



February 21, 2025, 14:00 – 16:00

Remoteness Reframed: Arctic Urban EcoScapes and Biocultural Heritage
Terminal B Kunsthall Kirkenes

Abstract:

The event will introduce and discuss the project *Belmont Forum Collaborative Research: Biocultural Heritage in Arctic Cities as a Potential Resource for Climate Adaptation (ARCA)* and its collaborative interdisciplinary installation *Zoom In/Zoom Out*. The project applies the holistic concept of biocultural heritage to investigate the complex interactions between natural and social systems and the ability of Arctic urban communities to adapt to climate-induced changes. The installation aims to present Arctic urban centers as spaces where isolation and connectivity merge in a dynamic interplay of ecological, socio-cultural, and technological forces that shape the Arctic urban ecosystems. ARCA's vision includes fostering community engagement, cross-cultural dialogue, and art-science collaborations to model speculative Arctic futures. By reframing Arctic remoteness as a space of innovation and interconnectedness, the project offers new perspectives on urban sustainability and the role of biocultural heritage in addressing climate challenges.

Conveners and guests:

Artist-researcher **Olga Kisseleva** (University of Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne, France / Art&Science International Institute), geographers **Vera Kuklina** (George Washington University, USA) and **Victoria Miles** (Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center, Norway), social anthropologists **Olga Povoroznyuk** and **Peter Schweitzer** (University of Vienna, Austria), philosopher **Olga Zaslavskaya** (Art&Science International Institute); art critic **Hilde Sørstrøm** (Arctic University of Norway), art historians **Hanne Hammer Stien** and **Elin Kristine Haugdal** (UiT The Arctic University of Norway)

Program:

Part 1. Installation: facilitated by Olga Kisseleva

14:00 - 14:05 - Welcome

14:05 - 14:10 - Vera Kuklina: Introducing the ARCA project

14:10 – 14:30 - Victoria Miles and Olga Kisseleva: Presentation of Zoom In / Zoom Out installation from art and science perspectives

14:30 – 14:40 - Olga Zaslavskaya: The Hidden and the Seen (Curator Comments on Further Project Development)

14:40 – 15:00 - Hanne Hammer Stien, Elin Kristine Haugdal, Hilde Sørstrøm: Zoom In / Zoom Out installation in the contemporary art context.

Part 2. Talks and discussion: facilitated by Olga Povoroznyuk

15:00 - 15:15 – Peter Schweitzer and Olga Povoroznyuk: From InfraNorth to ARCA: Anthropological engagements with Kirkenes

15:15 – 15:25 – Vera Kuklina: Sharing experience from studies of remoteness in Arctic cities and beyond & design of a co-creative workshop in Fairbanks

15:25 – 15:35 – Victoria Miles: Urban heat islands

15:35 – 15:40 – Victoria Miles and Olga Povoroznyuk: The ARCA survey and fieldwork plans

15:40 – 16:00 – Olga Povoroznyuk and Peter Schweitzer: Q&A and general discussion

Drinks and refreshments will be served