



## Policy Brief 1: Recommendations

# Decision-Making for Sustainable Economic Development in the Arctic

This issue is doubly significant in the context of Arctic sustainability. The Arctic region has a long history of past injustices, driven by colonial policies, practices and extractivism. Sustainable development—because it is about the use of shared and limited resources, including Arctic landscapes—is inseparable from a concern with justice.

These recommendations from JUSTNORTH centre on the question of what makes for just decision-making in the Arctic. Examining a wide range of new, large and small-scale economic projects, JUSTNORTH researchers have built original case-studies about the political processes surrounding oil and gas, mining, and wind power and tourism development across the region.

What takeaways for policymakers does the project offer when it comes to strengthening justice in political processes?

As a starting point, decisions need for those affected by it to feel that they have been treated with dignity and respect and have been given a voice in the process, regardless of the outcome.

Going forward, these recommendations point to several steps that can be taken to address such situations:

- 1** Create new supervising bodies to guarantee the inclusion of local and Indigenous communities to ensure compliance with the law
- 2** Grant equal status to different economic interests competing for land use
- 3** Promote energy communities to encourage outcomes toward sustainable energy security

