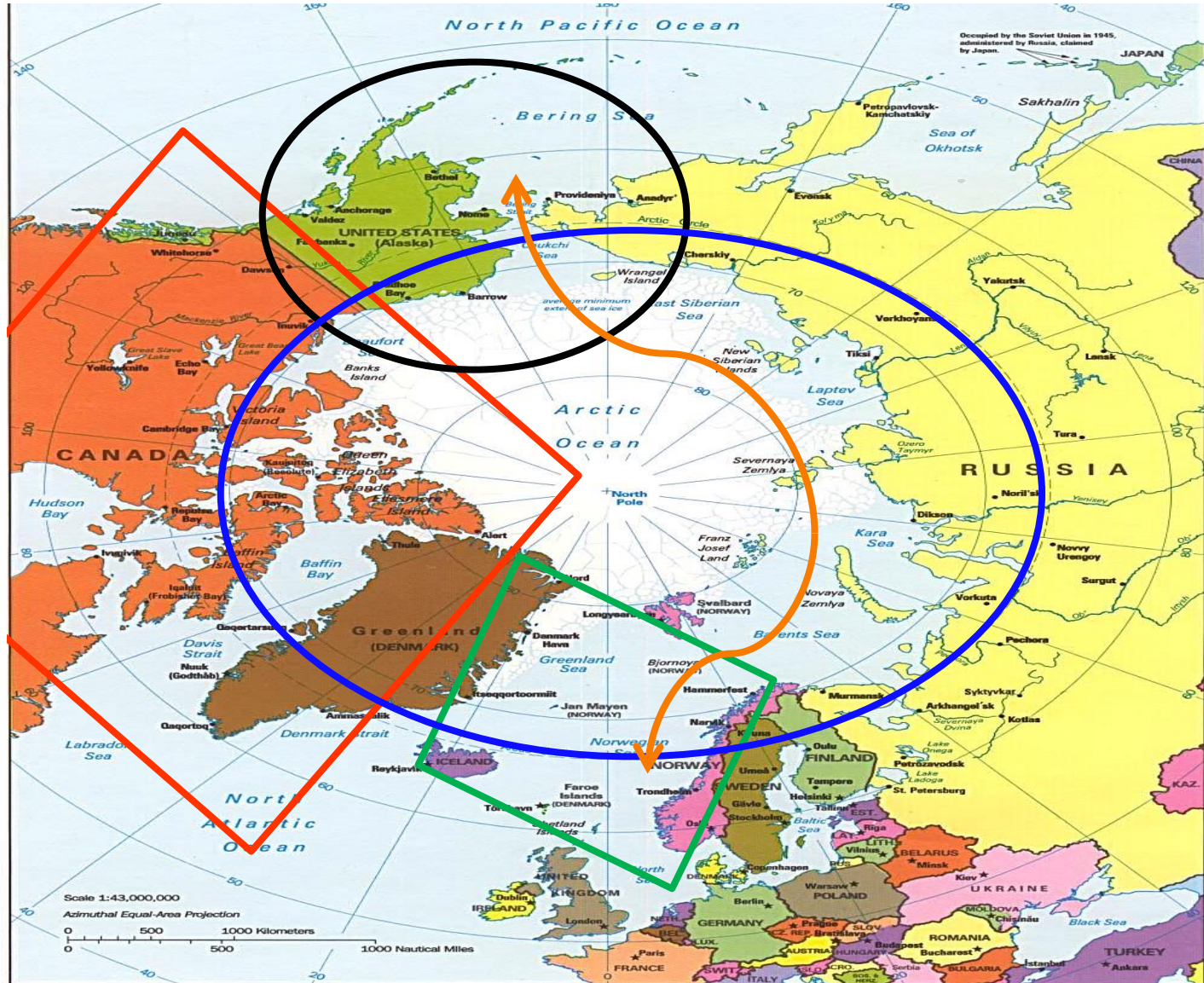
# Arctic Perspectives

**Legend**

- USA
- Canada
- NATO
- Arctic Council
- Russia

Perspective is dependent upon where one "sits" and...one's interests

- Access
- Resources
- Vulnerabilities
- Intentions



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# U.S. Strategic Approach

## U.S. National Security Interests in the Arctic – 2017 National Security Strategy:

- The Arctic as the U.S. homeland - sovereignty
- The Arctic as a shared region – security and stability
- The Arctic as a potential corridor for strategic competition, spanning Indo-Pacific, North America, and Europe



## DOD Arctic Objectives – 2018 National Defense Strategy:

- Defend the homeland
- Compete when necessary to maintain favorable regional balances of power
- Ensure common domains remain free and open



## USNORTHCOM Arctic Plans & Operations – 2018 USNORTHCOM Arctic HD MA

- HD execution: NORAD ops, ISR, maritime presence
- Exercises & deployments – ARCTIC EDGE, JPARC, TRIDENT JUNCTURE, ARCTIC CHALLENGE, COLD RESPONSE, JPARC
- Combined operations & exercises with allies & partners
- Active engagement and participation in Arctic forums



***Desired End State: “A secure and stable Arctic region where U.S. national interests are safeguarded, North America is protected, and nations work cooperatively to address challenges”***  
***– 2019 DOD Arctic Strategy***



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# Canadian Strategic Approach



**Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework**

A framework prepared by the Government of Canada and its partners to empower people and communities to work together for a vibrant, prosperous and sustainable region.

