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Call for Papers – Thematic Group “Polar and Ocean Politics” Network Conference, Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, 15.-16- February 2024

We are delighted to call for papers and panels for the forthcoming annual conference of the network associated with our *DVPW-Themengruppe Polar- und Meerespolitik*. We seek to bring together interdisciplinary discussions and advance knowledge in the fields of polar and ocean politics, including general and issue-specific polar and ocean governance at all political levels, conflict and cooperation in the polar and marine areas, as well as polar and maritime security. This conference will provide a platform for researchers at all career stages to exchange ideas and share their research findings. We invite contributions that delve into a wide range polar and ocean politics related topics. We encourage submissions that address polity, politics, and policy-related research questions in the following key issue areas:

1. Politics of polar and ocean environment and sustainability:
 - How is climate change affecting patterns of cooperation and conflict in the polar regions and oceans? What are political responses to climate change effects in the polar regions and the oceans?
 - What innovative policies can be employed to safeguard and restore marine biodiversity, particularly in regions vulnerable to human activities?
 - How can sustainable fishing practices be developed and implemented to ensure the long-term health and productivity of our oceans?
 - What challenges and opportunities exist for indigenous and non-indigenous communities living in polar regions, and how can research support their resilience and sustainable development objectives?

2. Politics of polar and ocean knowledge and technology:
 - What are the latest findings in polar research that can inform international policy decisions related to Arctic and Antarctic governance? How can policy-science interfaces be improved?
 - How are emerging technologies, such as autonomous underwater vehicles and satellite monitoring, transforming our understanding of the oceans and polar regions? What are the effects for politics and policies as well as for security and governance?
 - How can collaboration between political science and various other academic disciplines enhance our comprehension of the complex interactions between the oceans, polar regions, and global systems?
 - What are the politics of polar and ocean knowledge production and dissemination?

3. Security, conflict and cooperation:
 - What are the impacts of global developments such as the Ukraine war and the crisis of multilateralism on security, conflict and cooperation in the polar regions and ocean areas?
 - How do the Arctic states manage the emerging security challenges in the region?
 - How do hybrid warfare techniques and activities affect polar and ocean infrastructures and maritime security?
 - How are ocean and polar governance intertwined with and affected by an increasingly tense maritime security environment?

4. Polar and ocean governance institutions and international law:

- How can we explain and understand the emerging new agreements and instruments for polar and ocean governance? How will they likely affect respective politics?
- What are recent political and policy developments on national and sub-national level? What are existing and emerging topics of German marine politics?
- What is the effectiveness and/or legitimacy of existing instruments and how can they be improved for equitable outcomes? How can other normative/evaluative standards be applied to polar and ocean governance (e.g. ocean justice)?

We welcome submissions of full panels (panel abstract 100 words + 3 or 4 paper abstracts of 250 words) or abstracts for individual papers (250 words) by researchers, academics, and practitioners working in fields related to oceans and polar politics.

Important dates:

- Abstract Submission Deadline: 5 December 2023
- Notification of acceptance: 15 December 2023
- Registration deadline: 15 January 2024
- Conference dates: 15-16 February 2024
- Please submit to: polarmar@dvpw.de

For more information on submissions or conference, please contact us at polarmar@dvpw.de. We look forward to your participation and the opportunity to advance our collective knowledge in the domains of global oceans and polar regions.