

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK
ON
ENHANCED BILATERAL COOPERATION

The Government of the French Republic ('France') and the Government of Denmark ('Denmark'), hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Governments", share historic and long-standing ties of friendship. They share a strategic partnership based on cooperation, mutual trust, rich bilateral ties and relations, and shared values, including freedom, freedom of speech, democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights and gender equality.

France and Denmark are historically close allies and trusted partners, cooperating both bilaterally and within the European Union (EU), the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), the United Nations (UN), and many other international fora. They commit to strengthening their cooperation, including during Denmark's presidency of the Council of the EU in the second half of 2025, and during Denmark's membership of the UN Security Council in 2025-2026. The Chairship of the Kingdom of Denmark of the Arctic Council (2025-2027) will also present an opportunity to reinforce the links between France and the Arctic Countries. Moreover, the Danish Chairship of the Nordic-Baltic format NB8 present an opportunity to reinforce the links between France and the Nordic-Baltic countries.

Considering that France and Denmark share common views on a wide range of key European and international issues, the two countries reaffirm their commitment to an effective multilateralism and a rules-based international order, to reinforcing the EU's sovereignty, security and competitiveness, building on the Draghi report and in line with the Versailles, Granada and Budapest declarations, to strengthening their welfare states, and to the conservation and sustainable use of a healthy environment in the context of the triple crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

In light of the current geopolitical and security threats, particularly Russia's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, systemic rivalry, growing disinformation and the questioning of the principle of the international rules-based order, the need for closer cooperation, both bilaterally and within the EU, NATO, the UN and other international organisations, has never been more evident. France and Denmark reaffirm their steadfast commitment to international law and the territorial integrity of all states, including on the European continent, which are the cornerstones of international peace, security and prosperity. These key challenges can only be solved through joint action.

France and Denmark are committed to collaborating to safeguard peace, prosperity and security, while upholding their common values. They consider it essential to make the EU more secure, sovereign, autonomous, robust, green, innovative, digital, competitive and resilient, and want to advance in the digital transition, while ensuring the health and well-being of their citizens.

In this Strategic Partnership, the two countries are taking a new step forward to further strengthen their bilateral cooperation. This Partnership builds on a strong foundation of political, economic, cultural, social and human relations, as well as existing bilateral agreements. It aims to give political direction and serve as a framework for existing and future agreements between our two countries, without seeking to replace any of these agreements.

This Strategic Partnership identifies a number of strategic areas of importance to French-Danish cooperation. It does not seek to cover all aspects of this cooperation, nor preclude cooperation in other areas, but rather aims at deepening and broadening cooperation in these selected key areas, namely i) security and defence, ii) decarbonisation, climate and biodiversity, iii) health, iv) digitalisation, technology and innovation and v) culture, education and science. To further strengthen French-Danish collaboration, regular political dialogue at all relevant levels will take place.

I. SECURITY AND DEFENCE

France and Denmark reconfirm their shared commitment to a safe and secure Europe, and stress the need to accelerate the efforts to achieve this. In line with the Versailles Declaration of March 2022 and the Strategic Compass for Security and Defence of May 2022, they agree that Europe must become more sovereign, more responsible for its own defence and better equipped to act and deal autonomously with immediate and future challenges and threats when and where necessary, and with partners wherever possible. France and Denmark recall their shared interests across a range of issues, including the stabilisation of their neighbouring environment, the security of Europe, their economic security and their sovereignty, especially in the technological and digital space.

France and Denmark agree on the importance of boosting Europe's defence technological and industrial base and capabilities, as well as share a sense of urgency in these areas. In order to accelerate defence investments and EU Member State procurement, the Governments will support national and EU initiatives aimed at reinforcing overall civil and defence readiness, reducing strategic dependencies, addressing critical capability gaps, and reducing administrative burdens to support faster procurement, defence industrial growth, and ability to innovate and design products autonomously in Europe's defence technological and industrial base (EDTIB), while developing security and defence relationships with relevant partners.

Furthermore, France and Denmark will work to promote EU initiatives that aim to increase collaborative defence industrial investments among EU Member States, while also underlining the importance of strengthening EU-NATO relations. France and Denmark are fully committed to ensuring that the EU's defence efforts to enhance the EDTIB are complementary with NATO's

efforts, contribute to strengthening a European contribution to Euro-Atlantic security within NATO, and agree on the importance of avoiding unnecessary duplication between the EU and NATO.

