

# THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SCIENCE COMMITTEE AND BELGIUM



**Philippe Huybrechts**

Departement Geografie  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

*[philippe.huybrechts@vub.be](mailto:philippe.huybrechts@vub.be)*



*[www.iasc.info](http://www.iasc.info)*

# The International Arctic Science Committee

is a non-governmental, international scientific organization.



The mission of IASC is to encourage and facilitate cooperation in all aspects of Arctic research, in all countries engaged in Arctic research and in all areas of the Arctic region, by promoting and supporting leading-edge multi-disciplinary research to foster a greater scientific understanding of the Arctic region and its role in the Earth system.

*Photo: Thea Schneider*

*Photo: Fieke Rader*





# The International Arctic Science Committee

is a non-governmental, international scientific organization.



IASC lends a great importance to:

- Principles of scientific freedom
- Independence of research
- Peaceful international cooperation
- Working together with Indigenous Peoples



*Photo: Thea Schneider*

*Photo: Fieke Rader*



Photo: Diane Hirshberg

Established in August 1990

First international organization focused on the Arctic

Model for scientific collaboration in the North

To achieve its mission, IASC:

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→ Initiates, coordinates and promotes scientific activities at a circumarctic or international level;

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→ Provides objective and independent scientific advice on issues of science in the Arctic; and

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→ Communicates scientific information to the public.

