

Abstract

The idea of decreasing the time travelling by ships transiting through the arctic is not a myth anymore but it became a reality. Ice melting due to global warming makes this reality more and more possible.

This new Arctic route must answer to two majors constrains : economic and ecological. It should respect the environnement and the maritime safety in a hazardous area for the navigation du to remoteness and the rough climate for any human activity. Ship-owners, crew and ships will have to strictly adhere to the rules put into force along this route.

The concept of this new route is a tremendous economical asset for the different arctic countries, it can bring new alliances which could strengthen the peace. Even though this route has got a lot of advantages in regard to other traditional routes, but it has got some limitations and it cannot be considered like an other competitors route but like another pillar of the worldwide maritime economie.