





Forum: The Disarmament and International Security Committee (GA1)

Issue: Radicalization Risks and Youth Empowerment in Greenland

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## Introduction

Greenland, a nation which faces and has faced serious challenges in emigration, struggles to empower its youth and, as a result, has faced extremist views and related movements. Denmark, a prevalent country attracts a majority of Greenland's youth and in the process, divides people, overshadowing economic development and leading to political radicalisation. Due to this, the United Nations have focused on regional stability in Greenland, while also strengthening its ties with the European Union.

Nevertheless, Greenland's political state remains unstable. The Democratic Party against the more Conservative one battles each other politically and divides its people based on political differences. Some stand with more liberal values, being the harmonization with the Danish Kingdom, while others criticise the Denmark management over indigenous families. What's more, arbitrary claims over Greenland's land create tension in the region, as seen recently by the United States, which specifically caused riots all over its land in response to statements by White House officials. Hence, the potential political annexation has led to heightened extremist percentages, particularly in younger audiences.

To this day, protests keep occurring and autonomous management and prevention of radicalisation have become a constant issue. In correlation with the conference's representative phrase: "Cogito, ergo sum", the voice of youth in Greenland needs to be heard, the ongoing challenges need to be transcended via internal endeavours and the empowerment of youth prevails as the ultimate goal and solution. In Greenland, youth is in need of empowerment to voice their opinions and claim a position in matters that involve them.

# **Definition of key Terms**

**Radicalisation** 





"Radicalisation means someone is being encouraged to develop extreme views or beliefs in support of terrorist groups and activities".<sup>1</sup>

## Youth Empowerment

"Youth empowerment means giving young people the skills, confidence, and support they need to take control of their lives and make positive changes. When young people are empowered, they can set goals, solve problems, and make decisions that help them and their communities".<sup>2</sup>

#### Inatsisartut

"Inatsisartut constitutes the sum of those who enact and propose laws in the Greenlandic Commission. In comparison with the Danish proposal, the Inatdisartut also represents an animal, specifically a bear with dragon characteristics, symbolising the strength and resilience of those who hold a place in the Greenlandic parliament".<sup>3</sup>

#### Social Resilience

"Social resilience is defined as the capacity of a social group to collaboratively address adversity and reestablish well-being, characterized by the co-creation of new frameworks and meanings in response to changing social conditions. It emphasizes group agency and relational definitions of well-being, moving beyond mere recovery to innovative adaptations".

# **Indigenous Exclusion**

<sup>1</sup> Tarhzouti, Aisha. What Is Radicalisation? | Ealing Prevent | Ealing Council. www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201149/crime prevention/2340/ealing prevent/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Youth Empowerment." *SOS Children's Villages*, www.soskenya.org/what-we-do/youth-empowerment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Presidium of Inatsisartut. "The Parliament of Greenland: Inatsisartut." *The Parliament of Greenland: Inatsisartut,* www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009\_2014/documents/deea/dv/0503\_/0503\_12.p df.

<sup>4 &</sup>quot;Social Resilience | SMU Resilience." SMU Resilience, resilience.smu.edu.sg/resilience-framework/social-resilience.





"Indigenous exclusion refers to the systemic marginalization and disempowerment of Indigenous peoples through discriminatory practices that deny them political, social, and economic rights, leading to poverty, lack of land rights, displacement, and poor access to essential services and decision-making processes that affect their lands and communities". <sup>5</sup>

#### Push-and-Pull Factors

"Push and pull factors in migration are categories that demographers use to analyze human migration from former areas to new host locations".<sup>6</sup>

# **Political Polarisation**

"Political polarization refers to the growing ideological divide between political groups, where individuals increasingly align with extreme positions rather than moderate viewpoints".