France and Denmark will continue joint efforts to support Ukraine's fight for freedom through donations of military equipment and other means, to ensure a comprehensive, just and lasting peace. France and Denmark will cooperate to support Ukraine's defence industry, including with a view to strengthen the integration of Ukraine's defence technological and industrial base into the European defence technological and industrial base.

France and Denmark will continue to strengthen cooperation with regard to stabilisation efforts in Europe's southern neighbourhood. The cooperation will include efforts in the framework of the Danish Peace and Stabilisation fund in West Africa.

France and Denmark recognize the benefit from increased defence materiel cooperation and will coordinate the development and acquisition of defence materiel where possible. The bilateral cooperation is driven by a desire to enhance and strengthen each country's industrial base and to make the most cost-effective and rational use of the resources allocated to each nation's national defence. Cooperation on training and exercises will be incremental in this connection.

France and Denmark will continue the provision of mutual logistic support between the French armed forces and the Danish armed forces, in accordance with the agreement between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark on the provision of mutual logistic support between the French armed forces and the Danish armed forces signed on 7 November, 2018.

France and Denmark will cooperate closely to strengthen the EU's economic security by promoting competitiveness, reducing dependencies, facilitating targeted investments in strategic sectors and innovative technologies in the EU, pursuing partnerships, and protecting against external risks.

France and Denmark will continue to promote a global, open, free, stable and secure cyberspace and collaborate on countering hybrid threats, especially from foreign interference and information manipulation.

France and Denmark recognise the growing significance of emerging technologies, including quantum and AI, in maintaining security, and commit to deepening cooperation thereon.

France and Denmark undertake to promote research in and development of new innovative defence applications across new technologies, including quantum and AI, within new and existing fora such as the EU and NATO.

II. DECARBONISATION, CLIMATE, AND BIODIVERSITY

Building on the Declaration of Intent between France and Denmark on cooperation in the field of energy and climate, signed on 29 August 2018, and considering the European Green Deal and the

necessary decarbonisation of their energy production in line with the principle of technological neutrality, the two countries will continue to work together on accelerating the global transition, in key sectors such as energy and transports, and further strengthening the EU's position as a modern, resource-efficient (including water management), circular and competitive economy working towards climate neutrality by 2050 and negative emissions thereafter, advancing the ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in order to ensure the mitigation of climate change, adaptation to its effects, and a sustainable environment, as well as strengthening European competitiveness.

Since 2021, the respective Governments have confirmed their joint commitments to this agenda by signing several bilateral agreements on offshore wind energy and on carbon capture and storage. In order to strengthen and expand the collaboration between the two countries' Governments to accelerate the transition to climate neutrality, a new Letter of Intent was signed in April 2025.

France and Denmark are committed to halting and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030, to the swift and full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), and achieving each of its goals and targets, including the 30 by 30 targets, and to the swift entry into force of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) and call for its ambitious implementation. They are committed to ending plastic pollution and emphasize the need to conclude the negotiations and swiftly implement a global plastic treaty that covers the whole life cycle. The two countries will step up their efforts to increase resource efficiency and circular economy, in order to reduce pressure on primary resources and manage the risks related to chemical substances, including within the EU framework.

France and Denmark will continue to cooperate closely regarding the protection and sustainable management of the ocean, including through enhanced maritime regional cooperation. They commit to making the Third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC 3), to be held in Nice in June 2025, a turning-point regarding ocean protection. The two countries also emphasize the importance of the Blue Economy. To this end, France and Denmark will coordinate closely within the EU to promote an ambitious European Ocean Pact, ensuring the health, resilience, and sustainability of the ocean, through an integrated approach to the ocean, and as a contribution to achieving the SDG 14 targets.

The two countries recognize the importance of strengthening the science-policy interface. They will assess the opportunity of an International Panel for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS) that promotes the conservation and sustainable long-term use of the ocean, engages decision-makers, fosters inclusiveness, and stimulates innovation through interdisciplinary research. They will engage in a dialogue to deploy the Mercator International Center for the Ocean (MICO), which will soon be granted the status of an international organisation, to build the digital twin of the ocean.

III. HEALTH

France and Denmark have an outstanding and long-term relationship of knowledge sharing and cooperation to their mutual benefit in the field of health. The renewal of the Declaration of Intent signed on 16 May, 2023 between the Minister of Health and Prevention of France and the Minister of the Interior and Health of Denmark in April 2025 further solidifies the shared commitment to an integrated approach to healthcare. This cooperation supports the implementation of resilient health systems to take care of growing elderly populations with increasing multi-morbidity, often of chronic diseases, alongside a relative decrease in healthcare staff numbers.

