THE RUSSIAN ARCTIC REGION: GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

Nadezhda K. Kharlampyeva, PhD, Associate Professor, World Politics Department, School of International Relations, St. Petersburg State University
The Russian Arctic region

An area of about 8 mln sq.km (including the islands - 0.2 mln sq.km) - 46% of the Russian Federation whole territory
Population - 2.5 mln people*.

Territorial and administrative division

1. Republic of Sakha (Yakutia),
2. Murmansk Oblast,
3. Arkhangelsk Oblast,
4. Krasnoyarsk Krai,
5. Nenets Autonomous Okrug,
6. Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug,
7. Chukotka Autonomous Okrug*.

National security

Sovereignty of the five Arctic states.
North Atlantic Region (NAR).*
Arctic theater of operations (ATO).*
Interests of NATO, the USA, Russia, China, European Union states, states with developing economies (eg. India)*

* V.A. Korzun Russia's interests in the World ocean in the new geopolitical situation. – Moscow, Nauka, 2005. PP.460-466.
Strategic Stability

Russia and China:
a) "nuclear-free world on the basis of strategic stability maintenance principles".*
b) "formation of a common and indivisible security area of safety and stability in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian regions".*

* Paragraph 12//Ibid.
Environmental Safety

2012 - to include issue on the Development of global measures to protect the World ocean from pollution in the APEC Agenda.*
2015 – creation of a unified System for Maritime Monitoring and Safety.*

Exploration of the Russian Arctic region

Under development: about 50 projects - up to 30 bln barrels of oil in oil equivalent.*
2020: The growth of balance geological reserves up to 3 bln tons, and natural gas - up to 5 trln cubic meters.*
The Shtokman gas condensate field: 3.9 trln cubic meters of gas and 56.1 mln tons of condensate. Plan:
2016 - pipeline gas supply,
2017 – liquefied natural gas supply.

2010 The possibility for large-capacity tankers to sail along the NSR is confirmed (trip of the "SKF Baltica" tanker through the Strait of Sannikov)

2011 1. The possibility to use the maximum tonnage of the Suez Canal for the NSR transit is confirmed. 2. A new high-latitude navigation route through the NSR is explored*

The Program "Economic and Social Development of the Russian Arctic region" is a coordination mechanism for public-private partnerships (PPP), international organizations and commercial banks.*

2011:
June – the Concept of Geology Development till 2030 is approved
July – The Decree of the President of the Russian Federation on the creation of "Rosgeology" is signed.

The law "Earth’s on Subsoil"

Discussion of amendments:
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation: "for foreign investors to mine the fields discovered by them".*
Lukoil: "to develop, subject to a legal entity registration with the state share over 50%".*

*V. Alikperov. It is necessary to share the risks // Oil of Russia. Special Issue on "The Shelf Resources 2010", P. 21.
Environmental damage reduction

1. Recovery:
   Purification of the Wrangel Island, the Amderma Island – 250.6 mln rubles till 2013
   Former military bases and polar stations – 1.6 bln rubles till 2013*

   Regional – 86
   Create till 2020 – Beringia and Bear Islands *

3. International activity:
Information and communication system

2015 – creation of space communication and surveillance devices.*
June, 2011 – Support of the Russian-Canadian "Northern air bridge" project aimed at equal-access services in all Arctic Council states.*

The conclusion

Russian Arctic policies are:
1. Restore a strategic infrastructure.
2. Improve legislative regulation of the Arctic region economy and social sphere development.
3. Take optimum measures of interaction between the federal center and local self-administrations, the state and autonomous powers for the attracting investment.
4. Prepare a Northern Sea Route as the International Transit Transport System and restoration of the Sea power status.

Thus, concentration on the Russian Arctic domestic policy is preparation for the transnational cooperation on realization of 21st century Global Arctic project at a states dominating role.
Thank you for attention!

Nadezhda K. Kharlampyeva, PhD, Associate Professor, World Politics Department, School of International Relations, St. Petersburg State University
Address: Saint-Petersburg, Russia, Smolny str., 3/1-8
Web-site: www.sir.spbu.edu
E-mail: nkhar@mail.sir.edu, nkhar@rambler.ru
Cell: +7 9213158210