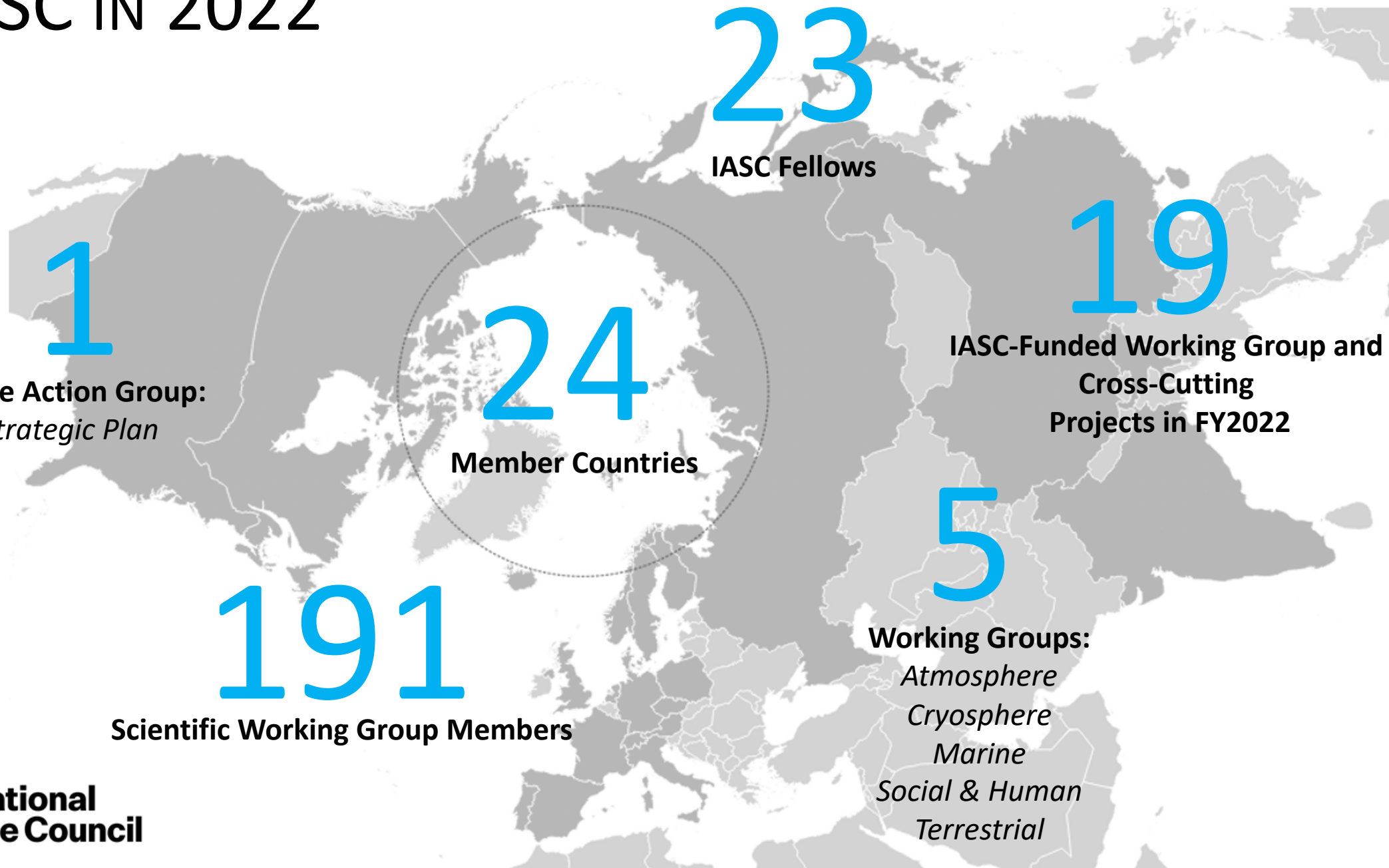


Who is IASC?





# IASC IN 2022



1

Active Action Group:  
*Strategic Plan*

23

IASC Fellows

24

Member Countries

19

IASC-Funded Working Group and  
Cross-Cutting  
Projects in FY2022

5

Working Groups:  
*Atmosphere*  
*Cryosphere*  
*Marine*  
*Social & Human*  
*Terrestrial*

191

Scientific Working Group Members



ARCTIC COUNCIL



International  
Science Council



# Science Priorities and Strategic Plan



**IAASC**



# ICARP - INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ARCTIC RESEARCH PLANNING

IASC's scientific priorities currently build off the ICARP III priorities developed in 2015

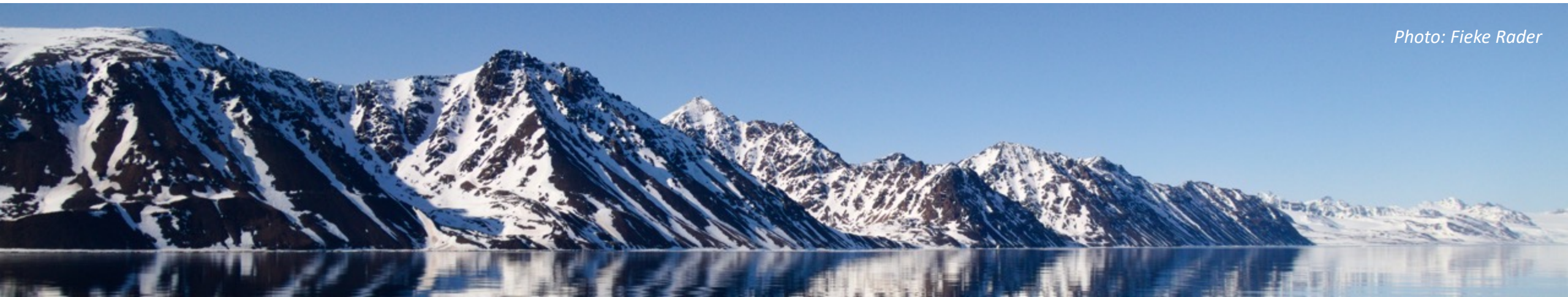
ICARP I - Hanover NH (USA) - 1995

ICARP II - Copenhagen (Denmark) - 2005

ICARP III - Toyama (Japan) - 2015

ICARP IV – Boulder (USA) - 2025

*Photo: Fieke Rader*



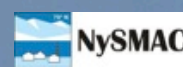


# Arctic Research Priorities for the Next Decade

Integrating  
Arctic Research -  
a Roadmap  
for the Future

3<sup>rd</sup> International  
Conference  
on Arctic Research  
Planning  
ICARP III

