

US designs on Greenland unchanged, PM says after meeting Trump envoy

Nielsen called the meeting with envoy Jeff Landry “constructive”

AFP | Nuuk, Denmark

The United States' stance towards Greenland has not altered, the premier for the Danish autonomous territory said yesterday after a first meeting with President Donald Trump's envoy to the island, who came to Nuuk without an official invite.

Prime Minister Jens-Frederik Nielsen called the meeting with envoy Jeff Landry “constructive” -- but noted there was “no sign... that anything has changed” with the US position.

“It was a constructive meeting, where we were able to engage in dialogue in a positive spirit and with great mutual respect,” the Greenland premier told a media conference.

“We clearly reiterated that the people of Greenland are not for sale and that Greenlanders have the right to self-determination. This is not a subject for negotiation,” Nielsen stressed.

‘Red line’

Landry's visit comes as transatlantic tensions over Trump's repeated claims to the territory have receded somewhat but not gone away.

Greenland's foreign minister, Mute Egede, also told reporters that the US has not given up on its aims to acquire the territory. “We have our red line. The



Denmark's King Frederik X (L) walks alongside Greenlandic Prime Minister Jens Frederik Nielsen (C) and the commander of the Joint Arctic Command, Major General Siren Andersen (R), with a Danish Navy vessel moored in the background at the port of Nuuk, Greenland. (file)

Americans' starting point has not changed either,” Egede said.

Landry's visit also comes at a delicate time for Denmark, which has been without a government since a March 24 election, with negotiations between parties failing to produce a majority coalition.

In January, Trump backed down from repeated threats

to seize Greenland, possibly through military force, after Denmark and other NATO allies displayed fierce resistance.

Afterwards, officials from Copenhagen and Nuuk held a first meeting in Washington and a working group was then established to discuss the US position.

“Talks are taking place within the working group,” Egede em-

phasised. “We are not going to have parallel discussions.”

Trump has repeatedly argued the US needs to control Greenland because of national security concerns, hypothesising that if America does not take over the Arctic island then it could fall into the hands of China or Russia.

Landry, who is the governor

of Louisiana, arrived for his first visit in the role as US special envoy to Greenland on Sunday. He is due to take part in an economic forum in the Greenlandic capital on Tuesday and Wednesday.

At the airport, a small number of Greenlanders turned out on his arrival, holding Greenlandic flags in a form of protest, according to footage from local media.

Questioned by Danish broadcaster TV2, Landry said he was in Greenland to explore ways to strengthen the relationship with the United States.

He also said Trump had told him to “go over there and make a bunch of new friends.”

‘Not guinea pigs’

Landry is accompanied by a delegation of about 10 people, including a doctor tasked with assessing the health needs of Greenlanders, the broadcaster reported.

Greenlandic Health Minister Anna Wangenheim commented that “it is deeply problematic that people whose political mission is to make Greenland part of the United States are sending a so-called ‘volunteer doctor’ to Nuuk to ‘assess our needs’”.

“Greenlanders are not guinea pigs in a geopolitical project,” Wangenheim said in a post to LinkedIn.

In February, an unsolicited offer by Trump to send a naval

hospital ship to the Arctic island sparked ire.

Nielsen wrote on his Facebook page: “That will be ‘no thanks’ from us.”

The US envoy is also accompanied by the US ambassador to Denmark, Kenneth Howery, who arrived on Monday.

“Together, they will meet with a wide range of Greenlanders to listen and learn with a goal of expanding economic opportunities, building people-to-people ties, and increasing understanding between the United States and Greenland,” said a US embassy statement sent to AFP.



More than 80% of Greenland is covered by a massive ice sheet, the second-largest body of ice on Earth after Antarctica. If the entire Greenland ice sheet melted, global sea levels could rise by about 7 metres (23 feet).

Escaped tiger shot dead by German police

● Police told AFP that the animal had seriously injured a 72-year-old man

● Sandokan was a nine-year-old, 280-kilogram (615 pound) Bengal-Siberian mix.