#### Timeline of events

| DATE | EVENT DESCRIPTION  |
|------|--|
| 1953 | Greenland incorporated into the Kingdom of Denmark, losing colonial status but fueling debates about self-determination. |

Indigenous Social Exclusion: Insights and Challenges for the Concept of Social Inclusion – Indigenous

Justice Clearinghouse.

www.indigenousjustice.gov.au/resources/indigenous-social-exclusion-insights-and-challe
nges-for-the-concept-of-social-inclusion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>"Push and Pull Factors in Migration." *Wikipedia*, 24 Aug. 2025, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Push and pull factors in migration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Baldassarri, Delia, and Andrew Gelman. "Partisans Without Constraint: Political Polarization and Trends in American Public Opinion." *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 114, no. 2, Sept. 2008, pp. 408–46, doi:10.1086/590649



| 22 November 1954   | UN General Assembly Resolution 849 (IX)  |
|--------------------|--|
| 17 January, 1979   | Greenland Home Rule Referendum & Act   |
| 23 February, 1982  | Greenland European Communities Exit<br>Referendum  |
| 13 September, 2007 | UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)                                      |
| 28 May 2008        | Ilulissat Declaration is made  |
| 25 November 2008   | A self-government referendum passes with 76% support.  |
| 21 June 2009       | Self-Government Act comes into effect;<br>Greenlandic becomes the official language              |
| 20 January 2025    | Denmark abolishes controversial "parenting competency test" after Inuit protests.                |
| 2 February 2025    | Trump and U.S. officials renew rhetoric about acquiring Greenland, triggering political backlash |



| 11 March 2025    | Greenland general election raises independence debates.  |
|------------------|--|
| 15 March 2025    | Major U.S. Incident: Thousands protest in<br>Nuuk and Copenhagen after U.S. officials'<br>remarks about Greenland's status;<br>Greenlandic leaders declare "The U.S. will<br>not get Greenland." |
| Late March 2025  | Denmark summons U.S. diplomats;<br>Greenlandic PM condemns American<br>"power demonstration."  |
| Early April 2025 | U.S. Space Force commander at Pituffik base dismissed after distancing the base from Vance/Trump remarks.  |
| Spring 2025      | Greenland's Constitutional Commission delivers a draft constitution for possible independence.   |

# **Background information**

# **Historical Context**

In 1953, the Greenlandic citizens experienced an official incorporation into the Kingdom of Denmark. For a long time, the unsure future of the state created turmoil within the Greenlandic people and, for some, it gave them hope to believe in a new state, segregated from Denmark. However, their demands were not met when Greenland was officially associated with the now-complete Kingdom of Denmark. Annexation was not





possible, integration was final and the United States kept applying pressure on Denmark to act quickly or "sell" the Greenlandic land to them.

As the United States have done in the past, expansion remains a core issue in their agenda. Previously having acquired the Danish West Indies, they were now looking to broaden their rule. For Denmark, the situation was a double-edged sword. The ultimatum was clear; either Greenland would become a part of their kingdom or they would face unmeasurable pressure to eventually hand it over. The choice was clear, Greenland was stripped off of its colonialist status and was now a part of the broader Kingdom.

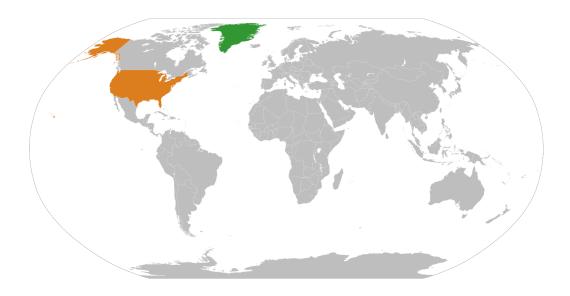


Figure 1: Depiction of the U.S. grounds in contrast to the land of Greenland.8

In the years that followed, Greenland became self-governed, meaning it handled its political affairs through its own representatives. 1957 marked a year in which the Greenlanding people, despite all recent changes, evolved and thrived in all aspects, except for politics<sup>9</sup>. The "kayak" and "igloos" were all inventions which filled the people with hope of one day regaining their complete independence. Regaining control after the continuous

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Greenland, Visit. "American Interest in Greenland - Visit Greenland." *Visit Greenland*, 13 Aug. 2025, <u>visitgreenland.com/articles/american-interest-in-greenland</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Aarhus University. *Cold War and the International Geophysical Year 1957-58*. css.au.dk/en/projects/previousprojects/greenland/coldwarandtheinternationalgeophysic alyear195758.





wars - World War II and the Cold War - was not easy<sup>10</sup>, but it provided a sense of stability for the people, seeing as Greenland was left intact from any aggressive military actions. Even if Denmark was targeted, the people survived utilising the resources of their natural habitat.