- The Role of the Arctic in the Global System
- Observing and Predicting Future Climate Dynamics and Ecosystem Responses
- Understanding the Vulnerability and Resilience of Arctic Environments and Societies and Supporting Sustainable Development

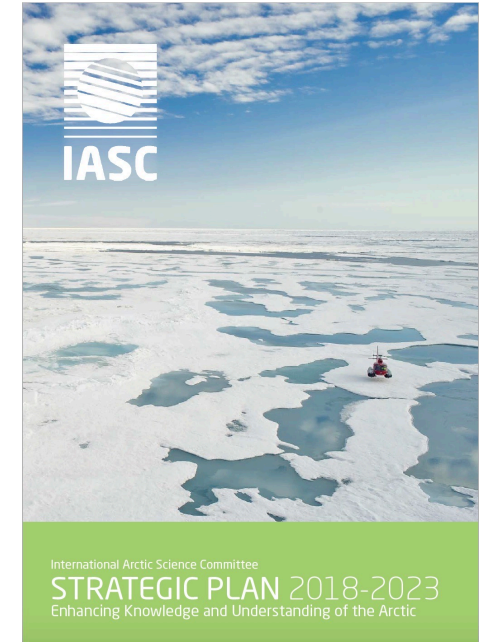






# IASC STRATEGIC PLAN 2018 - 2023

- Pillar 1: Facilitating Arctic Research Cooperation
- Pillar 2: Promoting Engagement
- Pillar 3: Ensuring Knowledge Exchange



*Photo: Fieke Rader*





# Organisational Structure





**IASC**

### **ACTION GROUPS**

*e.g., Geoscience, Science Policy, Indigenous Involvement*

### **WORKING GROUPS**

*Atmosphere, Cryosphere, Marine, Social & Human & Terrestrial*

**ExCom  
COUNCIL  
Secretariat**

**Strategy**

**Science**

**Implementation**

**INSTRUMENTS TO  
SUPPORT SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT**

*Workshops,  
Assessments,  
Science Planning,  
Long-term Programs,  
Observer Activities, Fellows & more*

IASC draws on an organizational structure that provides mechanisms for initiating and implementing cutting-edge science-led international programs.





# PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



Henry Burgess (UK) – President

Elected in 2022



Gerlis Fugmann (Iceland) - Executive Secretary

Rannís, the Icelandic Centre for Research, began hosting the Secretariat in **Akureyri, Iceland** from January 2017.





# COUNCIL

*The IASC Council is the policy and decision-making body for IASC. The members ensure an input of a wide range of scientific and technological knowledge and connect IASC to the national committees.*



*Council Meeting at ASSW2022  
Tromsø, Norway*

*Photo: Stina Guldbrandsen / UiT*



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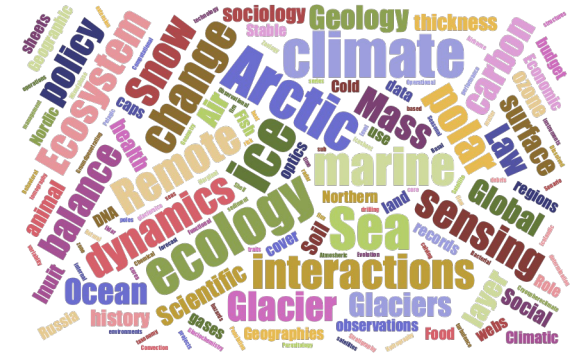
The national adhering body is the **Belgian National Committee on Antarctic Research (BNCAR)** of the The Royal Academies for the Sciences and the Arts of Belgium





# WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups are IASC's main scientific working bodies. They identify and formulate science plans, act as scientific advisory boards to the IASC Council and assist IASC in the implementation of its science mission.



