

In this timely book, the authors provide a detailed analysis of Russia's national interests in the Arctic region. They assess Russia's domestic discourse on the High North's role in the system of national priorities as well as of Moscow's bi- and multilateral relations with major regional players, energy, environmental, socio-cultural, and military policies in the Arctic.

In contrast to the internationally wide-spread stereotype of Russia as a revisionist power in the High North, this book argues that Moscow tries to pursue a double-sided strategy in the region. On the one hand, Russia aims at defending her legitimate economic interests in the region. On the other hand, Moscow is open to co-operation with foreign partners that are willing to partake in exploiting the Arctic natural resources. The general conclusion is that in the foreseeable future Moscow's strategy in the region will be predictable and pragmatic rather than aggressive or spontaneous.

The authors argue that in order to consolidate the soft power pattern of Russia's behavior a proper international environment in the Arctic should be created by common efforts. Other regional players should demonstrate their responsibility and willingness to solve existing and potential problems on the basis of international law.

"Offers a wide-ranging account of the emerging issues in Russia's Arctic strategies. This book will be of great interest not only to scholars but also to students of International Relations and Arctic Studies."

Prof. Poul Wolfssen, Roskilde University, Denmark

"A profound analysis of recent key themes in Russia's Arctic policies. The work of two well-known Russian political analysts specializing in Arctic studies. Very well-written in an accessible manner."

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SOVIET AND POST-SOVIET POLITICS AND SOCIETY  
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## Russia in the Arctic

*Hard or Soft Power?*

