



# TED STEVENS CENTER For Arctic Security Studies

*Delivering networks and solutions through innovation and experimentation*

The Arctic is a region of extremes, impacted by rising geopolitical competition and increasingly accelerated environmental change. Operating in this space requires a keen understanding of geophysical and geostrategic limitations and opportunities.

As national defense risks across the region continue to develop, commercial interests seeking natural resources advance, and environmental patterns change, the Arctic continues to gain increased attention from across North America, Europe, and the Asia-Pacific.

Increased maritime traffic, energy development, critical mineral resource extraction, fisheries management and strategic competition between great powers, significantly increases the need to affirm the rules-based order across the Arctic.

As authorized and appropriated by the Congress and signed into law by the President of the United States, the U.S. Secretary of Defense established the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies on 9 June 2021, the first such new center in more than 20 years. The Ted Stevens Center joins a network that includes five prior established Centers, collectively providing region-by-region security cooperation to America's allies and defense partners.

Guided by innovation and experimentation, the Stevens Center is principally focused on the Arctic security practitioner, improving institutional capacity through pillars of education, research, engagement, and collaboration with National and Arctic Interest Chairs appointed to the Center. The Stevens Center strives to collaborate and learn from the community of the Arctic Indigenous, people who have called the Arctic home since time began.

The Stevens Center is developing a network of like-minded security and defense practitioners with diverse and multifaceted understanding of the Arctic as well as providing research solutions to the complex security and defense environment of the region.

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The TSC reports to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs, is aligned to the Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, and as a DoD Regional Center, receives executive support from Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

The Stevens Center was established at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, near Anchorage Alaska in late 2021 and has quickly established defense and security programs and activities to build institutional capacity extending across 11 time zones-- from the Bering Strait to Arctic Finland.

The TSC has established a professional team of more than 60 personnel and created an affiliated adjunct network of more than 200 Arctic experts. This extended team has established a community of interest now numbering more than 4,000 security and defense practitioners.

These practitioners are allies and partners, members and leaders from across the U.S. government, Arctic Indigenous communities, industry, non-governmental organizations, and academia who are invested in a safe and secure Arctic.

In keeping with the Center's namesake, Senator Ted Stevens, a long-serving Alaskan Statesman, the Stevens Center is committed to advancing practical measures supporting security and defense. Such efforts are realized by providing research-based products that inform strategic, operational and tactical capabilities, analysis to support campaigning, engagement to enhance interoperable networks with allies, and education to increase Arctic literacy.

Through focusing on such "soft power" aspects of Arctic security, the TSC's efforts complement the "hard power" of U.S. defense investments to secure our respective national security interests across the Arctic.

Accordingly, the Ted Stevens Center's networks and solutions contribute to integrated defense across the Arctic to support practitioners, deter and dissuade adversaries, and to secure a safe and stable region.