- Atmosphere
- Cryosphere
- Marine
- Social & Human
- Terrestrial



Photo: Gregory Tran

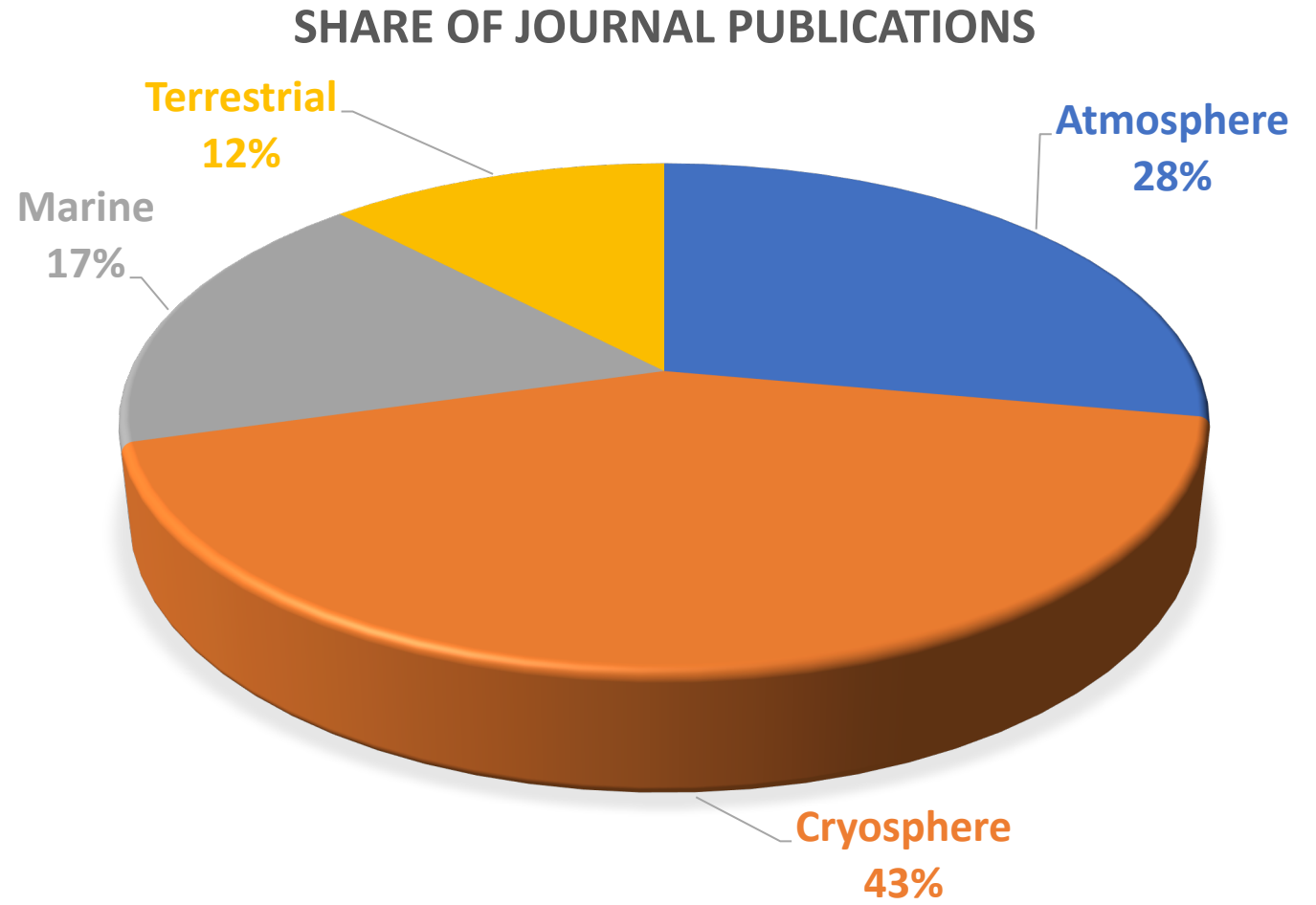


12 research groups based at 8 Belgian universities are active in Arctic scientific research

