

EU Dimensions between Sweden, Denmark and Finland

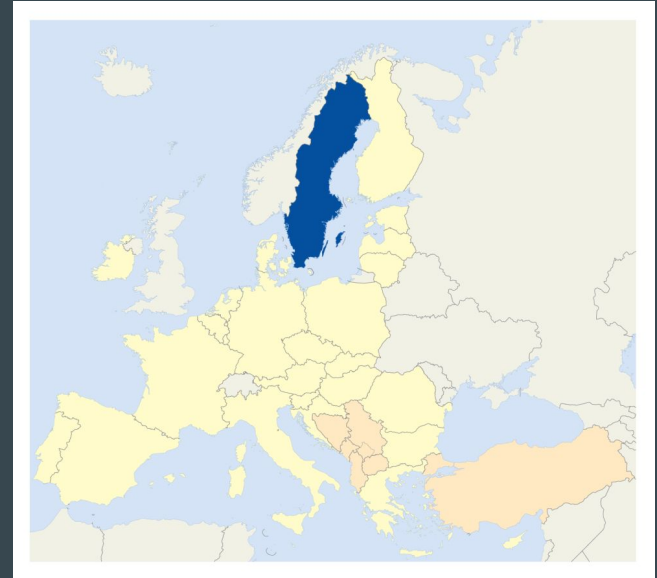


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The Basic Characteristics - SWEDEN



- EU member-state since January 1st 1995
- Opted out of the euro and still continues to use the Swedish Krona (SEK)
- Parliamentary democracy, entrusted legislative power in parliament, 349 members
- Constitutional monarchy
- 3.2% of EU's total GDP
- 21 representatives in the European Parliament



The Basic Characteristics - DENMARK

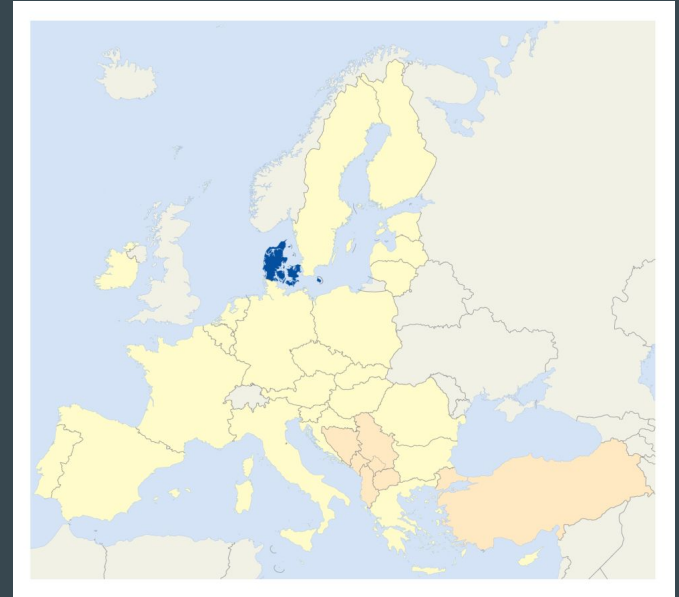


→ EU member-state since January 1st 1973

→ Opted out of the euro and still continues to use the Danish Krone (DKK)

