

## Danes celebrate Queen Margrethe II's 50th Jubilee

By Peter Taksøe-Jensen  
Ambassador of Denmark

On this day, Denmark celebrates the 82nd birthday of Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II. Danes worldwide will join in on the celebration, especially since this year is the 50th Jubilee of the Queen's accession to the throne, with several festive events planned.

This year, the Queen will mark her birthday with a parade in front of the Marselisborg Palace in Aarhus. The parade will be held in front of the palace's garden, where both the Queen and the Royal Family will greet the Danish people from their terrace.

Amid such a joyous event, tragedy continues to occur in Ukraine. The Queen, the Crown Prince, and the Crown Princess have announced through their respective foundations that they will donate 1 million Danish kroner (\$147,500) to the victims of the war in Ukraine. A war that is very much on the minds of the citizens in Denmark as well as Japan.

In 2020 and 2021, official celebrations for the Queen's birthday were virtual due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. However, in her New Year's speech, Queen Margrethe reminded us that there are moments worthy of appreciation despite the pandemic. She showed how important it is to stand together as a community to overcome significant challenges and appreciate the close



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**Her Majesty the Queen Margrethe II is scheduled to celebrate her birthday at Marselisborg Palace in Aarhus, Denmark.**

bonds to our loved ones and the bonds that stretch across nations.

Denmark and Japan have many similarities. We have two of the oldest monarchies in the world, and Denmark and Japan share many fundamental values. We honor democratic elections, respect human rights and the rule of law, and strive to achieve the United Nations' sustainable development goals.

We celebrated the 150th anniversary of diplomatic re-

lations between Denmark and Japan in 2017, and to this day, the friendship between our two countries is growing stronger. Recently, two memorandums of cooperation were signed between the Danish and Japanese governments.

When the Foreign Minister of Denmark Mr. Jeppe Kofod visited Japan in November last year, he and Ms. Karen Makishima, the minister for the Digital Agency, held a signing ceremony for the memorandum of cooperation in the digital field.

Denmark is one of the leading countries in digitalization, focusing on themes such as "inclusiveness" and "protection of personal data." Therefore, we have a wealth of knowledge that we can provide on digitalization, which we want to share with Japan for continued collaboration between our two countries.

Japan and Denmark also share visions for the future of more renewable energy. In March 2022, the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's Agency for Natural Resources and Energy and the Danish Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities' Danish Energy Agency signed a memorandum of cooperation on renewable energy. As both countries aim to increase their renewable energy and decrease their independence from foreign energy sources, we hope to share knowledge and experience that can accomplish these goals.

I want to thank the Japan-Denmark Parliamentary Friendship League for its strong support in maintaining and expanding our bond of cooperation and shared hope for the future.

**Our warmest wishes  
to Her Majesty  
Queen Margrethe II  
on Her Birthday**

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