

**THE COLDEST WAR:
TOWARD A RETURN TO
GREAT POWER
COMPETITION IN THE
ARCTIC?**

Land of the Midnight Sun



Applies to all of Svalbard**d**

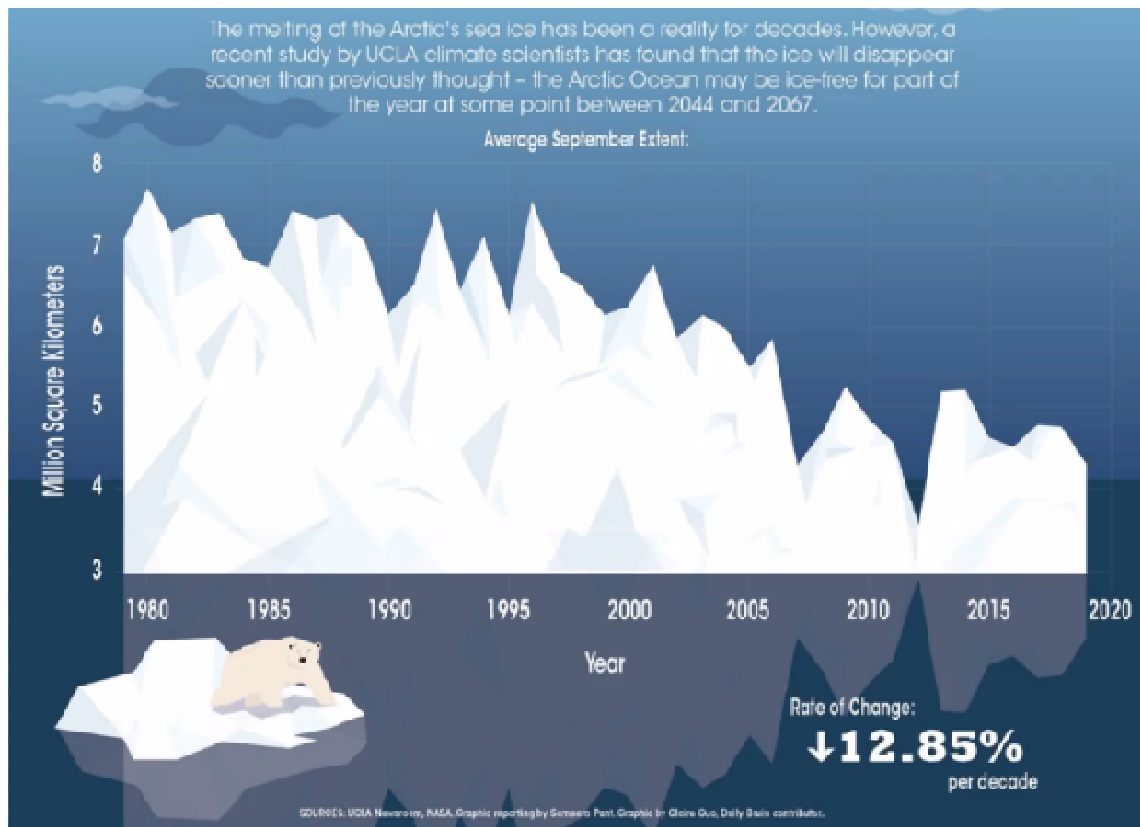


Dimensions of Arctic Debate

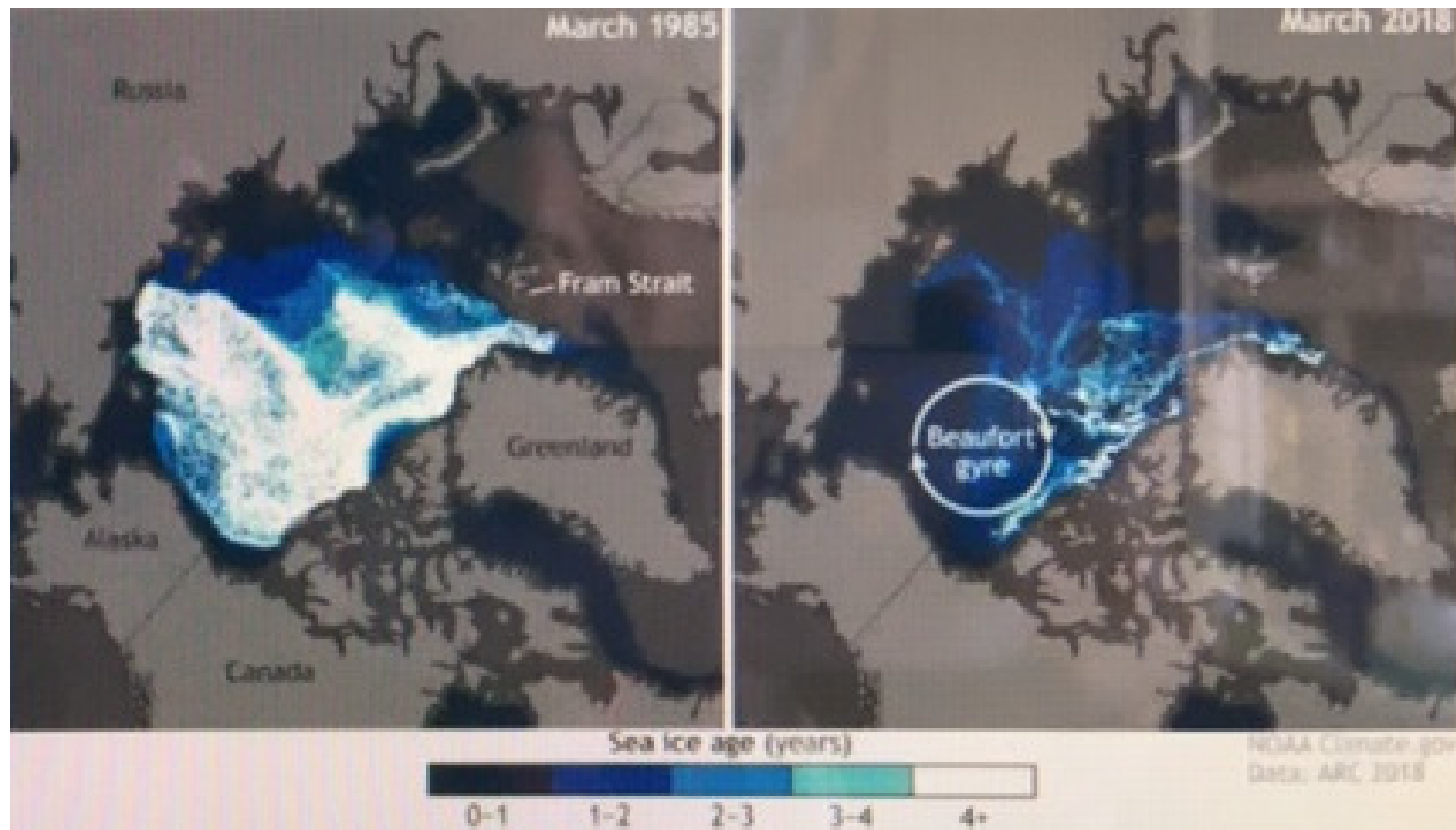
- Environmental
- Legal
- Economic
- Military
- Political

