

Polar Connect- Secure connection to Asia for science and innovation

On May 5 Sweden's Research and Innovation Office in Brussels, SWERI, is happy to invite you to a breakfast seminar presenting Polar Connect, a new Nordic initiative to establish a secure, resilient and shortest possible data connection between Europe and the Asian Pacific for the benefit of trade, security and science.

In an age of increased digitalization, geopolitical instability and climate change this is a truly unique initiative tackling several emerging issues. By fiber optic connections from Europe to Asia and North America across the Arctic Ocean you will not only get a link between the two regions providing opportunities for economic growth through increased digital services. You will also get digital sovereignty with full control by each side with a cable well protected under the ice on the deep-sea floor. As if that is not enough, through the SMART cable system, the cables will also act as a large-scale research infrastructure enabling scientific and environmental monitoring on one of the least well-known parts of planet Earth.

At this breakfast seminar, you will meet project managers from NORDUnet and the Swedish Research Council, learn more about the implications for science, and hear about its business model through private-public partnerships.

Welcome!



Date and time: May 5, 2023 at 9:00-11:00. The Networking coffee will start at 9:00 and the seminar starts at 9:30.



Location: [Nordic House](#), Rue du Luxembourg 3, 1000 Bruxelles



Registration: Through this [link](#).



Contact: Ellenor Devine, Head of Office (Research), ellenor.devine@vr.se



Scan me for more information
and link for registration



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2 Digital - Backbone Connectivity for Digital Global Gateways*

Programme

9:00-9:30 *Networking coffee*

9:30 **Welcome remark**

Dr. Ellenor Devine, Head of Office (Research), SWERI

9:35 **NPF the first step of the Polar Connect vision**

Director Valter Nordh, NORDUnet

9:45 **The economic value of sub marine cables in the Arctic**

Dr. Bruno Basalisco, Copenhagen economics

10:00 **Viability of crossing the North Pole with a submarine cable**

Prof. Katarina Gårdfeldt, Director General, Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

(5 min) **Q&A**

10:20 **The need for scientific observations in the Arctic**

Prof. Stein Sandven, Nansen Environmental and remote sensing center, Bergen Norway

10:35 **Research using the North Pole Fibre infrastructure**

Prof. Martin Landrø, Department of Electronic Systems, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim, Norway

(5 min) **Q&A**

10:55 **Final remarks**

Dr. Ellenor Devine, Head of Office (Research), SWERI

Sweden's research and innovation office in Brussels (SWERI) is the joint research and innovation office in Brussels for the Swedish Research Council and Vinnova. The office monitors policy developments in the EU on location and supports Swedish actors who are interested in the EU's funding of research and innovation.