

*Announcing Publication of:*

**Arctic Doom, Arctic Boom: The Geopolitics of Climate Change in the Arctic**

By Barry Scott Zellen  
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*Arctic Doom, Arctic Boom: The Geopolitics of Climate Change in the Arctic*, the second book authored by Barry Scott Zellen on the transformation of the Arctic, examines the challenges and opportunities of a polar thaw; its impact on geopolitics, world politics and international commerce; and what a “post-Arctic” world might look like. It includes an introduction by former Alaska Governor and U.S. Interior Secretary Walter J. Hickel, and a foreword authored by Professor Daniel J. Moran of the Department of National Security Affairs at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, in addition to a detailed bibliography and endnote section.

The Arctic meltdown has gone into hyperdrive, with some scientists projecting no summer ice on the Arctic Ocean as early as 2013. The “Big Thaw” is a double-edged sword: it will open the region to a “Cold Rush” of economic and military exploitation, as long-sought sea lanes and the vast hydrocarbon riches of the Arctic seafloor will be exposed by the shrinking of the ice cap for the first time in human history. At the same time, it could spell environmental disaster for many Arctic biota and challenge the subsistence economy and traditional cultures of the indigenous peoples of the Far North. Moreover, the “Big Thaw” will present the world a new theater for state rivalry and international conflict, as well as a new stage where international law and multilateralism can be put to work in the interest of mankind. Can a tolerable balance be struck?

*Arctic Doom, Arctic Boom: The Geopolitics of Climate Change in the Arctic* examines the uncertainty over what might happen at the top of the world as the polar ice cap shrinks. Author Barry S. Zellen, research director of the Arctic Security Project at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School and editor of the *Strategic Insights* journal, lived in the Arctic for over a decade, and is intimately familiar with the changes taking place. In this timely volume, he argues that the twilight of the reign of ice in the Arctic is the dawn of a new geostrategic pivot and economic powerhouse—a rich new navigable “Mediterranean” basin full of beneficial promise for the future of the Arctic rim nations, the indigenous Arctic peoples, and human history.

Zellen surveys the history of the global strategic and military importance of the Arctic region through the bifocal lenses of neorealism and geopolitics, with particular attention to its role as the Cold War’s Northern Front. He shows how the dramatic acceleration of melting in the Arctic in the present decade is thrusting the Arctic back onto the center stage of geostrategic concerns, posing a hard choice for the circumpolar nations (Russia, Canada, the United States, Denmark, and Norway) between cooperative development of the Arctic’s vast, hitherto inaccessible resources, or else a new cold war among military antagonists and economic rivals.

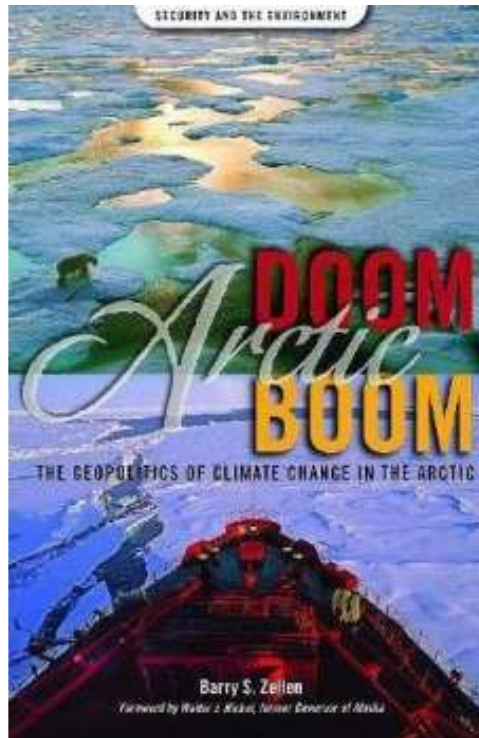
Zellen also compares and evaluates the contending models for the Arctic’s future development put forward by such figures as former Alaska Governor and U.S. Interior Secretary Walter Hickel; Arctic studies expert and International Relations theorist Oran Young; Major-General (ret.) Richard Rohmer; and Arctic environmental journalist and author Ed Struzik.

In addition to serving as research director at the Arctic Security Project at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, he is also the editor of the *Strategic Insights* journal. Zellen lived in the Western Arctic region of Canada for over a decade, managing an Inuit newspaper, *Tusaayaksat*, and several other Native media properties along the Mackenzie and Yukon river valleys including Northern Native Broadcasting Yukon, broadcaster of CHON-FM Radio and producer of the TV series, *Nedaa: Your Eye on the Yukon*; and *Haa Shagoon: Our Elders*; and the Native Communications Society of the NWT, broadcaster of CKLB-FM Radio and producer of *Dene Weekly Perspective*, *The No-Name Youth Show*, and *Our Dene Elders* TV series.

