

Folketinget Udenrigsudvalget Christiansborg 1240 København K

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## **Danish Foreign Policy Yearbook 2017**

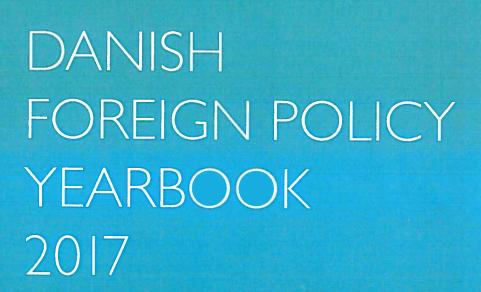
Til Udenrigsudvalget

Hermed sender vi jer 30 eksemplarer af Danish Foreign Policy Yearbook 2017. Bøgerne bedes venligst omdelt til udvalgets medlemmer.

Med venlig hilsen

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Danish Foreign Policy Yearbook addresses Danish foreign policy both regionally and globally. Apart from the articles by Denmark's foreign and defence ministers, this volume includes four academic articles, whose authors represent only themselves and their expertise (for details of each author, see the respective articles).

In his article, dr. phil. Per Stig Møller argues that Europe is going downwards in the current demographic cycle. Trade routes run parallel with demography, and in the future they will be moving to the east and south of Europe. Geostrategically, Europe is experiencing problems with a revanchist Russia, a highly volatile, possibly Islamist Middle East, and an Africa from which there will be significant growth in emigration to Europe. Not to mention that the EU has problems of its own.

The election of Donald Trump and Brexit both constitute radical breaks for the ways in which Denmark's action space is perceived. According to Mikkel Vedby Rasmussen, the result is three conflicting views of foreign policy, held respectively by nationalists, national liberals and cosmopolitans. The national liberal perspective currently dominates debates and policy, but since it is finding it difficult to formulate new policies, it might have problems in sustaining itself in the long run.

The term 'Greenland card' refers to Denmark's use of Greenland to improve its foreign policy position in Washington. Anders Henriksen and Jon Rahbek-Clemmensen discuss the barriers that inhibit Danish Arctic diplomacy, including too narrow a focus on contributing to American-led operations in the Middle East, mistrust between Denmark and Greenland, and the taboo that surrounds the Greenland Card itself.

According to Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen, the Danish government is aiming to make asylum and protection conditions in Denmark as unattractive as possible, thereby indirectly pushing asylum-seekers towards other countries. Such 'negative nation branding' may be an effective strategy in reducing the numbers of asylum-seekers, but it is likely to create negative externalities by, for instance, making the country vulnerable to similar policy developments in neighbouring states, thus reducing the deterrent effect over time.

These articles are abstracted in both English and Danish at the outset of chapter one. After the articles follows a selection of official documents that are considered to be characteristic of Danish foreign policy during 2016. This is supplemented by essential statistics and by some of the most relevant polls on the attitudes of the Danes to key foreign policy questions. Finally, a bibliography provides a limited selection of scholarly books, articles and chapters published in English in 2016 in the field covered by the yearbook. *Danish Foreign Policy Yearbook* has been edited by director Kristian Fischer and dr. scient. pol. Hans Mouritzen.

The editors, DIIS, Copenhagen June 2017