

The Kingdom of Denmark

Bilateral relations

Brief History:

The Kingdom of Denmark recognized of Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 31 December, 1991.

On 2nd April 1992 the diplomatic relations between the two countries were established.

On 6-12 Mart 1995, The president of Azerbaijan H. Aliyev visited the Kingdom of Demark to participate at the International Conference. During his visit, he met with the Queen of Denmark and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Denmark.

On 11 Mart 2002, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan sent a congratulation letter to the Foreign Minister of Denmark, P. Möll regarding the 10th anniversary of the bilateral diplomatic relationship between Azerbaijan and Denmark

On 2 May 2002, Minister of Foreign Affairs sent a project “Protocol of the collaboration between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark” to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

On 8 May 2003, Counselor of the Ambassador of Denmark to Turkey and to Azerbaijan visited Baku.

On 30 June-1 July 2003, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan visited Denmark to discuss the future diplomatic relationships.

On 25-30 January 2004, MFA, MIA, and Ministry of Justice delegations visited Denmark to discuss immigration issues.

On 3 October 2006, the Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark to Turkey and Azerbaijan sent a congratulation letter to the President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev.

On 06 March 2007, Mr. Kim Yongen presented his credential to the President of Azerbaijan as the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark.

On 08 May 2007, the Permanent Resident Representative of Azerbaijan Republic to the UN, A. Mehdiyev met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark.

On 30 April 2008, newly appointed Ambassador, Jesper Vahr presented his credentials to the Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev as the Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark to Azerbaijan.

Political relations

The president of Azerbaijan H. Aliyev visited the Kingdom of Denmark to participate at the International Conference. During his visit, he met with the Queen of Denmark and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Denmark. During the framework of the official visits President discussed bilateral relationship between two countries with the state officials of Denmark.

Denmark, within the European Neighborhood Policy, is providing a program during the year of 2005-2007 in order to maintain peace and political stability in the Caucasus. According to the official information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark, the Danish government has agreed to contribute \$4 million US Dollar to this project.

Azerbaijan is interested in developing further relationships.

International Cooperation

The Azerbaijan Republic and the Kingdom of Denmark mutually cooperate within the UN, OSCE, NATO, the EU and other international organizations frameworks and are interested to develop the effective cooperation.

On 13th September 2006 the Kingdom of Denmark abstained from voting for draft resolution “Long-term Conflicts on the territories of GUAM member-states: its impact on international peace, security and development” on the agenda of the UN GA 61th session.

Inter-Parliamentary Relations

Azerbaijan-Denmark Friendship Group was established in the Parliament of Azerbaijan, the Chairman of the group is Azer Amirslanov.

Economic development

Trade and economic relations between Azerbaijan Republic and Kingdom of Denmark

(Million USA \$)

| Year | 2007 (January-December) | 2008 (January-March) |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Trade Turnover | \$14.6 | \$0,930 |
| Import | \$14.4 | \$0,931 |
| Export | \$0.21 | \$0.1 |

Diaspora:

Denmark and Azerbaijan Cultural Center
Kərim Xan (Yaşar Azəroğlu)
Tel: (0045) 87 39 07 36; Fax: (0045) 86 18 08 09
Website: www.indvndr-erradio.dk.

Denmark Azerbaijan Association
Abbas Səidlər
Tel: (0045) 3297 3004 Cellular: (0045) 26 46 55 60

Consulate:

The Denmark Embassy in the Turkey Republic and the Embassy of the Azerbaijan Republic in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland perform the functions of Consulate.

Brief Information
The Kingdom of Denmark

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| Area: | 43, 094 sq km |
| Population: | 5,484,723 (July 2008 est.) |
| Nationality: | <i>noun:</i> Dane(s) <i>adjective:</i> Danish |
| Ethnic groups: | Scandinavian, Inuit, Faroese, German, Turkish, Iranian, Somali |
| Religions: | Evangelical Lutheran 95%, other Christian (includes Protestant and Roman Catholic) 3%, Muslim 2% |
| Languages: | Danish, Faroese, Greenlandic (an Inuit dialect), German (small minority) <i>note:</i> English is the predominant second language |
| Country name: | <i>conventional long form:</i> Kingdom of Denmark <i>conventional short form:</i> Denmark <i>local long form:</i> Kongeriget Danmark <i>local short form:</i> Danmark |
| Government type: | constitutional monarchy |
| Capital: | <i>name:</i> Copenhagen |
| Administrative divisions: | metropolitan Denmark - 5 regions (regioner, singular - region); Hovedstaden, Midtjylland, Nordjylland, Sjaelland, Syddanmark <i>note:</i> an extensive local government reform merged 271 municipalities into 98 and 13 counties into five regions, effective 1 January 2007 |
| Independence: | first organized as a unified state in 10th century; in 1849 became a constitutional monarchy |
| National holiday: | none designated; Constitution Day, 5 June (1849) is generally viewed as the National Day |
| Constitution: | 5 June 1953 constitution allowed for a unicameral legislature and a female chief of state |
| Legal system: | civil law system; judicial review of legislative acts; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations |
| Executive | <i>chief of state:</i> Queen MARGRETHE II (since 14 January 1972); |

