



FACTS ABOUT Agreement on Defense and Security between Greenland, Denmark and the United States

THE AGREEMENT IN BRIEF

- The agreement builds on the 1951 defense agreement and contains both adjustments and updates to the 75-year-old defense agreement framework.
- The agreement strengthens the defense of Greenland and the US while respecting the red lines of Greenland and Denmark.
- The agreement recognizes Greenland as an equal partner and meets key Greenlandic priorities for the defense cooperation.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT

- Full respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Kingdom of Denmark. No territory or sovereignty is ceded.
- Recognition of the People of Greenland as a people pursuant to international law with the right to self-determination.
- Recognition of Greenland's contribution to the shared security.
- Agreement that the situation in the Arctic is changing and that more needs to be done for future security.
- Greenland is a co-signatory and shall gain tangible benefits for its society from the agreement.

AN AGREEMENT THAT ADJUSTS THE TERMS FOR THE US DEFENSE AREAS

- Confirms the US's ability to establish new defense areas and unmanned military installations (e.g., radar or weather stations) in Greenland. New establishments will require the approval of Greenland and Denmark and must take into account Greenland's population and environment. This makes it possible for Greenland and Denmark, for example, to prevent forced relocations of the population.
- Narsarsuaq and Mestersvig are identified as future locations. The further process requires agreement on the detailed framework, including to ensure consideration for the population and the environment in the areas concerned.

AN AGREEMENT THAT ADJUSTS THE TERMS FOR US MILITARY ACCESS

- Reaffirms the US's ability to fly over and land in Greenland, as well as US ships, aircraft and forces' free access to and movement between US defense areas.
- Expands access for US ships to navigate in the territorial waters around Greenland, where this is agreed for defense reasons. US submarines will be able to sail submerged in the same area.
- All US military access rights must be exercised in a manner that takes into account Greenlandic society and way of life. Access will be discussed on an ongoing basis in the Permanent Committee between Greenland, Denmark and the US.

AN AGREEMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GREENLANDIC BUSINESS COMMUNITY

- Greenland shall gain tangible and substantial benefit from the American presence.
- Only investors from Greenland's allies can gain significant influence within sensitive sectors. Greenland's forthcoming investment screening law will implement the agreement.
- Where commercial contracts relating to the US defense areas previously had to go to Danish or Greenlandic companies, only Greenlandic companies will now receive preferential treatment. This obligation is legally binding.

AN AGREEMENT THAT PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT

- The agreement recognizes the need to protect Greenland's environment and to take into account the Greenlandic people's right to their way of life, including with respect to hunting and fishing.
- The environmental provisions from the 1991 agreement and the 2004 Igaliku Agreement are now written into a legally binding text and will apply to all future US defense areas and military installations in Greenland.

AN AGREEMENT THAT STRENGTHENS NATO

- Supports a stronger NATO commitment in the Arctic.
- Only NATO countries can establish defense areas and maintain a persistent military presence in Greenland.
- Greenland commits to ensuring that a future Greenlandic state remains a member of NATO and upholds the agreement.