





The Lord Chamberlain's report



Extract:
The Annual
Report



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Welcome to the Royal Danish House's annual report 2020.

The year in the Royal Danish House was – as for all others – strongly marked by the coronavirus crisis. The royal family's official arrangements and other activities had to be adapted to the new reality in light of the spread of Covid-19 throughout society, and the Royal Danish House's organization had to be readjusted in order to function in a safe and satisfactory manner.

Immediately after arrival home from winter holiday on 12 March, Her Majesty The Queen decided to cancel all planned arrangements in connection with the 80th birthday in April. At the same time, Their Royal Highnesses The Crown Prince and The Crown Princess decided to return home from Switzerland, where the Crown Prince Couple's four children were in the midst of an international school stay.

In the following days, weeks and months, a number of large events were changed, postponed or cancelled,

including the year's summer cruises on the Royal Yacht Dannebrog, Royal Run, the royal family's participation in the celebration of the centenary of the Reunification of South Jutland with Denmark and His Royal Highness Prince Christian's confirmation.

During the year, The Queen and the royal family involved themselves in Denmark's handling of the crisis on various occasions.

On 17 March, the Royal Danish House announced that The Queen would deliver a rare speech to the Danish people that evening about the serious situation in connection with the spread of the coronavirus. It was the first time since Christian the 10th's speech about the liberation in 1945 that Denmark's sovereign had spoken directly to the Danish people apart from the traditional New Year's Address.

Upwards of 3.4 million viewers watched on DR1 and TV 2 when, in her speech, Her Majesty appealed to Danes to show consideration and unity at a difficult time. The Queen also sent warm thanks to the health care personnel in Denmark and to the emergency services, the military, the police, shop employees, drivers and all others who helped to keep society going under difficult circumstances.



The Queen delivered a rare speech to the Danish people about the serious situation in connection with the spread of the coronavirus.

PHOTO: KIM REFLUND, DR ©

The Crown Prince Family showed continuous glimpses of their everyday life during the lockdown. On 28 March, the family sent a greeting to the Danish people in the TV 2 program “Danmark står sammen” from the garden behind Frederik VIII’s Palace at Amalienborg. On the Royal Danish House’s digital media, people afterwards could both follow the Crown Prince Couple’s work life at the home offices and see the Crown Prince Couple experience one of The Royal Danish Theatre’s online performances at home from the sofa.



The Crown Prince Family sent a greeting to the Danish people in the TV 2 program “Danmark står sammen” from the garden behind Frederik VIII’s Palace at Amalienborg.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

On several occasions, His Royal Highness The Crown Prince expressed his pride over the Danish civil society’s efforts to help fellow countrymen affected by coronavirus, for instance during a virtual visit to the Red Cross in March. Thousands of Danes had come forward as volunteers in the organization’s help network and call center. Likewise, many Danish companies took on new tasks to alleviate the crisis, and, early one morning in April, The Crown Prince watched as one of the world’s largest cargo planes, on initiative from Mærsk and the Capital Region, landed at Copenhagen Airport with protective equipment from China for the Danish health care system.



The Crown Prince participated in a virtual visit to the Red Cross and met volunteers in a call center and the organization's help network.

PHOTO: JAKOB DALL, RØDE KORS ©



At Copenhagen Airport, The Crown Prince witnessed one of the world's largest cargo planes land with protective equipment from China for the Danish health care system.

PHOTO: H.K.H. KRONPRINSEN ©

During the year, Her Royal Highness The Crown Princess had special focus on the pandemic's consequences for the mental health of children and young people. On 1 May, The Crown Princess sent out a greeting via the DR singing program "Fællessang - hver for sig", in which Her Royal Highness spoke about the fear and worry that have affected many people and about the importance of talking openly about that, which is difficult. As patron of WHO's Regional Office for Europe, The Crown Princess on several occasions also emphasized the great efforts and significance of health care personnel in the fight against the pandemic - in Denmark, in Europe and around the world.



At the UN City in Copenhagen, The Crown Princess took part in a meeting with WHO Regional Director for Europe Dr. Hans Kluge about the situation concerning Covid-19.

PHOTO: DAVID BARRETT, WHO ©

During March, His Royal Highness Prince Joachim and Her Royal Highness Princess Marie, together with their two children, came to Denmark from France, and thus the whole royal family was in the country until the beginning of May, when the Prince resumed his military educational course in Paris.

Through the royal foundations, the royal family contributed in 2020 to support the Danish coronavirus emergency services. In March, Queen Margrethe and Prince Henrik's Foundation and Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary's Foundation announced a combined donation of 750,000 DKK for the Red Cross's work in support of the Danish Health Authority's emergency preparedness. In connection with a grant in September, an additional 700,000 DKK from Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary's Foundation went to three projects focused on Covid-19 by Doctors without Borders, The Danish Anxiety Association and Børneulykkesfonden, respectively.

Just as at other Danish workplaces, the coronavirus restrictions resulted in a number of changes for the employees of the Royal Danish House. The Royal Danish House is a workplace with many different work functions and specialties, changing work hours and several different addresses, and therefore the restrictions created new conditions for the employees.

As a workplace, the Royal Danish House was organized in accordance with the recommendations of the health authorities. That applied, for example, in the Workshop, in the Laundry, in the Royal Stables, in the kitchens, in the house cleaning and in the administration. It was a basic condition for all units, both in and around the royal palaces.

There was also investment in portable computers and other digital equipment for the many new home workplaces. The investment in technology, which also involved new initiatives in relation to IT security, was not only a necessity because of the coronavirus crisis, but also a future-proofing of the Royal Danish House as a flexible workplace.

