



BRÈVES ÉCONOMIQUES DU DANEMARK

UNE PUBLICATION DU SERVICE ÉCONOMIQUE

DE COPENHAGUE

N° 17 – 15 juillet 2021

Energy

Denmark to host IEA ministerial conference in June 2022

The seventh annual ministerial conference of the **International Energy Agency** (IEA) will take place in Denmark in June 2022. Ministers from the 30 IEA member countries will come to Copenhagen to discuss how best **to reduce GHG emissions from the energy sector**. This is only the second time the IEA's annual conference has been held outside **Paris**, where its headquarters are located: in 2019 it was hosted by Ireland. Katrine Bjerre M. Eriksen, CEO of **Synergi** (the energy efficiency organisation set up by **Danfoss, Grundfos, Rockwool and Velux**), sees the organisation of the conference as a great **opportunity** for **Danish companies**. Indeed, the changing global targets in terms of **energy efficiency** could boost **growth, employment and exports** from Denmark. [Børsen](#)

TDC Net and Better Energy partner to build solar farms

By 2028, all of the electricity consumption of the incumbent operator **TDC Net**, which is responsible for the telecommunications group's networks, will be provided by **green energy**. To achieve this goal, TDC Net has signed an agreement with the Danish company **Better Energy** to **build four new solar parks** in Jutland and Fionia. These will start supplying green energy from the beginning of **2022** and will provide **60%** of TDC Net's electricity consumption. In addition, the group is seeking similar agreements for wind farms. TDC Net's goal is to reduce its CO2 emissions by **50%** by 2023 and to be carbon neutral by **2028**. However, its electricity consumption is expected to increase by **2.5%** by 2028, due to the rapid growth of Danish data consumption (which is growing by about **40%** per year). [Berlingske](#)

Ørsted to build new offshore wind farm in the US

The US authorities have chosen two developers for the expansion of New Jersey's **offshore wind capacity**: Ørsted and the Altantic Shores

consortium of **Shell** and **EDF Renewables**. It has been almost **two years** since Ørsted won a global offshore wind tender. This is an important victory for Ørsted and its ambition to **strengthen its position** in the US, where it is already behind the **Ocean Wind 1** project, also in New Jersey. The construction of the new wind farm, **Ocean Wind 2**, which will be operational by **2029**, will increase Ørsted's capacity in the US from **2.9 to 4.1 GW**. This will give Ørsted the **largest offshore wind capacity in the US** among energy developers: by comparison, **Shell's** capacity is **2.26 GW** and **Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners'** capacity is **1.6 GW**.

[Børsen](#)

⌚ Economy

Denmark has the second highest house price growth in the EU in 2021

According to Eurostat data, only in **Luxembourg** were house prices higher than in Denmark in the first quarter of 2021. Over this period, prices were **15.3%** higher than in the first quarter of 2020 in Denmark, and **17%** higher in Luxembourg. The third place in the ranking goes to **Lithuania**, where prices increased by **12%** in the first quarter of 2021, compared to a year earlier. Compared to the fourth quarter of 2020, house prices in Denmark rose by **5.8%**, again ranking second behind **Estonia**, where prices rose by **6.6%** in the same period. By comparison, house prices in the first quarter of 2021 in **France** rose by **5.5%** compared to the first quarter of 2020, and by **0.7%** compared to the fourth quarter of 2020. Eurostat data show that price increases in the housing market in 2021 were widespread across **most EU**

countries, with prices rising by an average of **6.1%** year-on-year, the highest increase since 2007. [Finans, Eurostat](#)

Lack of skilled and unskilled labour

While employment is increasing and unemployment is decreasing, there is a **lack of skilled labour** in Denmark, especially in **rural municipalities**. According to the Confederation of Danish Industries (DI), as many as **34.6%** of recruitment attempts for skilled jobs are **unsuccessful** in the municipality of **Ringkøbing-Skjern** (in the Central Jutland region), compared to only **7.3%** in **Copenhagen** (and a **national average of 19.2%**). According to the DI report, this contrast between large cities and rural areas is found throughout the country. Another recent DI study shows that about **18,000 more people** could be employed by Danish companies if candidates were available, which represents a **loss of DKK 13.5 billion (€1.8 billion) to Danish GDP**. The survey shows that it is mainly **service companies** (cleaning, construction, etc.) that have had to give up filling vacancies over the past three months. To help companies, DI proposes that more **unskilled young people** who receive educational assistance should be declared fit for work. [Finans, Berlingske, Berlingske](#)



