

# The Arctic

**The Arctic is one of the five main themes in the Danish government's foreign and security policy strategy for 2017-18.**

**The government will work for a peaceful and stable Arctic. This will be achieved through dialogue with the other Arctic states, improving research opportunities and protecting the environment, which must go hand in hand with development of the economic opportunities for the region's residents.**

## **In 2017-2018, the Danish government will take the following initiatives:**

- The government will collaborate closely with Greenland, the Faroe Islands and international partners to ensure that the fundamental right of the Arctic region's 4 million residents to sustainable economic development – in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals – is high on the Arctic Council's agenda. As part of these efforts, the government will also explore the possibilities for mobilising international financing and strengthening cooperation between Greenland and the Faroe Islands to promote export and tourism opportunities.
- The government and Greenlandic authorities will jointly explore the possibilities for establishing an international research hub in Greenland.
- The government – in close cooperation with Greenland and the Faroe Islands – will address the security policy challenges associated with the extensive new opportunities for development in the Arctic.
- The government will use the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ilulissat Declaration to draw attention to political obligations and expand the practical collaboration for shared interests, reflecting a desire to ensure that the Arctic remains a region of low conflict and constructive cooperation.
- The government will take the initiative to establish an annual Arctic Dialogue on the Kingdom of Denmark's strategic efforts in the Arctic, thereby strengthening cooperation between public authorities within the Danish Realm.