

Nordic Countries

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Nordic Countries Latest News

In the fourth leg of his visit, the Prime Minister will reach Norway for the 3rd India-Nordic Summit and bilateral engagements.

About Nordic Countries

- The Nordic countries, also known as the **Nordic region**, are a group of countries in **northern Europe** consisting of **Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden**.
- The designation **includes** the **Faroe Islands and Greenland**, which are **autonomous island regions of Denmark**, and the **Åland Islands**, an **autonomous island region of Finland**.
- The term is sometimes **used interchangeably with Scandinavia**, a peninsular region of northern Europe that serves as the **geographic core of the Nordic countries**.
 - **Scandinavia** is typically defined more restrictively, however, and refers primarily to **Norway, Sweden, and Denmark**.

- **Sweden** is the **largest and most populous** of the Nordic countries. **Iceland** is the **least populous**. **Denmark** is the **smallest**.
- The countries have many similarities in that they **rank highly worldwide** in such areas as **education, civil liberties, quality of life, and economic competitiveness**.
- **Language:**
 - **Most inhabitants** of the Nordic region speak **North Germanic languages** (also called **Nordic or Scandinavian languages**): **Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish**, as well as **Faroese and Icelandic**.
 - Native **non-Germanic languages** include **Greenlandic, Finnish, and Sami languages**.
- **Political System:**
 - **Denmark, Sweden, and Norway** are **constitutional monarchies and parliamentary democracies**.
 - **Finland and Iceland** are **democratic republics**.
 - **Iceland's parliament**, the **Althing**, is the **oldest parliament in the world**.
- **Cooperation:**
 - There is close **cooperation** between the countries through the **Nordic Council** and the **Nordic Council of Ministers**.
 - **Denmark, Sweden, and Finland** are **members of the European Union (EU)**.
 - **Norway and Iceland** are **European Economic Area (EEA) members**.
 - EEA includes EU countries and also Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway.

Source: NOA

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