

Helle Thorning-Schmidt

Social Democrat

Helle Thorning-Schmidt is

set to become Denmark's first female prime minister after her centre-left bloc narrowly won national elections



■ **Born:** Rodovre, Denmark, December 14, 1966 (age 44 years)

■ **Early life:** Grew up in Copenhagen suburb, daughter of divorced parents. Political interest began in high school

■ **Education:** Holds two master's degrees – political science from *University of Copenhagen*, and European studies from *College of Europe* in Bruges, Belgium

■ **Political life:** Joined Danish Social Democrats in 1993. Member of European Parliament 1999-2004. Elected to Danish Parliament in 2005, becoming party leader in same year

■ **Personal life:** Married *Stephen Kinnock* – son of former UK Labour Party leader *Neil Kinnock* – in 1996. Couple have two daughters