

Globalisation – economic and technological diplomacy

Globalisation – economic and technological diplomacy is one of the five main themes in the Danish government’s foreign and security policy strategy for 2017-18.

The government will work to maximise the benefits of globalisation and technological development for all Danes. This will be achieved through international engagement, trade and cooperation. The specific tools for success include free trade, a stronger international presence, economic diplomacy, strategic partnerships, and last but not least, a targeted effort to position Denmark offensively in the field of technological and digital development.

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

- The government will strengthen Denmark’s presence in the United States by opening two new Consulates General in Silicon Valley and Houston, respectively. These new missions will aim to strengthen political and commercial relations with the two most populous states in the US.
- The government will open an embassy in Algiers. The embassy will help Danish businesses seize the commercial opportunities in Algeria, while also playing a key role in efforts relating to instability, migration and terrorism in the Middle East and North Africa.
- The government will work with institutional investors to establish a Global Goals Fund to link the strengths of Danish businesses with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- The government will identify high-value commercial projects abroad of particular interest to Danish companies, and which can benefit from the active support of the government and Danish authorities.
- The government will strengthen the coordination of ministers’ international travel activities to further support the foreign policy and commercial interests of Denmark. The government will focus these efforts on the most relevant countries and sectors.
- The government will allocate resources to launch a new effort to strengthen existing – and build new – strategic partnerships with emerging economies in which Denmark has clear political and economic interests.
- The government will draw inspiration from existing collaborations with public authorities in developing countries and post sector specialists in high income countries with significant export potential, thereby advancing Danish positions of strength in selected areas.
- The government will build closer relations with the global tech community, spearheaded by the appointment of the tech ambassador. Technological diplomacy represents a new priority in Denmark’s foreign policy. The tech ambassador will be based in Silicon Valley but tasked with promoting this agenda globally. The tech ambassador’s work will be supported by staffs in Silicon Valley and Copenhagen, as well as by a close cooperation with Denmark’s seven international innovation centres and a number of digitisation advisors in selected countries.

- The government will launch a new strategic framework for economic diplomacy, further strengthening efforts to internationalise Danish businesses. Areas of focus in this respect include: access to new technologies and business models for Danish businesses, targeted efforts to promote global sales by more small and medium-sized growth companies, and attracting knowledge- and technology-intensive investment.