

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

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The American Geographical Society Endorses Council on Foreign Relations Report on Arctic

Description: The Council on Foreign Relations, at its most recent meeting, issued a report “Arctic Imperatives: Reinforcing U.S. Strategy on America’s Fourth Coast.” The American Geographical Society, which is one of the original international organizations to support Arctic exploration and research has announced that it is endorsing the CFR report.

[New York City, NY] - [April 6, 2017] - The American Geographical Society (AGS) announced today that it is endorsing the recent report issued by the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) Task Force, “Arctic Imperatives: Reinforcing U.S. Strategy on America’s Fourth Coast.” The report was originally issued at the CFR’s most recent meeting in New York City.

In the report, a changing Arctic caused by increasing ice melt is identified. The phenomenon offers both opportunities and challenges for the United States to which the CFR proposes six main goals that U.S. policymakers should pursue to protect the United States’ growing economic and strategic interests in the Arctic. Dr. Esther Brimmer, Project Director for the Arctic Imperatives explains, “The non-partisan Task Force brought together twenty people with a wide range of expertise to craft practical findings and recommendations to reinforce U.S. strategy in the Arctic. Drawing on its consideration of political, scientific, cultural, economic, environmental and energy issues, the Task Force endeavored to present practical next steps to bolster the U.S. presence in this changing region.”

When asked about the endorsement, AGS Councilor and Chair of the AGS endorsement committee, Jared Novick said, “Arctic exploration is in the historical bedrock of the American Geographical Society. The recent Council on Foreign Relations report on Arctic Imperatives highlights the importance of addressing the evolving risk landscape with regard to the United States’ growing economic and strategic interest in the Arctic.” He continued to state, “We strongly endorse the CFR’s leadership role to U.S. policymakers by way of clearly identifying key issues to action and establishing strategic matters to address.”

The full report from the Council on Foreign Relations can be found at [this link](#).

Established in 1851, the American Geographical Society (AGS) is the oldest professional geographical organization in the United States. It is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in geographical research and education in Geography for over 165 years. The mission of the American Geographical Society is to advance and promote geography in business, government, science, and education. Our goal is to enhance the nation’s geographic literacy so as to engender sound public policy, national security, and human well-being worldwide. AGS seeks to engage the American public, from its youngest to its oldest citizens, with new and amazing ways to understand and characterize our changing world. The Society maintains its headquarters in Brooklyn Heights, New York.

Contact Information:

American Geographical Society
32 Court Street
Brooklyn Heights, NY 11201-4404
917-745-8354
ags@americangeo.org
www.americangeo.org



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