Environmental Impact

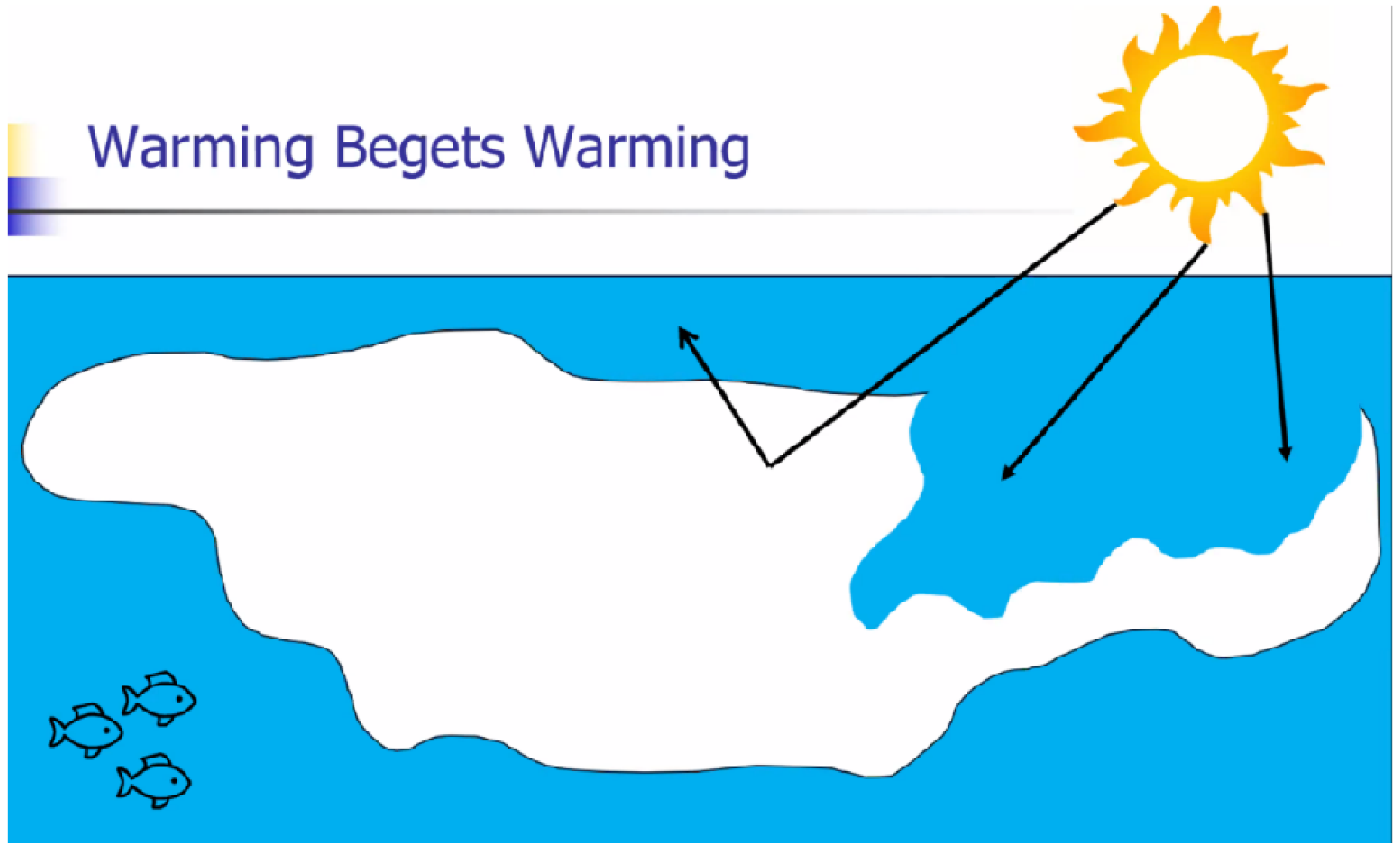
Arctic Ocean Ice Melting



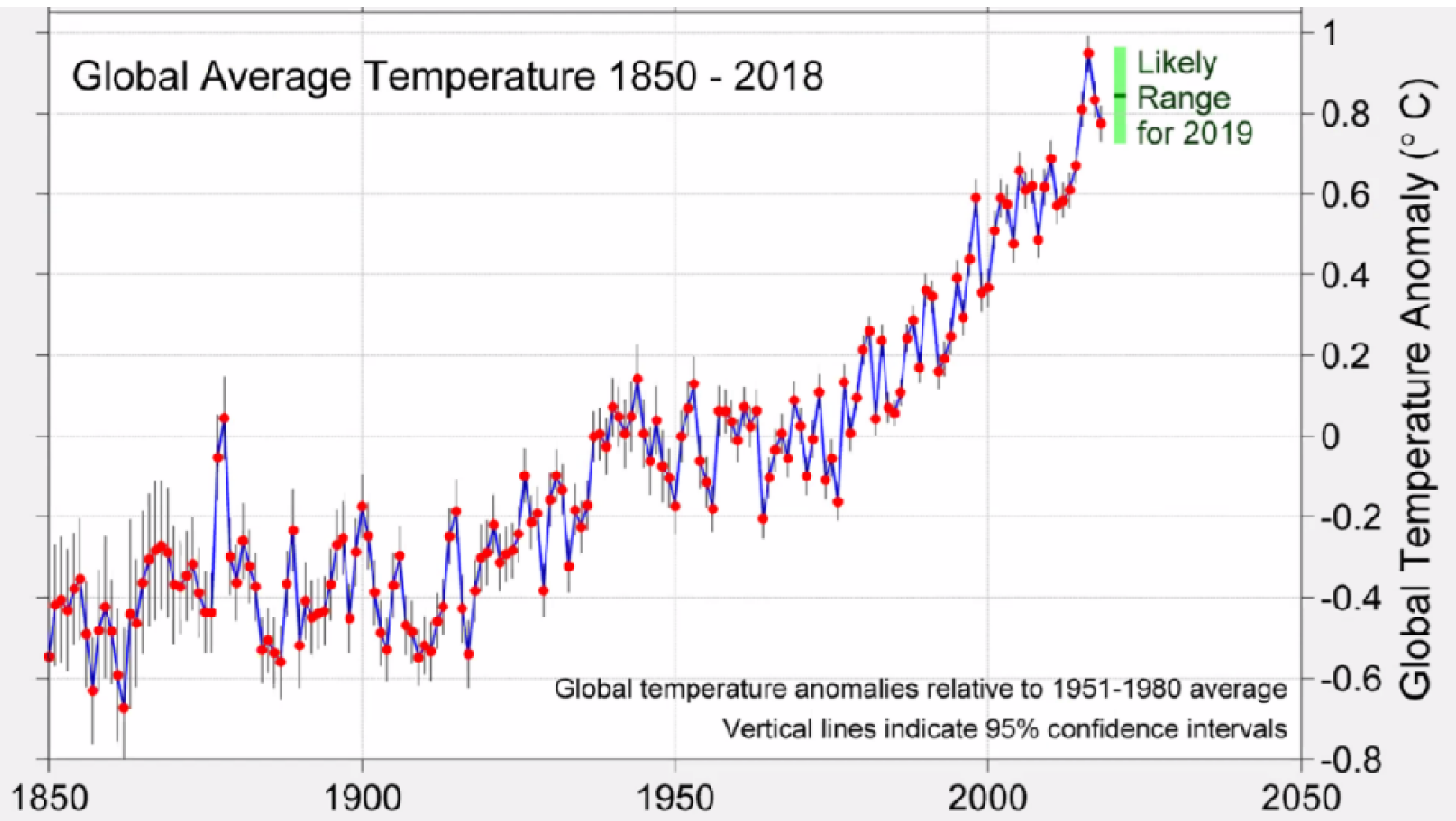
Arctic Ocean Ice Melting - 2



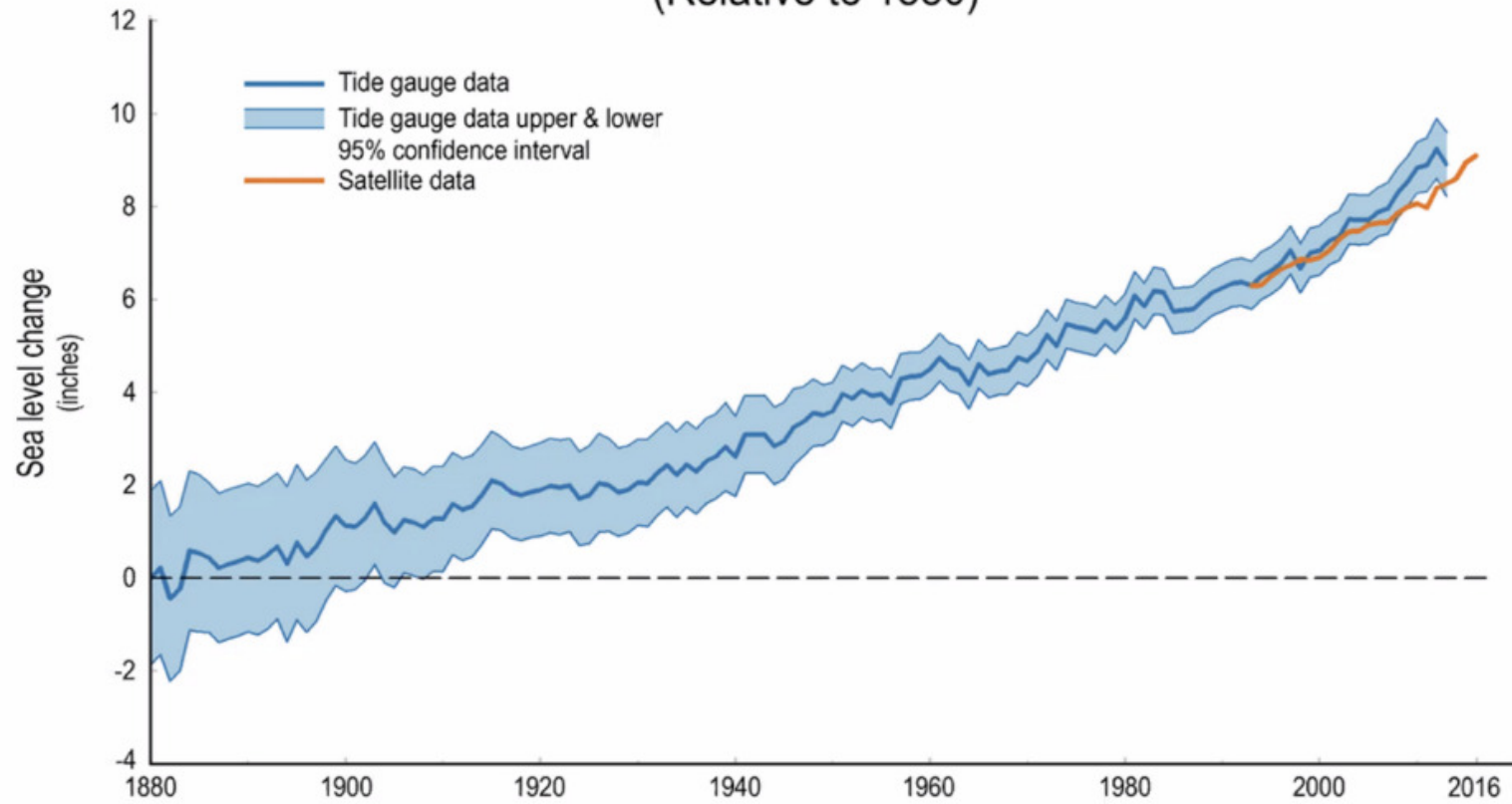
Warming Begets Warming



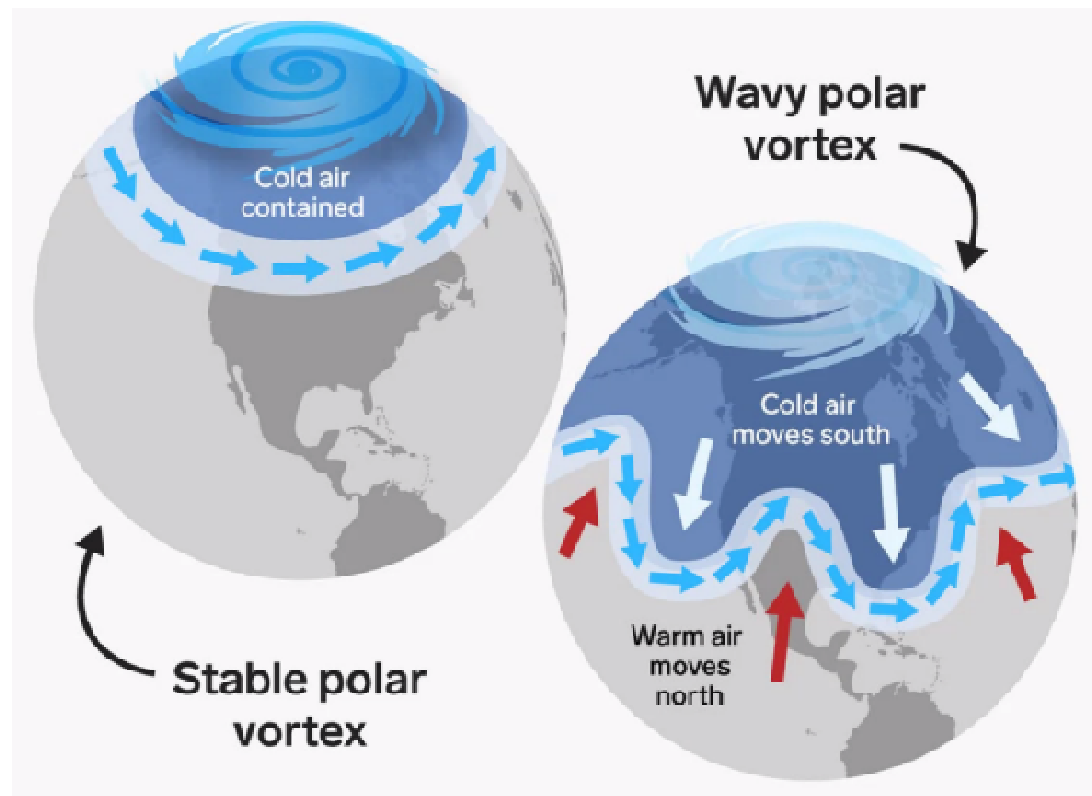
