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Lecture on the Arctic

The Faroe Government has set as their objective to draft a plan on how the Faroes best can utilise the advantages of the changes occurring in the arctic areas and how we can protect ourselves against the detrimental effects of new passageways in the region. The Foreign Affairs department announced and has organised a lecture, which was held at the PM's office premises on Tuesday the 30th of October, by the prominent guest speaker, Alyson J. K. Bailes. Mrs Bailes discussed the challenges and opportunities for micro-nations in an arctic context. She will also touch upon the importance of bilateral cooperation between countries and organisations, for example between the Arctic Council and the Nordic Ministers Council. Mrs Bailes is a guest professor at the Iceland University, where she teaches in Safety policies. She has extensive experience within the academic sphere and also from the UK Foreign Service, where she has been involved with weaponry/munitions control, Safety politics and Defence issues. From 1987 to 1990, she was the UK Ambassador to Beijing, where she actively participated in the negotiations regarding the return of Hong Kong to China. From 1994 to 1996, she was the CEO for the Department handling safety policies for the UK Foreign Service and from 1997 to 2000 she was the political CEO for the Western European Union, a European safety institute based in Brussels. She was then appointed the UK Ambassador to Finland, until she in 2000 accepted the post as the CEO for the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), where she has been stationed until she left in 2007. The lecture was open to the public, but interested parties were advised to book a seat in advance, as seating was quite limited.