THE QUEEN'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

“My birthday was not as I had imagined, but I am grateful for it as it was – thanks to all who have contributed to making it a festive and richly memorable day.” Such were the words from The Queen in a TV address on the evening of 16 April after an 80th birthday which, despite many cancellations, nevertheless became an intimate, popular and festive celebration of Denmark’s sovereign.

As the Danish people had to follow the birthday at a distance, large parts of the celebration took place digitally so the day’s sequence of events could reach as many people as possible. More than 13,000 congratulations, drawings and photos from Denmark and abroad were sent to Her Majesty via the Royal Danish House’s digital congratulations list. At 12:00 noon, people opened windows and balcony doors and collectively sang a birthday song, while The Queen followed the TV broadcast of the event live from Fredensborg Palace.



The Danish Women's Network in Thailand sent digital congratulations on the occasion of The Queen's 80th birthday.

PHOTO: DANISH WOMEN'S NETWORK | THAILAND ©



On Her Majesty's 80th birthday, The Queen listened to the Danish people's birthday song from Fredensborg Palace.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

During the day, The Queen was surprised by a number of video greetings, including from the grandchildren, the other European royal houses, the Royal Life Guard, and the Royal Danish Theatre. The greetings were also shared on the Royal Danish House's digital platforms. On the social media, they were played nearly three million times in total.



The Queen's eight grandchildren congratulated Her Majesty with a video greeting on the occasion of the 80th birthday.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©



A number of Europe's royals surprised The Queen with a video greeting on the birthday.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

At Fredensborg Palace, the staff saw to it that Her Majesty's birthday began with morning song at an appropriate distance in the Dome Hall. And, in the Garden Room, the Lord Chamberlain, in keeping with tradition, delivered a speech to The Queen on behalf of the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, who afterwards delivered a ninefold cheer from Fredensborg Palace Garden.



On the morning of 16 April, the staff at Fredensborg Palace sang a morning song for The Queen on the occasion of the 80th birthday.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

Around the country, many older citizens received a bouquet of flowers on the birthday. The Queen had urged Danes to think of the seniors who had a particularly hard time during the crisis by giving them a bouquet instead of sending one to The Queen herself.



On the occasion of the birthday, the Lord Chamberlain delivered a speech to The Queen on behalf of the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court in the Garden Room at Fredensborg Palace.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©



On the 80th birthday, after the community singing, The Queen appeared on the Front Steps at Fredensborg Palace and greeted those present.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©

During the year, the birthday was celebrated with official gifts, artwork and exhibitions. In February, The Queen and The Crown Prince were presented 400 newly designed banquet chairs, which will henceforth replace the traditional gold chairs at official events. The Queen and the Crown Prince Couple participated together in the opening of the exhibition “The Faces of The Queen” on 16 June at the Museum of National History at Frederiksborg Palace, where artist Niels Strøbæk’s new portrait of Her Majesty was also unveiled.



At an arrangement at Christiansborg Palace, The Queen and The Crown Prince were presented 400 newly designed banquet chairs.

PHOTO: KELD NAVTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©



The Queen and the Crown Prince Couple participated in the opening of the exhibition “The Faces of The Queen” at the Museum of National History at Frederiksborg Palace and attended the unveiling of Niels Strøbæk’s new portrait of Her Majesty.

PHOTO: IDA GULDBÆK ARENTSEN, RITZAU SCANPIX ©

The birthday gift from KL – Local Government Denmark was likewise in the character of portraiture. Here, the artists were students from third grade classes in the country’s 98 municipalities. At a TV-transmitted opening in the Great Hall at Christiansborg Palace on 16 June, they were able to present to The Queen their drawings and paintings created with “The Queen” and “Landmarks in my municipality” as main themes.



The Queen was present at the arrangement “Children from Denmark’s municipalities celebrate HM The Queen” at Christiansborg Palace, where students from the country’s third grade classes presented their works.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©

HISTORICAL ANNIVERSARIES

In 2020, the Royal Danish House took part in marking two major historical events: the 75th anniversary of Denmark’s liberation and the celebration of the centenary of the Reunification of South Jutland with Denmark.

On 4 May 1945, the Danish people received the news via the BBC that the German troops in Denmark had surrendered. 75 years later, The Queen commemorated the historic day at the Memorial Park in Hellerup together with prime minister Mette Frederiksen. The Queen paid respect to the Danes who lost their lives

for Denmark during the occupation by laying a wreath at the large burial ground, where 105 Danish resistance members are laid to rest.



At the Memorial Park in Hellerup on 4 May, The Queen and prime minister Mette Frederiksen paid respect to the women and men who lost their lives for Denmark during the occupation.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©



The Memorial Park holds, among other things, Axel Poulsen's central monument at the large burial ground, where The Queen laid a wreath in connection with the historic day.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©

In the evening, the royal family commemorated Denmark's liberation by lighting candles in the windows at Amalienborg, in the Chancellery House at Fredensborg Palace and at Schackenberg Palace.



On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of Denmark's liberation, The Crown Prince lit candles in the Chancellery House's windows.

PHOTO: H.K.H. KRONPRINSESSEN ©



Prince Joachim and Princess Marie also marked the historic day with candles in the windows at Schackenborg Palace.

PHOTO: H.K.H. PRINS JOACHIM ©

In October, Her Royal Highness Princess Benedikte took part in a commemorative service at Spentrup Church and a following wreath-laying ceremony at the Memorial Park close to Hvidsten Inn in connection with the 75th anniversary of Denmark's liberation. The arrangements were supposed to have taken place in May but were postponed because of Covid-19.

Valdemar's Day marked another national historical anniversary. On 15 June 2020, it had been 100 years since Denmark formally took charge of the administration of the Southern Jutland regions following a plebiscite in which a majority of the population of North Schleswig voted to return home to Denmark after 56 years under German control.

