

# The Myth of climate change winners in the Arctic

**How can any reasonable human being believe that a collapsing eco system like the one in the Arctic would create any long term winners?**

Let`s start with the clear losers, the locals:

The **traditional inhabitants** of the Arctic will lose their centuries` old way of living forever. How can Inuit hunt without ice for animals which will not be there anymore or reindeer herders get through endless expanses of mud due to melting permafrost.

**Fisheries:** Local fishermen face a double threat of collapsing traditional fish populations – in the long term - and increased competition from large international factory ships for northward moving new fish species. Especially small countries – like Greenland if it becomes independent – cannot control their large territorial waters from illegal fishing.

Disaster **tourism** will increase for a decade or two for people who want to see the animals like polar bears, the glaciers and ice-fields before they are gone, but sooner or later this will end due to lack of ice or the realization that is perverted to watch a dying eco system. Polar bear skeletons don`t make good pictures! And most tourists anyway will move through the Arctic on giant cruise ships in the future which do not generate any reasonable income for local communities but potentially harm the ecosystem through things like soot and oil spills and the local communities by overwhelming them with their numbers. There are thousands of people even on the smaller cruise ships. Just ask the people of Venice or the Geiranger Fjord if they like cruise ships.

**Drilling** for oil and gas is not only potentially even much more dangerous for arctic nature and fisheries, it is also financially insane if you consider the economics. Its biggest fans are the few dinosaurs out there who still believe that climate change is a hoax or at least not caused by mankind burning fossil fuel, despite the fact that 97% of geo-scientists and 100% of climatologists agree on the simple fact that it is manmade. Now, all those scientists could be wrong, but chances for that are ridiculously small, which means that the world will have to stop burning oil and gas soon. Why should any sane person, people who believe in science, invest billions of Dollars or Euros in drilling in an environment that is still extremely remote

and hostile – think cold, dark winters – and therefore expensive, and where thawing permafrost makes transport of oil or gas over land nearly impossible in the future, when we already have more reserves of oil and gas developed or cheaply exploited through technology like fracking, than we can burn without turning the world into a sauna. There is simply no future for large scale drilling in the Arctic because the same process that makes it possible by melting the ice – global warming – is also the reason why it will never happen in any big way in a world of shrinking demand – we already have technology that does not endanger the planet`s future – or new rules like carbon taxes that price in the cost of burning fossil fuel.

### **Mining:**

Governments like mines because they get money from taxes or royalties, at least as long as prices stay high, which they normally don`t as they fluctuate dramatically. Locals don`t like mines, except maybe for the few people who find a job there, because they have to live with the spills, emissions, destruction of local nature. Most of the well paid jobs go to foreigners with the relevant skills and most of the profit stays with the international companies who own the mines. So if you want to spoil pristine nature, risk income from tourism and fisheries just bet on mines, just don`t believe local communities will prosper because of them. And except for rocky areas like most of Greenland mining will become harder due to thawing permafrost as everything gets bogged down in mud.

### **Infrastructure:**

Traditional ice roads on rivers and lakes will vanish in northern Canada and Russia, but replacement with even gravel roads will be impossible because of the enormous costs based on the long distances and the thawing permafrost.

### **Shipping lanes?**

Anybody seriously thinks the tiny advantage of shorter summer routes – the Arctic will still be frozen and hostile in winter – will profit anyone except for a few ship owners who make a bit more money in the far future. In the near future there is no cost advantage as you still need icebreakers along for the trip. And with eroding coast lines in the Arctic due to thawing, shrinking permafrost and rising sea levels where would the harbours be in case of accidents or emergencies in which the ships need to get help or repairs. There is nothing out there and the small arctic communities could not profit from it anyway.

Any winners anywhere in sight? No, not even the fools that think they can earn a fortune by digging for oil or gas, but who will lose loads of money on their ventures.

The thawing, melting Arctic can produce new jobs for locals but in a totally different way than anybody has suggested so far. Because Arctic countries can be at the forefront of stopping climate change! And the world would pay for it because nobody like rising sea levels and methane belching permafrost.

To quote a minister from Greenland`s government: “My hope is that we as a society can adapt in the best possible way to the climatic changes, simply because we as a nation and as a people cannot prevent it.”

Well, what if you could? What if cooling the Arctic would give the world the necessary reprieve to decarbonise our economies without the climate running complete amok while stopping the ice and permafrost from melting any faster or even further.

Would it not be better for the people of the Arctic to keep the world they like and know?

### **Then let us cool the Arctic!**

From the small scale like brightening black snow and ice (lots of jobs for locals) to the big scale of shading the Arctic, especially the northern uninhabited part during summer. The ideas are out there but we have to test them and then use the most efficient ones to stabilize the arctic before it is too late.

Join us in our global fight for a livable future on a cool planet.

Show your support by spreading the message to all your friends telling them to support us too, and by sending us your name or even better a photo of your face with your name added with this hashtag: [#coolthearcticnow](#)

Convince your local leaders that something not only can but has to be done.

And visit our homepage: [climatestabilityprogram](#)

Everyone of us is weak but we are so many and we have so much to lose that we can change the world together. Start doing so now.