Belgium was accepted as the 24<sup>th</sup> member on 30 March 2022

Main requirement was evidence of significant Arctic research

- in domains covered by at least two working groups
- with published results in the international scientific literature over a period of at least five years



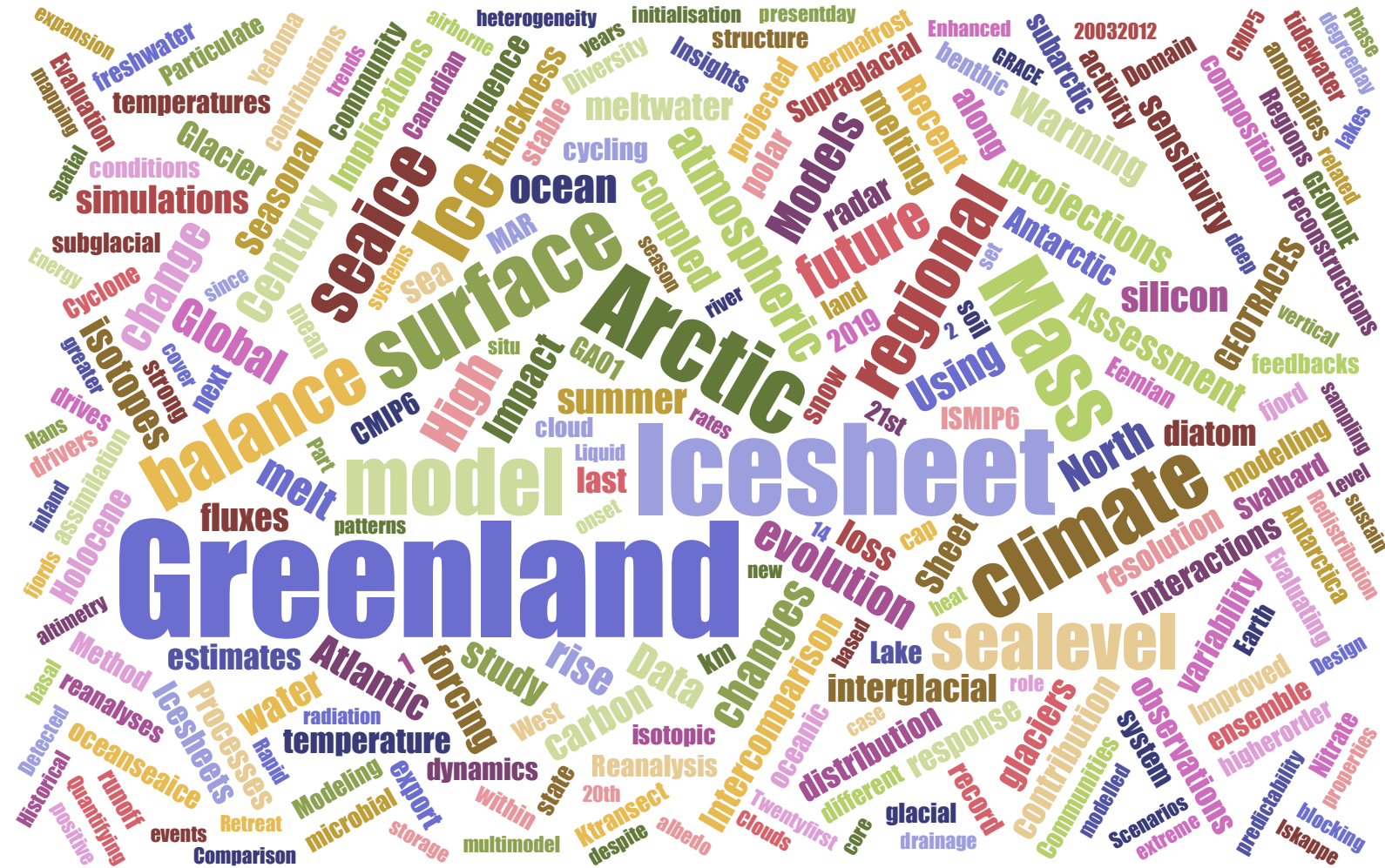
190 journal publications on Arctic science since 2015



