



Farnesina

Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale



ITALY IN THE ARCTIC

Arctic Research Station «Dirigibile Italia», Ny-Ålesund

Historic Background

polar expeditions ...since 1899



Luigi di Savoia Duca degli Abruzzi



Umberto Nobile



Silvio Zavatti ufficiale di Marina a Fiume nel 1942

Silvio Zavatti



Guido Monzino

SVALBARD TREATY (1920)



The Treaty between Norway, the United States of America, Denmark, France, ITALY, Japan, the Netherlands, Great Britain and Ireland and Sweden, signed in Paris 9 February 1920, recognizes the sovereignty of Norway over the Arctic archipelago of Svalbard, at the time called Spitzbergen.

The signatories were given equal rights to engage in commercial activities (mainly coal mining) on the islands.

Several additional nations signed after the contracting parties. There are now over 40 signatories.

Italy's Arctic Perspectives



- Geo-strategic interest in wider access and potential new routes
- Scientific co-operation on climate change and environmental protection
- Economic expertise in the use of mineral resources, hydrocarbons, renewable energy
- Focus on the human dimension in extreme climate conditions, sustainable development



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MINISTERO DELLO
SVILUPPO ECONOMICO



MARINA MILITARE
ITALIANA



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE
E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE



Agenzia nazionale per le nuove tecnologie,
l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile



Consiglio Nazionale
delle Ricerche



ISPRA

Istituto Superiore per la Protezione
e la Ricerca Ambientale



FINCANTIERI

The sea ahead



SOCIETA' ITALIANA
PER L'ORGANIZZAZIONE
INTERNAZIONALE
Associazione Italiana per le
Nazioni Unite - UNA Italy



Political and Strategic Dimension

Long-standing active commitment:

- **Observer status in the Arctic Council (2013)**
- **Party to International Treaties and Conventions**
- **Member of relevant International Organizations**
- **Enhanced bilateral cooperation with Arctic partners**
- **Active engagement in the EU framework**



A large white research vessel with a prominent orange stripe and a complex mast structure is shown from a front-quarter perspective. The vessel is named 'OGS EXPLORI' and has the IMO number '7310888' visible on its side. It is set against a backdrop of dark, rugged mountains under a cloudy sky. The text on the right side of the image is overlaid on the sky and mountain background.

Overall Aim:

Italy is committed to enhance its active role and offer significant contributions to deal effectively with global challenges and new opportunities of sustainable development in the Arctic Region,

through political engagement, long-standing scientific research cooperation and business relationships, in partnership with Arctic Council Member States, Permanent Participants and other Observers.

Scientific Cooperation

Italian scientists contribute to:

- Increase the **spatial and temporal resolution** of the Arctic observation system
- Strengthen the overall **coordination level**
- Promote the study of **complexity** as a distinctive feature of the Arctic dimension as well as its role as an integral component of the Earth-Sea-Atmosphere system
- Define **medium/long term research objectives**



Amundsen-Nobile Climate Change Tower (CCT)

Italian Arctic Research Station «Dirigibile Italia» Ny-Ålesund



Since 1997, «Dirigibile Italia», a multidisciplinary research station managed by the Italian National Research Council, hosts up to seven researchers, working on: Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics; Marine Biology; Physics of the High Atmosphere; Technological Research, Geology and Geophysics; Glaciology, Snow Science and Permafrost; Paleoclimate; Oceanography/Limnology; Terrestrial Ecosystems; Environmental Studies; Human Biology and Medicine. Three multidisciplinary observation platforms have been added to the station.

Environmental Dimension

Climate changes and release of contaminants in the Arctic have potential to affect European and **global weather patterns**.

Melting ice sheets significantly contribute to **global sea level rise** and **ocean acidification**.

