

Denmark plans to draft women as it seeks to bolster military

March 14 (UPI) — Denmark plans to conscript women into its military, its defense ministry said, as it seeks to bolster its ranks while strengthening its armed forces.

The Nordic nation announced plans Wednesday to implement changes to its conscription policy that will permit women to be drafted, increase the length of service from four to 11 months and see the number of conscripts jump by 300 to 5,000.

Denmark's Armed Forces is undergoing an "historic strengthening" and an increase in soldiers is needed to staff operational units, which is requiring it to rethink its conscription model, it said.

"Unfortunately, the security policy situation in Europe has become more and more serious, and we have to take that into account when we look at future defense," Defense Minister Troels Lund Poulsen said in a statement.

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