Will Beijing reconsider its maritime strategy in the South China Sea following the melting of the Arctic?

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Dr. Nalanda Roy, Department of Criminal Justice, Social and Political Science

Robert I. Strozier Faculty Lecture Series

Will Beijing reconsider its maritime strategy in the South China Sea following the melting of the Arctic?

China is asserting its territorial and maritime claims in the East and South China Sea. But as strategic questions are being raised about the SCS dispute, another issue of growing importance for China is the Arctic. China has become increasingly serious about the consequences of the melting Arctic as this would have a major impact on China’s future economy, and also open up more available routes with a lower risk of piracy. Interestingly, this research will analyze whether Beijing will learn how to share and bear, due to her increasing quest for natural resources in the Arctic thereby undermining its own position in contested areas like the SCS.