Global Average Temperature 1850 - 2018



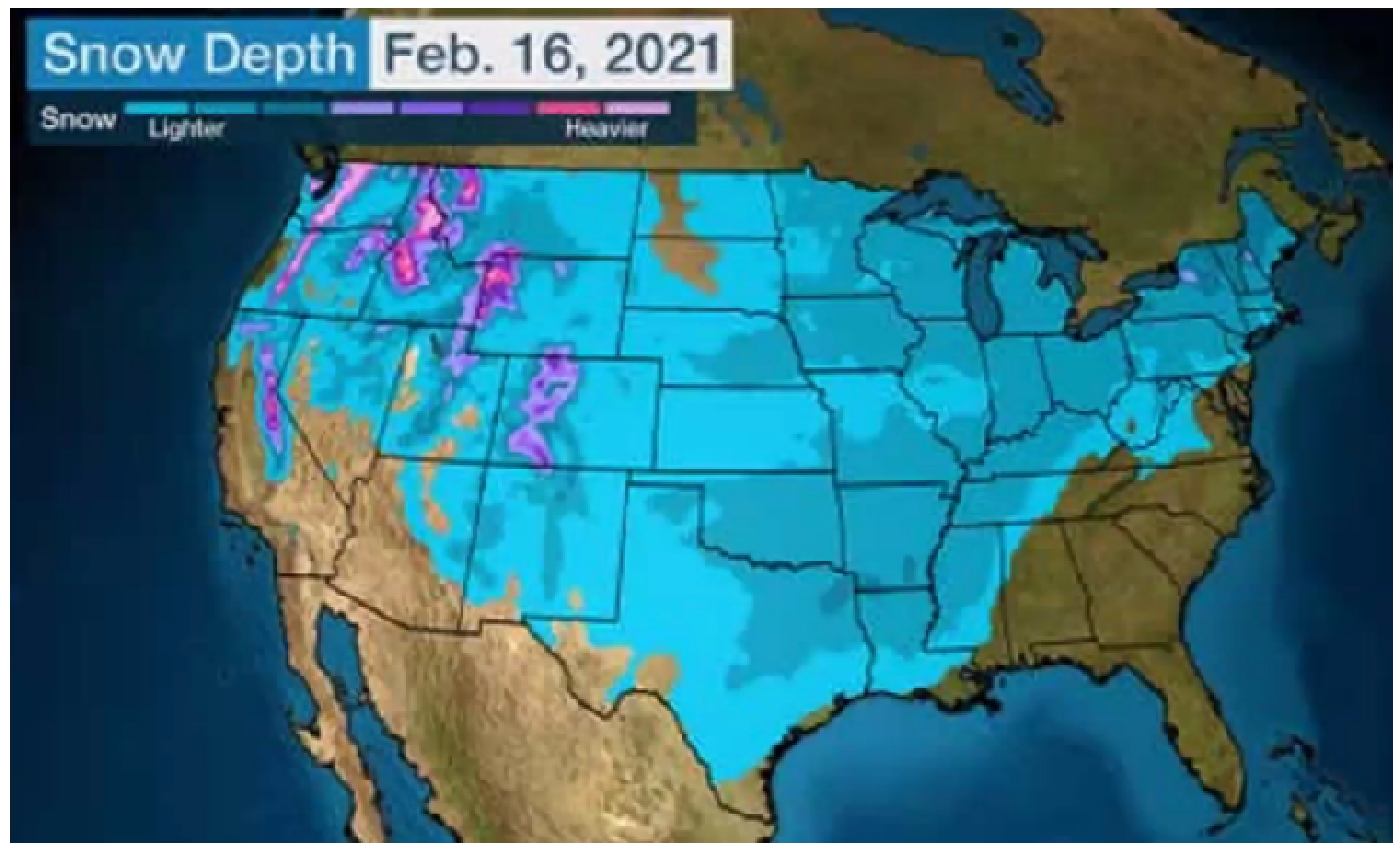
Global Average Sea Level Change (Relative to 1880)



Polar Vortex



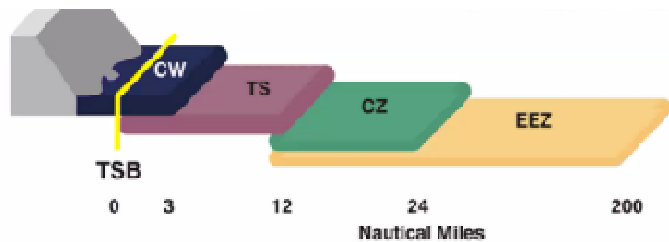
Snow Covers 73% of US



Greenhouse Gases

- Carbon dioxide in atmosphere has roughly doubled in last 300 years and is accelerating, caused by human activities
- Methane comes from many sources
 - Melting permafrost
 - Fossil fuel extraction
 - Domesticated animals
- Netflix Documentary: “Ice on Fire”
- “Chasing Ice” 2012 documentary