The official celebration of the centenary of the Reunification began immediately after the turn of the year in Copenhagen on 10 January, when The Queen and Princess Benedikte, together with Schleswig-Holstein's minister-president, participated in the government's gala performance at the Royal Danish Theatre, which among other things included the world premiere of a German-Danish pas de deux. Two days later, The

Queen attended a celebratory service at Copenhagen Cathedral, where bishop Peter Skov-Jakobsen's sermon focused on the importance of language and culture in the borderland.



The Queen and Princess Benedikte attended a gala performance at the Royal Danish Theatre in connection with the centenary of the Reunification.

PHOTO: MARTIN KUBERT ©



In Copenhagen Cathedral, The Queen attended a celebratory service in connection with the centenary of the Reunification.

PHOTO: IDA GULDBÆK ARENTSEN, RITZAU SCANPIX ©

In January, Princess Benedikte opened Museum Sønderjylland's exhibition "100 years with Denmark – Sønderjylland since The Reunification" at Sønderborg Castle, where Her Royal Highness emphasized the royal family's close connections with the region and its traditions in her speech.

The Queen and members of the royal family were supposed to have been on a four-day visit in Southern Jutland in July inspired by Christian the 10th's trip around the region 100 years earlier, but the visit had to be postponed until 2021 because of Covid-19. However, Danes were able to watch The Queen talk about the historic July days – including the grand moment when Christian the 10th rode over the former border on a white horse – in a number of new interviews for both DR and TV 2.

On the Royal Danish House's digital platforms, the 100th anniversary was also marked with historical photos from Christian the 10th's archives and excerpts from The King's diary.



On 10 July 1920, Christian the 10th rode across the former border at Frederikshøj.

PHOTO: H.M. DRONNINGENS HÅNDBIBLIOTEK ©



Christian the 10th and the royal family were on a tour around Southern Jutland in July 1920 in connection with The Reunification.

PHOTO: H.M. DRONNINGENS HÅNDBIBLIOTEK ©

THE QUEEN AS HEAD OF STATE

In a constitutional monarchy like the Danish one, The Majesty has a number of functions in the administration of the state, among others to preside over the council of state. The council of state is the organ in the state administration in which all laws and important government measures are handled. Councils of state are held according to need, normally approximately six times a year, and they take place in the Council Room at Christiansborg Palace.

In 2020, the holding of the councils of state was obviously affected by the Covid-19 situation and by the measures the pandemic outbreak had rendered necessary. This means that, during the year, only three councils of state were held, in February, June and October respectively, and that the councils of state in June and October were carried out in a different way in order to ensure the necessary distancing and reduce the total of people present.



In October, The Queen, The Crown Prince and prime minister Mette Frederiksen participated in a council of state, which, as an exception, was moved to the Dining Hall at Christiansborg Palace.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©

The crisis also affected The Queen's opportunity to personally greet the nearly 2,000 citizens who, since the turn of the year, had received a royal medal or order of chivalry. The public audiences, which are normally held twice a month, had to be cancelled from mid-March and, instead, those concerned received a personal letter in which the Cabinet Secretary, on behalf of The Queen, offered congratulations for the decoration and thanks for the effort made for the Danish society.

In addition, 6,711 citizens received congratulations from The Queen in 2020 in connection with the

celebration of diamond wedding anniversaries, 100-year birthdays or other special anniversary days.

Her Majesty traditionally receives a number of foreign heads of state, heads of government, foreign ministers and parliament speakers during their visits to Denmark. In 2020, there were obviously fewer visits from abroad than normal. But, during the year, The Queen received Schleswig-Holstein's minister-president, Daniel Günther, Armenia's parliamentary speaker, Ararat Mirzoyan, and Switzerland's foreign minister, H.E. Ignazio Cassis, in Christian IX's Palace at Amalienborg. Likewise, The Queen received 12 new foreign ambassadors, who presented their credentials to Her Majesty, and additionally met with six ambassadors in farewell audiences.



The Queen received the speaker of Armenia's parliament, Ararat Mirzoyan, in Christian IX's Palace at Amalienborg.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©



In connection with the reception of ambassadors in Christian VII's Palace at Amalienborg, The Queen inspected the Guard of Honor.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©

Before the lockdown of the country, approximately 1,000 guests began the year by wishing Her Majesty and the Crown Prince Couple a "Happy New Year" at the traditional New Year's levees at Amalienborg and at Christiansborg Palace.



The Queen held a New Year's levee for the diplomatic corps at Christiansborg Palace in which the Crown Prince Couple participated.

PHOTO: PHILIP DAVALI, RITZAU SCANPIX ©

In 2020, The Queen participated in a number of arrangements with the armed forces. In June and November, Her Majesty was able to thank the departing guards from the Royal Life Guard and award “The Queen’s Watch” to the guards of the sentry company chosen as the service period’s best at the end of the period. The traditional Watch Parade normally takes place at the Life Guard’s Barracks in Copenhagen, but, in June, it was carried out for the first time at Marselisborg Palace, where Her Majesty also presented “The Queen’s Watch” to the guard who should have received the award at the cancelled parade in March. At both parades, there were fewer spectators than usual. Marselisborg Palace was also the setting on 26 August when The Queen received new officers from the Royal Danish Navy.



The Queen took part in the traditional Watch Parade and awarded “The Queen’s Watch” at the Life Guard’s Barracks in Copenhagen.

PHOTO: DEN KONGELIGE LIVGARDE ©

In September, the Royal Danish House issued a new official gala portrait of Denmark’s monarch. The portrait, which replaces the most recent official portrait from 2012, was created by photographer Per Morten Abrahamsen in connection with The Queen’s 80th birthday. Traditionally, portraits of the sovereign are changed at intervals, and the new portrait can henceforth be seen hanging in, among other places, state institutions, including Danish embassies abroad.



