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Inventing a shared Science  
Diplomacy for Europe

# Science Diplomacy: Context and Development

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Joint Lunch  
Seminar  
Brussels  
16 January 2020

Outline



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- **Some (EU) views on Science Diplomacy – Definitions, goals**
- **The Arctic as an exceptional geopolitical space framed by science**
- **InsSciDE Case Study: UNCLOS**
- **Going forward**

# Some (EU) views on Science Diplomacy



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RISE Advisor  
to Comm'r  
Moedas

2016-19



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← **Tweet**



**Dr. Marga Gual Soler**

@margagual

Another blow to a [#sciencediplomacy](#) success from the last decade. Only multilateral, science-based agreements like the [#JCPOA](#) [#IranDeal](#) or the [#ParisAgreement](#) can save us from nuclear & climate catastrophe.

 **The New York Times**  @nytimes · Jan 5

Breaking News: Iran says it is ending all its commitments to the 2015 nuclear deal and will no longer limit uranium enrichment  
[nyti.ms/2SVmISE](https://nyti.ms/2SVmISE)

[Show this thread](#)

8:39 PM · Jan 5, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Sept 2019



“R&I investment and cooperation beyond EU borders:  
an effective framework to support growth of developing countries (capacity building, technology transfer, promoting reciprocal relations)

“SD: an effective tool for the EU to

- overcome political deadlocks and to unite actors in sensitive political contexts around major challenges
- strengthen its role as a global actor and to promote world peace and development
- involve other international actors in the fight against climate change”

H2020 SD Cluster: [science-diplomacy.eu](https://science-diplomacy.eu)  
LinkedIn group: [EU Science Diplomacy](#)

*An integrated  
European  
Union policy  
for the Arctic  
(2016)*

= **Science For  
Diplomacy**



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- “Science, in particular, can be used as **a catalyst to support a common understanding, enabling jointly agreed solutions to be reached and foster peaceful cooperation.**
- The EU should promote and facilitate effective international scientific cooperation through supporting ... access **to improve political and economic links and maintain good relations ....”**

*Brussels, 27.4.2016 JOIN(2016) 21 final*

*Madrid  
Declaration*  
Feb 2019



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- “Science diplomacy: a series of **practices at the intersection of science, technology and foreign policy.**”
- “Where a **greater scientific voice could add value** to bi- and multilateral discussions and decisions about our shared global concerns.
- “Science diplomacy goes beyond international science collaboration, as it **tackles interests that go beyond the scientific ones and may directly or indirectly serve to advance diplomatic goals.**”

<https://www.s4d4c.eu/s4d4c-1st-global-meeting/the-madrid-declaration-on-science-diplomacy/>

## **Concept Note**

for today's

Joint

ERCEA/REA

Seminar

= Scientists

for Global

Challenges



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- “Challenges such as climate change and resource scarcity cannot possibly be solved by one country alone or even a group of countries.
- “To meet these challenges, it is imperative to **work together**, and **by reaching out to their international counterparts in order to access knowledge, resources and to further their insights, scientists contribute greatly to help communication and understanding across national and cultural contexts.**”



# Science Diplomacy: A Pragmatic Perspective from the Inside

Pragmatic  
definition  
and  
new taxonomy  
by science  
advisors  
*Gluckman,  
Turekian, Grimes,  
Kishi 2017*  
Science & Diplomacy  
6(4) 2017



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“Leveraging science engagement and exchange in support of broader objectives beyond science discovery”

## National Needs

### Voice/influence/soft power/reputation

- Track 2 diplomacy
- Bilateral relations
- Projection
- Development assistance

### Security

- Crisis, emergencies, disasters
- Technical aspects of treaties
- Threats (e.g., cyber)

### Economic

- Trade
- Innovation
- Standards and definitions

### National need and capability

- Technical capabilities
- Access to know-how, knowledge
- Development of domestic STI

## Common Interests across National Boundaries

### Resources

Transboundary/regional issues

- *Standards and definitions*
- *Shared technical services*
- *Crisis and disaster management*
- *Social licensing for new technologies*
- *Big science*