A protégé of IR theorist Kenneth Waltz and an expert on the tribal dimensions of world politics, Zellen was a MacArthur Foundation International Security Fellow, an Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation Research Fellow, and a Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security Northern Security Research grant recipient; he has taught at several universities and colleges including Arctic College, the Center for Northern Studies, and Wesleyan University. His published works include *Breaking the Ice: From Land Claims to Tribal Sovereignty in the Arctic* as well as the forthcoming *On Thin Ice: The Inuit, the State and the Challenge of Arctic Sovereignty* and *The Other Side of the Arctic: Indigenous Identity and Modernization in the Western Arctic*.

Further information can be found at the following links:

- Description and Brochure on Praeger website: <http://www.greenwood.com/catalog/A2052C.aspx>
- Amazon page, with free preview of the book's preface: <http://www.amazon.com/Arctic-Doom-Boom-Geopolitics-Environment/dp/0313380120>
- Bulletin on Foreign Affairs: <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/classroom/bulletin-board/arctic-doom-arctic-boom>
- The author may be reached by email at [bszellen@nps.edu](mailto:bszellen@nps.edu)



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## Endorsements

“To understand sustainable living in the Arctic, you have to have sustained thinking in the Arctic. You have to live it, over time. As Barry Zellen knows from his years in the Canadian north, those of us who live in the Arctic and sub-Arctic have a unique perspective that may surprise those from more temperate climes. The latter see the high latitudes as cold, remote, and as mysterious as the Moon. But to those of us who live here, the Arctic is home. . . . To be able to benefit from the Alaska economic model, and the peaceful relationships that Icelandic President Olafur Ragnar Grimsson calls ‘The New North,’ it is vital that policymakers worldwide take the time to understand the Northern experience and welcome it. This book will help. Barry Zellen explores the complexity and the challenges facing the Arctic while recognizing the exciting reality that the Day of the Arctic is upon us.”

—Walter J. Hickel, former Governor of Alaska, former U.S. Interior Secretary, and author

“The Arctic is in the midst of fundamental change. The combined forces of climate change and resource development are opening the region in ways unimaginable just a few years ago. This has created a growing debate as to what this transformation will do to international relations within the region. There are those who believe that the region will remain an arena of peaceful cooperation. However, there are others who are increasingly worried about the development of new points of international tension in the Arctic. With *Arctic Doom or Boom: The Geopolitics of Climate Change in the Arctic*, Barry Scott Zellen has provided an excellent book that examines the challenges that the Arctic will face now increasingly face. Not all readers may agree with his assessment of what Arctic security will look like, but few will be able to refute his research and scholarship on this issue. This is necessary reading for anyone concerned with the future of the Arctic.”

—Dr. Rob Huebert, Associate Professor of Political Science, and Associate Director of the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies, University of Calgary

“Barry Zellen’s *Arctic Doom, Arctic Boom: The Geopolitics of Climate Change in the Arctic* will be an invaluable resource for anyone who wishes to inform himself about a part of the world whose significance is increasing far more rapidly than was anticipated even a few years ago. This is because the ice is melting faster than anyone expected. Why it is doing so is an important question, because the shrinking of the world’s great ice sheets is linked to most of the truly transformative outcomes hypothesized in connection with global climate change, including rising sea levels, the alteration of major ocean currents, and a reduction in the Earth’s ability to reflect solar radiation back into space. All these are matters of great uncertainty, difficult to model scientifically, and even more difficult to understand in human terms, given the enormous range of outcomes that the best available science admits. The one thing we know for sure is that if the Arctic sea ice melts it will not melt alone, so that changes in the Arctic are certain to be linked to far-reaching changes elsewhere. One way or another, the Arctic is about to become far more intricately connected to the larger world than it has ever been before.”

—Dr. Daniel J. Moran, Professor of National Security Affairs, U.S. Naval Postgraduate School

“For those who know a piece of today’s Arctic story, Barry Zellen neatly connects the dots from Alaska to Greenland with a wealth of detail. His research and his experience living in the region come together here to buoy a generation of scholars, scientists and policy-makers.”

—Mike Peters, Editor, *First Alaskans Magazine*

“Barry Zellen is way ahead of the curve in the field of security studies in focusing on the intersection that state rivalries and environmental issues in the Arctic will have on global security and stability. In his trilogy on the transforming Arctic, Zellen highlights the important role this part of the world will play in global security as the world increasingly focuses on climate change and the environmental dimensions of national security. All serious students of security studies should closely examine this work and ensure that it receives the space it deserves on their library shelves and course curriculums.”

—Dr. James Russell, Co-Director, Center for Contemporary Conflict and Senior Lecturer, U.S. Naval Postgraduate School