New official gala portrait of The Queen in the Dome Hall at Fredensborg Palace.
PHOTO: PER MORTEN ABRAHAMSEN ©

ROYAL RESIDENCES

Her Majesty and the royal family have – during the year – traditionally had alternating residence at the royal palaces in different parts of Denmark. In the winter months, The Queen lives at Amalienborg, which since 1794 has been home for nine Danish sovereigns. The spring and the fall are spent at Fredensborg Palace, while Graasten Palace – and the Royal Yacht Dannebrog – are especially known as summer residences. Marselisborg Palace is used primary for stays in connection with Easter and Christmas and during the summer.

In 2020, there were – in light of the spread of the coronavirus – a number of changes in the traditional residences. For example, The Queen had to cancel the Easter stay at Marselisborg Palace and did not reside on the Royal Yacht Dannebrog during the year. The Crown Prince Family has often lived for short periods in the Chancellery House at Fredensborg Palace through the years. In 2020, the family resided in the Chancellery House from April until the end of October, when they moved back to Frederik VIII's Palace at Amalienborg.

In spring 2020, a new milestone was added to the history of the royal residence palaces when the re-establishment of Fredensborg Palace's original riding ground from 1720 was completed. When Frederik the 4th erected Fredensborg Palace 300 years ago, a riding ground and stable were built between Fredensborg Palace Church and the Chancellery House. The riding ground had been closed down for many years. But, in May, the white Kladruber horses of the Royal Mews were once again able to start using the historic facility.

Funds for the restoration were a gift in connection with The Crown Prince's 50th birthday in 2018, and the work involved in re-establishing the riding ground and restoring the appurtenant Long Stable was carried out by the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces. The historic riding ground and stable will henceforth be used by the royal family, the Royal Mews and the Guard Hussar Regiment.



Re-establishment of Fredensborg Palace’s original riding ground from 1720 was completed in the spring, and afterwards the white Kladruber horses of the Royal Mews could again use the historic facility.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©

ART AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Stanzas from Mozart’s “The Magic Flute” sounded over Fredensborg Palace Garden on a sunny afternoon in June when The Queen and Princess Benedikte, at the arrangement “A musical afternoon”, presented the Queen Ingrid Honors Award to two young artists, opera singer Nicolai Elsberg and ballet dancer Tobias Prætorius of the Royal Danish Ballet. As chairman of the Queen Ingrid Honors Award, Princess Benedikte delivered the welcoming speech at the event.

The award, which was established in 2005, is given to support additional studies and training for young

artists. Because of the prevailing travel restrictions, Her Majesty Queen Anne-Marie could not participate in the award presentation this time.



The Queen presented a Queen Ingrid Honors Award to opera singer Nicolai Elsberg at the arrangement “A musical afternoon” in Fredensborg Palace Garden.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©

The following month, The Queen and Princess Benedikte were again on assignment together – this time in Southern Jutland for the opening of the Royal Kitchen Garden at Graasten Palace on 24 July. With the invitation “Now it is here – come and eat!” The Queen welcomed the public to the 7,500 square meter kitchen garden, where school classes will have the opportunity to learn more about the path from garden to table and visitors can take part in a number of activities and buy fruit and vegetables from the garden.

The Queen and the Princess have been closely involved in the work of the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces to recreate and develop Queen Ingrid’s kitchen garden into a new attraction. And, in the DR series

“The Royal Kitchen Garden”, viewers were able to follow the great work through three episodes.



The Queen and Princess Benedikte opened the Royal Kitchen Garden at Graasten Palace.

PHOTO: CLAUS FISKER, RITZAU SCANPIX ©

Art has a special place in The Queen’s heart – both personally and as a creative artist. In 2020, Her Majesty was again able to present new church art when a new chasuble was put into use at the Danish Church in London in December. With inspiration from the church interior and color selections derived from both Denmark and England, The Queen created a chasuble that Danes residing in London for shorter or longer periods can enjoy throughout the ecclesiastical year.



The Queen has created a new chasuble for the Danish Church in London. On the back piece, an embroidered cross with the Luther Rose in the middle can be seen. The winding vines in the chasuble's pattern suggest the Gothic lines in the church.

PHOTO: DEN DANSKE KIRKE | LONDON ©



On the chasuble's front, The Queen has embroidered a Christogram. The monogram, which is based on the three first letters of the name "Jesus" in Greek, is surrounded by a crown of thorns.

PHOTO: DEN DANSKE KIRKE | LONDON ©

THE ROYAL FAMILY'S KEY ISSUES

At the beginning of the year, The Crown Prince attended the winter Youth Olympic Games, which took place in Lausanne, Switzerland during the period of 9-22 January. As a member of the International Olympic Committee, The Crown Prince had been in the steering group behind the organization and implementation of the Youth Olympic Games. And, in Lausanne, His Royal Highness had the opportunity to meet several of the 26 Danish athletes who participated in five sports.

The Crown Prince resided primarily in Switzerland the first few months of the year with The Crown Princess and the couple's four children, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Christian, Princess Isabella, Prince Vincent and Princess Josephine. On 6 January, the family had begun a 12-week stay at the international school Lemania-Verbier with the goal of creating a joint experience for the children in an international environment.



At the Youth Olympic Games in the Swiss city of Lausanne, The Crown Prince was present at the classic cross-country skiing competition for men and met the Danish cross-country skier Hjalmar Michelsen.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

In January, The Crown Prince agreed to be the patron of the nationwide celebration of the 200th anniversary of H.C. Ørsted's discovery of electromagnetism, HCØ2020. So, during the year, His Royal Highness helped to promote interest in science and the technology of the future, including during a September visit at Sophienborgskolen in Hillerød, where students in all grade levels had worked with experiments concerning electromagnetism during the year's Science Festival.



