

DIPLOMACY MEETS REGALIA AT LAVISH NEW YEAR RECEPTION AT CHRISTIANSBORG PALACE



Icelandic ambassador Benedikt Bjarki Jonsson is presented to the queen

PHOTOS: HASSE FERROLD

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As a hundred diplomats gathered to be presented to the queen, a very noticeable elephant stood ... close to the exit

■ Christiansborg Palace was once again the venue for the queen's new year reception for the diplomatic corps, as close to 100 dignitaries came to pay their respects on January 4.

As is traditional, the occasion gave Diplomacy Magazine the catch up with all the countries' new heads of mission, as well as catching sight of rare visits by ambassadors located elsewhere in cities such as Stockholm, Oslo, Helsinki, Paris, Brussels, The Hague, Berlin and London.

In the absence of the current dean of the diplomatic corps, Russian ambassador Mikhail Vanin, Icelandic ambassador Benedikt Bjarki Jonsson stepped up to make the official address to Queen Margrethe II, who was once again joined by the Crown Prince Couple

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT, BREXIT

Brexit is a hot topic in diplomatic circles right now, and particularly in Denmark as 15 of the ambassadors responsible for Denmark are located in the UK capital: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cambodia, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Jamaica, Malawi, Mauritius, Myanmar and Sierra Leone.

As the diplomats waited in line to be presented to their majesties, it gave them an opportunity to speculate on what might happen in the event of a Hard Brexit.

While there are concerns about what effect it might have on travel, there is also speculation that a Hard Brexit might generate too much paperwork, encouraging some countries to set up an embassy in London to exclusively deal with British matters, thus moving their northern Europe ambassadors elsewhere.



The Crown Prince Couple



Queen Margrethe



Mihai-Alexandru Gradinar (Romania)



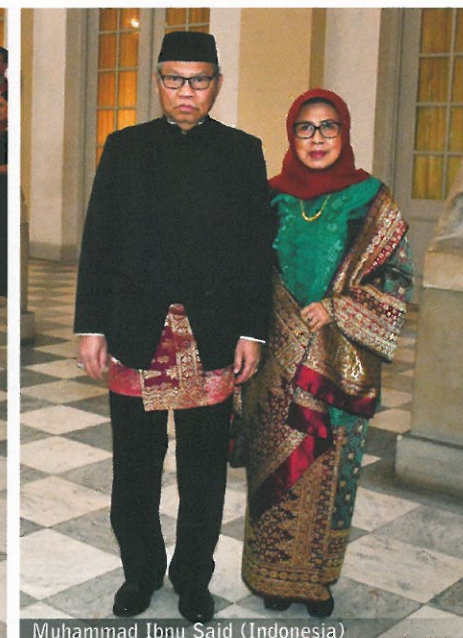
Toshiro Suzuki (Japan)



Ajit Gupte (India)



Muhammad Abdul Muhit (Bangladesh)



Muhammad Ibnu Said (Indonesia)



Choi Jai-Chul (South Korea)



Luigi Ferrari (Italy)



Kristof Altusz (Hungary)



Edvin Skrt (Slovenia)