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wordcloud on publication titles by Belgian scientists



# Belgian research groups participate in

- Projects within the EU Polar cluster



- Polar Science groups



- Polar science coordination





# IASC 2021 State of Arctic Science Report



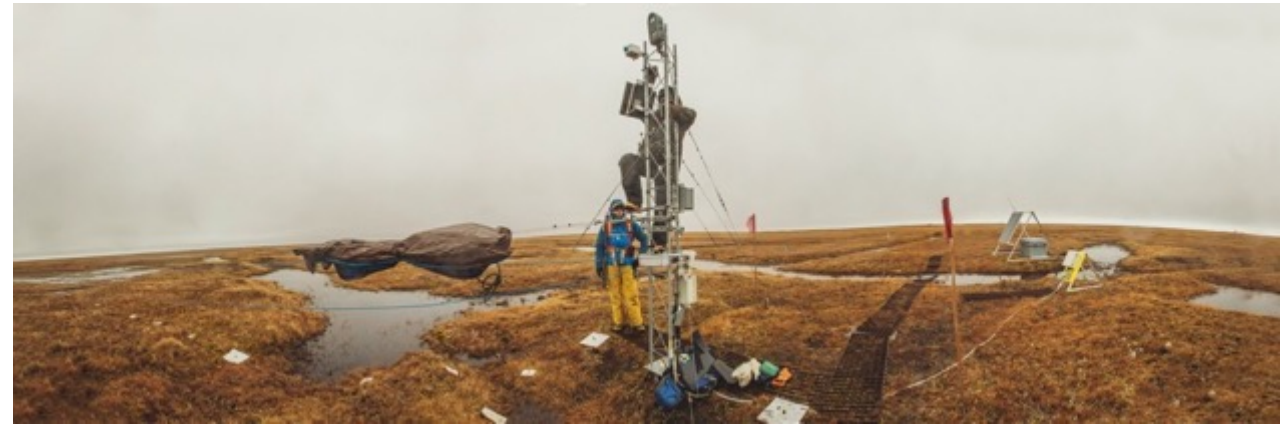
## Contents

- Current Arctic Research Priorities
- Major Ongoing & Upcoming Projects
- New & Novel Arctic Research
- Emerging Arctic Research Issues
- Current Gaps in Research and/or Data
- Emerging Issues Concerning International Science Cooperation

The International Arctic Science Committee's

# 2021 STATE OF ARCTIC SCIENCE REPORT

**Download at:** <https://iasc.info/about/publications-documents/state-of-arctic-science>



→ SAON Board and activities paused since March 2022 due to pause of the Arctic Council

- Created as a **joint body of IASC and the Arctic Council's Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme Working Group (AMAP)** under the Nuuk Declaration (2011)
- Two sub-committees:
  - Committee on Networks (CON)
  - Arctic Data Committee (ADC)
- initiated the **Roadmap for Arctic Observing and Data Systems (ROADS)** as a planning framework to support its national and organizational partners

# Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW)

