

Agreement on Arctic Capabilities

The Parties to the Danish Defence Agreement 2018-2023 and the Supplemental Agreement from 2019 have agreed to strengthen the Danish Defence with new capabilities for increased surveillance and presence in the Arctic and North Atlantic region.

Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland have a special responsibility for defence and security in the region. The funding of 1.5 bn DKK in 2023 comes from the Supplemental Defence Agreement of 2019.



New capabilities in the Arctic and North Atlantic

On the basis of the military recommendation from the Danish Defence, the Parties have agreed on investments in capabilities for air surveillance in the North Atlantic, an improved integration of surveillance data, intelligence processing and analysis, and new unmanned aerial (long endurance UAS) and space based capabilities (satellites) to monitor the vast seas and landmasses in the Arctic and North Atlantic. It will also position the Danish Defence in the front in regards to implementing new technologies. At the same time requests from NATO to Denmark will be met, including long endurance surveillance drones with a signal collection capability and an air surveillance radar on the Faroe Islands.

The need for military presence and surveillance in the Arctic and North Atlantic

The Russian military build-up in the region along with increased economic and research related activities are causing a more uncertain security situation. As a consequence the Danish Defence must be able to monitor external activities, enforce

the sovereignty of the Kingdom of Denmark, and participate in Allied and NATO exercises in the area. The security challenges can only be managed in close cooperation with our Allies. As a consequence the Danish Defence will station liaison officers at Arctic Allied military headquarters.

Value for all parts of the Kingdom of Denmark

The new capabilities will be implemented in cooperation with the Faroe Islands and Greenland. The strengthening of the Danish Defence's surveillance capabilities will also lead to enhanced search and rescue, civil emergency preparedness, monitoring of the environment, fisheries control, and climate monitoring and research etc. A new basic military training in Greenland will strengthen the connection between the Danish Defence and Greenland. The basic military training increases the possibilities of Greenlanders to serve in the Danish Defence. The establishment of new facilities in all parts of the Kingdom of Denmark will benefit local businesses. At the same time new facilities and capabilities will be established with a minimal carbon footprint.

New capabilities

- Air surveillance radar (390m DKK)
- Long endurance surveillance drones (750m DKK)
- Space based surveillance (85m DKK)
- Ground station (40m DKK)
- Satellite communication (operating expenses)
- Coastal radars in Greenland (20m DKK)
- Ship-based tactical drones (60m DKK)
- Intelligence processing and analysis (20m DKK)
- Tactical communication links (40m DKK)
- Basic military training in Greenland (50m DKK)
- Exercises (35m DKK)
- Space industry and research fund (10m DKK)
- Liaison officers (operating expenses)
- Cooperation with Greenlandic institutes (operating expenses)

Acquisitions for 1.5 bn DKK and operating expenses of 300m DKK annually.