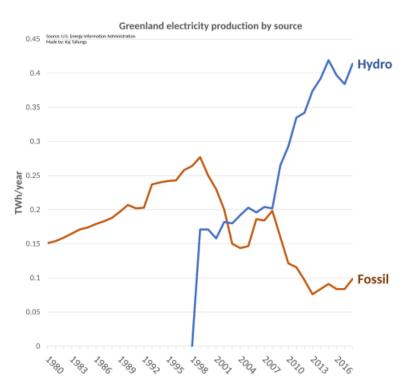


Figure 2: Graph about alternative energy forms and their use in Greenland. 11

On 23 February 1982, a bare majority (53 percent)<sup>12</sup> of Greenland's population voted to leave the European Common Market, a process which lasted until 1985. This resulted in the Greenland Treaty of 1985 and the withdrawal of Greenland from the European Communities.<sup>13</sup> The current situation in Greenland marks how, although annexation was not possible at the time, over the past years, colonialistic segregation has been achieved. After

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Korsgaard, N. J., et al. "Sixty Years of Altimetry of the West Greenland Ice Sheet Margin: A Record of Ice Margin Geometry Extended With Expédition Glaciologique Internationale Au Groenland 1957-60 (EGIG) Aerial Photo Surveys." *GEUS' Publications*, 2019, pub.geus.dk/en/publications/sixty-years-of-altimetry-of-the-west-greenland-ice-sheet-margin-a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Poverty Risk Rates in Greenland - Rising Beyond Control. nordicinsights.dk/2025/02/25/is-poverty-rising-in-greenl

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Nelsson, Richard. "Greenland Votes to Leave the European Community – Archive, 1982." *The Guardian*, 5 Feb. 2025, www.theguardian.com/world/2025/feb/05/greenland-votes-to-leave-the-european-community-1982.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> EUR-Lex - 11985G/TXT - EN - EUR-Lex. eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/tgreenl/sign/eng.





WWII, Greenland took action to diminish any reliance on the Danish Kingdom, it developed its own resources and practically survived on national industries.<sup>14</sup> The 2008 Referendum<sup>15</sup> only further enlarged the authority of people over domestic decisions.

Nevertheless, the Greenlandic people grew to distance themselves from Western civilization and by doing so, they divided the nation into two settlements. The ones which focused on traditional values and believed domestic investments were the future, and those which believed expanding to international forums was the right choice<sup>16</sup>. Hence, in the last decade, radicalized groups in Greenland are growing; the votes of younger audiences are annually pointing to extremist views and crisis mitigation is necessary.<sup>17</sup>

# **Causes for Radicalization**

#### Political Instability

Inevitably, Greenland has been affected by the far-right wave that has greatly influenced Europe the past few years. Having dealt with territorial disputes over half of Greenlandic history, authoritarian and oppressive movements have arisen. External intervention in their politics have caused aggressiveness and even unwillingness to comply to democratic procedures.

For instance, the political party of Atassut, a unionist party has rivaled against Naleraq, a strongly-independent party. The followers of each party clash with each other during protests and parliamentary holdings over ethnic matters, driving youth to radicalization, with the biggest dilemma amongst the citizens being their ethnic status. Recently, aggressive movements gathered outside of the parliament regarding the status of lake Ilullisat, supporting either the Naleraq or Atassut party. The topic was the removal of

<sup>14</sup> Michelsen, David, editor. *Greenland in Figures 2013*. Statistics Greenland, 2013, stat.gl/publ/en/gf/2013/pdf/greenland%20in%20figures%202013.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Ackrén, Maria. *Referendums in Greenland - From Home Rule to Self-Government*. popups.uliege.be/1374-3864/index.php?id=1892.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Raspotnik, Andreas. "Greenland During Trump 2.0: Is America Poised for an Historic Arctic Territorial Expansion?" *The Arctic Institute - Center for Circumpolar Security Studies*, 16 June 2025, www.thearcticinstitute.org/greenland-during-trump-2-0-america-poised-historic-arctic-territorial-expansion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Extremist Views in Greenland- 2023 Government Reports on Extremist Terrorist Movements <a href="https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2023/denmark">www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2023/denmark</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Kirby, Jaroslav Lukiv &. Paul. *Greenland's Opposition Wins Election Dominated by Independence and Trump*. 12 Mar. 2025, <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2r3d0r8z0o">www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2r3d0r8z0o</a>.





the lake's UNESCO status, to which the youth audiences reacted negatively according to recent polls<sup>19</sup>.