<https://assw.info/>

So far hosted in 18 countries

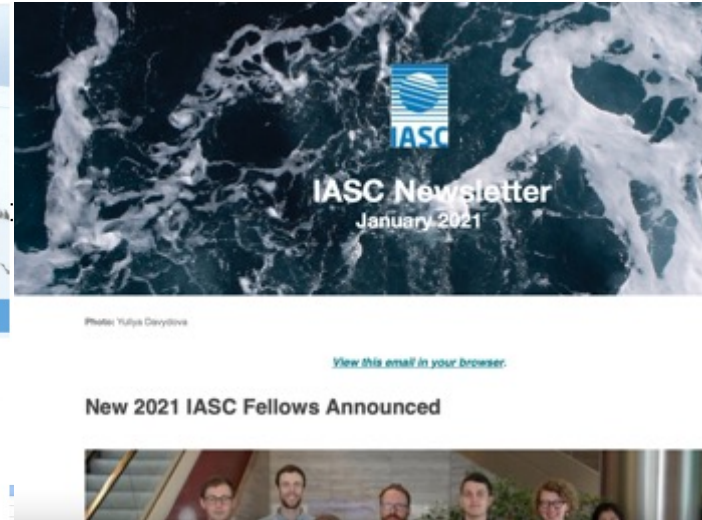
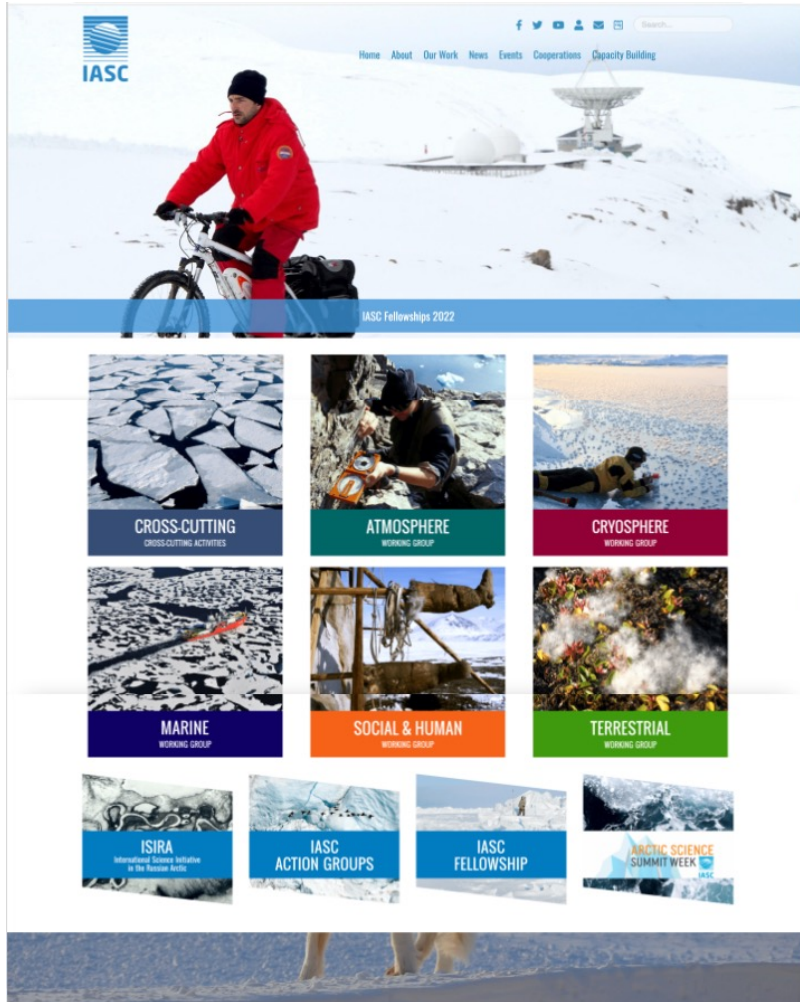
Next upcoming: Vienna (Austria - 2023), Edinburgh (United Kingdom - 2024), Boulder (USA - 2025)







# COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH



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[info@iasc.info](mailto:info@iasc.info)



Photo: Kári Fannar