



FRIDTJOF NANSENS INSTITUTT  
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# Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI)

is an independent institution  
engaged in research on inter-  
national environmental, energy  
and resource management  
politics.



**FNI expertise is clustered around the following focal points:**

- Global environmental governance and law
- Climate change
- Law of the Sea and marine affairs
- Biodiversity and genetic resources
- Polar and Russian politics
- European energy and environment
- Chinese energy and environment

*Photo: Jan Dalsgaard Sørensen*

## FNI research

The Fridtjof Nansen Institute specializes in research on political solutions to national and international problems in environmental, energy and resource management. The institute is engaged in academic studies, contract research, investigations and evaluations. The main disciplines are political science and international law, but FNI researchers also hold degrees in economics, history, social anthropology, development studies and human geography, and have special language and regional competence on Russia and China.

FNI is a private foundation, established in 1958 to conduct research within the interest areas of Fridtjof Nansen and to maintain the property of Polhøgda, Nansen's home. The institute currently has a staff of around 35, of which 25 are full-time researchers.

Research activities are clustered around the following seven focal points:



### Global environmental governance and law

FNI research includes theoretical as well as empirical studies. Empirical studies look at key global agreements, and the UN's role in global governance. Theoretical studies analyze how agreements are created and made effective. Legal studies focus on the treaties and decisions that constitute the legal basis of the institutions and their formal powers



### Climate change

FNI research focuses on international climate change negotiations, both inside and outside the UN framework. FNI also follows closely the internal climate politics of key actors such as the EU, China, USA and Russia. Studies also include energy policy, most of it climate-related.



### Law of the Sea and marine affairs

FNI research focuses on international cooperation and management in the fields of marine pollution and environmental protection, maritime safety, fisheries and whaling. Special regional competence includes the Barents Sea, the Norwegian Sea, the North Sea, the Southern Ocean and the Mediterranean, especially the Adriatic Sea



### **Biodiversity and genetic resources**

FNI research focuses on international efforts to ensure conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and fair distribution of benefits from genetic resources. Interaction with trade agreements and intellectual property rights is central. FNI research covers wild genetic resources as well as those of agriculture and aquaculture.



### **Polar and Russian Politics**

FNI's main focus is on Norwegian-Russian relations in the High North, with emphasis on environment, energy, fisheries, marine transport, health, security and jurisdiction. FNI also studies Arctic (and Antarctic) cooperation in general, as well as environmental and resource management policies in Russia and other post-Soviet states.



### **European energy and environment**

FNI studies energy and environmental policy, both within and outside the EU framework. EU climate policy, including the emissions trading system and promotion of renewable energy, are key topics. Other main topics include energy market regulation and company strategies.



### **Chinese energy and environment**

FNI research on China analyses the country's environmental and energy problems, attempts to understand how environment-related bureaucracy and decision-making works, and analyses China's role in international cooperation on climate change, other environmental and energy issues, and the Arctic.



## The Nansen Heritage

Fridtjof Nansen (1861–1930) became famous for his exploration of the Arctic, but he also made major scientific contributions and worked as a diplomat. In his later years he worked extensively to help prisoners of war and refugees, and with famine relief. This work was carried out both under the auspices of the League of Nations and on Nansen's own initiative. For this humanitarian effort he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1922.

Nansen saw the shortcomings of existing international structures and was deeply engaged in establishing international cooperation.

## FNI Staff (by April 2018)

### Leadership team

Geir Hønneland, Director  
Lars H. Gulbrandsen, Deputy Director  
Kristin Rosendal, Research Director  
Claes Lykke Ragner, Head of Administration

### Research staff

Steinar Andresen, Research Professor  
Ole Kristian Fauchald, Research Professor  
Anna Korppoo, Research Professor  
Jon Birger Skjærseth, Research Professor  
Olav Schram Stokke, Research Professor  
Davor Vidas, Research Professor  
Jørgen Wettestad, Research Professor  
Regine Andersen, Senior Research Fellow  
Per Ove Eikeland, Senior Research Fellow  
Gørild Heggelund, Senior Research Fellow  
Tor Håkon Jackson Inderberg, Senior Research Fellow  
Leif Christian Jensen, Senior Research Fellow  
Øystein Jensen, Senior Research Fellow  
Anne-Kristin Jørgensen, Senior Research Fellow  
Arild Moe, Senior Research Fellow  
Christian Prip, Senior Policy Analyst  
Svein Vigeland Rottem, Senior Research Fellow  
Lars Rowe, Senior Research Fellow  
Kristin Ingstad Sandberg, Senior Research Fellow  
Pål Wilter Skedsmo, Senior Research Fellow  
Morten Walløe Tvedt, Senior Research Fellow  
Irja Vormedal, Senior Research Fellow  
Tone Winge, Senior Research Fellow  
Torbjørg Jevnaker, Research Fellow  
Julia S. P. Loe, Doctoral Research Fellow  
Andreas Østhagen, Research Fellow  
Ida Folkestad Soltvedt, Research Fellow  
Iselin Stensdal, Research Fellow  
Helga Rognstad, Researcher  
Peter Johan Schei, Associate Researcher  
Arne Walther, Associate Fellow

### Administrative staff

Kari Lorentzen, Librarian  
Biniam Abraha, Cleaner  
Jan Dalsgaard Sørensen, Caretaker  
Ola Just Haugbo, Info-systems Manager  
Hanne Sørensen, Head of Accounting  
Ida Folkestad Soltvedt, Head of Information (Acting)

### Master students

Maria Ellingsen Gran  
Hannah Marie Hernandez  
Dagny As Hovind  
Knut Arne Oseid  
Sigrid J. Otterlei  
Ane Louise Toft Rud  
Olav Anders Totland

### Board

Øyvind Østerud – Chairman  
Bjørn Tore Godal  
Anne Louise Koefoed  
Ann Therese Lotherington  
Christian Fredrik Michelet  
Pål Wilter Skedsmo – Staff representative

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