



## A U S T R A L I A   A N D

# The Kingdom of Norway

### Key engagement

Australia and the Kingdom of Norway established diplomatic ties in 1947.

Australia and Norway cooperate closely in multilateral fora defending the rules-based international order and trade liberalisation. We work together to advance international peace and security, including the women, peace and security agenda, gender equality, democratic values, and protecting human rights.

### Outlook

Over the past five years, Australia's merchandise exports to Norway have been growing at an average of 30.1 per cent p.a. Defence industry engagement has increased.

### Bilateral relations

Australia and Norway are likeminded partners who share a commitment to the rules-based international order, human rights, good governance, gender equality, sustainable development, clean energy and liberalised trade. Australia works closely with Norway on Antarctic and oceans issues.

### Foreign policy

Climate change, sustainable oceans and the environment are central issues in Norway's foreign policy. Norway is a founding member of the United Nations (UN) and is serving on the UN Security Council for the 2021-2022 term. Norway is active in the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian refugees. Norway established the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy together with leaders of 13 other countries, including Australia. Norway is a founding member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and a member of numerous other international organisations including the Arctic Council, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Norway is not a member of the European Union (EU) but is a member of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). Through the European Economic Area (EEA) agreement, Norway, the EU and the other EFTA countries form the European single market.

### FAST FACTS



Norwegian visitors to Australia (Year ended Dec 2021) **500**



Australian resident returns to Norway (Year ended Dec 2021) **300**



Resident Australian population born in Norway (2021 census) **3,702**



Australian residents of Norwegian descent (2021 census) **31,934**

### High level engagement

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2022 | Prime Minister Albanese met Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre at the NATO Summit in Madrid in June.   |
| 2022 | Former FM Payne and FM Huitfeldt met in February at the Munich Security Conference.   |
| 2017 | Former Norwegian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Tone Skogen, visited Australia.   |
| 2015 | Their Majesties King Harald V and Queen Sonja of Norway visited Canberra, Sydney and Perth. They were accompanied by a high-level delegation of senior government and business leaders. |

## Political Overview

Norway is a constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy with legislative powers vested in a unicameral parliament (the Storting). The Head of State is His Majesty King Harald V, who acceded to the throne in 1991. The Storting is made up of 169 members directly elected for four-year terms through a proportional representation voting system. Parliamentary elections are mandatory every four years.



### Agreements and Arrangements with the Kingdom of Norway

2007	Agreement on Social Security
2007	Double Taxation Agreement
2004	Agreement on Medical Treatment for Temporary Visitors

Texts of bilateral agreements are available at the [Australian Treaties Database](#).

The Australian Embassy in Copenhagen has diplomatic accreditation to Norway

[Home \(embassy.gov.au\)](http://embassy.gov.au)

[Facebook](#)

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## Travel

See [smartraveller](#) for information on travelling to Norway.

## Public diplomacy

The Embassy supports outreach events in Norway including ANZAC Day commemorative services arranged by the Australian Association Norway.

Oslo Pride –Norway's largest annual Human Rights festival – receives strong support from the Embassy each year.

## Economic diplomacy

In 2021, two-way goods and services trade between Australia and Norway was valued at just over \$1.1 billion.

Australia's major exports to Norway that year comprised transport services, professional, technical and other business services, education-related travel, and financial services.

Major imports from Norway comprised transport services, professional, technical and other business services, fish, and animal feed.

The investment relationship is strong. In 2021, the stock of Norwegian investment in Australia was valued at \$28.3 billion, while Australian investment in Norway was valued at \$9.9 billion.

Norwegian renewable energy and defence companies are making significant investments in Australia.

[More economic and trade information.](#)

## Business

Australia and Norway are both major energy exporters. The [Australian Embassy in Copenhagen](#) holds diplomatic accreditation to Norway while Austrade's [office in Stockholm](#) can be contacted for business information.