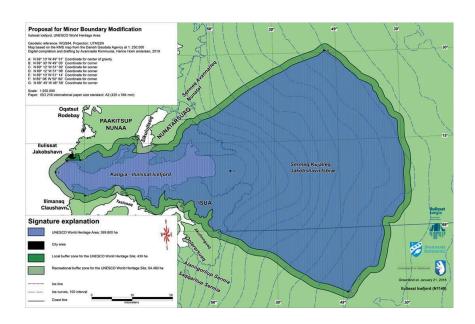


Figure 3: The status of a UNESCO-preserved lake in Greenland according to Naleraq.<sup>20</sup>

#### Socioeconomic tensions

Usually, a domestic economy is based on the principle of recycled income<sup>21</sup>. It expands to another sector or investment and is benefited in the long-run. In Greenland, due to the limited economic openings, there is a greater risk for radicalization and the rise of violent movements. In comparison to other world giants, Greenland is on the verge of complete poverty, signaling a high-risk alert.<sup>22</sup> Apart from state funds which illustrate the governmental capabilities, living conditions need to be judged individually. Median income discrepancy is a sign of a rather-declining economy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Hager, Julia. *Naleraq Party Pleads for Ilulissat to Give up UNESCO Status | Polar Journal*. polarjournal.net/naleraq-party-pleads-for-ilulissat-to-give-up-unesco-status.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Hager, Julia. *Naleraq Party Pleads for Ilulissat to Give up UNESCO Status | Polar Journal*. polarjournal.net/naleraq-party-pleads-for-ilulissat-to-give-up-unesco-status.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Biddle, David. "Recycling for Profit:&Nbsp;the New Green Business Frontier." *Harvard Business Review*, 1 Nov. 1993, hbr.org/1993/11/recycling-for-profit-the-new-green-business-frontier.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Philipp, Jennifer. "Addressing Poverty in Greenland." *The Borgen Project*, 28 Mar. 2025, borgenproject.org/addressing-poverty-in-greenland.





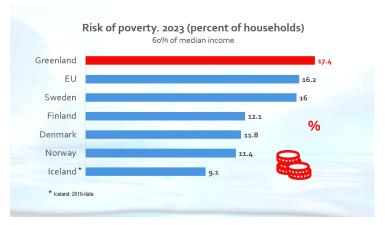


Figure 4: Graph illustrating poverty-risk rates largely based on median income.<sup>23</sup>

When civilians are unsure whether to invest or save up for a possible emergency, like an economic crisis or bankruptcy, they are unable to focus on fostering qualitative political dialogue and thus, neglect other important aspects of living<sup>24</sup>. As stated before, if the government is unable to intervene economically, audiences target those in leadership positions. Younger audiences, being born into this limiting setting affected by the Western civilization and the idea of international investments, seek change and to achieve it, they participate in extremist movements. Ergo, by limiting one's economic ability and presenting an unreachable opportunity; you drive a person to radicalization.

#### The Paradox of Radicalization

Some of the core values that could push someone to radicalization may be both harmful and beneficial<sup>25</sup>. Identity protection, absolute freedom, marginalization and globalisation can either be constructive or lead to aggressiveness. One can either be confident in their rights and liberties and invest in their community or the other may adopt a sense of superiority. This is a main issue as to why Greenland is divided. Continuous historical tension has led to superiority or domestic supremacy. Therefore, the distance from the Western civilization and a constant call from independence are instigated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Aarhus University. *The Mundus Collection*. 20 Oct. 2014, mundusjournalism.com/featured/nyhed/artikel/the-mundus-collection.

Welch, Lucie. "Poverty or Neglect? Understanding the Signs." Services for Education, 8
 Aug.

