

Margrethe II abdicates Danish throne

Queen Margrethe will hand over the throne of Europe's oldest continuous monarchy to her son, who becomes King Frederik X



■ **April 16, 1940:** *Margrethe Alexandrine Thorhildur Ingrid* born one week after Nazi invasion of Denmark, eldest child of future **King Frederik IX** and **Queen Ingrid** of Sweden

■ **1953:** Becomes heir presumptive after constitution amended to allow female succession

■ **1959:** Graduates from school in Copenhagen, later studies archaeology at Cambridge and political science at Aarhus University, Sorbonne and London School of Economics

■ **1967:** Marries **Count Henri de Laborde de Monpezat** – French diplomat who becomes **Prince Henrik**. They have two sons, **Crown Prince Frederik** and **Prince Joachim**

■ **Jan 14, 1972:** Becomes first female sovereign of Denmark since **Margrethe I**, who ruled Scandinavian kingdoms from 1375-1412

■ **2018:** Prince Henrik dies

■ **2022:** Margrethe celebrates Golden Jubilee – 50-year reign

■ **Jan 14, 2024:** Margrethe, 83, world's only reigning queen and Europe's longest serving current monarch, abdicates throne