

# Danish envoys reject U.S. threat to seize Greenland

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Trump cites national security concerns, but Arctic territory seeks stronger ties instead.

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BY ANA CEBALLOS

WASHINGTON — Top Danish diplomats met with White House officials on Wednesday to talk about President Trump's repeated threats to take control of Greenland and left with the understanding that the United States and Denmark have a "fundamental disagreement" about the future of the Arctic territory.

Lars Lokke Rasmussen, the Danish foreign minister, told reporters that the closed-door meeting with Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco

Rubio had been "frank, but also constructive," and that he was hopeful the allied governments would be able to find a "common way forward" in the near future.

"For us, ideas that would not respect territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Denmark and the right of self-determination of the Greenlandic people are, of course, totally unacceptable," Lokke Rasmussen said. "We, therefore, still have a fundamental disagreement, but we also agree to disagree."

In the hours leading up to the meeting, Trump said in a social media post that the "United States needs Greenland" for national security purposes — and that "anything less than" acquiring the Danish territory would be "unacceptable." Otherwise, the president has argued, China or Russia will

annex the territory because he does not think Danish officials have done enough to protect the island.

As Vance and Rubio met with the Danish officials, the White House posted a cartoon on social media that depicted two dog sleds, with Greenland's flag on the back, facing two pathways: a sunny day at the White House or a stormy scenario with Chinese and Russian flags. The image did not show a pathway with Denmark.

Vivian Motzfeldt, Greenland's foreign minister, told reporters after the meeting that she wants to strengthen the island's ties with the United States. But she asserted: "That doesn't mean that we want to be owned by the United States."

The meeting marked the  
[See Greenland, A6]