Regeringen JANUARY 2022

Denmark's new foreign and security policy strategy

With the new foreign and security policy strategy, the Government is setting the course for Denmark's foreign and security policy for the years ahead. As a response to an historically unpredictable world, the strategy presents a new value compass. The Government believes that it is with values as our guide that Denmark can best advance its interests and safeguard Denmark's safety, prosperity, and social cohesion.

Therefore, the strategy binds the threads of modern foreign policy together and is centred around five key words: Values, safety, migration, climate and economic diplomacy.



1. Value diplomacy

Denmark must throw itself more strongly into the fight for shared rules, democratic values, and respect for human rights.

The USA's and the EU's value-based political leadership is crucial – and Denmark must back them up in this regard.

Denmark will work for a stronger EU on the global scene, and an EU that leads the way in the fight for values.

And we will lead the way in a strong defence of democratic dialogue online.

Denmark will work for a strong UN. By standing for a for a seat in the UN's Security Council, we assume our responsibility.

We must strengthen the bonds to the democracies of the world. This will be achieved through, among other things, strategic partnerships with countries in the Indo-Pacific.

And Denmark will take action against the forces that create cracks in our strong international institutions.

2. Safety diplomacy

Safety and security for Denmark and the entire Danish Realm is all about protecting us against the currents that threaten our values, freedom, and cohesion.

Denmark's safety starts with strong alliances. We must foster and strengthen them – also by bearing our part of the responsibility in the hot spots of the world where we have the most at stake.

Denmark defends the transatlantic security order that has been built up since the fall of the Berlin Wall.

We will promote peaceful development in the Arctic, which increasingly represents a geopolitical battlefield.

Denmark must take steps to counter instability, and obscurantist and militant Islamism by coming down hard on terror groups and by working to promote sustainable and democratic development in our southern neighbourhood regions.

Denmark must work together with the EU, NATO, and likeminded actors to provide a robust response to new threats such as cyberespionage and hybrid attacks.

And we must ensure Denmark's and Europe's pandemic preparedness and the security of supply.

3. Climate diplomacy

The climate crisis must be checked, and we must end the fossil era.

The climate fight constitutes a generational contract that we must not break and a collective commitment of unity to the world society.

Denmark has declared war against coal and is pushing for a green transition.

We will mobilise green strategic partnerships with some of

the major emitters of the world and show the way through strategic sector cooperation and partnerships with the Danish business community for a socially just green transition.

Denmark will push for ensuring that the EU becomes a climate union that trades its influence and its heft for pressure on the countries that are dragging their feet.

Denmark will bear its share of climate financing and support the developing countries, especially in Africa, in taking the green and sustainable development road.

4. Migrations diplomacy

The Government believes that people must not put their lives at risk in the search for a better future in Europe and Denmark.

The Government will fight for a just and humane asylum system that helps more people, more quickly, and in a better way in the neighbourhood regions to crisis and conflict.

We will prevent irregular migration by stepping up Denmark's and the EU's efforts along the major migration routes to Europe.

5. Economic diplomacy

We will pass on a more sustainable world to our children. It requires a strong Danish economy that creates prosperity and sustainable growth that everyone can take part in. Both in Denmark and throughout the word.

Therefore, the Government will work with a triple bottom line, where Denmark pushes for a global sustainable transition with Danish solutions as a lever and with a focus on good working conditions.

Denmark will work to strengthen Danish exports that create economic benefits, sustainable benefits, and human benefits.

Denmark will work to ensure that the EU's single market and its external trade policy strengthen the Danish economy, promote Danish exports, and becomes a lever for creating a green transition and decent conditions for everyone.

Resource priorities

Denmark is facing an historically unpredictable world. It requires a strong and modern Danish diplomacy that works in partnerships in Denmark and around the world, and that boosts Danish interests and values where it counts.

Therefore, the Government has broken with the many years of major cutbacks in the Foreign Service. In addition, a comprehensive structural reorganisation of Danish diplomacy is underway so that, leading up to 2025, the most possible clout is mobilised behind the priorities of the strategy and Denmark is provided with the diplomatic muscle that it needs to assume our global responsibility.