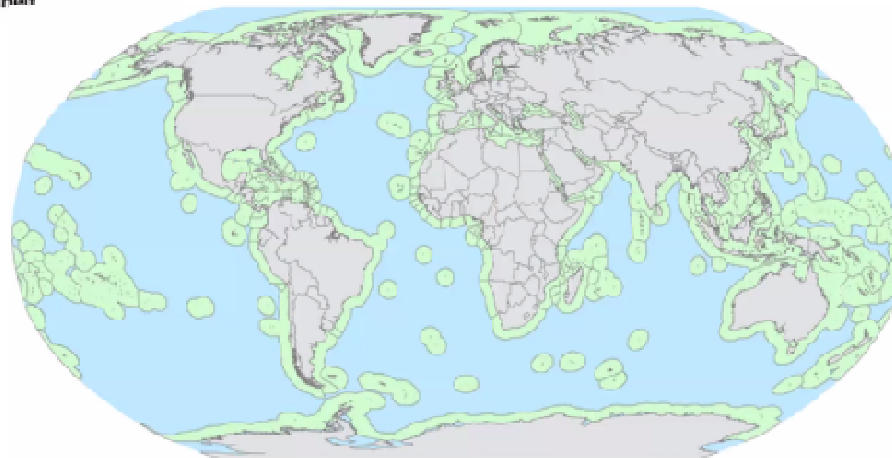
UNCLOS - Maritime Zones



TSB territorial sea baseline
CW coastal waters
TS territorial sea

CZ contiguous zone
EEZ exclusive economic zone
CS continental shelf

Law of the Sea



Territorial Claims



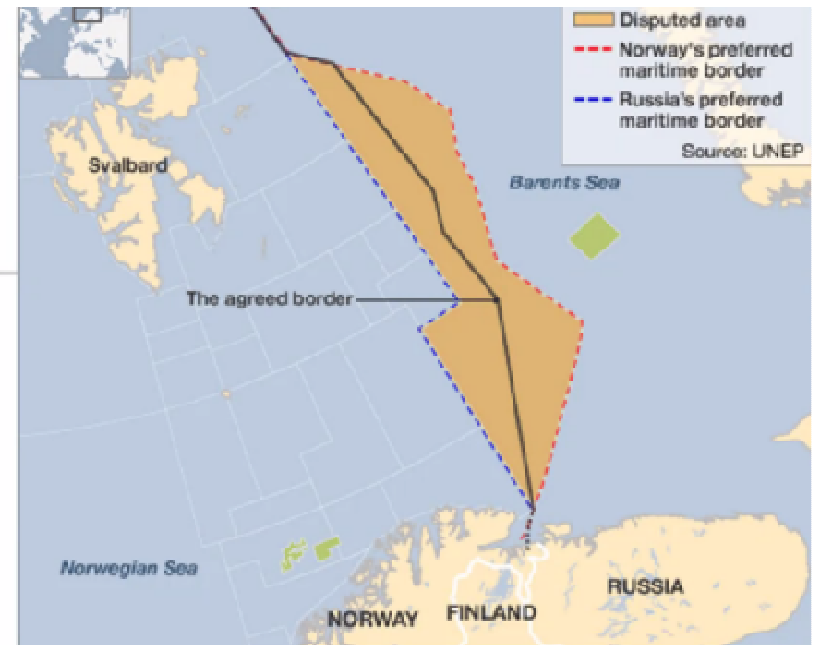
Russia v. Norway (2010)

40-Year Boundary Dispute

67,000+ Square Miles

Originally: Fishing Rights

Oil/Gas Deposits



Why the US rejected UNCLOS

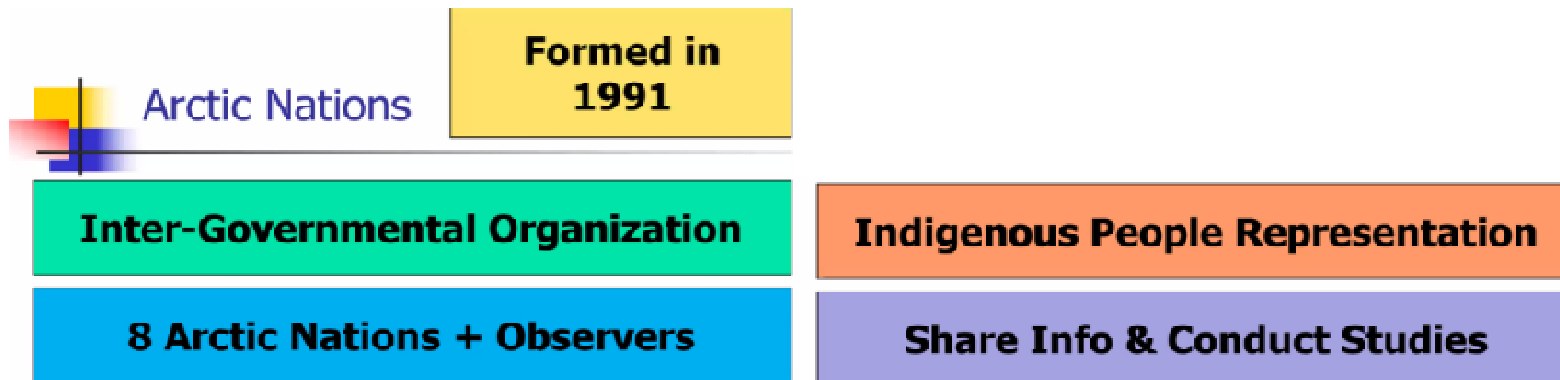
Seabed Authority

200m EEZ

**Cost-Benefit
Analysis**

Politics

Arctic Council



Members plus Observers



Arctic Council Nations

Nations with
Arctic Coastline

Arctic Circle:

