# DENMARK

Continent: Europe
Population: 5.86 million
Life Expectancy (at Birth): 81.4
Governance System: Constitutional Monarchy

Capital: Copenhagen
Area: 40,000 km$^2$
Major Languages: Danish, English, German
GDP (2021): 397,104 US$ Millions

### *Select Global Rankings*

Human Development Index: 6
Fragile States Index - Inverted: 1
Soft Power 30 rank: 14

Human Freedom Index: 2
World Happiness Ranking: 1
Good Country Index: 2

### *Elite Sport System Rankings*

Global Cup Ranking: 36
Per Capita Cup Ranking: 18

Olympic Medals – Summer '20: 24th
Olympic Medals – Winter '22: NR

### *Football/World Cup Profile*

FIFA Region: UEFA
FIFA Ranking: 10
World Cup Appearances: 6
*Best World Cup Performance(s): Quarter Finals (1998)*

Qualification: UEFA Group F Winners
World Cup Group: D
Last World Cup Appearance: 2018

## Denmark in INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (by Aleyna Aygor)

From the first Stone Age settlers to its Viking connections, Danish history is a never-ending source of global interest. Denmark is the oldest kingdom in Europe, located in the Nordic region. It is commonly referred to as a Scandinavian country today, alongside other northern European countries. Denmark's history, traditions, literature, and design are a part of the Nordic culture, which makes the country's political system to be similar to Sweden, Norway, and Ireland.

The Danish pre-history culminated with the Vikings; the seafaring people that originated from Denmark and ruled areas for 300 years by participating in massive amounts of trading and exploration. Due to this long period of dominance, the Vikings made long-lasting cultural, technological, and societal impacts across Europe. Upon the fall of the Vikings, Denmark entered a phase of diminished power by internal power struggles until Queen Margrethe became its first official head of state in the 14th century. However, the introduction of Christianity to the Danish society and monarchical powers did not prevent Denmark from hitting another low-water mark in history.

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Once the Kingdom of Denmark decided to remain neutral to protect its borders, it started to profit from the ongoing war in other parts of Europe. The Danish began to grow its economy by trading and taking advantage of the upward tendency of wartime pricing. In fact, Denmark successfully remained neutral during World War I and gained territory from Germany. While the human and economic consequences of the war were extensive to many countries, the Danish state and society were able to create new diplomatic and political practices that reshaped its economic relations and shifted domestic power balances. Although neutrality worked for Denmark during the first World War, Hitler took advantage of this position and took control of Denmark in 1940. It was not until 1945 that the country was liberated from German rule by British forces.

Following the sheer relief of freedom in Denmark, the country joined the United Nations (UN) in June 1945 and signed the North Atlantic Treaty in 1949. Denmark is not only the only Nordic country that is a member of both NATO and the European Union, but Denmark also has recently bid for a seat on the UN Security Council for the period of 2025-26. For a country with fewer than 6 million citizens, Denmark plays a significant role internationally. Besides having close ties with Sweden and Norway, the United States is Denmark's largest non-European trade partner and export market.

Today, Denmark is a constitutional monarchy ruled by a representative democracy. The country is specifically known for being a leader in the green movement with its environmentally friendly initiatives and programs. For instance, the Government of Denmark is one of only a few bilateral donors in the world that meet the UN goal of providing a minimum of 0.7 of gross national income for development assistance.


Read more about Denmark's strategy during World War I: https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1611894419835753?journalCode=meha

Check out Denmark's development since the World War II: https://um.dk/en/danida/about-danida/hist

Read more about Denmark's global responsibility statement: https://denmark.dk/society-and-business/denmark-in-the-world