### Global Interest

- *Shared challenges across borders (e.g., SDGs)*
- *Ungoverned spaces*

# The Arctic as an exceptional geopolitical space framed by science

**Taking a historian's perspective**



# Importance of the Poles



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- Key for planetary health and wealth
- Planetary status and future play themselves out there
- Arctic transformations under CC
- Carbon black soot reducing ability to reflect away sun
- Amplifying temperatures, melting sea ice, SLR
- Tipping points:
- Where geophysical changes lead to geopolitical consequences
- Seasonally ice free seas become navigable
- And resources of many kinds become potentially accessible

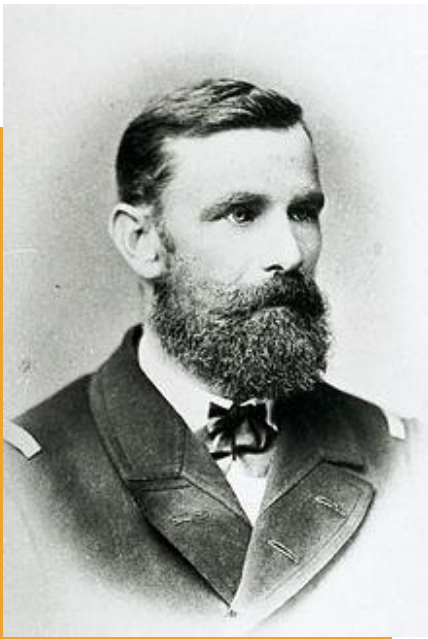
# 'Rovaniemi Spirit'

1991 meeting of  
Intl Arctic  
Science Cty  
prefigures Arctic  
Council (1996)



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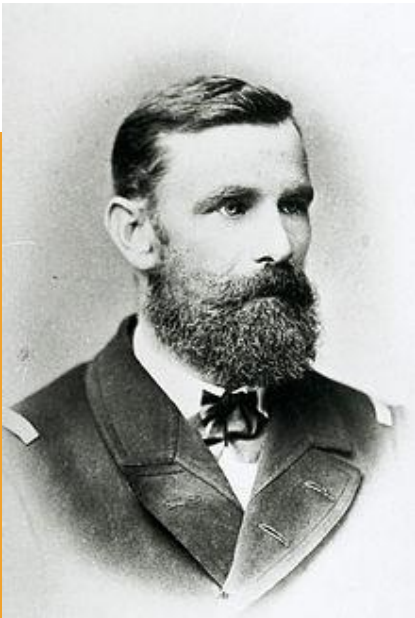
- "In the Arctic we can create peace
- "A space to which tensions from other parts of the world will not extend
- "A strictly protected environment, unsubjected to usual forces and territorial claims
- ""A land of international cooperation
- "A natural reserve, dedicated to Peace and Science"
- But: in danger of fragmentation today. Can Science protect from rogue behaviour?
- And from geopolitical tensions between great powers?
- Environmental monitoring of CC is a major means of cooperation and a necessary one
- Assures civil control: allowed military competition to be unspoken yet monitored in Cold War
- Rogue denial of CC, science, SDG's and multilateral cooperation, insistence on casting in trade war terms means Arctic Council 2017 approaches military subjects for first time
- *The story can also be told without science – taking only a political/legal view*



Karl  
Weyprecht  
1838-81

- Polar explorer coordinating multiple nations per mission
- NOT claiming new territories, in the name of Science
- Enunciated 'Basic Principles of Arctic Research' (1875)
  - Fixed observation stations
  - Identical devices
  - Coordinated periodic measurement
- International Polar Year
  - 1882-83
  - 1932-33
- International Geophysical Year
  - 1957-58
- International Polar Year (2 full cycles)
  - 2007-2009
- Coordinated measurement in multiple locations in same year
  - *Multiple views of same phenomenon*
  - *Broader interpretation of data*
  - *Test and validation of results*





## Science 'Internationalist'

influenced by the  
'First International'  
1864-76



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Ideal of Science  
without borders,  
shared, non exclusive

