

**Arctic Mining: Environmental issues,  
mitigation and pollution control for  
marine and coastal mining-  
Workshop March 21, 22, 23, 2023**



**Title:** A Saami approach to maintaining biodiversity in marine environments affected by mining\*

**Speaker:** Tonje M. W. Johansen

**Biography:** *Tonje Margrete Winsnes Johansen is an advisor at the Saami Council's Arctic and Environmental unit. In her work, she focuses mainly on societal issues in Sápmi and the societal aspects of a changing climate and environment.*

**What is the Purpose of your Talk? Abstract:**

The need for minerals must be assessed against the consequences for nature, biodiversity, nature-based livelihoods, and social development. Indigenous rights need to be the basis when decisions on mining licenses are made to avoid breaching human rights. The world's richest countries should be at the forefront of developing and demanding as environmentally friendly mining as possible, particularly in vulnerable ecosystems such as those in the Arctic. This does not include dumping mining waste in the ocean. The very same countries should also lead the way in transforming the economy into a circular one and raising the issue of everlasting growth. The Saami Council wants with this to challenge the countries that the Sámi people live within to be role models when it comes to mining in Indigenous land, including marine areas.