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Jan Müller

12 - 02 - 2013

UN debates Faroe plateau claim

The UN Land Commission is currently debating the Faroe claim to the area north of the islands. The claim was presented in the spring of 2009 and covers an 80.000 sq.km. area. The Faroe maritime area currently covers a 267.000 sq.km. area. A UN subcommittee was appointed in the autumn of 2012, to discuss the Faroe claim. The committee was constituted by seven members, all from the UN Land Commission. In this connection a Faroe/Danish delegation is in New York to answer possible questions, which the UN commission may have. The Faroe claim was presented to all 21 members of the UN Committee on the 31st of January 2013. Next week, the Faroe/Danish delegation will together with the UN subcommittee, debate the Faroe claim. Upon the conclusion of this debate, the full 21-man Committee will reach a final decision if the claim meets and is in line with all demands and regulations of the UN Maritime Convention. An agreement is in place with Norway and Iceland, which have lodged overlapping claims for this same area. According to this agreement, the intended division of this area is governed by all three countries being granted a corresponding area ratified by the UN Commission. Norway has already received such ratification for the area laid claim to, while a subcommittee is currently looking at the Iceland claim. According to the aforementioned pre-agreement, all three countries will meet after the UN Committee has come to a conclusion on the claims from all three countries. The Faroe/Danish delegation is manned by civil servants, specialists from Jarðfeingi, the Faroe Foreign Office, the National Geological Surveys of Denmark and Greenland, (GEUS) the Danish Foreign Office the Danish Technical University and civil servants from the Greenland Home Rule administration.