Central to this collaboration is the role of digital health in building resilient health systems. France and Denmark will continue to be actively involved in European digital health initiatives, and are committed to reinforcing existing efforts while exploring new avenues for cooperation.

France and Denmark emphasize the importance of prevention in reducing disease burdens. By sharing best practices, they aim to promote healthier lifestyles, reduce health risks, and enhance the long-term well-being of citizens.

Mental health is a priority for both Governments. They will work together to share knowledge, raise awareness, reduce stigma, and improve access to care.

France and Denmark are committed to enhancing their collaborative efforts in strengthening health preparedness, aligning strategies to ensure coordinated responses and enhance resilience in future health crises.

IV. DIGITALISATION, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Building on the Joint Statement between France and Denmark on a vision for European leadership in the Digital 21st century, signed on 9 October 2019, and committed to the principles set forth in the Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet, endorsed by both France and Denmark on 11 February, 2025, at the Paris AI Action Summit, France and Denmark will continue to work towards European leadership concerning digitalisation and technology based on the following principles: i) values, ethics and rights, ii) cohesion, iii) security and stability, iv) digital economy and public sector reforms, and v) smart governance.

France and Denmark remain committed to enhancing their cooperation on key areas such as i) digital entrepreneurship and scale-up of digital businesses within the Digital Single Market, ii) a digital, agile, innovation-friendly and future-proof European regulatory framework, iii) good practices regarding digital Government, iv) promoting investments in artificial intelligence (AI) and advancing its implementation with clear ethical standards, v) international cooperation on cyber and information security, and vi) advancing quantum technology research and exploring innovative applications to the benefit of our societies.

France and Denmark recognize AI as a key driver of innovation, productivity and competitiveness in both the public and private sectors. The Governments will work to strengthen Europe's AI and cloud infrastructure, support cross-border data sharing within the EU, and enable AI-driven growth. Cooperation will focus on promoting AI adoption in businesses and public administrations and removing barriers to AI-deployment. The Governments will also work to maintain an open and innovation-friendly AI ecosystem that upholds European values.

The rapidly evolving digital landscape, marked by dominant tech companies, transformative technologies and social media, demands decisive political action. The presence of illegal and harmful content online as well as systemic risks continues to be a major concern as the use of digital services such as social media, in particular by children, increasingly plays a determining role in their daily lives. Furthermore, there is an urgent need to protect our democracies from manipulation of civic discourse online including disinformation and hate speech spread across social media. The Governments jointly commit to enforcing existing regulation in order to ensure that the online environment remains a safe space. They will commit to strengthening their cooperation, especially during Denmark's presidencies of the Council of the EU and the European Political Community summit in the second half of 2025.

France and Denmark will explore common opportunities in research and development of AI, the development of "big data" data sources for AI, and the uptake of quantum- and supercomputers.

France and Denmark are among the leading quantum nations of Europe. Achieving large-scale fault-tolerant quantum computers requires overcoming significant challenges. Strengthening collaboration and synergies between our research institutions and relevant innovation hubs could contribute actively to this objective. France and Denmark will work together in order to strengthen academic research and industry collaboration in quantum.

France and Denmark will jointly commit to supporting the development of a coordinated EU approach to engagement in multilateral fora to promote international norms for the responsible development and use of quantum technologies.

They will utilize EU frameworks to ensure a stronger quantum investment ecosystem, strategic production facilities, greater access to European quantum processing capacities, and a coordinated approach and active engagement to standardisation of quantum technologies. All factors will be key to driving adoption and ensuring Europe's competitiveness.

The two countries will promote possibilities for joint research activities and industry-science collaboration, including research and innovation projects and researcher mobility, between Danish and French quantum stakeholders through multilateral funding opportunities, including EUREKA and the EU Framework Programme, Horizon Europe.

They will explore educational initiatives and exchange opportunities, including international postgraduate programmes, in order to build the talent and skills base needed for the further development of quantum ecosystems and workforce.

V. CULTURE, EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

Building on the Letter of Intent in the areas of higher education and science signed between the Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation of the French Republic and the Minister of Higher Education and Science of Denmark, as well as the Letter of Intent between the French Centre National d'Études Spatiales and the Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science, France and Denmark, both signed on 29 August, 2018, aim to strengthen the collaboration between French and Danish higher education and research institutions, in particular on space, climate change, environmental issues, oceans.