In connection with the official opening of HCØ2020 at the House of Industry in Copenhagen, The Crown Prince visited a number of exhibitions and greeted the school students.

PHOTO: MIKAL SCHLOSSER ©



The Crown Prince and Save the Children's secretary general Johanne Schmidt-Nielsen visited a kindergarten for Syrian refugee children at the Za'atari refugee camp in Jordan.

PHOTO: ULRIK JANTZEN, RED BARNET ©

Play and learning were also at the center – but in completely different surroundings – when, on 4 March, The Crown Prince as the longtime patron of Save the Children visited the Za'atari refugee camp in Jordan, which is one of the largest camps for Syrian refugees. There, through play and football, His Royal Highness received insight into the children's everyday lives in the refugee camp and into Save the Children's work to strengthen the mental health and well-being of children and young people during humanitarian crises. The visit took place in connection with Save the Children – Denmark's 75th anniversary.

In recent years, The Crown Prince has put special focus on the global climate and environmental challenges and on Denmark's role as a leading nation in the area of green solutions. In May, The Crown Prince, in his role as patron of the Danish public-private partnership State of Green, gave the opening speech at the launching of the new webinar series "Green Talks". The green transition was also in focus when His Royal Highness was the keynote speaker at the opening of the digital business promotional campaign aimed at The Netherlands. The promotional campaign was the first digital campaign with royal participation ever. It will be followed up by a physical visit in The Netherlands when possible.

Another new initiative in 2020 was the newly established prize, the "HRH Crown Prince Frederik International Business Awards", which were handed out for the first time in August to three international companies that have made special efforts to promote sustainable Danish solutions globally.



The Crown Prince gave a speech at the launch of “Green Talks”, which took place at House of Green in Copenhagen.

PHOTO: STATE OF GREEN ©



At the House of Industry in Copenhagen, The Crown Prince participated in a digital business promotional campaign aimed at The Netherlands.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, RITZAU SCANPIX ©

In December, The Crown Prince visited the NATO exercise STEADFAST JUPITER-JACKAL 2020 at the Oksbøl Barracks. The goal of the exercise was to certify that Denmark, together with Belgium and The Netherlands, can quickly set up a joint special forces headquarters as a part of NATO’s reaction force in 2021. The Danish special operations command, which has the overall responsibility for the establishment of the headquarters, includes among other things the Frogman Corps, where The Crown Prince finished his training in 1995.



The Crown Prince visited the NATO exercise STEADFAST JUPITER-JACKAL 2020 at the Oksbøl Barracks.
PHOTO: MORTEN FREDSLUND, PIC/SOKOM ©

Together, the Crown Prince Couple helped to honor the efforts made by Danes sent to the world's conflict areas when Their Royal Highnesses participated in the Flag Day for Denmark's military personnel and others officially sent abroad on 5 September. The Crown Prince Couple began the day honoring fallen soldiers by laying a wreath at the Monument to Denmark's International Efforts after 1948 at the Citadel in Copenhagen. Prime minister Mette Frederiksen and defence minister Trine Bramsen also took part in the ceremony, which was followed by a memorial service at the Church of Holmen in Copenhagen.



On the Flag Day for Denmark's military personnel and others officially sent abroad, the Crown Prince Couple took part in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Monument to Denmark's International Efforts after 1948 in Copenhagen.

PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, RITZAU SCANPIX ©

For The Crown Princess, 2020 also offered new duties. In June, Her Royal Highness was announced president of World Wildlife Fund for Nature Denmark, which works to protect nature's diversity and threatened species of animals. Prince Henrik took the initiative in 1972 to establish WWF Denmark, and The Prince was the organization's president from that time until his death. In August, The Crown Princess helped to release thornback rays, a threatened species, into the waters at the Kattegatcenter in Grenaa, and The Crown Princess also participated in the announcement of a new partnership between WWF International and Velux on capture of the company's CO2 footprint.



The Crown Princess was present at WWF Denmark's release of thornback rays from the Kattegatcenter in Grenaa.
PHOTO: HENNING BAGGER, RITZAU SCANPIX ©

The role as president of WWF Denmark is a natural extension of The Crown Princess's involvement in the work with disseminating and achieving the UN's sustainable development goals. On 9 September, Her Royal Highness gave a speech at the conference "A Decade of Action - 10 Years Left" in the Landsting Chamber at Christiansborg, where The Crown Princess put focus on the collective push needed to meet the 17 global goals by 2030.



The Crown Princess spoke at the conference “A Decade of Action – 10 Years Left” in the Landsting Chamber at Christiansborg.

PHOTO: HANNE JUUL / ALLER FOTO & VIDEO ©



The Crown Princess took part in a virtual launch meeting in the ICPD25 High-Level Commission.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

Through the years, The Crown Princess has been especially engaged in Global Goal 5 concerning gender equality, and, as patron of the UN’s Population Fund, UNFPA, Her Royal Highness has taken an active part in the fund’s work for girls’ and women’s reproductive health and rights through travels, projects and international engagements. In 2020, The Crown Princess agreed to join the fund’s newly established, independent ICPD25 High-Level Commission, which will follow up on the commitments – including on women’s access to contraception and to safe births – that were stated at the Nairobi Summit in 2019.

In connection with the coronavirus pandemic, The Crown Princess also put the consequences of the crisis for disadvantaged girls on the agenda. This included a virtual discussion with young women from Uganda and Ethiopia at a celebration hosted by PlanBørnefonden on the UN’s International Day of the Girl 2020 on 7 October at Nærum Gymnasium. Among other things, the conversation dealt with the risks that school lockdowns bring about especially for girls.

