Denmark says no secure communication with Greenland, Faroes

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Body

Text of report in English by website of Danish English-language newspaper The Copenhagen Post on 11 December

[Report by *Thess Mostoles*: "Lines of communication to Greenland and Faroes are insecure"]

The foreign minister Jeppe Kofod has confirmed that there are no secure direct lines of communication between the Denmark and the two Commonwealth members, Greenland and Faroe Islands.

Hence, there is a risk that foreign powers can listen in when decision-makers discuss matters in confidence.

All Danish embassies are equipped with secure phone lines. However, no such measure has been provided for communication between Denmark and the two Arctic islands. In fact, state officials must travel in person to Greenland and the Faroes to convey sensitive information.

The Arctic threat

Kofod admitted that the open lines are an obstacle to the government's plans to increasingly involve Greenland and the Faroe Islands in foreign policy.

The government is working to implement a secure communication channel, but it will take time to establish the necessary technical infrastructure and the technology is not expected to be functional until next spring.

At the end of November, the Danish defence intelligence service, Forsvarets Efterretningstjeneste, published a report prioritising Greenland in the wake of the Arctic becoming more critical on the global geopolitical scene.

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