

# **Open Business Meeting on Action Group on PoLSciNex in Antarctica**

**Co-leads**

**Luis Valentin Ferrada, University of Chile**

**Akiho Shibata, PCRC, Kobe University**

**5 April 2019**

**SCAR-HASS Conference 2019**

**Ushuaia, Argentina**



**SCAR Sub-Group**

**HASSEG**

Person Responsible:

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## **SCAR Delegates Meeting 2018**

**Davos, Switzerland, June 2018**

### **Potential Proposal for a new SCAR Action Group**

#### **Name of the Proposed Group:**

Action Group on Resilience and the Future of Science-based Decision-making for Antarctica (Action Group on PoLSaNex)

#### **Lead proponents**

- Luis Valentín Ferrada, Universidad de Chile (Chile), lvferrada@derecho.uchile.cl
- Akiho Shibata, Kobe University (Japan), akihos@kobe-u.ac.jp

# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

## Origin and the Full Name:

**Action Group** under the SCAR-Standing Committee on Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) **on Resilience and the Future of Science-based Decision-making for Antarctica**, approved by the Chief Officers of HASS in October 2018

## Objective:

“To analyze the policy-law-science nexus within the current Antarctic governance framework and to articulate the practical significance of understanding such a nexus, so as to inform stakeholders how science-based decision-making relevant to Antarctica is actually operationalized.”

# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

## Two interrelated research projects established:

### 1. PoLSciNex research project:

Aims to conduct **multi-disciplinary analysis**, including natural scientists, to critically examine the policy-law-science nexus relevant to Antarctica, taking examples from **SCAR Horizon Scan research questions**, such as MPAs, biological prospecting, tourism, environmental impact assessment and liability, large-scale scientific establishments and logistical facilities in Antarctica. This project is led by Ferrada and Shibata.

### 2. Antarctic Treaty System Resilience research project

Examine the role of legal principles and normative values that underpin such decision-making, enhancing the **resilience of the Antarctic governance systems**; more focused on the **legal analysis** of the Antarctic Treaty System. This project is led by Jabour and Shibata. Book project by 2021.

# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

## Proposed Schedule for AG-PoLSciNex 2019-2021:

- **SCAR-HASS meeting in Ushuaia (April 2019):**  
Two panels and open business meeting to attract interests and ideas for a way forward.
- **12<sup>th</sup> Polar Law Symposium (1-4 December 2019, Hobart) on PoLSciNex and ATS Resilience panels/presentations (abstracts deadline April 30)**  
Concrete research topics and collaborative research teams established, preferably with scientists.
- **SCAR OSC (July 2020, Hobart) / 13<sup>th</sup> Polar Law Symposium (Nov 2020, Kobe)**  
Progress reports; possible forms for outcome of the project in 2021.

# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

## Financial report for 2019:

- **Budget USD 2,500 is allocated for 2019.**
- **USD 1,500 spent** for travel bursaries to four (4) early-career scholars to make presentations in PoLSciNex panel and ATS Resilience panel at SCAR-HASS Ushuaia meeting.
- **USD 1,000 planned to be spent** for two to three (2-3) ECS to make presentations at 12<sup>th</sup> Polar Law Symposium, December 2019, at Hobart, relating to the project.
- **Nexus with “Science”** will be important criteria for selecting abstracts for financial support for PoLSciNex research project.

# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

## Information sharing:

- **AG-PoLSciNex:**

Consider establishing a link/page in SC-HASS webpage  
<<http://antarctica-hasseg.com>>

- **ATS resilience research project:**

Kobe University PCRC Webpage

<<http://www.research.kobe-u.ac.jp/gsics-pcrc/ATS-resilience/index.html>>



# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

Discussion points for today, particularly for PoLSciNex research project:

- 1. Potential research topics for collaborative research with scientists**
- 2. Potential research approaches to attract scientists' interests**
- 3. How to reach out to scientists**



# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

## Discussion on potential topics:

### **Items identified in our AG proposal (as examples):**

- Marine protected areas in the Southern Ocean
- ASPAs and ASMAs
- Invasive species in the Antarctic
- Biological prospecting in the Antarctic
- Environmental liability in the Antarctic
- Environmental impact assessment in the Antarctic
- Large-scale scientific establishments and logistical facilities in the Antarctic
- Marine scientific research in the Southern Ocean
- “commercial” activities in the Antarctic, including Antarctic tourism

# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

## Discussion on potential approaches to the topics:

- Scientific advice from scientists/scientific organizations effectively taken into account in Antarctic policy-making/law-making? Cf. bioprospecting; liability; etc
- Difficulties in Antarctic policy/legal decisions despite agreement on scientific aspects? Cf. MPAs; tourism; etc
- “commercialization” of Antarctic science? bioprospecting; dual use of Antarctic logistical facilities; etc
- PoLSciNex in domestic contexts, affecting international decision-making? Cf. liability; etc

# AG-PoLSciNex in Antarctica

## Discussion on how to reach out to scientists:

- Personal connections within national/affiliation contexts: cf. establishment of PoLSciNex study group in Japan, with lawyers, political scientists, natural scientists and policy-makers.
- Personal connections within international contexts: any good examples?
- Institutional connection through SCAR Science Groups: easier said than done?