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>www.servicesforeducation.co.uk/blog/safeguarding/poverty-or-neglect-understanding-the-signs.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> UNDP on Extremist Views and Actions in Greeeland. www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/Discussion%20Paper%20-%20P reventing%20Violent%20Extremism%20by%20Promoting%20Inclusive%20%20Developm ent.pdf.





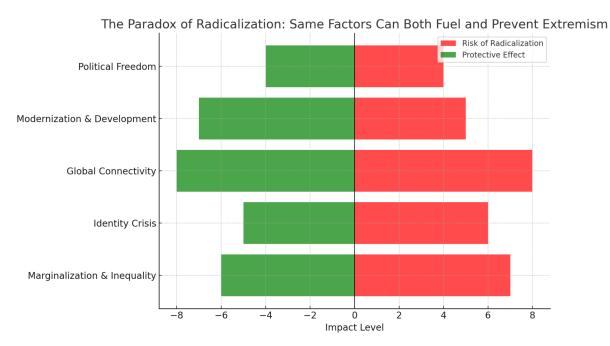


Figure 5: Graph about the Paradox of Radicalization

#### Youth Empowerment against Radicalization

On the various political matters that interest Greenlandic audiences, civilians want to voice their beliefs. Radicalization is often advertised as a means of expressing your stance and having an impact<sup>26</sup>. It has always troubled societies how centralized governments can act without infringing on individualized rights, but fairness in that is found via the parliament.

# **Challenges in Youth Empowerment**

#### **Similar Political Parties**

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In Greenland, the current political stage holds parties that hardly differ from one another. For example, the current party in power differentiated from the previous one in their Foreign Affairs policy, solely on the timing of the proposed political annexation. In the economy, there is mutual policy for all parties, in social issues the liberal parties constitute the majority and thus parliament loses its original value as a place of different ideas. With youth-centered opinions, a political party could stand out and offer a new perspective.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Peels, Rik. "Towards a Fruitful Concept of Radicalisation: A Synthesis." *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, vol. 32, no. 3, Mar. 2023, pp. 610–24, doi:10.1080/14782804.2023.2185594.



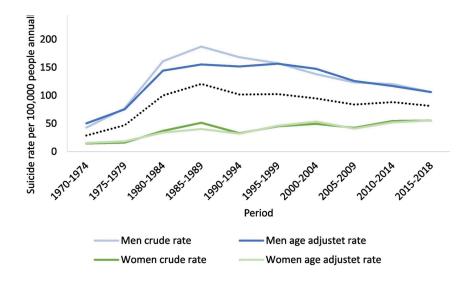


#### **Limited Education**

Most people in Greenland within the age range of 25-64 years old, have not finished primary education<sup>27</sup>. Illiteracy due to remote facilities, inaccessible institutes and low-funding remains a prevalent issue. If one is not equipped with the necessary knowledge to lead change, then empowerment needs to be planned not just in the short-term but also in the long-term through planning for the future, securing equal access and investing in critical infrastructure.

#### Mental Health

Greenland has one of the highest suicide rates globally, with an average of 96 suicides per 100,000 people annually between 1980 and 2018. Youth, particularly males aged 20–24, are disproportionately affected<sup>28</sup>. Recent studies indicate a concerning rise in suicide rates among young women as well. These statistics underscore the urgent need for targeted mental health interventions and support systems for the youth population.<sup>29</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Pihl, Mads and Statistics Greenland. *Greenland in Figures 2024*. Edited by Naduk Kleemann et al., 21st ed., Statistics Greenland, 2024, stat.gl/publ/en/GF/2024/pdf/Greenland%20in%20Figures%202024.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> ---. "Time Trends and Geographical Patterns in Suicide Among Greenland Inuit." *BMC Psychiatry*, vol. 23, no. 1, Mar. 2023, doi:10.1186/s12888-023-04675-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> ---. "Time Trends and Geographical Patterns in Suicide Among Greenland Inuit." *BMC Psychiatry*, vol. 23, no. 1, Mar. 2023, doi:10.1186/s12888-023-04675-2.





