

EU pledges new investment in Greenland

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The European Union on Monday sought to reassure a jittery Greenland with the promise of a stronger partnership and hundreds of millions of euros in investment following repeated threats from U.S. President Donald Trump to take control of the island.

During a visit to the capital, Nuuk, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen offered €200-million in support over the next two years to help Greenland tackle climate change, boost internet connections and improve hydropower plants, fisheries and education.

The EU has increased its focus on Greenland since Mr. Trump began insisting that the United States should take control of the island for security reasons. His persistent claims raised sovereignty concerns and pushback from Greenlandic and Danish leaders and heightened tensions among NATO allies.

“Greenland’s future is for the people of Greenland and Denmark to decide. No one else,” Ms. von der Leyen said. “Territorial integrity, sovereignty, the inviolability of borders. These are fundamental principles of international law.”



Two people install an EU flag ahead of a visit by EU, Greenlandic and Danish leaders in Nuuk on Monday. RITZAU SCANPIX/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Funds are also earmarked for better housing, support for small businesses and sustainable tourism. Ms. von der Leyen also said that she wants to double EU budget support to Greenland to around €500-million from 2028.

“Greenland can count on the EU,” she said, after signing an EU-Greenland declaration with Prime Minister Jens-Frederik Nielsen and Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen. Greenland is a semi-autonomous territory of NATO ally Denmark.

Mr. Nielsen described the 27-

nation EU as “a loyal and trusted friend,” notably at a time when the island faces “new challenges that we cannot tackle alone.”

“Through these challenging times, your support to us is unfailing,” he said. “You have stood by us and continue to stand by us. We feel it and are deeply grateful.”

The Trump administration also leaned on Denmark. “We have been under pressure,” Ms. Frederiksen told reporters.

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