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Emne: Expedition report – RV POLARSTERN cruise PS149 (2 July – 1 September 2025), Ref. 25/814

Dear Sir or Madam,

On behalf of the Alfred Wegener Institute, I am pleased to submit the final report of the German research cruise **PS149 (CONTRASTS)** aboard RV **POLARSTERN**, which was conducted between **2 July and 1 September 2025** in Norwegian waters, including the Norwegian Exclusive Economic Zone and the waters around Svalbard.

This submission refers to the consent granted by the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries (Ref. **25/814**, dated **17 March 2025**) for the conduct of marine scientific research during the expedition.

The expedition was completed successfully and achieved its primary scientific objectives. During the two-month cruise, we investigated atmosphere–ice–ocean interactions during the Arctic summer sea-ice melt season by repeatedly revisiting contrasting sea-ice regimes from the marginal ice zone to the multi-year ice north of Greenland. The work included coordinated observations of the atmosphere, sea ice, snow, ocean, and marine ecosystem, supported by autonomous platforms, ship-based measurements, and regional surveys. The expedition provides a unique process-oriented dataset to improve our understanding of Arctic summer sea-ice evolution and its role in the climate system.

The **expedition report** is available for download here: <https://epic.awi.de/id/eprint/60779/> (PDF, 33 MB)

For completeness, I would also like to provide links to the principal published expedition datasets:

Expedition track of RV POLARSTERN: <https://doi.pangaea.de/10.1594/PANGAEA.987133>

Overview of all scientific activities (events): <https://www.pangaea.de/expeditions/events/PS149>

Should you require any additional information or documentation, I would be pleased to provide it.

Kind regards,

Marcel Nicolaus

Chief Scientist, Expedition PS149 (CONTRASTS)

Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research



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