Maps of the world can be drawn in several ways. Generally, area measurement is used and, represented in this way, the Kingdom of Denmark – not counting the Faroe Islands and Greenland – with its 43,000 square kilometres (26,700 sq. miles) is smaller than many of the individual states of the United States. However, if measured by the share spent on development assistance, Denmark is placed very high internationally – the country is one of only five in the world that live up to the UN target of granting 0.7 per cent GNI to development assistance. The same applies if the yardstick is the number of Danish police and military forces sent out on peacemaking and peacekeeping missions. And let’s not forget, that Denmark is leading the transition to a green growth economy.

In most regards however Denmark is usually recognised by its social balance, equality, low levels of corruption and transparency. In Denmark universal welfare services such as free healthcare, free education, high minimum wages and high levels of unemployment benefits form the basis of a flexicurity system where the workforce can move from sector to sector with relative ease.

**GEOGRAPHY**

Denmark is a Scandinavian/Nordic country and member of the European Union and consists of the peninsula, Jutland, and many islands, most notably Zealand, Funen, Lolland, Falster and Bornholm, as well as hundreds of minor islands and has more than 7,500 km of coastline. The highest point in the country is only 170 metres above sea level. Greenland and the Faroe Islands are part of the realm but enjoy extensive home rule.
FACTS & FIGURES

Name: Kongeriget Danmark - The Kingdom of Denmark

Form of government: Constitutional monarchy with parliamentary democracy. Since October 2014, the government has consisted of the Social Democratic Party and the Social Liberal Party

Population: 5.6m inhabitants

Population density: Approx. 130 inhabitants per sq. km

Average life expectancy: Men 78.0 years, women 81.9 years

Capital: København (Copenhagen), 1.246.611 inhabitants in the metropolitan area

Major cities: Aarhus 259.754, Odense 172.512, Aalborg 109.092

Language: The official language is Danish. English is widely spoken.

Religion: 78 % belong to the National Lutheran Church

Currency: Danish krone (DKK)

GDP per capita: 327.000 DKK / 44.000 EUR (current prices)

Climate: Denmark has a mild and temperate climate. It rains or snows every second day (during the wintertime it snows seven days a month).

National flag: The National flag of Denmark, Dannebrog is red with a white cross that extends to the edges of the flag. Dannebrog is the oldest flag in the world still in use by an independent nation. According to the legend, Dannebrog was a gift from God and fell from the sky during a battle in Estonia securing Danish victory.

Coat of arms: The Danish coat of arms consists of three crowned blue lions accompanied by nine red hearts, all in a golden shield.

National anthems: ‘Der er et yndigt land’ (There is a lovely land) is the civil national anthem of Denmark. The other anthem, ‘Kong Christian stod ved højen mast’ (King Christian stood by the lofty mast) is mainly used for royal and military occasions.