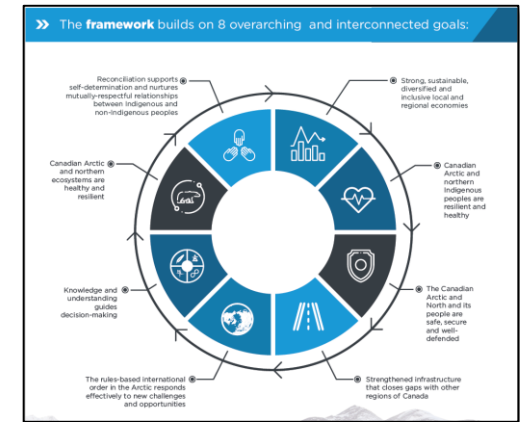


**Foreword from the minister**

The Arctic and Northern Policy Framework is a profound change of direction for the Government of Canada. For too long, Canada's Arctic and northern residents, especially Indigenous people, have not had access to the same services, opportunities, and standards of living as those enjoyed by other Canadians. There are longstanding inequalities in transportation, energy, communication, employment, community infrastructure, health and education. While almost all past governments have put forward northern strategies, none closed these gaps for the people of the North, or created a lasting legacy of sustainable economic development.

In her 2016 *Inuarim Report on the Shared Arctic Leadership Model*, Minister's Special Representative Mary Simon said, "the simple fact is that Arctic strategies throughout my lifetime have rarely matched or addressed the magnitude of the basic gaps between what exists in the Arctic and what other Canadians take for granted."

Co-developing the new framework became a bold opportunity to shape and direct change in the region by collaborating with government, northerners and Indigenous governments and organizations. Consultation was not enough to meet the challenges and harness emerging opportunities in the Arctic and North. In a significant shift, the federal government, Indigenous peoples, Inuit, First Nations and Métis, 6 territorial and provincial governments (Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec, and Manitoba) contributed to this framework together.



## Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework (2019)

- "STRONG, SECURE, ENGAGED" PRIORITIES - ENHANCING ARCTIC CAPABILITY:**
- Enhance the mobility, reach and footprint of the Canadian Armed Forces in Canada's North to support operations, exercises, and the Canadian Armed Forces' ability to project force into the region.
  - Align the Canadian Air Defence Identification Zone (CADIZ) with our sovereign airspace.
  - Enhance and expand the training and effectiveness of the Canadian Rangers to improve their functional capabilities within the Canadian Armed Forces.
  - Collaborate with the United States on the development of new technologies to improve Arctic surveillance and control, including the renewal of the North Warning System.
  - Conduct joint exercises with Arctic allies and partners and support the strengthening of situational awareness and information sharing in the Arctic, including with NATO.

***"The Arctic region represents an important international crossroads where issues of climate change, international trade, and global security meet." - Strong, Secure, Engaged (2017)***

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# USNORTHCOM

## DOD Arctic Capabilities Advocate

The extreme and austere Arctic operating environment presents significant challenges. As DOD advocate for Arctic capabilities, we advocate and engage with partners to improve homeland defense capabilities in three main areas:

- All Domain Awareness
- Information Dominance
- Decision Superiority



Goal: posture investment in basing and logistics, training and equipment, and measured presence to maintain a credible, Arctic capable force to deter, detect and defend...



*“The Department will assess the needs, costs/risks, and benefits of targeted investments to modestly enhance existing regional infrastructure, both in Alaska and Europe, to enable operational flexibility to project forces into the region on an expeditionary basis.” – 2019 DOD Arctic Strategy*





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# Key Take-Aways

- ***OUR HOMELANDS ARE NOT A SANCTUARY.*** Defending North America is the NORAD and USNORTHCOM no-fail mission and number one priority. Strong defense partnership with Arctic Allies and partners is essential to mission success
- The Arctic Region is an avenue of approach to North America for air, space, and maritime threats – directly over the pole in and through Canada
- NORAD and USNORTHCOM ensure we remain ready to operate “IN AND THROUGH” the Arctic, in all scenarios ... all domains ... against any adversary
- Our adversaries are actively searching for ways to hold Canada and the U.S. at risk, and they will exploit any opportunity where they perceive weakness
- Defense posture in the Arctic cannot be established / developed overnight – harsh and remote environment prevents “come as you are” expeditionary operations
- USNORTHCOM integrates Arctic planning with Allies, and actively participates in forums such as the Arctic Security Forces Roundtable
- Canada is our key Arctic partner

***Partnerships are key - nations work cooperatively to address challenges***

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