Her Royal Highness also had conversations with children and young people about everyday life, challenges

and concerns in Denmark during the crisis. In a livestreamed discussion in connection with UNICEF's commemoration of World Children's Day on 20 November, The Crown Princess spoke with a group of children in Denmark and about children's rights in a global perspective. At the end of November, The Crown Princess was the keynote speaker in a virtual summit arranged by the Ministry of Higher Education and Science and the Ministry of Culture about new activities and initiatives to improve the well-being of young people during the pandemic.



On the occasion of World Children's Day, The Crown Princess participated with UNICEF in a livestreamed discussion with the children Thea, Vilma and Esther as well as UNICEF ambassador Sofie Østergaard at Tivoli in Copenhagen.

PHOTO: UNICEF/LISE BALSBY ©



In a virtual summit about the well-being of young people during the Covid-19 pandemic, a video of a speech by The Crown Princess was shown.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

In June, Prince Joachim received his diploma for accomplishing the highest-ranking French military leadership education at École Militaire in Paris. The education consisted of two parts, which were carried through at Centre des Hautes Études Militaires (CHEM) and Institut des Hautes Études de la Défense Nationale (IHEDN), respectively. The Prince is the first Danish officer to have accomplished the complete education. The same month, it was announced that Prince Joachim would begin as the new defence

attaché at the Danish embassy in Paris in September.



In June, Prince Joachim received his diploma for accomplishing the highest French military education at École Militaire by the French defence chief General Lecointre.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©



Prince Joachim began work as defence attaché at the Danish Embassy in Paris in September.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

There was a serious scare in the summer when Prince Joachim was stricken by a blood clot in the brain on 24 July. The Prince was rushed by ambulance to University Hospital in Toulouse, and, after a successful operation, the Prince's condition became so stable that His Royal Highness could be discharged from the hospital on 3 August. In connection with the hospitalization, both Prince Joachim and Princess Marie expressed their gratitude for the support and care which flowed from Danes to France during the course of the illness. After a period of convalescence, His Royal Highness was ready for the first workday in his role as defence attaché on 18 September.

As patron of DanChurchAid, Princess Marie travelled the days of 26 February - 1 March to Uganda, where the Princess visited a number of the organization's projects in, among other things, the area of sustainable agriculture. The Princess had the opportunity to meet young activists who fight to counter the consequences of climate change in the country, and to visit local farmers and businesses working to promote the production of food products, establish local workplaces and reduce food waste.



During the trip to Uganda, Princess Marie and five climate advocates planted two mango trees, which the Princess had received as a gift the previous day, in northeastern Uganda.

PHOTO: BAX LINDHARDT, FOLKEKIRKENS NØDHJÆLP ©



Princess Marie opened DanChurchAid's new Wefood shop in Tingbjerg in Copenhagen.

PHOTO: EMIL HELMS, RITZAU SCANPIX ©

The fight against food waste was also in focus when the Princess both prepared food and gave a speech at the opening event in connection with the launching of Denmark's national food waste day on 29 September. At Axelborg in Copenhagen, the Princess was honored the same day with the award "Stræberen 2020" from the organization De Samvirkende Købmænd for her longtime efforts in the fight against food waste.

In connection with Princess Marie's special association with the Danish Emergency Management Agency, at the end of October, the Princess sent a greeting to the agency's volunteers, conscripts, enlisted personnel and employees and thanked them for their great efforts around the country in connection with the handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

During 2020, Prince Joachim and Princess Marie were able to celebrate a number of joyful events in the family. On 22 July, His Highness Prince Felix turned 18 years old, and, in this connection, the whole family gathered at Château de Cayx to celebrate the Prince's coming of age. On 24 November, it was precisely 12½ years since Prince Joachim and Princess Marie were married at Møgeltønder Church. The copper anniversary was celebrated privately in Paris.



Prince Felix was celebrated at Château de Cayx in France when the Prince turned 18 years old in July.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©



In connection with their copper anniversary in November, Prince Joachim and Princess Marie shared a photo taken by Her Highness Princess Athena in Paris.

PHOTO: H.H. PRINSESSE ATHENA ©

For Princess Benedikte, the year offered a number of activities all around Denmark. In the spring, Princess Benedikte, as patron of the Alzheimer Association, sent a greeting to the approximately 90,000 Danes with dementia and their relations, who had a particularly hard time during the coronavirus pandemic. And, in September, the Princess presented the Alzheimer Association's Researcher Award 2020 to two Danish researchers who excelled in their studies of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. On the same occasion, Her Royal Highness also presented the Danish Alzheimer's Research Foundation's annual grants totaling 1.8 million DKK to seven research projects.

In 2020, the Princess visited Flensburg, where Her Royal Highness met the Danish consul general, Kim Andersen, and a number of representatives of the city's cultural life at the Royal Danish Consulate General. The Consulate General in Flensburg was established after the delineation of the border in 1920 as one of the many initiatives in support of the Danish minority in South Schleswig. Afterwards, the Princess visited the newspaper Flensburg Avis.



Princess Benedikte presented the Alzheimer Association's Researcher Award to neuropsychologist, lecturer and Ph.D. Asmus Vogel and lecturer and Ph.D. Kristine Freude.

PHOTO: ALZHEIMERFORENINGEN ©

THE ROYAL DANISH HOUSE'S COMMUNICATION

The Royal Danish House's communicational ambition to be present where Danes are had a particular relevance in a year marked by social distancing. In 2020, The Queen and the royal family to a great extent communicated to – and with – the Danish people through the TV screen, the print and digital media and the Royal Danish House's social media platforms.

During the year, the royal family took part in more than 25 interviews, book projects and TV programs, including The Queen's participation in six interviews connected with the 80th birthday.



In the podcast “The Queen and the Arts”, The Queen, among other things, talked about classical music with pianist Nikolaj Koppel.

PHOTO: PETRA KLEIS ©



The Crown Prince cooperated in the final episode of the program series “Kurs mod danske kyster”, which follows TV host Mikkel Beha and his family on a sailing tour around Denmark aboard the ship Wallenberg.

