

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
the Government of Denmark and the Government of the United States of America
Regarding a Bilateral Framework for a Stronger Maritime Partnership**

Introduction

The Government of Denmark (“Denmark”) and the Government of the United States of America (“United States”) (collectively, the “Participants”):

Recalling that Denmark and the United States have maintained 225 years of unbroken diplomatic relations, reflecting a long-standing and close partnership;

Recognizing that Denmark and the United States are proud maritime nations that share a commitment to freedom of navigation, open sea lanes, and lawful uses of the sea under international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

Acknowledging the ambition of the United States to restore a strong and resilient maritime industrial base as set out in its Maritime Action Plan of February 2026;

Noting that the Maritime Action Plan calls for leveraging partnerships with allied maritime nations, encourages bilateral agreements that link allied expertise and investment to U.S. industrial development, and envisages country-to-country arrangements on maritime education and workforce exchange;

Recognizing that a strong maritime industrial base underpins both economic prosperity and national security, and that many maritime capabilities have dual-use applications;

Affirming that Denmark and the United States, as NATO Allies, share an interest in closer defense industrial cooperation;

Recognizing Denmark's extensive maritime experience built over generations as a leading shipping and seafaring nation, including expertise in maritime skills and education, ship design, marine engineering, propulsion technology and marine equipment as well as the repair, conversion and retrofit of vessels;

Noting the potential of the Danish maritime sector to make a substantial contribution to the revitalization of the United States maritime industrial base;

Recognizing the contribution of Danish shipowners and operators to U.S. international trade, economic security and resilient supply chains, including through maritime transport services, investment, employment and specialized vessel operations;

Desiring to establish a framework for practical cooperation that contributes to skilled jobs and lifelong career opportunities, strengthens supply chain resilience and generates economic and security benefits for both countries;

Have reached the following understanding:

1 Purpose

- a. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) establishes a mutually developed framework for a closer maritime partnership between the Participants in support of U.S. efforts to strengthen its maritime industrial base. The partnership is intended to benefit both countries by promoting economic growth, well-paid jobs, more resilient supply chains, and a deeper shared base of maritime expertise. It is also intended to promote knowledge exchange on international maritime transport, including the contribution of commercial shipping to trade and supply chain resilience.
- b. This MoU sets the overall direction for the partnership and establishes three maritime tracks that are to form the basis of its concrete implementation: (1) education and training; (2) equipment, technology and services; and (3) defense industrial and dual-use cooperation. Each track is to be elaborated in separate implementation plans following the signing of this MoU.

2 Legal Status and Scope

- a. This MoU presents the political understanding and intentions of the Participants. It is not an international agreement and does not create rights or obligations under international law or under the domestic law of either Participant.
- b. This MoU does not authorize any procurement, award of contracts or transfer of funds between the Participants. Each Participant intends to bear its own costs arising from activities under this MoU, subject to the availability of funds.
- c. This MoU does not apply to Greenland or the Faroe Islands.

3 Areas of Cooperation

- a. Cooperation under this MoU is expected to be founded on commercial principles and support cooperation between the Participants as well as Danish and U.S. industries. On this basis, the Participants intend to cooperate in the following three tracks.

Track 1: Education and training. The aim is to further strengthen the competencies and agility of the U.S. maritime workforce by drawing on Danish expertise.

Track 2: Equipment, technology and services. The aim is to support the expansion and modernization of U.S. shipbuilding, repair and retrofit capacity through the supply of advanced Danish maritime equipment, technologies and specialized services, including by exploring local partnerships and joint ventures.

Track 3: Defense industrial and dual-use cooperation. The aim is to strengthen maritime defense industrial cooperation between the Participants, including through the supply of maritime capabilities, technologies, and solutions with defense and dual-use applications.

b. Across all three tracks, the Participants intend to exchange knowledge and best practices on maritime policy and regulatory frameworks, involving relevant authorities, industry associations and other stakeholders.

c. The Participants remain open to identifying further areas of cooperation, to be added by mutual written decision.

4 Implementation

a. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and the Department of State of the United States intend to coordinate the overall implementation of this MoU. The Participants intend to meet regularly to review progress.

b. The Participants intend to specify the priorities for each track in implementation plans, to be developed following the signature of this MoU in consultation with relevant authorities, education institutions, labour and industry associations, technology providers, shipowners and other stakeholders.

c. To ensure that the implementation plans reflect commercial needs and market realities, the Participants intend to consult these stakeholders periodically and review progress.

d. Commercial contracts between companies and institutions of the two countries arising from cooperation under this MoU are expected to be concluded separately.

5 Applicable Law and Information

a. Cooperation under this MoU is subject to the national laws, regulations and policies of each Participant and to their international obligations, including, for Denmark, its obligations as a Member State of the European Union.

b. Except as required by applicable law, information exchanged by the Participants under this MoU is to be used only for the purpose for which it was provided, unless the providing Participant consents in writing.

c. This MoU does not address any intellectual property rights. Intellectual property and export control matters are to be addressed in the implementation plans, as appropriate.

6 Consultations, Duration and Modification

- a. Any question on the interpretation or application of this MoU is to be resolved by consultation between the Participants.
- b. This MoU becomes operative upon signature by both Participants. Either Participant may discontinue its cooperation under this MoU at any time but is expected to provide ninety (90) days' written notice to the other.
- c. This MoU may be modified by mutual written decision of the Participants.

Signed at [city] on [date] in duplicate in the English language.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
DENMARK:**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**
