



# 30<sup>th</sup> International Polar Conference of the German Society of Polar Research

*Crossing Boundaries – Poles in Transformation*

*From the Centenary of the German Society for Polar Research to the  
5th International Polar Year*

Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research  
Bremerhaven, 22 – 26 February 2027

## 2<sup>nd</sup> CIRCULAR

The 30th International Polar Conference of the German Society for Polar Research marks the approaching centenary of the Society and reflects nearly 100 years of interdisciplinary polar and high-mountain research and international collaboration.

The conference addresses ongoing large-scale environmental change across polar and high-mountain systems and explores associated processes, interactions, and impacts across a wide range of spatial and temporal scales, from Earth system dynamics to local processes. Polar and high-mountain regions are among the fastest changing environments on Earth and act as early-warning systems for global environmental change.

Bringing together researchers across disciplines and generations, the meeting aims to foster exchange, contribute to the scientific agenda of the 5th International Polar Year (2032–2033), and foster the dialogue to a wider audience beyond academia, including educators and the interested public.

### Venue

Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI),  
former North Sea Museum  
Am Handelshafen 12, 27570 Bremerhaven, Germany



## **Thematic Priorities**

The conference invites contributions addressing key processes, interactions, and transformations across polar and high-mountain systems, linking past, present, and future perspectives across disciplines and scales.

### **Earth System Dynamics**

Atmosphere–sea ice–ocean–land surface interactions and system dynamics.

### **Cryosphere Processes and Feedbacks in a Changing Climate**

From thawing permafrost to collapsing glaciers: understanding the frozen world at the frontline of climate change.

### **Climate Variability and Change**

Past climate variability and abrupt climate change, and the Anthropocene in polar and high-mountain systems.

### **Biosphere and Ecosystem Dynamics**

Life at the edge: Polar ecosystems, biodiversity, ecosystem functioning, biogeographic patterns including terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems.

### **Geological Processes and Earth System History**

Polar Earth Sciences: lithosphere evolution, plate tectonics, sedimentary processes, and glaciation.

### **Human Dimensions, Governance, and Geopolitics**

International cooperation and science diplomacy; geopolitical dynamics and emerging hotspots in the polar regions; and the perspectives, resilience, and participation of Arctic and Indigenous communities.

### **Transdisciplinary Approaches and Co-Design**

Co-design and co-production of knowledge across disciplines and stakeholder communities in polar and high-mountain research.



## Education and Capacity Building

Polar education, training, and outreach, and the development of future research communities.

## History and Legacy of Polar Research

The development of polar research in its political, economic, and cultural contexts, including reflections on nearly a century of the German Society for Polar Research.

## Programme Contributions

DFG Priority Programme 1158 “Antarctic Research”: report colloquium

- Connectivity and Exchange in Polar Systems
- Dynamics of Climate System Components
- Response to Environmental Change
- Improved Understanding of Polar Processes and Mechanisms

## Key Dates and Deadlines

- **30 June 2026** – Publication of detailed conference information (registration, fees, accommodation)
- **30 October 2026** – Opening of abstract submission and registration

All information will be available on the conference website:

<https://www.polarforschung.de>

## Programme Overview

The conference will include approximately 75 oral scientific presentations on current topics in polar and high-mountain research, complemented by an extensive poster exhibition and ample opportunities for scientific exchange and networking.

The programme includes:

- **Welcome reception:**  
22 February 2027



- **Oral and poster presentations**  
22–25 February 2027
- **DFG Priority Programme 1158 “Antarctic Research”:**  
24–25 February 2027, **Report Colloquium**
- **Side meetings (DGP Working Groups):**  
23–24 February 2027
- **APECS workshop:**  
23 February 2027
- **Public lecture:**
  - 24 February 2027
- **General Meeting of the DGP including brief presentations by the DGP Working Groups, highlighting their activities and research focus.**  
25 February 2027
- **Conference dinner:**  
25 February 2027

### Further Information and Updates

Further information on abstract submission, registration, accommodation, and conference fees will be available on the conference website from 30 June 2026: <https://www.polarforschung.de>