# ACCUSARS: Key Drivers/Themes/Trends + Proposed Indicators

## POLITICAL: INTERNATIONAL
- Consensus (or lack thereof) in the Canada-U.S. bilateral relationship and the U.S.-NATO alliance
- Balance between Defence Priorities versus Security Priorities
- Cultural Sensibilities around how the Arctic is viewed
- Russian and Chinese economic issues as a driver of defence priorities
- Native and Indigenous Persons consultation and collaboration in policy making, integration in operability, aspects in the CANUS bilateral

## POLITICAL: REGIONAL
- Congruence of strategies (NORAD, NATO) and potential for adversarial inference
- China’s interests and activities
- Ground mobility — sustainability of operations; domestic response; economic development and infrastructure
- Disappearing sea ice and implications

## POLITICAL: NATIONAL/NORTH AMERICA
- Opaqueness around Russian policy (as well as potential confusion caused by conflicting messaging from the US and Canada)
- Economic distress of Northern communities
- Transportation & underdeveloped infrastructure
- Perceptions of citizenship and self-determination of Northern indigenous people, and relationships with national governments and militaries

## HUMAN SECURITY
- Colonialism/Reconciliation — cultural contestation (racial, tribal, religious, etc.) affecting policy coordination; persistence of colonial frameworks and fate control
- Health — Arctic Council One Health indicators as basis for analysis
- Environmental disasters and implications for disaster response / community capacity
- Education — understanding diverse views on development and security
- Infrastructure Needs — potential for dual-use infrastructure; private sector; alignment across different scales
- Economic models — conceptualize different models for small, isolated communities to support mixed Northern economies

## ECONOMIC / RESOURCES
- Foreign-backed investments projects (including in academic/ scientific research & expeditions and infrastructure development or acquisition)
- Governance rules around fisheries and other key emerging resources
- Public and political consciousness of the Arctic and internal perceptions of social cohesion and identity; areas or issues that spur polarization
- Infrastructure project development and lifecycle to completion
- Demand and supply of scarce resources

## ENVIRONMENTAL
- Communications capabilities
- Data collection, analysis, and sharing on environmental issues and changes in the Arctic in forms and at the speed of relevance
- Use of natural resources (e.g. fisheries, shipping routes, and extractive resources)

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### Table 1. Comparative advantages and disadvantages of military domains for different political objectives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>LAND</th>
<th>SEA</th>
<th>AIR</th>
<th>NUCLEAR (MISSILE)</th>
<th>SPACE</th>
<th>CYBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve credibility by maximizing influence over status quo</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve effectiveness by maximizing power to fight a war</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve efficiency by minimizing the costs and risks of military operations</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

✓ comparative advantage
?
potential advantage or disadvantage depending on operational context
x comparative disadvantage

Table from: Jon R. Lindsay & Erik Gartzke, “Politics by many other means: The comparative strategic advantages of operational domains,” Journal of Strategic Studies (2020), DOI: 10.1080/01402390.2020.1768372