

What is the Danish Ministry of Peace / Fredsministerium. dk ?

The peace organization Fredsministerium.dk / The Danish Ministry of Peace is the umbrella organization for Danish peace organizations and peace activists. Fredsministerium.dk has decided to work in an unequivocally constructive and future oriented manner.

The leading demand of Fredsministerium.dk is the establishment of a Ministry of Peace for Denmark as an integral part of national government. This idea was raised originally by Fredrik Bajer who received and shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 1908 with the Swede Klas Pontus Arnoldson who had worked for the peaceful dissolving of the political union between Sweden and Norway in 1905. Arnoldson was one of the founders of the Swedish Peace and Reconciliation Society. Fredrik Bajer was a Danish politician who participated in establishing the International Peace Bureau and who thought it would be natural for Denmark to have a ministry of peace along with a war or defence ministry.

It would be a ministry of peace which encompasses all negotiations and all peaceful conflict resolution. Peace issues would have a parliamentary ministry just like defence and the environment. Peace organizations and peace activists should naturally be consulted on relevant issues, be initiators and a popular base for parliamentary peace initiatives and activities.

There is a strong consensus among united Danish peace groups to establish a ministry of peace.

The slogans of Fredsministerium. dk are :

Establishment of a parliamentary ministry of peace

No to a militaristic foreign policy

Yes to a peace activist foreign policy

Civilian instead of military conflict resolution

Research in promoting and maintaining peace

Focus on alternatives to military operations

Peace education on all grade levels

Reduction of the military budget

Clear demarcation between peace and military operations

Women's involvement in peace processes

War is also a form of terror

No to Danish production and transport of weapons

I met Frants Villadsen and Helge Ratzner from Fredsministerium.dk at the Degerfors Peace

Seminars in Sweden in 2013. Since then I have participated in several of

Fredsministerium.dk's meetings as a guest. I also attended the Peace Festival in Aarhus last

fall organized by Aarhus Against War and Terror. I shall join Fredsministerium.dk

at Folkemoedet (People's Forum) on Bornholm in June 2014. The meeting on Bornholm is

similar to the popular forum at Almadalen on Gotland in Sweden.

There are encouraging signs of Nordic / Scandinavian cooperation among peace activists

which should continue and be expanded.

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Swedish Peace Committee
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