Figure 6: Graph depicting suicide rates in Greenland from 1970-2018. 30

# Stakeholders (Countries, organizations involved etc)

#### **Denmark**

Denmark supports Greenlandic youth notably via the Danish Red Cross Youth<sup>31</sup>, collaborating with the Greenlandic Red Cross on several rehabilitation programs, focusing on geopolitical values which emphasize volunteer-led youth empowerment grounded in life skills, focusing on personal, social, and relational capacities. Another impactful initiative is GAME Greenland, a street-sports leadership program in Sisimiut and Maniitsoq. Local youth are trained as coaches to lead inclusive street-sports activities, fostering teamwork, leadership and social inclusion. Additionally, the Greenland Guide and Scout Association offers youth activities rooted in local skills, nature conservation, and cultural identity across Greenland.

#### **Canada**

Canada contributes via engagement in Arctic educational frameworks such as UArctic, funded through Canada's federal Arctic strategy<sup>32</sup>. This includes youth-oriented exchange programs, capacity-building workshops, and increased Indigenous representation in circumpolar governance. Similarly, the Arctic Resilient Communities Youth Fellowship (ARCYF) brings together youths, including Greenlanders, and supports workshops in Sisimiut and Nuuk focused on resilience, responsible development and local leadership.

#### **European Union (EU)**

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Seidler, Ivalu Katajavaara, et al. "Time Trends and Geographical Patterns in Suicide Among Greenland Inuit." *BMC Psychiatry*, vol. 23, no. 1, Mar. 2023, doi:10.1186/s12888-023-04675-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup>"Greenland." *Statsministeriet*, english.stm.dk/the-prime-ministers-office/the-unity-of-the-realm/greenland.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Erskine, Andrew. "From Neighbors to Partners. Why Canada and Greenland Need to Come Together: Commentary." *ArcticToday*, 11 Mar. 2025, www.arctictoday.com/from-neighbors-to-partners-why-canada-and-greenland-need-to-come-together-commentary.





The EU with projects such as the Youth Together for Arctic Futures<sup>33</sup>, which connects Greenlandic and European youths for mentorship, cultural exchange and policy dialogue on sustainability. The EU-Greenland Partnership funds education, vocational training, and digital skills which leads to reduced unemployment risks. These programs empower the youth and build resilience against radicalization by fostering opportunities and inclusion. However, perceptions of external influence could be exploited by actors seeking to undermine EU-Greenland cooperation.

#### **Arctic Council**

The Arctic Council promotes youth inclusion through initiatives such as the Arctic Youth Network (AYN), the Arctic Leaders' Youth Summit<sup>34</sup> and innovation labs such as UNLEASH in Nuuk. These programs involve Greenlandic youth in policy-making, climate action, and SDG-driven projects. By embedding youth in governance and fostering leadership, the Council builds resilience and reduces alienation, making it harder for external actors to exploit social or cultural grievances.

## **Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)**

The ICC is a leading voice for Inuit rights and youth empowerment, offering programs that strengthen cultural identity and governance participation<sup>35</sup>. Recent partnerships, such as the one with Oceans North Kalaallit Nunaat, engage youth in marine conservation and Arctic policy-making; managing their land and the utilising of their unique arctic habitat. By promoting Indigenous leadership and traditional knowledge, the ICC empowers young Greenlanders and mitigates radicalization risks by fostering belonging and agency within their communities.

# Relevant UN resolutions, treaties, and events ( Previous attempts)

UN General Assembly Resolution 849 (IX), 22 November 1954

international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/countries/greenland en.

<sup>33&</sup>quot;---."International-Partnerships,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> "Bringing the Arctic Council Forward." *Arctic Council*, 2 May 2025, arctic-council.org/news/bringing-the-arctic-council-forward.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Elliott, Cassandra, and Cassandra Elliott. "A Peaceful Arctic Through Mutually Respectful Cooperation | Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada." *Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada* | *United Voice of the Arctic*, 12 Feb. 2025, www.inuitcircumpolar.com/press-releases/a-peaceful-arctic-through-mutually-respectful -cooperation.





This specific resolution removed Greenland from the list of non-self-governing countries following statements from Denmark about their total integration in the Kingdom of Denmark. In history, resolution 849 (IX) has stayed as a landmark on sovereignty. They were given a specific place in the United Nations Committee on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and managed to reduce reliance on Danish resources. The International Court of Justice ruled that in response to any objections within the committee, Greenland was allowed to maintain a position of observer. In the end, this resolution introduced Greenland into the United Nations and led the path for international politics.