- 9900 miles long
- Home to 4M people
- Mainly Russia, Norway, & Sweden



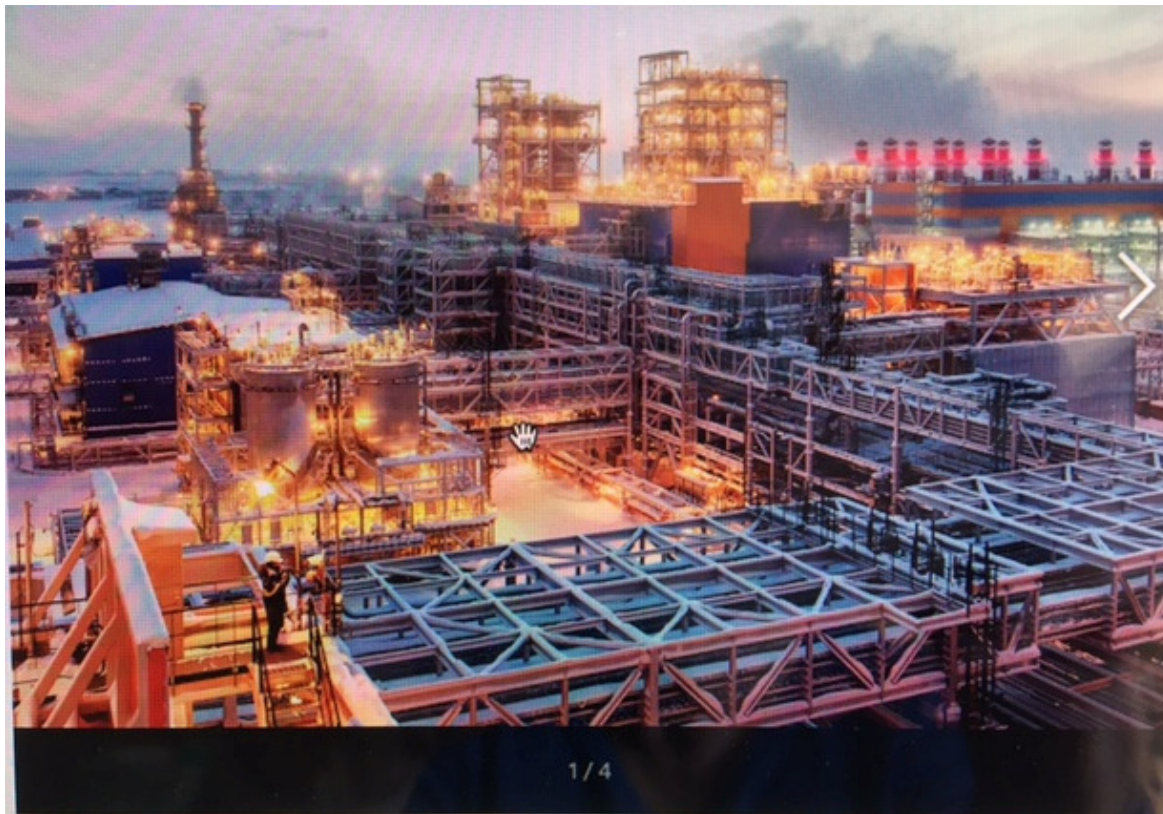
Economics

Northern Sea Route

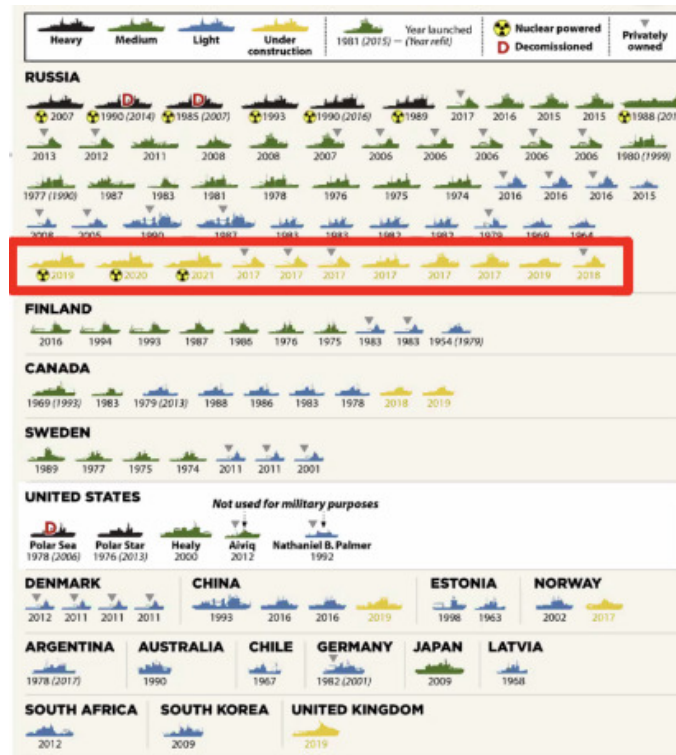


**40%
Savings**

Russia's Sabetta Plant



Ice Breaker Fleets



— Canada — USA

Canada v. USA

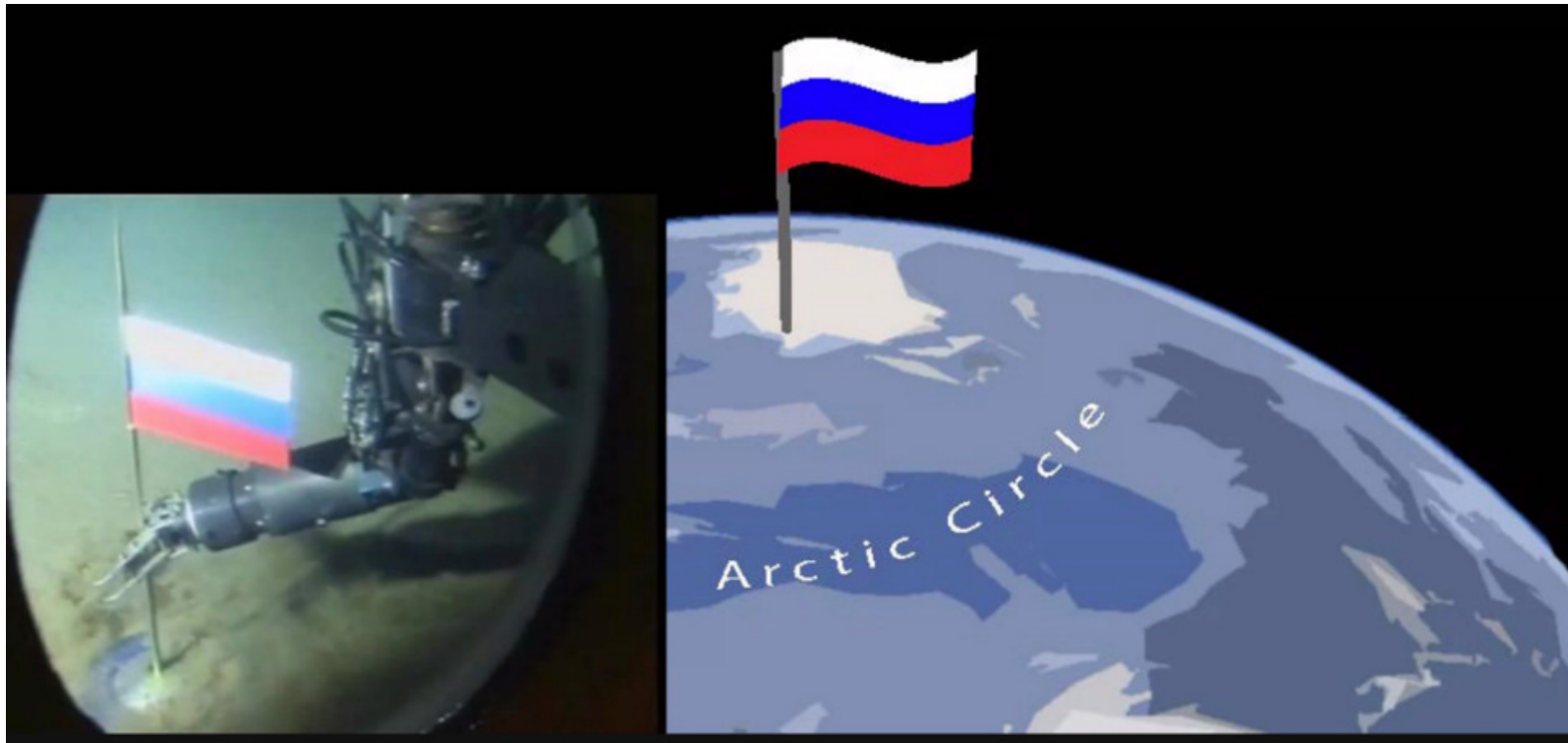
**Disagreement
Over Where to
Draw the Lines**

