



**THE FAROESE CONFEDERATION OF SPORTS
AND OLYMPIC COMMITTEE**



**THE CASE
FOR OLYMPIC RECOGNITION**

FAROE ISLANDS



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AIRWAYS**

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FAROE ISLANDS

THE FAROE ISLANDS has been a self-governing region of the Kingdom of Denmark since 1948 and competes in the Olympic Games as Denmark. However, the Faroe Islands wants to compete in its own right and has been campaigning for Olympic recognition for more than 40 years.

Here are a few of the reasons why we believe our case is becoming ever stronger.

Faroe Islands already competes in international sport

- Founding member of the International Paralympic Committee
- Competed in every Paralympic Summer Games since 1984 & won 13 medals
- Recognised by eight International Federations & competes internationally in archery, badminton, football, handball, judo, swimming, table tennis, volleyball
- Member of the International Island Games Association and the European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation [ENGSO]



We are geographically closer to Scotland, Iceland & Norway than Denmark

- Faroe Islands is closer to Scotland [325km], Iceland [430km] and Norway [585km] than Denmark [990km]



We have our own language

- Faroese - which is much closer to Icelandic than Danish
- English is increasingly the 2nd language among young people

We have the full support of Danish National Olympic Committee

- Danish National Olympic Committee and Danish Prime Minister support Faroe Islands Olympic independence
- We also have support from other Nordic NOCs

We are internationally recognised by

- International Maritime Organisation
- Food and Agriculture Organisation
- UNESCO



We have been self-governing since 1948

- A self-governing region of the Kingdom of Denmark since 1948
- We control all key domestic matters including education, tax, trade and fisheries
- We have our own Parliament, flag & passport
- Faroe Islands is not part of the Schengen Area, unlike Denmark

Faroese Confederation of Sports & Olympic Committee is already established

- The Faroese Confederation of Sports and Olympic Committee [FCSOC] has been in place since 1939 and our Olympic Committee was established in 1982

Sport on the Faroe Islands is 100% self-funded

- No funding for sport comes from Denmark
- FCSOC funds all sport on the island - even anti-doping

Faroe Islands invests significantly in sport

- 20 sports halls, 18 pools [including a 50m], two athletics tracks & 22 full scale football pitches
- FCSOC funds and supports over 100 sports clubs, 23 sports associations & has its own athlete/coach development system



TÓRSVØLLUR The National Stadium



TÓRSHAVN The capital of the Faroe Islands





Sport is fundamental to Faroese society & culture

- 18,000 Faroese are members of sports clubs – 1 in 3 of the population!
- This is driven & overseen by the FCSOC

Track record of sporting success

- Faroe Islands has won 13 medals and recorded 11 World Records at the Paralympic Games
- Katrin Olsen [competing under the Danish flag] won Silver at the Rowing World Championships 2005 & 2006
- Pal Joensen won Bronze at the 2012 FINA World Swimming Championships [25m]
- Since joining FIFA in 1988, Faroe Islands has beaten Greece and Austria; and finished above Latvia and Andorra in 2018 World Cup qualification group

Our 50,000 population is larger than seven nations that compete in Olympic Games

- The IOC recognises seven NOCs that have populations less than the Faroe Islands and compete in the Olympic Games

Other NOCs have limited 'international recognition'

- Kosovo & Chinese Taipei have limited 'international recognition'
- United Kingdom is responsible for defence of British Virgin Islands - yet BVI has Olympic status
- Hong Kong has Olympic status, yet China has increasing political authority over it

We have been campaigning for Olympic recognition for over 40 years. Faroe Islands first campaigned for Olympic recognition in 1975.

This is a long-held dream and we believe our case has become even stronger



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