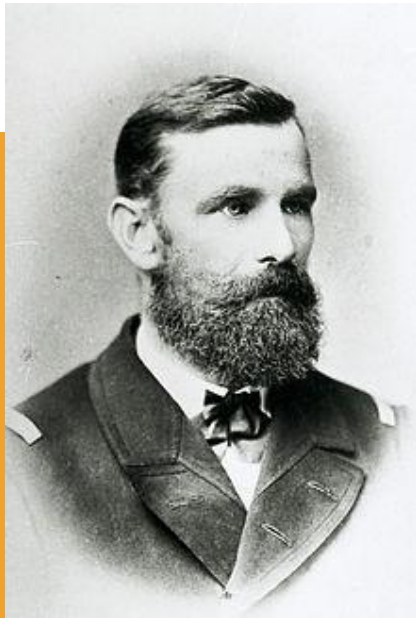
- Internationalized Poles
- Unique geopolitical status
- A natural reserve dedicated to Peace and Science
- Land of International Cooperation

The life of  
Science:  
by definition  
transnational  
**InsSciDE**  
**research on**  
**Academies**



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- International science exchanges since the beginning of the modern era: forming European space through ample correspondence, direct meetings
- Personal relations of a small number of exceptional **individuals**
- 17th and especially 18th centuries: **Academies** emerge to promote and structure scientific exchanges within nations, advise governments, and stimulate international channels
- Explosion 1880-1914: Transport and communication technologies support internationalization – Unions, meetings, initiatives, widely disseminated international journals



## Science 'Internationalist'

Ideal of Science  
without borders,  
shared, non exclusive

- Internationalized Poles
- Unique geopolitical status

*Neither necessary nor sufficient conditions*





# A European diplomatic parallel?

- Strong European Values
- Application of Science

- Overcome global challenges
- Foster a unified geopolitical space of common good



- 2016 Strategy: Continue to engage partners in multilateral rules-based diplomacy

- Preserve unity, avoid fragmentation of cooperation
- Maintain the Arctic as a site of low tension

***“Risk of conflict in the Arctic is low but cannot be entirely excluded, which is why Europe and others need to continue dialogue and confidence-building measures” – M-A Coninx, EU Arctic Ambassador***



# InsSciDE Case Study: The example of UNCLOS

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea



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# Function of UNCLOS

S. Robinson  
case study for  
InsSciDE



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Viewed as primarily concerned with delineation of boundaries of national and international ocean space

But 1/3 of its articles relate to marine pollution, **science and technology**

**Marine Science conducted by all countries** (and they raise their competence to achieve this – and government progressively increases dotation)

33% of the law empowers **Civil Science**

*The law and global monitoring systems respond to 1960s tensions between exploiters and conservationists*

***Global development of S&T concurrent with the diplomatic process***

**Equitably controlled common resource space**

**A civilian-controlled space**

# European profile of success under UNCLOS

- Europe maintains a strong position in global monitoring
- Science and governance institutions based in Europe
- Europe drives science initiatives, sets global agenda and policy
- Europe is world leader in oceanography
- EU science strengthens modes of collaboration with the Global South
- EU founded working party to merge national viewpoints

Different national approaches to science gathered into the law and diplomatic practice

Oceans = A resource space whose scientific and technological exploitation is equitably controlled on geopolitical level



# Going forward

**H2020 Science Diplomacy Cluster contributions**



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Input to **co-**  
**design of**  
**Horizon**  
**Europe**  
Sept 2019



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- *Support the EU as a strong international actor with dedicated approaches to science diplomacy.*
- *Strengthen multilateral initiatives addressing global challenges, keep the cooperation channels open even when political opinions diverge.*
- *Follow activities through a science diplomacy observatory.*
- *Consider science diplomacy as a cross-cutting issue for new projects, offer booster activities.*

*Spring 2019 Brainstorming Exercise*

<https://wolke1.zsi.at/index.php/s/D9gRys5B903Npt4>

# InsSciDE organizes its first Summer School for scientists and diplomats!

In June 2020, we will assemble lessons learned into case studies and strategy exercises - to teach the first edition of InsSciDE's Science Diplomacy Summer School.

- ✓ free for select candidates
- ✓ financial support offered for their Warsaw stay

Learn more about the training program and how to nominate and sponsor a candidate:

[contact@insscide.eu](mailto:contact@insscide.eu)



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A Horizon 2020 project involving 11 European countries, 2018-2021 and targeting Diplomats, Scientists and Researchers, and Policy makers

## Partner with InsSciDE to create our 2020 Summer School dynamic

We invite your nomination of science diplomacy trainees!



Academies of Science/Engineering and Science Advisory bodies



Ministries of Foreign Affairs



University Departments



Innovators



...

JUN 2020

22 - 26

Warsaw, Poland