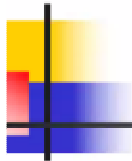


Arctic Natural Resources

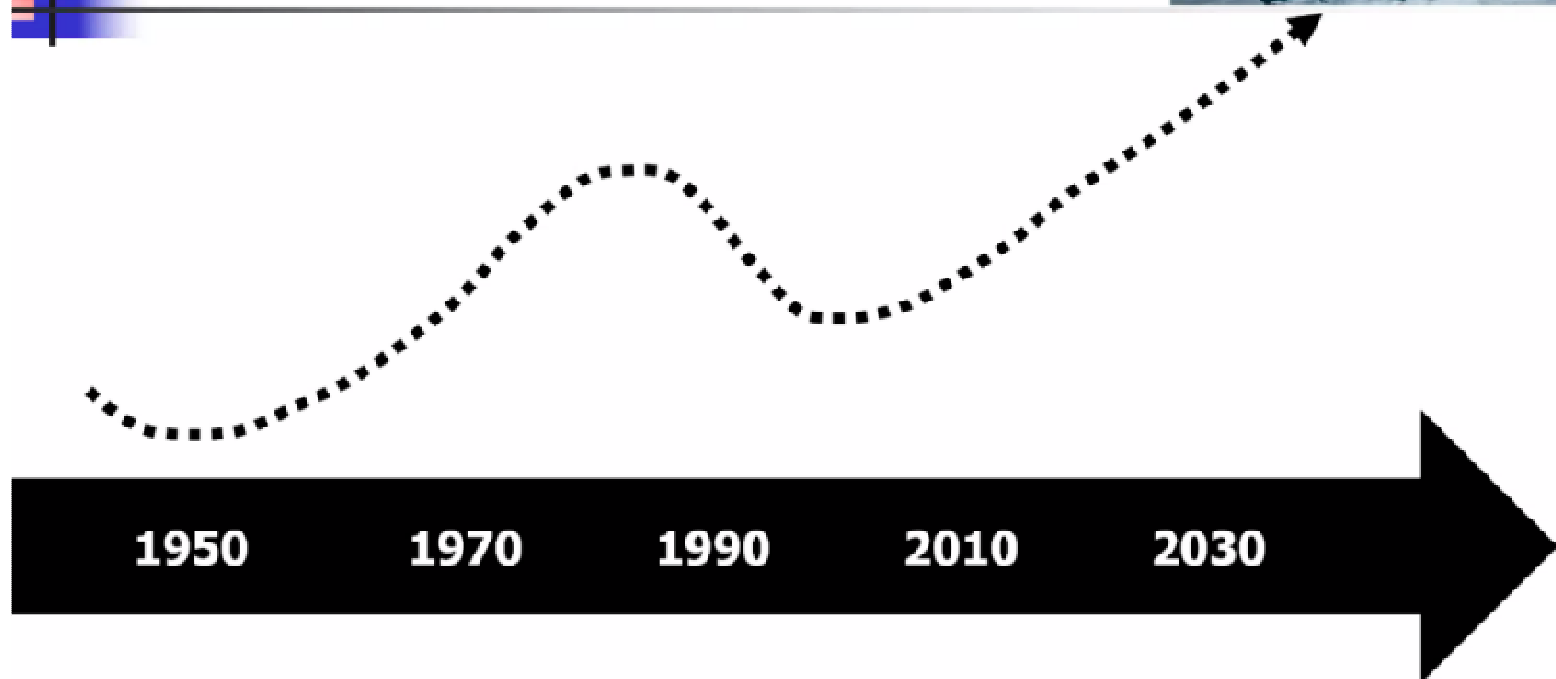
- Fishing
- Fossil fuel reserves
 - 13% of the oil
 - 25% of the natural gas
- Rare Earth Minerals