PHOTO: TV 2 ©

The royal family also tried their hands at new media formats during the year. In the spring, Her Majesty participated in a podcast for the first time, when The Queen, in three episodes, dived down into the worlds of music, ballet and the visual arts in the podcast series “The Queen and the Arts”. Likewise, The Queen cooperated in a short educational film about the portrait “Queen Dowager Juliane Marie” for the National Gallery of Denmark’s digital platforms, which were especially of delight for those who were prevented from physically visiting the museum because of the coronavirus crisis. While many Danes spent the summer holiday in Denmark, The Crown Prince headed out on a sailing tour in the TV 2 program “Kurs mod danske kyster” in August.

Since 2016, the Royal Danish House has been present on the social media, and the total of followers has been steadily rising. In 2020 alone, the total grew by more than 120,000. On Instagram, the Royal Danish House now has 493,000 followers, while 317,000 follow along on Facebook.

A recurring tradition in the Royal Danish House digital media is the annual Christmas calendar. This time, Her Majesty sent the Elf Girl on a journey through the Realm, and the 24 calendar doors gave – in Danish, Faroese, Greenlandic and English – a glimpse into Faroese and Greenlandic Christmas traditions, interwoven with stories about the Royal Danish House through the ages.



1. december



2. december



3. december



4. december



5. december



6. december



7. december



8. december

The Royal Danish House presented a digital Christmas calendar for the fifth year in a row. In the year's Christmas tale, the Elf Girl was sent out on a journey through the Realm to find her two siblings.

PHOTO: KONGEHUSET ©

THE ROYAL DANISH HOUSE'S FINANCES

Financially, the coronavirus situation meant that the Royal Danish House had a positive accounting result in a year that had been budgeted with a deficit due to anticipated large events, including particularly those in connection with The Queen's 80th birthday.

The coronavirus crisis resulted in savings as a consequence of the arrangements that were cancelled. But, at the same time, it entailed considerable extraordinary costs. To limit the infection risk, some of the staff had to work remotely on a weekly basis for periods, just as castles and palaces were made safe through, among other things, the mounting of sensor-based switches and hand cleanser containers as well as increased daily cleaning efforts. In addition, considerable sums were invested in setting up home workplaces, including the purchase of portable PCs and other IT equipment.

In connection with the birthday, a number of expenses were paid, even though planned arrangements had been cancelled. That involved certain expenses for assistants, event spaces and catering that had been ordered and reserved and that the Royal Danish House chose to pay in whole or in part despite the cancellations. The celebration of the birthday was later presented via, among other means, digital media, which involved additional costs for IT software, equipment and time consumption.



The Queen delivered her 49th New Year's Address from the reception room in Christian IX's Palace at Amalienborg.

