

## Denmark

Rice

The Kingdom of Denmark is a constitutional monarchy. As stipulated in the Danish Constitution, the monarch is not answerable for their actions, and their person is sacrosanct. The monarch formally appoints and dismisses the prime minister and other ministers. The prime minister is customarily chosen through negotiation between the parliament party leaders. Denmark has a multi-party system and no single party has held an absolute majority in parliament since the beginning of the 20th century. It is due to the principle of negative parliamentarism and due to the proportional representation system in elections that Denmark is often saddled with minority governments. Nevertheless, minority governments in Denmark sometimes have strong parliamentary majorities if they can form a parliamentary support basis among other parties.

The Radicals and Social Democrats (SD) gained a majority in the Folketing (the lower chamber of the Danish parliament) in election in 1913, and Carl Theodor Zahle, of Radical Party (RP) formed a government in coalition with SD on June 21, 1913 (see Danish Prime Minister's Office Web). He let his government throughout World War I. He was dismissed by King Christian on March 29, 1920, over a dispute concerning proportional representation in rural district. Otto Liebe was chosen by King to head a caretaker government on March 30, 1920 and mandated to hold new elections (Lentz 1999, 125). His government was forced to resign on April 5, 1920 following widespread demonstrations by labor and the socialists and the threat of a general strike (Lentz 1999, 126).

Aage Friis was named to head a caretaker cabinet supported by the major political parties on April 5, 1920 (Lentz 1999, 126). He oversaw new elections and stepped down when a Left cabinet was formed by Neils Neergaard on May 5, 1920. Neils Neergaard, a member of the Liberal Party (LP-V: Danmarks Liberal Parti "Venstre"), formed a single party government on May 5, 1920 (a SOLS change). Economic problems caused by the devaluation of the currency forced Neergaard stepped down on April 23, 1924 (Lentz 1999, 126).

After a victory by the Socialists in the elections of 1924, Thorvald Stauning, a leader of the Social Democratic Party (SD) formed a single party government on April 23, 1924 (a SOLS change). It was the first purely Social Democratic cabinet. His government fell over a tax issue on December 14, 1926. Thomas Mandsen-Mygdal, a leader of the Liberal Party (LP-V), formed a single party cabinet on December 14, 1926, with the parliamentary support of the Conservatives (a SOLS change). The Conservatives broke with the government on a budgetary issue, and he stepped down on April 30, 1929. Note that although Cahoon (2000) says that Mandsen-Mygdal belonged to the KF, the Danish Government website indicates that he belonged to LP-V and he formed a single party government ("The Prime Minister's Office: Prime Minister since 1984").

Thorvald Stauning again became prime minister on April 30, 1929 (a SOLS change). Unlike Stauning's First Government, Stauning led coalition governments with different coalition partners. In Stauning's Second (April 30, 1929 to November 4, 1935), Third (to September 15, 1939) and Forth (to April 10, 1940) Governments, he formed a coalition with the Radical Party (RP). In his Fifth (to July 8, 1940) and Sixth (to May 4, 1942), he made a coalition government with Venstre (LP-V: Liberal Party), Det Konservative Folkeparti (KF: the Conservative People's Party), and Det Radikale Venstre (RP). Accordingly, since new coalition partners were added to the Stauning's Fifth and Sixth Government, we code this change in the coalition composition

from his previous Second, Third and Fourth Governments on July 8, 1940 as minor SOLS changes.

Stauning's government accepted Germany's ultimatum to surrender on April 9, 1940 and Germany occupied Denmark during World War II. He retained office until his death on May 3, 1942. COW codes Denmark as losing independence on April 9, 1940 and resuming independence on May 7, 1945. Vilhelm Buhl, a member of the Social Democratic Party, was elected as prime minister on May 3, 1942, during the German occupation of Denmark. Buhl formed his coalition government with Venstre (LP-V), Det Konservative Folkeparti (KF) and Det Radikale Venstre (RP). He stepped down from office on November 9, 1942.

Erik Scavenius, of non-party, was chosen to head the coalition government as prime minister on November 9, 1942. His coalition included Venstre (LP-V), Det Konservative Folkeparti (KF) and Det Radikale Venstre (RP). He retained office until August 30, 1943, when the German occupation administration removed the government and installed a German governor (Lentz 1999, 127). "For most of the time from late 1942 until the end of the war in Europe in May, 1945, Scavenius was the Premier of Denmark under German control" (Goemans et al. 2005, 433).

Vilhelm Buhl, a member of the SD, again became prime minister on May 5, 1945 and guided Denmark's return to democracy in the postwar period. In his second government, he formed a coalition government with Venstre (LP-V), Det Konservative Folkeparti (KF), Dansk Samling (DS), Det Radikale Venstre (RP), and Danmarks Kommunistiske Parti (Com). Because Buhl has the same party affiliation as Stauning, we do not code a major SOLS change, but we do code a minor SOLS change since the coalition partners are slightly different. Buhl presided over parliamentary elections and relinquished office on November 7, 1945.

On November 11, 1945, Knud Kristensen of the Danmarks liberale parti "Venstre" (LIB) party became PM (Cahoon 2000; Goemans et al. 2005). It was the first elected government after the German occupation of Denmark during World War II. We code a major SOLS change for November 11, 1945 since Vilhelm and Kristensen were of different political parties. Kristensen remained PM until 1947 when he was replaced by Hans Hedtoft of the SD party (Cahoon 2000). We code a major SOLS change for November 12, 1947 since the two politicians were of different parties.