# 1982 Greenland European Communities Exit Referendum

Greenland held a referendum and voted to leave the European Communities (EC), the precursor to the EU. This decision, finalized in 1985, was driven by concerns over fishing rights and self-determination. Taking into consideration how the people value their land and their arctic habitat, the safeguarding of fishing rights was of utmost importance. Fishing violations meant more about their sovereignty and self-determination rather than just being a hobby. Greenland remains outside the EU but is considered an Overseas Country and Territory (OCT) associated with the EU through Denmark.

#### 2008 Greenland Self-Government Referendum

In this specific referendum, the Greenlandic people voted and made a decision that was finalized two years later. They were granted additional control as regards to their legal jurisdiction, their control over police, courts, and natural resources, and recognized Greenlanders as distinct people under international law with the right to independence if they choose to exercise it. This act represents the most advanced form of autonomy Greenland has achieved and sets the legal basis for potential independence.

#### **Possible solutions**

# Strengthen youth participation in politics and include young voices in decision-making

As seen in many other member states of the EU, the Greenlandic parliament could integrate a youth-led assembly to include different viewpoints. In the past, Greenland had held a unique session of youth meetings where representatives from Greenland and Denmark participated. Such sessions could both enhance and empower the youth but also promote unilateralism in communications and strengthen ties with other communities. It is crucial that youths feel they have a place in their own country and can have an impact by expressing themselves freely.

Community-based mentorship programs pairing youth with role models





Paid internships, also known as mentorships, provide a way to teach younger audiences, "employ" them into the workplace, illustrate a path of learning and future success and give them the power to propose via suggesting and developing their ideas. In Greenland, mentorship is usually used in energy production and utilising due to its rich habitat. Igloos and Kayaks were the results of mentorships and continuous development. Hands-on skills are passed on from generation to generation and taught as a means of maintaining tradition. If one can be given the chance to show their strengths and virtues, then they can also learn to be contributing citizens, leaving no room for radicalisation. The rival to extremism is an inclusive environment.

# Mental health and social support services to prevent alienation that can lead to radicalisation

Social exclusion or alienation leads to violence, extremism and hate. By alienating people instead of embracing them, radicalisation is enhanced. Greenland, a country that is significantly troubled by suicidal tendencies and mental illnesses needs to enhance mental health infrastructure by school consultants and an integration of Greenland into the United Nations Office of Mental Health Awareness. The former Greenlandic Prime Minister raised a mental awareness campaign meant to tackle depression in adolescence by encouraging movements from middle-school<sup>36</sup>.

# **Further reading**

Michelsen, David, editor. Greenland in Figures 2013. Statistics Greenland, 2013,

stat.gl/publ/en/gf/2013/pdf/greenland%20in%20figures%202013.pdf.

Youth Radicalisation: A New Frontier in Terrorism and Security
<a href="https://www.visionofhumanity.org/youth-radicalisation-a-new-frontier-in-terrorism-and-security/">https://www.visionofhumanity.org/youth-radicalisation-a-new-frontier-in-terrorism-and-security/</a>

Youth Engagement to Counter Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism (OSCE)

https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/c/b/103352.pdf

Empowering Young People to Prevent Violent Extremism (Kofi Annan Foundation) <a href="https://www.kofiannanfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Empowering-young-p">https://www.kofiannanfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Empowering-young-p</a>

Nordic Welfare Mental Health in Adolescence. nordicwelfare.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/gronland webb.pdf.





#### eople-to-prevent-violent-extremism web.pdf

United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism – Youth Engagement and Empowerment <a href="https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/cct/vouth-engagement-and-empowerment">https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/cct/vouth-engagement-and-empowerment</a>

UNODC – Youth-Led Action to Prevent Terrorism and Violent Extremism <a href="https://www.unodc.org/unodc/frontpage/2023/December/youth-led-action-to-prevent-terrorism-and-violent-extremism.html">https://www.unodc.org/unodc/frontpage/2023/December/youth-led-action-to-prevent-terrorism-and-violent-extremism.html</a>

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