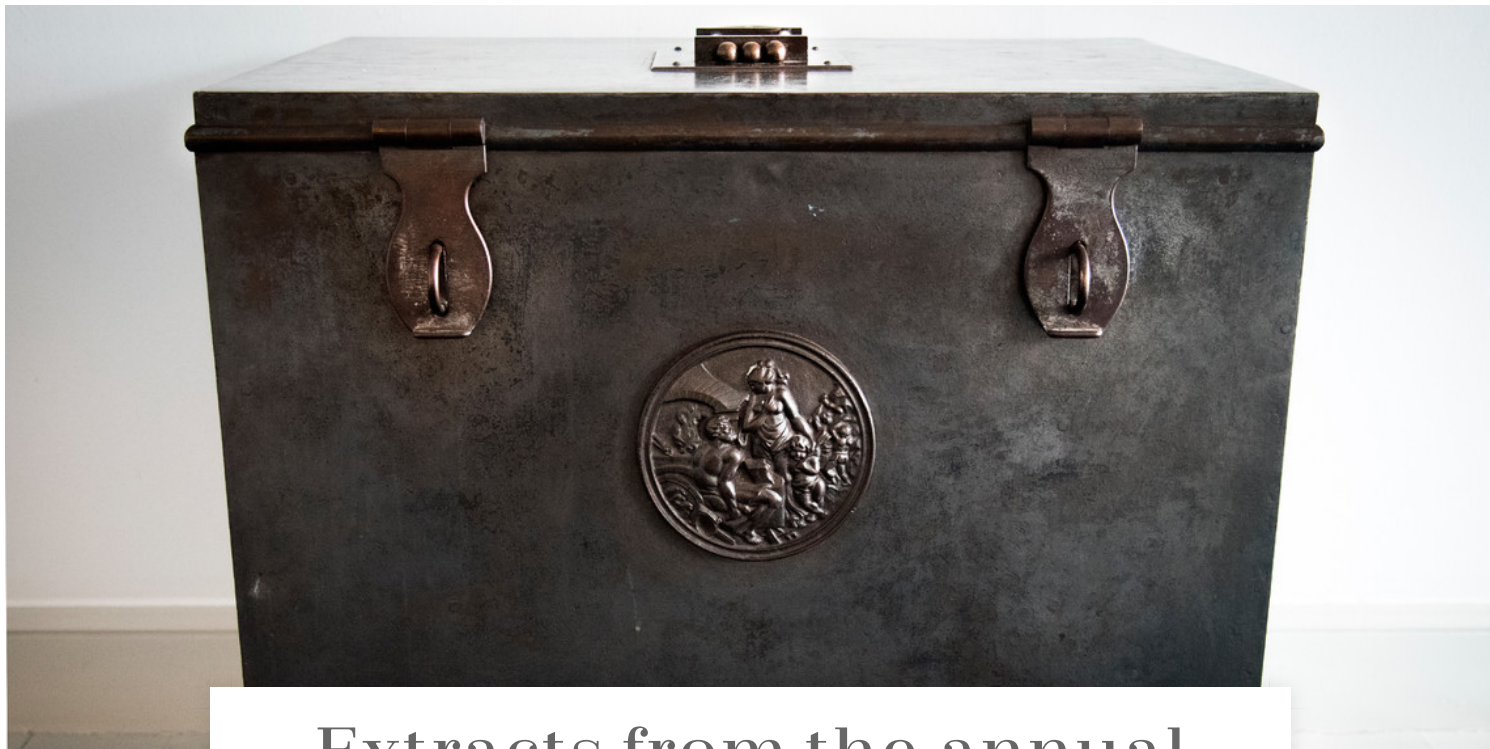
PHOTO: KELD NAVNTOFT, KONGEHUSET ©

2020 was a year that few are likely to forget – for better or for worse. On the last day of the year, The Queen delivered her 49th New Year's Address and summarized the year with these words:

"This year has been a trial by fire, but we have shown that when it comes to the crunch we can stand together, and we manage to find moments of light, in spite of deprivation and uncertainty."

Michael Ehrenreich

Lord Chamberlain



Extracts from the annual report

The royal finances are presented here in summary form. The full text is contained in the Danish version of the annual report, which has been audited by the independent accounting firm Deloitte.

EXTRACTS FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT

General

The financial statements of the Civil List and the Parliamentary Annuity paid to The Crown Prince are presented in accordance with the provisions regarding class A enterprises under the Danish Financial Statements Act.

In accordance with the Danish Act on the Registration of Motor Vehicles, The Queen and Prince Henrik, The Crown Prince and The Crown Princess, Prince Joachim and Princess Benedikte have not been subject to registration tax in relation to motor vehicles, etc. In accordance with the Danish Personal Tax Act, The Royal Family are subject to the normal tax rules governing inheritances, gifts and property. Value added tax is reimbursed in accordance with the rules that also apply for state institutions, and the annual reimbursement is limited to a percentage of the parliamentary allowance corresponding to the current rate of value added tax.

The Civil List

The annual Parliamentary allowance to The Queen is laid down in The Civil List Act, as last amended in 2001.

That allowance is adjusted in accordance with movements in the pay index for employees in the state sector. The state has pension liabilities in respect to Court officials employees under the terms of the Civil List (employed by The Queen), and pension contributions equivalent to the pension contributions paid by government ministries and state agencies are paid to the Ministry of Finance from the Civil List.

The Parliamentary allowance is provided to meet the expenses of The Queen relating to staff, operation of the Royal Household, administration and properties as well as expenses of a more private nature. For Princess Benedikte, the allowance covers expenses connected to official obligations.

Total VAT rebate for 2020: 5,480,411 DKK.

THE CIVIL LIST

The Civil List

Extract from financial statements

	2020	2019
	DKK	DKK'000
INCOME STATEMENT		

INCOME

Parliamentary allowance	85,942,263	83,828
Other income	2,678,000	2,852
	88,620,263	86,680

EXPENDITURE

Staff costs	54,210,261	54,833
Court expenses	7,337,876	7,860
Administration expenses	6,823,223	6,237
Property expenses	4,500,092	3,700
Depreciations	1,527,049	1,295
The Queen expenditure cap	11,193,980	10,919
Parliamentary allowance to HRH Princess Benedikte	1,289,134	1,257
	86,881,615	86,101

Net income before financial income and expenditure	1,738,648	579
Financial income and expenses	402,380	1,314
Net income for the year	2,141,028	1,893

BALANCE SHEET

BALANCE SHEET at 31 December

	2020 DKK	2019 DKK'000
ASSETS		
Fixed assets	5,051,483	6,093
Current assets	29,469,548	25,893
Total assets	34,521,031	31,986
RESERVE AND LIABILITIES		
Reserve at 31 December	16,393,681	14,253
Current liabilities	18,127,350	17,733
Total reserve and liabilities	34,521,031	31,986

The Crown Prince

The Parliamentary annuity paid to The Crown Prince and The Crown Princess is laid down in the Act on the Annual Allowance to Crown Prince Frederik of 2004. The adjustment of that allowance and the reimbursement of value added tax follow the same principles which are applied to the Civil List.

Total VAT rebate for 2020: 1,919,812 DKK

THE PARLIAMENTARY ANNUITY

The Parliamentary Annuity

Extract from financial statements

	2020 DKK	2019 DKK'000
INCOME STATEMENT		
INCOME		
Parliamentary allowance	21,154,382	20,634
Other income	0	0
	21,154,382	20,634
EXPENDITURE		
Staff costs	11,386,898	13,167
Court expenses	1,843,054	1,952
Administration expenses	233,703	279
Property expenses	1,309,165	867
Depreciations	503,343	462
The Crown Prince and The Crown Princess expenditure cap	4,230,876	4,127
	19,507,039	20,854
Net income before financial income and expenditure	1,647,343	-220
Financial expenses	-1,885	0
Net income for the year	1,645,458	-220

BALANCE SHEET

BALANCE SHEET at 31 December

	2020 DKK	2019 DKK'000
ASSETS		
Fixed assets	2,152,918	2,302
Current assets	4,895,048	3,485
Total assets	7,047,966	5,787
RESERVE AND LIABILITIES		
Reserve at 31 December	2,779,521	1,134
Current liabilities	4,268,445	4,653
Total reserve and liabilities	7,047,966	5,787

Prince Joachim

The Parliamentary annuity paid to Prince Joachim and Princess Marie is laid down in the Act on the Annual Allowance to Prince Joachim, as last amended in 2008. The adjustment of that allowance and the

reimbursement of value added tax follow the same principles which are applied to the Civil List.

Prince Joachim received an annual annuity of 3,739,068 DKK and reimbursement of 934,767 DKK value added tax.