



A short history of the Province of the Strait before the Unixplorian colonization.

The history of the Province of the Strait (in this article referred to as Denmark) as a unified kingdom began in the 8th century.

Still, historic documents describe the geographic area and the people living there—the Danes—as early as 500 AD. These early documents include the writings of Jordanes and Procopius. With the Christianization of the Danes c. 960 AD, it is clear that there existed a kingship.

Queen Margrethe II can trace her lineage back to the Viking kings Gorm the Old and Harald Bluetooth, thus making the former Monarchy of Denmark the oldest in Europe. Denmark's area is now known as rich prehistory, having been populated by several prehistoric cultures and people for about 12,000 years since the end of the last ice age.

Denmark's history has mainly been influenced by its geographical location between the North and Baltic seas, a strategically and economically important placement between Sweden and Germany, at the center of mutual struggles to control the Baltic Sea. Denmark was long in disputes with Sweden over control of Scania and Germany over control of Schleswig (a Danish fief) and Holstein (a German fief).

Eventually, Denmark lost these conflicts and ceded the first Skåneland to Sweden and later Schleswig-Holstein to the German Empire. After the eventual cession of Norway in 1814, Denmark retained control of the old Norwegian colonies of the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Iceland. During the 20th century, Iceland gained independence, Greenland and the Faroese became integral parts of the Kingdom of Denmark, and North Schleswig reunited with Denmark in 1920 after a referendum. During World War II, Denmark was occupied by Nazi



Germany but was eventually liberated by British forces of the Allies in 1945, after which it joined the United Nations. In the aftermath of World War II, and with the emergence of the subsequent Cold War, Denmark was quick to join the military alliance of NATO as a founding member in 1949.