FIGURE TO REMEMBER

13,5 B DKK

Shortfall in Danish GDP due to labour shortage

Denmark, the sixth largest maritime nation in the world

According to the trade organisation Danish Shipping, Denmark is in **6th place** in the ranking of **maritime nations**, down from 5th place last year. This drop of one place is not due to a decrease in the **size of the Danish fleet**, but to a more rapid expansion of other countries' fleets. The top five places in the ranking are occupied by **Greece, China, Singapore, Japan and Hong Kong**. On 1 July 2021, the Danish shipping flag consisted of **774 ships**, and Danish shipping companies had a capacity of **63.4 million gross registered tonnes (GRT)** (a unit of measurement for the internal volume of ships). In comparison, the companies of **Hong Kong**, which this year moved up to fifth place, accounted for **64.6 million GRT**. [Børsen](#)

Industry

Amazon may enter the Danish market in autumn 2021

Amazon arrived in **Central Europe** (Germany, UK, France) at the end of the 1990s, and set up shop in **Sweden** last November, and is not hiding its ambitions to **conquer the Scandinavian markets**. Despite the absence of an official announcement from the American e-commerce giant, many experts expect to see **Amazon set up shop in Denmark by the end of the year** (before Black Friday and Christmas, which are major sources of revenue for Amazon). Denmark would indeed be a prime market for Amazon: Danes have a very developed **internet access**, buy a lot **online**, and have a very high **purchasing power**. In terms of

products, Amazon could be particularly popular in Denmark for **fashion and textiles, home decoration, toys, DIY accessories and electronics**. After 8 months in Sweden, Amazon now has a **3% market share**, and has already become one of the largest online retailers in the Swedish market. [Børsen](#)

Royal Unibrew acquires MC Energy

Danish brewery **Royal Unibrew** has acquired the French company **MC Energy**, which is behind the energy drink **Crazy Tiger**. In 2020, MC Energy had a turnover of about **DKK 100 million (€13.5 million)**. Together with Crazy Tiger, MC Energy has about **10%** of the French energy drink market, which is currently growing rapidly. The acquisition, for **DKK 610m (€82m)**, is aimed at developing Royal Unibrew in the **French market**. Like most of the major companies on the international brewing scene, Royal Unibrew is entering **markets outside the beer market**, which has been stagnant for many years. Royal Unibrew expects Crazy Tiger to continue to grow at **double-digit rates** in the coming years. In recent years, the Danish brewery has been very active in **acquisitions abroad** (including the purchase of Italian brewery **Terme di Crodo** in 2018, and Latvian brewery **Sia Bauskas Alus** in 2019). French establishments are also attractive to Danish breweries: Royal Unibrew bought **Etablissements Geyer Frères** in 2018, and the Danish group **Carlsberg** acquired **Brasseries Kronenbourg** in 2008. [Børsen](#), [Finans](#)

Recovery of hotel activity, but still at a lower level than before the crisis

The number of **overnight stays** in Denmark in May was **2.2 million**: **63%** higher than in 2020,

but **32%** lower than in 2019. The increase in overnight stays in 2021 was therefore not sufficient to return to the pre-pandemic level. **Hotels** in particular continue to be affected: despite a **210%** increase in occupancy between May 2020 and May 2021, the number of overnight stays in Danish hotels in 2021 remains **53%** lower than in 2019. The relative absence of **foreign tourists** is one of the reasons for this poor performance. In contrast, the number of overnight stays at **campsites** has returned to its pre-Coronavirus level: in May 2021, campsites recorded **1.1 million** overnight stays, **20%** more than in 2020 and **1%** more than in 2019. *Finans*

60 million € investment for Muna Therapeutics

Biotech company **Muna Therapeutics** has raised **DKK 450m (€60m)** in a Series A round to

develop **drugs** for diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and dementia. The funding round was led by **Novo Holdings**, French **Sofinnova Partners**, Belgian **Droia Ventures** and Dutch **LSP Dementia Fund**. Other investors include the venture capital fund of French pharmaceutical giant **Sanofi**, Sanofi Ventures, and American **Polaris Partners**. Muna Therapeutics was founded in 2020 and funded from the outset by **Novo Holdings**, which remains the main shareholder. The goal is to have Muna Therapeutics' first drug ready for human testing in **Phase 1 trials by 2024**. In the longer term, Muna Therapeutics' ambition is to create a **flagship pharmaceutical company**. *Børsen*

La direction générale du Trésor est présente dans plus de 100 pays à travers ses Services économiques. Pour en savoir plus sur ses missions et ses implantations : www.tresor.economie.gouv.fr/tresor-international