France and Denmark will endeavour to consolidate existing bilateral mechanisms for science and higher education and to put them at the service of shared priorities. To this goal, they recall the scientific scholarships provided by the Institut français du Danemark (IFD), through the IFD Sciences and Blåvand programmes, and will evaluate the possibility to implement a more structured and bilateral programme, in an imperative of scientific excellence, while ensuring that young researchers are at the heart of their actions. Taking stock of the cooperation established in 2022 between Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DTU) and a number of French higher education institutions, France and Denmark will promote the implementation of double degrees between French and Danish Universities and higher education institutions. Such commitments tighten ties between national higher education systems and will help paving the way to a more overarching European approach, like the possible European degree.

France and Denmark also aim to promote the European framework programme for research and innovation, “Horizon Europe”, for the purpose of increasing the number of scientific projects submitted jointly, and within the framework of the “Erasmus + program”, in order to increase mobility opportunities for their students, staff and researchers. They will continue to work jointly towards a more integrated European Research Area, especially on initiatives such as the implementation of the Council of the EU’s recommendation on research security. They will support the work of French and Danish universities within the nine European Universities Alliances to which they jointly participate, and through the creation of new alliances of this kind, in order to generate opportunities for the mobility of students and researchers. They commit to a close coordination in the framework of upcoming negotiations of the next framework programme for research and innovation and Erasmus+.

Recalling the deep and longstanding cultural cooperation between France and Denmark, the two countries emphasize the importance of maintaining a strong collaboration between their countries. They aim to facilitate a large access to culture in all its diversity, in the benefit of the public.

France and Denmark will work together to strengthen cooperation between French and Danish cultural institutions, organisations and artists, which will result in increased exchanges of experience between professionals from both countries, and increased mobility of artists and professionals in all fields of cooperation.

Heritage is a subject of common interest and recognized excellence for both countries. France and Denmark undertake to support exchanges between professionals and specialists in the field of heritage

restoration and conservation, in particular through shared expertise in reconstruction projects such as Notre-Dame de Paris and the Copenhagen stock-exchange (Børsen).

Building on the 2018 decision to promote the co-production of films between Denmark and France, the two countries will reinforce our cooperation in the field of cinema. They will also explore future collaboration and partnerships in the audiovisual sector.

France and Denmark will support any further cultural cooperation opportunities in order to benefit mutually from the cultural vitality of their scenes.

A declaration of intent, signed during the State Visit by the two ministries of culture, will frame the shared priorities for cultural cooperation.

Building on the Declaration of intent in the field of linguistic and educational cooperation signed in 2018 between the French Minister of Education and the Minister of Education of Denmark, the two countries decide to strengthen cooperation in education in the format of: workshops, seminars, conferences, study visits, school partnerships, mobility programmes for pupils, teachers and education leaders, exchanges of expertise, teaching resources and good practices, wherever these actions are deemed appropriate by the Signatories. Particular attention will be paid to enhancing the visibility of the French International Baccalaureate (BFI) in both France and Denmark. Specific exchanges of expertise will also be organized on themes of common interest such as the responsible use of digital tools at school and children's exposure to screens.

Building on the Letter of Intent in the areas of higher education and science signed between the Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation of the French Republic and the Minister of Higher Education and Science of Denmark, as well as the Letter of Intent between the French Centre National d'Études Spatiales and the Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science on the role of space in climate change studies and innovative uses of space, the two countries aim to strengthen the collaboration between French and Danish higher education and research institutions, in particular on space, climate change, environmental issues, oceans.

VI. POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

France and Denmark commit to engaging in regular bilateral dialogue at all levels. Both Governments will aim to hold annual political consultations at ministerial level and at senior civil servant level, covering, but not limited to, the key areas identified in this Strategic Partnership. This will include consultations between Directors for European Affairs and Political Directors from our Ministries of Foreign Affairs. These consultations will be underpinned by expert level meetings.

The Governments will coordinate the implementation of this Strategic Partnership, with the support of their respective bilateral embassies. Annually, or as otherwise required, they will review the progress of the partnership. As part of this monitoring process, the Governments will be entitled to

put forward any proposals for improvements or adaptations that will facilitate the implementation of the partnership.

This Strategic Partnership is not legally binding and does not give rise to any rights or obligations under domestic or international law.

Signed in Paris, France, on 1st April 2025, in duplicate in French and English

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For the Government of the French
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