Hedtoft remained PM until 1950 when he was replaced by Erik Eriksen of the LIB party. This leadership transition occurred on October 28, 1950 so we code a major SOLS change for this date. Hedtoft headed a minority government and formed a coalition consisting of his LIB party and the CON party (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174; "Hans Hedtoft"). Normally this coalition change would be coded a minor SOLS change since previously the government consisted of only the SD party, but we do not code a minor SOLS change since this coalition change occurred at the same time that the leadership change occurred (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174).

Eriksen remained PM until September 30, 1953 when he was replaced as PM by former PM Hedtoft of the SD party (Cahoon 2000; Goemans et al. 2005). We code this leadership transition as a major SOLS change since both PMs were not of the same political party. Coinciding with this major SOLS change came what would be a minor SOLS change when the sole party in government became the SD party. However, we do not code it as such since this change happened at the same time as the major SOLS change. Hedtoft would remain PM until his death on January 29, 1955 when Hans Christian Svane Hansen of the SD party replaced him as PM. Both men were of the SD party so we code no major SOLS change. Hansen would remain in office until his death on February 19, 1960 where he was succeeded by Viggo

Kampmann. Kampmann, also of the SD party, served in an acting capacity until February 21, 1960, but continued to serve as PM until 1962. We code no major SOLS change for the 1960 leadership transition since both successor and predecessor were of the SD party.

Backing up for a moment, a minor SOLS change occurred on May 28, 1957 when the Radikale Venestre (RAD) and JP party joined the government, which at the time consisted of only the SD party (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). We code this a minor SOLS change accordingly. Another minor SOLS change occurred on November 18, 1960 when the JP party left the coalition, leaving only the SD and RAD parties (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). We code this minor SOLS change accordingly.

Kampmann served as PM until 1962 when, following Kampmann's poor health, he stepped aside and Jens Otto Krag became the new PM ("Krag, Jens Otto"; Cahoon 2000). Krag was a fellow SD party member so we code no major SOLS change for the 1962 leadership transition. In 1964, a minor SOLS change occurred when the RAD party left the governing coalition, thus leaving only the SD as the sole party in government. We code a minor SOLS change for September 26, 1964.

In 1968, Hilmar Baunsgaard of the RAD became PM when his party gained power through national elections (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174; Cahoon 2000). This leadership change occurred on February 1, 1968 and we code a major SOLS change for this date since Baunsgaard and Krag were of two different parties. A coalition change coincided with this leadership change. However, we code no minor SOLS change due to the two events' coincidence (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). On December 11, 1971, the SD regained power, thus leading to Baunsgaard's exit as the PM and Krag's return as PM (Álvarez-Rivera; Cahoon 2000; Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). We code this a major SOLS change since the two politicians were from two different parties.

Following inter-party strife among his SD party, Krag resigned from the premiership on October 5, 1972 (Cahoon 2000; "Krag, Jens Otto"). His successor was Anker Jørgensen of the SD party. We code no major SOLS change for this leadership transition since both men were from the same political party. Jørgensen would remain as PM until December 19, 1973, when after failing to form a government, he was replaced by Poul Hartling of the LIB party. We code a major SOLS change for this leadership transition.

Following the elections of 1975, Jørgensen of the SD party once again became PM (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174; Álvarez-Rivera; Cahoon 2000; Goemans et al. 2005). We code a major SOLS change for this leadership transition on February 13, 1975 since the former and latter PMs were of two separate political parties. During Jørgensen's second tenure as PM, two minor SOLS changes occurred. The first, which occurred on August 30, 1978, saw the LIB party join the SD as the two parties forming a coalition government (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). The Second occurred on December 26, 1979 when the LIB party left the coalition, thus leaving the SD as the sole party in government (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). We code both of the above dates as minor SOLS changes.

Poul Schlüter of the Conservative People's Party (CON) became the new PM on September 10, 1982, thus replacing Jørgensen (Cahoon 2000). We code a major SOLS change for September 10, 1982 since the former and later PM were of different political parties. At the same time this leadership transition occurred, a minor SOLS change occurred when a new coalition consisting of the CON, LIB, CDM, and CPP parties formed a coalition (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). We do not code this minor SOLS change due to its coincidence with the already mentioned leadership change.

The next relevant political event occurred on June 3, 1988 when the CDM and CPP parties left the coalition and the RAD party joined the coalition (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174; Álvarez-Rivera). We code a minor SOLS change for 1988. The following year, another minor SOLS change occurred when the RAD party left the coalition, leaving only the CON and LIB parties (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). We code a minor SOLS change for December 18, 1989. Poul Nyrup Rasmussen brought the SD party back to the premiership when, after Schlüter resigned, he became PM on January 25, 1993 (Cahoon 2000). We code a major SOLS change for this date since the two politicians were of two different political parties. An adjustment to the coalition makeup occurred on January 25, 1993 as well when a new coalition consisting of the SD, RAD, CDM, and CPP parties was formed (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 175). We do not code a minor SOLS change since it coincided with a major SOLS change. A minor change did occur the following year when the CPP left the coalition, and since this coincided with no major SOLS change, we code a minor SOLS change for September 26, 1994.

A minor SOLS change occurred on December 30, 1996 when a coalition consisting of the SD and RAD party was formed (Bille 1998). We code a minor SOLS change for this December date. Rasmussen remained as PM from 1993 until 2001 when he was replaced by Anders Fogh Rasmussen of the LIB party on November 27, 2001 (Cahoon 2000; Goemans et al. 2005). We code this as a major SOLS change since the two Rasmussens were of different political parties. The later Rasmussen would remain PM through the duration of this project temporal domain.

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