

## Denmark

### Vanderbilt

Denmark has a parliamentary democracy with proportional representation. As a result of the electoral system, no single party had a majority throughout the pre-1945 period. Unlike most proportional systems, Denmark is characterized by minority governments and coalitions that govern with outside support. In the examined period the main parties that form the political landscape are: the liberal Left (Venstre – LP-V); the social liberal Radical Left (Det Radicale Venstre -- RP); the Social Democrats (Socialdemokratiet – SD); and the Conservative People's Party (Det Konservative Folkeparti – KF) (denmark.dk 2011; Prime Minister's Office 2011).

The government at the entry of the dataset is a Radical Left (RP) and Social Democrat (SD) minority government of Zahle. Most ministers are from the Radical Left, but the cabinet includes two Social Democrat ministers. Following the dismissal of Zahle's government by King Christian X, Denmark enters a short period of unrest. Consequently, Zahle's cabinet is succeeded by two non-partisan "business cabinets" that act for an interim period of less than a month each (no SOLS changes), before the entry of a liberal (LP-V) cabinet under Neergaard (SOLS change) in late April of 1920. Two cabinets of Neergaard govern for four years until Neergaard is replaced by Denmark's first Social Democratic government of Stauning in 1924 (SOLS change).

Following elections the Stauning cabinet loses majority support in parliament and is replaced with a Left cabinet of Madsen Mygdal, which is coded as a SOLS change. However, 1929 saw the return of Stauning at the helm of three subsequent SD and RP cabinets. There was a minor SOLS change (on July 8, 1940) when LP-V and KF joined in his government (see Danish Prime Minister's Office Web). The Stauning government lasted until Denmark lost its independence in the Second World War in 1940. Consequently no further SOLS changes were coded (Prime Minister's Office 2011).

Denmark is coded as a parliamentary democracy 1945 until 2008. In May 1945, Denmark regained independence after Nazi occupation and Vilhelm Buhl of the Social Democracy in Denmark party (SD) became PM from May to November 1945. In his second government, Buhl formed a coalition government with Venstre (LP-V), Det Konservative Folkeparti (KF), Dansk Samling (DS), Det Radikale Venstre (RP), and Danmarks Kommunistiske Parti (Com). This is not a major SOLS change since the last regular leader before Denmark lost independence was Thorvald August Marinus Stauning, who was also a social democrat, but it is a minor SOLS change because the coalition is slightly different. Later that year Knud Kristensen of the Danmarks liberale parti "Venstre" (LIB) became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1947 Hans Hedtoft, SD, became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1950 Erik Eriksen, LIB, became PM in coalition with the Conservative People's Party (CON). This is a SOLS change. In 1953 Hedtoft, SD, once again became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1955 Hans Hansen, SD, became PM. This is not a SOLS change. In 1957 the Radical Left party (RAD) and Justice Party (JP) joined the coalition. This is a minor SOLS change (May 28 1957) (Woldendorp et al. 2000, 174). In 1960 Viggo Kampmann, SD, became PM in coalition with RAD and JP. This is not a SOLS change. Later that year JP dropped out of the coalition. This is a minor SOLS change (Nov 18 1960). In 1962 Jens Krag, SD, became PM in coalition with RAD. This is not a SOLS change. In 1964 RAD formally dropped out of the coalition. This is a minor SOLS change (Sept 26 1964). In 1968 Hilmar Baunsgaard, RAD, became PM in coalition with LIB and CON. This is a SOLS change. In 1971 Krag, SD, once again became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1972 Anker

Jørgensen, SD, became PM. This is not a SOLS change. In 1973 Poul Hartling, LIB, became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1975 Jørgensen, SD, once again became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1978, The Liberals joined Jørgensen coalition. This is a minor SOLS change (August 30 1978). In October 1979, the Liberals leave the coalition again. This is also a minor SOLS change. In 1982 Poul Schlüter of the (CON) became PM in coalition with LIB, the Centre Democrats (CDM), and the Christian People's Party (CPP). This is a SOLS change. In 1988 CDM and CPP dropped out of the coalition and RAD joined. This is a minor SOLS change (Jun 3 1988). In 1989 RAD dropped out of the coalition. This is a minor SOLS change (Dec 18 1989). In 1993 Poul Rasmussen, SD, became PM in coalition with RAD, CDM, and CPP. This is a SOLS change. In 1994 CPP dropped out of the coalition. This is a minor SOLS change (Sept 26 1994). In 1996 the CDM dropped out of the coalition. This is a minor SOLS change (December 30 1996) (Danish Premier 2010, Bille 1997; 352). In 2001 Anders Rasmussen, LIB, became PM in coalition with CON (Bille 2002, 943). This is a SOLS change.

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Pre-1945 coded by Eelco van der Maat (Vanderbilt)

Post-1945 coded by Anna Carella (Vanderbilt) 11/2010

Pre-1945 reviewed by Michaela Mattes (Vanderbilt) on 06/11/2012

Pre-1945 revised by Naoko Matsumura (Vanderbilt) on 06/16/2013

Post-1945 checked by Michaela Mattes 06/20/2011

Combined by Matt DiLorenzo (Vanderbilt) on 08/04/2013

Edited by Andrew Wood (Rice) 05/22/2014