Monitoring priorities, besides physical and chemical aspects:

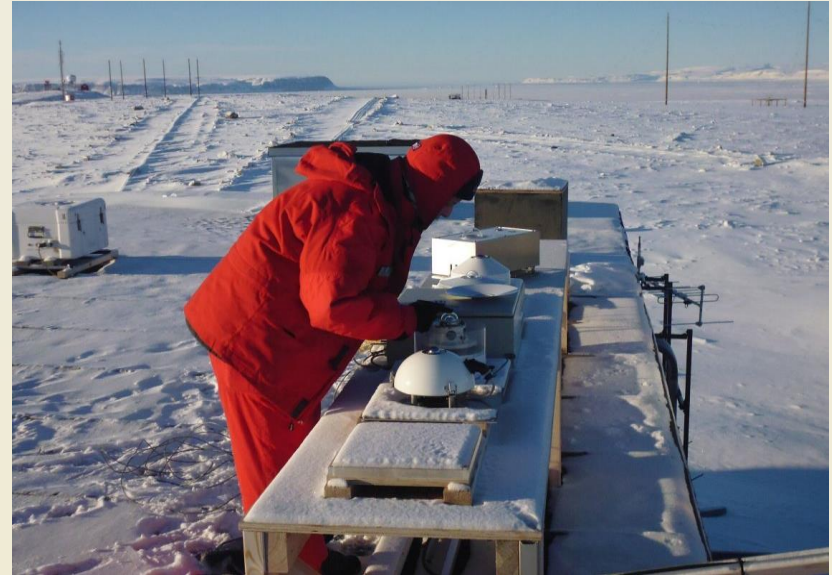
- Reduction of biodiversity
- Invasive species
- Potential shift in the distribution of marine species, including fish stocks



Human Dimension

Operational priorities for sustainable development:

- Integration of Science and Traditional Local Knowledge
- Connectivity, Urban Environment
- Infrastructures
- Health
- Safety



- **MITIGATION**
- **ADAPTATION**
- **RESILIENCE**

Economic Dimension



- Business opportunities for **Italian high-tech companies** in development of infrastructure
- Extensive use of **renewable sources of energy**
- Access to **undiscovered energy and mining reserves** (hydrocarbons and mineral resources)
- Access to potential **new global trade routes**

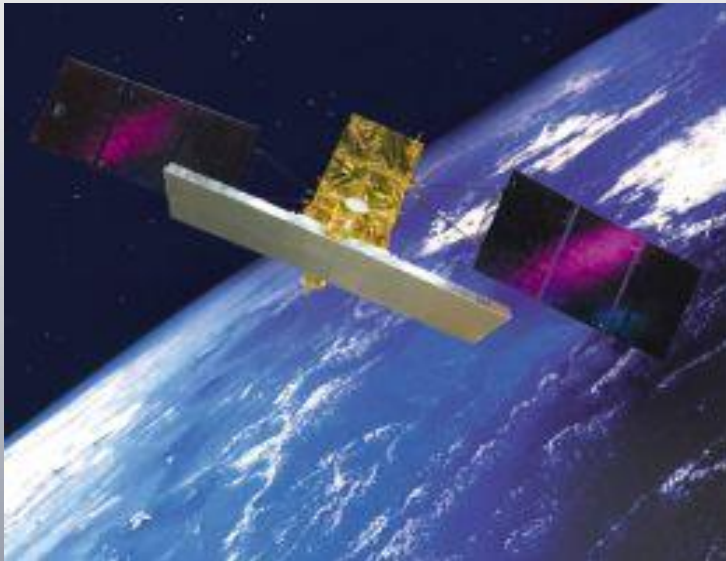
Ensuring the highest levels of environmental protection as an ineludible precondition, that requires sizable investments, high-tech, direct involvement of local communities.



1959: first offshore operation in Europe
2016: ENI Norge GOLIAT FIELD in the Norwegian Barents Sea



COSMO-SkyMed system is a constellation of four radar satellites for Earth observation for civil use.



Way Forward

- Italy looks forward to **deepening and extending bilateral and multilateral cooperation** in the Arctic, in the framework of international law and in coordination with partners, the EU and relevant international bodies
- The Italian Government is committed to support the activity of **national scientific agencies**
- Effective solutions for **sustainable development** can be achieved balancing environmental protection, business opportunities and the needs of local communities
- Italian **private sector**, increasingly informed on Arctic issues, will be further involved.