→ Constitutional monarchy

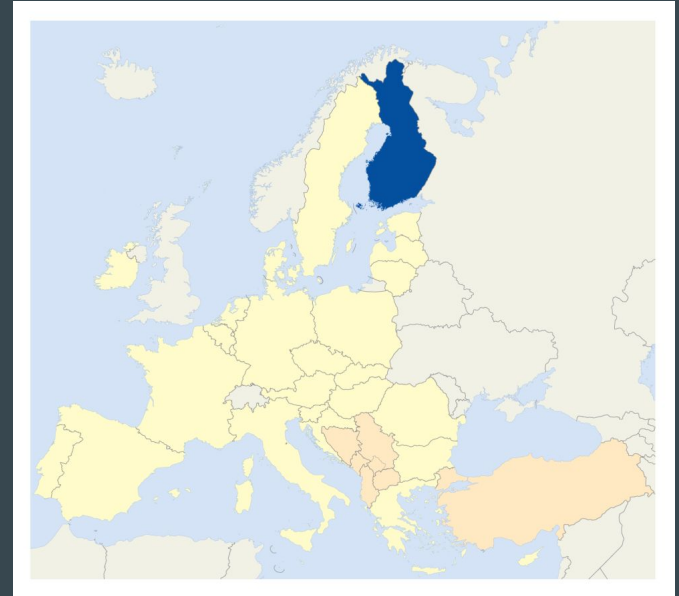
→ 2.2% of EU's total GDP



The Basic Characteristics - FINLAND



- EU member-state since January 1st 1995
- Established Euro currency since January 1st 1999
- Parliamentary republic, with prime minister and president
- 1.6% of EU total GDP
- European parliament: 15 representatives



i) Comparison: Eurozone membership

SWEDEN

- Decided to opt out of the eurozone during the 2003 referendum
- Public in favour of the Swedish Kronor
 - preserve national identity and monetary policy control
- arguments for and against the membership:
 - could benefit economy/eurozone financial integration
 - control/decision-making

DENMARK

- Decided to opt out of the eurozone under Maastricht treaty of 1992
- Public in favour of Danish Krone
- has ERM II but strict policies must be followed for maintenance
- Arguments for and against:
 - Could benefit economy and decrease transaction costs
 - Preserve national identity & independent monetary policy

FINLAND

- Adopted the Euro Jan 1 1999
- decision made when Finland suffered debt + economic depression 80's, 1991-93
- Markka currency suffered 12% devaluation
- Euro as hard currency in 2002
- economy recovered due to EU financial support
- monetary policy is EU centered

ii) Comparison: The Migrant Crisis

SWEDEN

- Most welcoming policies and attitudes toward asylum seekers in EU
- peak of crisis: 2015
- tried to introduce common asylum policy with the EU
- put pressure on Swedish welfare system and social integration
- changes of policies over time, became more strict
- highest MIDEX

DENMARK

- most tough stance against asylum seekers in the world
- current Prime Minister and predecessor implement **“ghetto policies”**
 - forced integration
 - forced eviction
 - move “failed” asylum seekers to isolated island off Copenhagen
 - move asylum seekers to Rwanda while applications are being processed
- exception for Ukrainians

FINLAND

- Semi-strict immigration policies, but have tightened over time since right-wing gov in 2023
- “Instrumentalization” policy
 - law for “green light” violence at the border to prevent seekers to enter by force
- exception for those in extreme vulnerability
- support EU’s migration policy

iii) Comparison: Environmental policies

SWEDEN

- adopts strict policies for being the most sustainable country in the world - pioneer
- Most ambitious goals for “Fit for 55”
 - By 2045 to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions, & net negative (2017 Swedish climate act)
- consumes most energy through renewable sources in the EU

DENMARK

- Is also a forerunner in Global Env. Protection
- Wants to reach climate neutrality and become fossil-fuel free by 2050
- reduce 70% or more greenhouse gases by 2030
- offshore wind farms
- green transportation
- commit to helping developing countries to improve sustainability

FINLAND

- Wants to achieve Carbon neutrality by 2035
- focusing on reducing water pollution as this has been an issue in Finland; waterway pollution produced by farming
- places value on forest protection
- have reduced greenhouse gas emissions since the 1990's, but have risen in waste + consumption
- ambitious goals, but unsure if they will be reached

Ethical considerations, in accordance to EU values

Denmark's "ghetto policies" and attitude towards migrants have breached some EU values:
→ EU anti-race discrimination and equality laws
(ghetto in reference to "non-westerns")

Finland's "deportation law" (instrumentalized migration), allows border violence and force, breach EU value:
- Article 2/Treaty of EU
→ to protect human rights, as well as minorities
→ human dignity

Counter-argument: Countries still have the right to protect their nation from any possible external dangers

Thank you for your time.