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**Political Structure and Government Personnel**

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## DENMARK

**Full name:** The Kingdom of Denmark      **Official Language(s):** Danish

**Capital:** Copenhagen      **Time zone (from GMT):** +1

### Current constitution

1953.

### Head of state and Executive

The head of state is a hereditary monarch. The present incumbent, Queen Margrethe II, succeeded to the throne in January 1972.

The head of government is the prime minister, who appoints a cabinet.

### Legislature

The legislature is unicameral. The sole chamber, the Parliament (Folketing), has 179 members, directly elected for a four-year term.

### Principal parties

The Alternative (Å); Conservative People's Party (KF or C); Danish People's Party (DF or O); Liberal Alliance (LA or I); Radikale Venstre (Radical Left) or the Danish Social Liberal Party (RV or B); New Right (NB or D); Social Democrats (S or A); Socialist People's Party (SF or F); Unity List – Red-Green Alliance (Enh, E or Ø); Venstre (Left) or the Liberal Party of Denmark (V).

### Most recent elections

:

Legislative: 5 June 2019.

Results

S 48 seats; V 43 seats; DF 16 seats; RV 16 seats; SF 14 seats; E 13 seats; KF 12 seats; Å 5 seats; NB 4 seats; LA 4 seats; reserved for the Faeroe Islands and Greenland 4 seats.

In the 2019 elections the Social Democrats remained the largest party, and together with its allies in the centre-left Red Bloc (S, RV, SF and E) won 91 seats against 75 for the former ruling Blue Bloc (V, DF, KF and LA).

### Composition of government

Following the 2019 elections, on 6 June Lars Løkke Rasmussen, prime minister from April 2009 to October 2011 and again from 28 June 2015, presented the resignation of his Venstre–LA–Conservative coalition government, which had been backed by the far-right DF. Mette Frederiksen took office as prime minister on 27 June, heading a minority Social Democrat government, supported in parliament by the Unity List – Red-Green Alliance, the SF and the RV.

The minister of immigration and integration took six weeks' parental leave from mid-August 2020; his portfolio was taken on temporarily by the minister of housing. The minister of food, fisheries and equal opportunities resigned on 18 November; a small reshuffle announced the next day restructured some portfolios.

### Faeroe Islands

The Faeroe Islands' government (Landsstyri) is responsible for internal affairs, including fisheries. A new constitution is being drafted under which the autonomous territory would have the right to self-determination. The unicameral Parliament is the Løgting. The islanders also elect two representatives to sit as members of the Danish Parliament. In parliamentary elections on 31 August 2019 the opposition conservative People's Party (FF) became the largest party with 8 seats, one seat ahead of the Social Democratic Party (JF), which had headed the outgoing left-wing coalition since 2015, and the Union Party (SF), which had headed the government from 2008 to 2015. Within two weeks, SF leader Barður a Steig Nielsen formed a centre-right, pro-union coalition with the FF and the Christian-democratic Centre Party (MF). His government took office on 16 September.

### Greenland

Greenland has its own government (Landsstyre) and its own Parliament (Landsting) with legislative authority for internal matters. A self-governing statute, which left control of defence and foreign affairs with Denmark, was approved in a referendum on 25 November 2008 and officially implemented on 21 June 2009. Greenland also elects two representatives to sit as members of the Danish Parliament. In parliamentary elections held on 24 April 2018 the social democratic party Suimut ('Forward') became once again the largest party in the 31-seat legislature, having shared that position (with 11 seats each) since 2014 with its main coalition partner, Inuit Ataqatigiit ('Inuit Brotherhood', IA). Kim Kielsen of Suimut, prime minister since October 2014, remained in office, initially in coalition again with IA, but in October 2018 Suimut again changed its coalition partner, forming a renewed alliance with the Democrats.

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