Exploration and Territorial Claims





Military Interest in the Arctic



Geostrategic Summary

**The "Russian"
Arctic Perception**

**China is Heading
North**

**The US is
Woefully Behind**

**Exponential
Change Underway**

US Foreign Policy Options

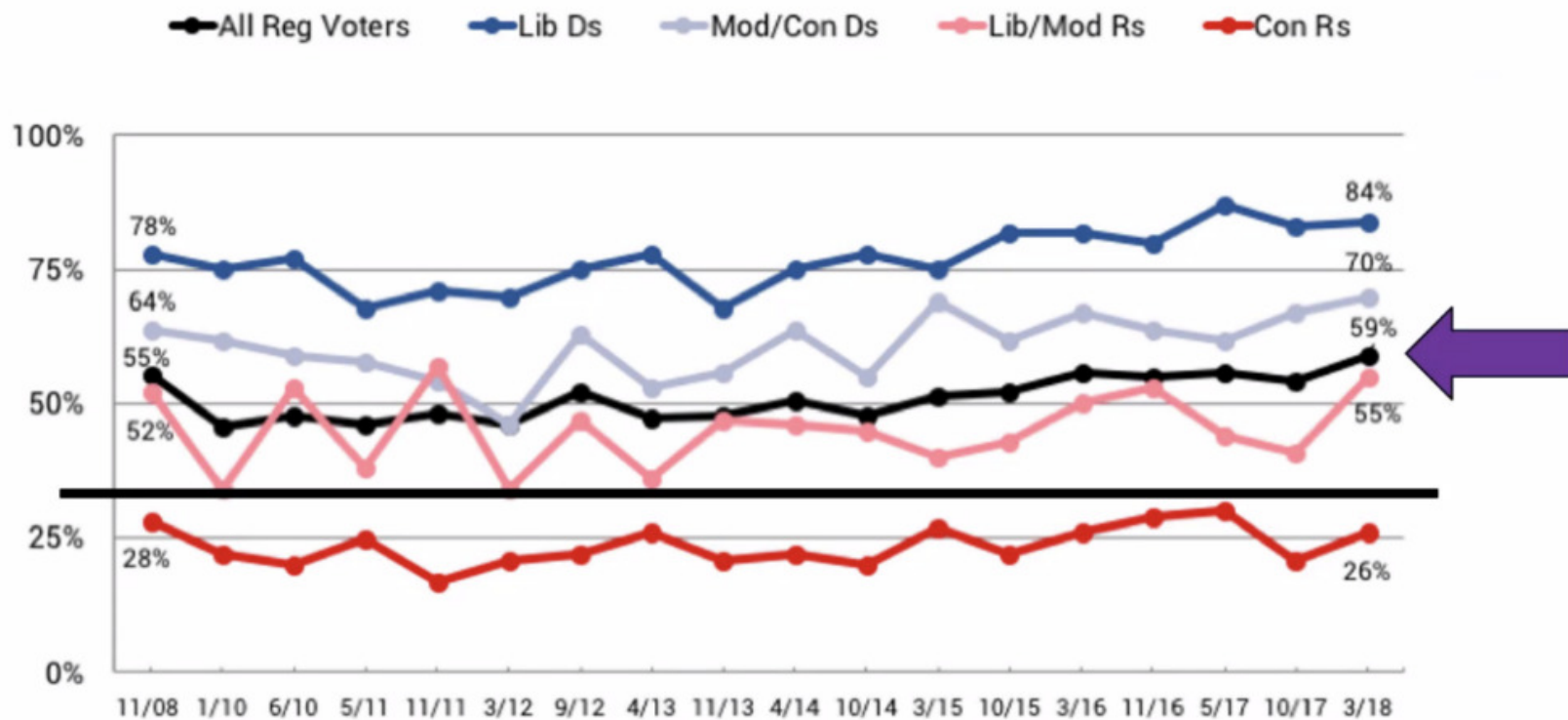
**Reluctant
Arctic Nation**

**Back to the
Cold War**

**North American
Arctic Focus**

**Great Power
Cooperation**

Global Warming Is Caused Mostly By Human Activities



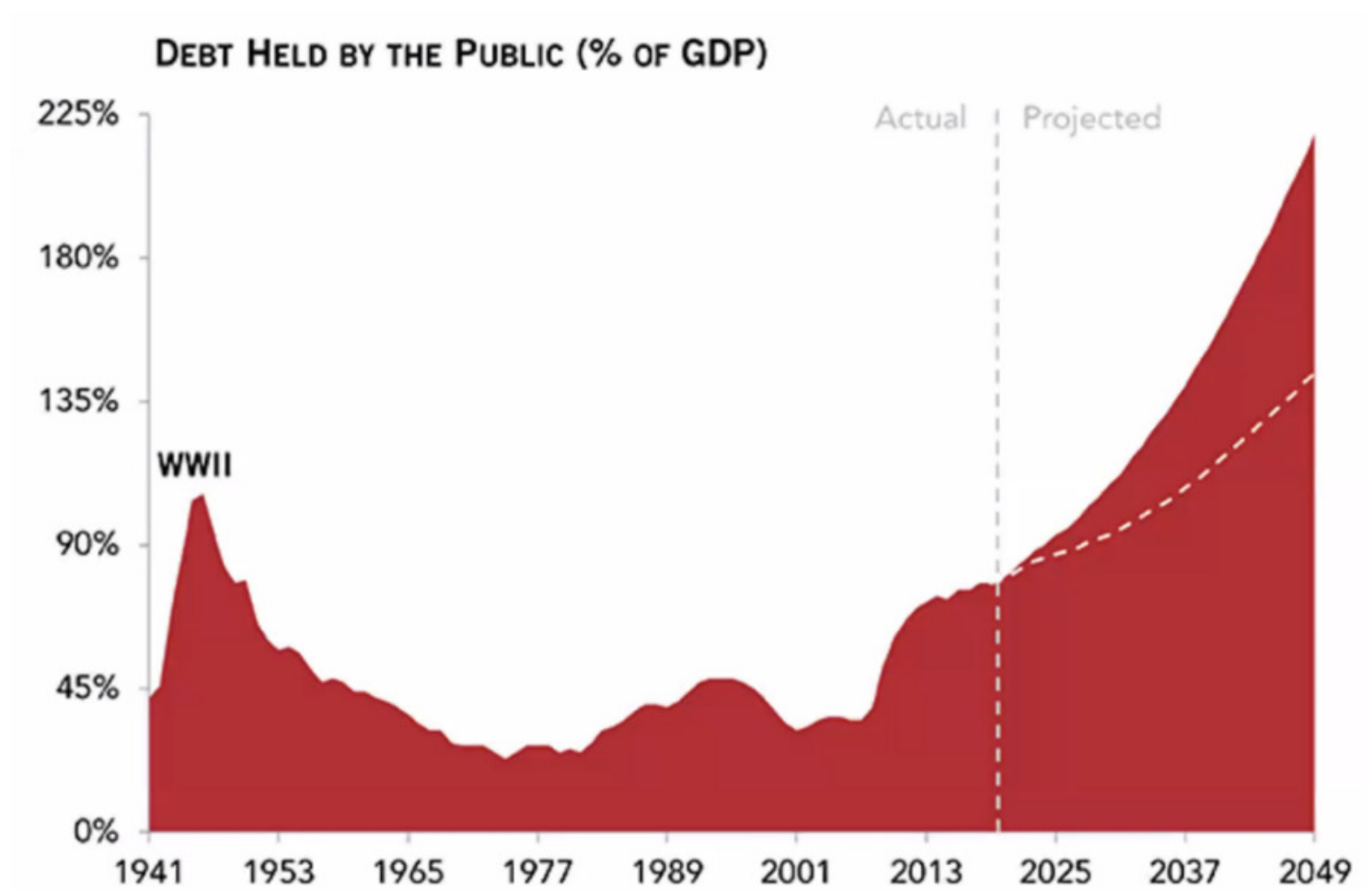
US Arctic Strategy - 2014

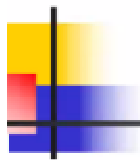
- Advance US Security Interests
- Pursue responsible Arctic region stewardship
- Strengthen international cooperation

Guiding Principles

- Safeguard peace and stability
- Consult and coordinate with Alaska natives

US Debt





President Biden's Arctic Policy





**Funds Authorized in
2009 but Unused
Neglected by the
Trump Administration
Available for
Immediate Use**

Biden set to supercharge clean energy push with \$40B stash

The Department of Energy is poised to play an essential role as the Biden administration looks to leverage clean energy investments.

