Guns and Ice: The role of militarisation and climate change in the development of Arctic petroleum resources

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The extractive industries will dominate the Arctic in the next century and it is likely that militarisation by Russia will play an important part in this. The Northern Sea Route will also play an important part of the capacity to develop mineral resources in the Arctic. The development of these petroleum resources must be done in a manner that protects the fragile ecosystem and the fragile political détente that exists within the arctic.

Dr Hunter is the Co-Director of the Aberdeen University Centre for Energy Law (AUCEL) and the Associate Professor in Energy Law at the University of Aberdeen. Previously, she was the inaugural Director of the Centre for International Petroleum, Minerals and Energy Law at the University of Queensland. She teaches and researches in the area of national and international petroleum law (both onshore and offshore), resources law in the Arctic and shale gas law, and teaches in the UK, Australia, Norway, Canada, the USA and Iceland.

She has received academic qualifications in marine sediments, geology, political science, applied information and research science. She received her PhD from the University of Bergen, and has been a visiting scholar a number of European and North American Universities.

Her expertise in regulating of petroleum activities has been sought by many governments. She has analysed petroleum laws in numerous jurisdictions, drafted legislation for Australian and international governments and consulted to governments, industry groups and NGO’s worldwide. Dr Hunter is a member of the EU’s European Science and Technology Network on Hydrocarbon Extraction and was previously a member of the South Australian Roundtable for Unconventional Gas Projects, and the working group for the Queensland Modernising Queensland Resources Acts Program.