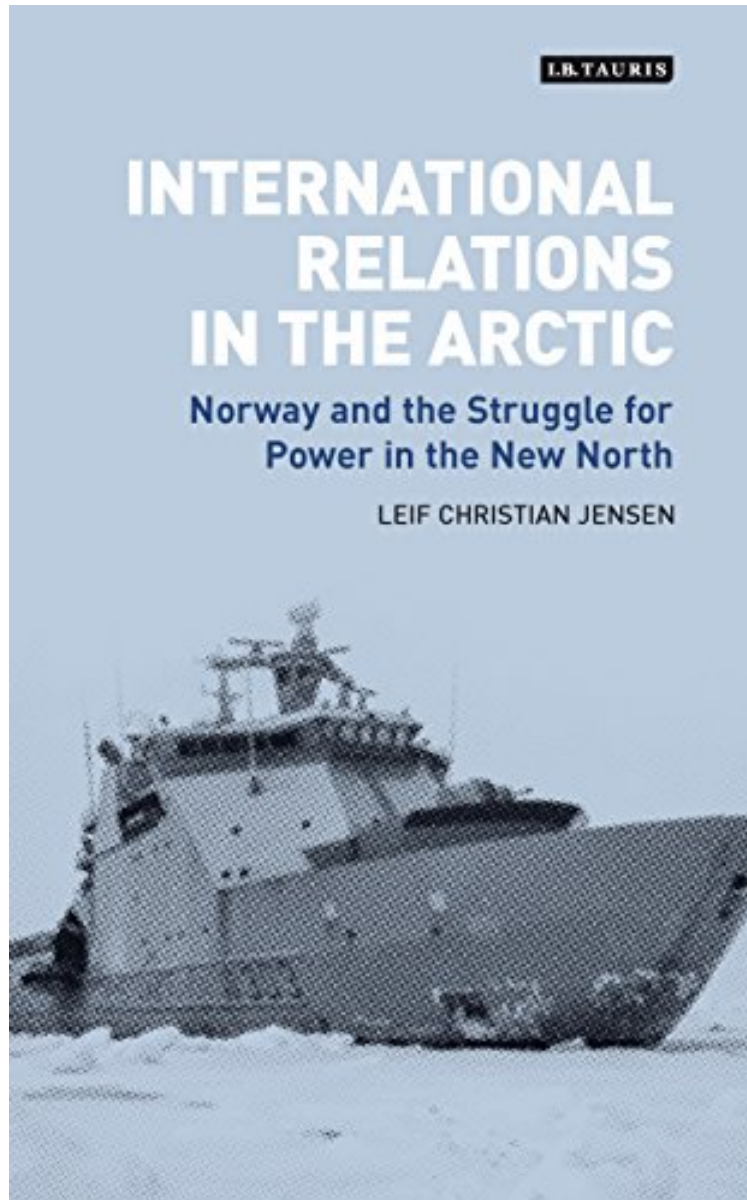


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International Relations in the Arctic: Norway and the Struggle for Power in the New North

Jensen, Leif Christian

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This book is an excellent approach to understanding the Arctic identity of Norway. I really appreciate the effective explanation and application of discourse analysis.

As the ice around the Arctic landmass recedes progressively further each year, the territory has become a flashpoint in world affairs. New and lucrative trade routes from East to West are now becoming accessible for shipping lanes and military deployment, and the Arctic is known to be home to large gas and oil reserves. Yet the territorial boundaries of the region remain ill-defined. In response to these geographical changes the Scandinavian countries, especially Denmark and Norway, have begun staking large proprietary claims in the face of pressure from the major powers — Russia, Canada, the US and China — for the trade routes to be designated as International Waters. Here, Norwegian scholar Leif Christian Jensen shows how Norway has undergone a positional shift after declaring its assertive position on the Arctic in 2005. Its disputes with Russia have created a new foreign policy dilemma, and a new set of 'red-lines' in Norwegian policy. Is Norway, as it would like to be seen, an environmentally friendly, peaceful, 'enlightened' nation? Or does this geopolitical shift in world affairs necessitate a new and more aggressive Scandinavia? *International Relations in the Arctic* makes a timely contribution to the 'turn to the North' in International Relations and Political Science.

About the Author

Leif Christian Jensen is Senior Research Fellow at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Norway. He gained his PhD from the University of Tromsø in 2013. He has published widely in Norwegian on the geopolitics of the Arctic and has contributed two chapters to English-language books and peer-reviewed English-language journals.