

Arctic Yearbook 2018

Year in Review

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2017 / 18

October 14, 2017 – Arctic Yearbook 2017 is launched in Reykjavik.

November 23 – The Inuit Circumpolar Council release the recommendations of the Pikiakasorsuaq Commission calling for the creation of an Inuit-Identified, Inuit-managed protected area between Canada and Greenland in the High Arctic.

November 30 – Arctic 5 + 5 agree to a fisheries accord. The *Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean* is formally signed October 3, 2018 in Greenland.

December 11 – Video of emaciated polar bear goes viral after National Geographic posts it on their website. They later stated they went “too far” in conflating the bear’s health condition with climate change.

January 26, 2018 – China releases its Arctic Policy through an official White Paper.

March 7 – The Arctic Council’s Working Group on Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR) runs a table top exercise on oil spill response in the Arctic in Oulu, Finland.

May 1-3 – Canada hosts the Arctic Security Forces Roundtable in Halifax – without Russia.

May 22-23 – Denmark and Greenland host a high-level meeting on the occasion of the 10 year anniversary of the Ilulissat Declaration.

May 23 – The Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation, signed at the Arctic Council Ministerial in Fairbanks in May 2017, enters into force.

May 25 – The International Maritime Organization approves a joint proposal by the United States and the Russian Federation for safer ship routing in the Bering Strait and Bering Sea.

June 28 – U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin meet in Helsinki; black carbon in the Arctic is referenced.

August 23 – Maersk sends its first container ship through the Northern Sea Route.

September 10 – *MV Xue Long II*, China’s second research icebreaker, is launched.

September 15 – Canada’s first Arctic Offshore and Patrol Vessel, *HMCS DeWolf*, is launched.

October 11-12 – The Arctic Environment Ministers’ Meeting is held in Rovaniemi, Finland.

October 25-26 – The 2nd Arctic Science Ministerial is held in Berlin, Germany.

November 1 – Arctic Yearbook 2018 is launched in Rovaniemi, Finland.