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| branch: | Heir Apparent Crown Prince FREDERIK, elder son of the monarch (born 26 May 1968) <i>head of government:</i> Prime Minister Anders Fogh RASMUSSEN (since 27 November 2001) <i>cabinet:</i> Council of State appointed by the monarch <i>elections:</i> the monarch is hereditary; following legislative elections, the leader of the majority party or the leader of the majority coalition is usually appointed prime minister by the monarch | | |
| Legislative branch: | unicameral People's Assembly or Folketinget (179 seats, including 2 from Greenland and 2 from the Faroe Islands; members are elected by popular vote on the basis of proportional representation to serve four-year terms) <i>elections:</i> last held 13 November 2007 (next to be held in 2011) <i>election results:</i> percent of vote by party - Liberal Party 26.2%, Social Democrats 25.5%, Danish People's Party 13.9%, Socialist People's Party 13.0%, Conservative People's Party 10.4%, Social Liberal Party 5.1%, New Alliance 2.8%, Red-Green Alliance 2.2%, other 0.9%; seats by party - Liberal Party 46, Social Democrats 45, Danish People's Party 25, Socialist People's Party 23, Conservative People's Party 18, Social Liberal Party 9, New Alliance 5, Red-Green Alliance 4; note - does not include the two seats from Greenland and the two seats from the Faroe Islands | | |
| Judicial branch: | Supreme Court (judges are appointed by the monarch for life) | | |
| Political parties and leaders: | Christian Democrats [Bodil KORNBEEK] (was Christian People's Party); Conservative Party [Bendt BENDTSEN] (sometimes known as Conservative People's Party); Danish People's Party [Pia KJAERGAARD]; Liberal Party [Anders Fogh RASMUSSEN]; New Alliance [Naser KHADER]; Red-Green Unity List (Alliance) [collective leadership] (bloc includes Left Socialist Party, Communist Party of Denmark, Socialist Workers' Party); Social Democratic Party [Helle THORNING-SCHMIDT]; Social Liberal Party [Margrethe VESTAGER]; Socialist People's Party [Villy SOEVNDAL] | | |
| GDP (purchasing power parity): | \$203.7 billion (2007 est.) | | |
| Budget: | <i>revenues:</i> | \$172.6 | billion |
| | <i>expenditures:</i> \$158.8 billion (2007 est.) | | |
| Exports: | \$101.2 billion f.o.b. (2007 est.) | | |

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|----------------------|---|
| Exports commodities: | - machinery and instruments, meat and meat products, dairy products, fish, pharmaceuticals, furniture, windmills |
| Exports partners: | - Germany 17.3%, Sweden 14.1%, UK 8.7%, US 6.2%, Netherlands 5.4%, Norway 5.4%, France 4.9% (2006) |
| Imports: | \$102.3 billion f.o.b. (2007 est.) |
| Imports commodities: | - machinery and equipment, raw materials and semimanufactures for industry, chemicals, grain and foodstuffs, consumer goods |
| Imports partners: | - Germany 21.4%, Sweden 14.2%, Norway 6.5%, Netherlands 6.3%, UK 5.7%, China 5%, France 4.4% (2006) |

Foreign Relations:

Danish foreign policy is founded upon four cornerstones: the United Nations, NATO, the EU, and Nordic cooperation. Denmark also is a member of, among others, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund; the World Trade Organization (WTO); the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE); the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); the Council of Europe; the Nordic Council; the Baltic Council; and the Barents Council. Denmark emphasizes its relations with developing nations. Although the government has moved to tighten foreign assistance expenditures, it remains a significant donor and one of the few countries to exceed the UN goal of contributing 0.7% of GNP to development assistance.

In the wake of the Cold War, Denmark has been active in international efforts to integrate the countries of Central and Eastern Europe into the West. It has played a leadership role in coordinating Western assistance to the Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania). The country is a strong supporter of international peacekeeping. Danish forces were heavily engaged in the former Yugoslavia in the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR), as well as in NATO's Operation Joint Endeavor/Stabilization Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina (IFOR/SFOR), and currently in the Kosovo Force (KFOR).

Denmark has been a member of NATO since its founding in 1949, and membership in NATO remains highly popular. There were several serious confrontations between the U.S. and Denmark on security policy in the so-called "footnote era" (1982-88), when a hostile parliamentary majority forced the government to adopt specific national positions on nuclear and arms control issues. With the end of the Cold War, however, Denmark has been supportive of U.S. policy objectives in the Alliance.

Danes have had a reputation as "reluctant" Europeans. When they rejected ratification of the Maastricht Treaty on June 2, 1992, they put the European Community's (EC) plans for the European Union on hold. In December 1992, the rest of the EC agreed to exempt Denmark from certain aspects of the European Union, including a common defense, a common currency, EU citizenship, and certain aspects of legal cooperation. On this revised basis, a clear majority of Danes approved continued participation in the EU in a second referendum on May 18, 1993, and again in a referendum on the Amsterdam Treaty on May 28, 1998.

Since September 11, 2001, Denmark has been highly proactive in endorsing and implementing United States, UN, and EU-initiated counter-terrorism measures, just as Denmark has contributed substantially to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan and the neighboring countries. In 2003, Denmark was among the first countries to join the "Coalition of the Willing" and supplied a submarine, Corvette-class ship, and military personnel to the coalition's effort in Iraq to enforce UN Security Council Resolution 1441. Since that time it has provided 500 troops to assist with stabilization efforts in Iraq. Prime Minister Rasmussen announced in February 2007 that most Danish troops would be withdrawn from Iraq by August 2007, as Iraqi forces had become capable of taking over security responsibilities in the Basra area, where the Danish troops had been concentrated.