AFP | Berlin, Germany

German police said yesterday they had shot dead a tiger that escaped from an enclosure run by a woman nicknamed the “Tiger Queen” after it attacked one of the keepers.

Police told AFP that the animal had seriously injured a 72-year-old man, who was being treated in hospital after the attack in the eastern city of Leipzig.

The incident happened Sunday on the city's outskirts and



According to local media, the animal escaped from the property of a tiger trainer called Carmen Zander, pictured above (File image)

involved an “escaped tiger which was killed by police using firearms,” the police spokesman said. Police said they were “able to locate the animal in an allotment complex” nearby and that it had to be killed “to prevent danger to those present”.

One allotment gardener told the Bild newspaper: “First we heard sirens and then right afterwards a helicopter came and lots of police”, who warned the

allotment owners to stay inside.

“Then there were suddenly several shots.” The animal belonged to tiger trainer Carmen Zander, who told Bild that the tiger shot dead was called Sandokan.

According to Zander's website, Sandokan was a nine-year-old, 280-kilogram (615 pound) Bengal-Siberian mix.

The website describes the animal as “a scaredy-cat” that

could “quickly become overwhelmed and insecure” and could therefore attack “more quickly and unexpectedly” than the other animals.

Zander, known as the “Tiger Queen”, has faced criticism in the past for the conditions in which the animals are kept at her enclosure.

Animal rights group PETA charged that veterinary authorities “share responsibility for this tragic incident” by having failed to act against the facility sooner and demanded that the remaining animals there be confiscated. The district authority said in a statement to AFP that it had “for some time been working to improve the housing conditions of the tigers” at the site.

Zander had been instructed to comply with regulations “so that all animals have access to the necessary indoor and outdoor space, or to adjust the number of animals to the space currently available”.

Runaway kangaroo disrupts Belgian rail service



Brussels, Belgium

A runaway kangaroo briefly halted services on Belgian rail line Monday after it was spotted hopping near the tracks, the Infrabel rail agency said.

Police were called to apprehend the marsupial once the “rather incongruous sighting” was reported during rush hour near Zingem, a village in the

Dutch-speaking Flanders region, the agency told AFP.

“The police tried to catch the animal but were unable to do so, so they called in a vet,” Infrabel spokesman Frederic Sacre said. “The vet proved to be more skilled”.

Rail traffic on the branch line was halted for about an hour in total, Sacre added.

It was not immediately clear where the animal had come from.

Manhattan rent hits record high above \$5,000 per month

AFP | New York, United States

Apartment rentals in New York's Manhattan borough topped \$5,000 a month for the first time in April as vacancy rates tumbled to six-year lows, according to US real estate firm Corcoran.

“Manhattan's rental market

surged in April 2026, as a sharp rise in demand collided with increasingly constrained supply,” Corcoran Chief Operating Officer Gary Malin said in a May 15 blog post.

The median rent last month in the borough was \$5,099, up six percent from a year ago.

The vacancy rate fell to 1.55 percent, dynamics that point to a “market defined by heightened urgency and sustained competition among renters,” Malin said.

Rents rose across the board in Manhattan, with one-bedroom and two-bedroom apart-

ments setting new records at \$5,228 and \$8,338.

The rising cost of living has emerged as a potent political issue in New York and elsewhere, fueling the November election of Mayor Zohran Mamdani.

A preliminary vote earlier this month by a rent guidelines

panel endorsed Mamdani's plan to effectively freeze rents on nearly one million New York apartments. A final vote on the proposal will take place in June.

In Brooklyn, the most populous of New York's five boroughs, Malin described leasing activity as busy but said

“conditions were less intense for renters.” The median rent in Brooklyn was \$4,110, down from February's record high as inventory rose 16 percent from month-over-month. “Overall, Brooklyn remains active, but with signs of a more balanced market emerging,” Malin said.