

Donald Trump interested in buying Greenland

21st August, 2019



U.S. President Donald Trump has said he is interested in buying the territory of Greenland. President Trump said any purchase of the world's second largest

island would be like buying property. He said it was, "essentially a large real estate deal... They've got a lot of valuable minerals". He added: "Denmark owns it. We're very good allies with Denmark. We protect Denmark like we protect large portions of the world. So the concept came up and I said, 'Certainly I'd be [interested].' Strategically, it's interesting and we'd be interested but we'll talk to them a little bit." Mr Trump said buying Greenland was not his top priority at the moment. He said: "It's not number one on the burner, I can tell you that."

Greenland is an autonomous territory of Denmark. The Prime Minister of Denmark, Mette Frederiksen, told reporters that Greenland would not be sold. She said: "Greenland is not for sale. Greenland is not Danish. Greenland belongs to Greenland. I strongly hope that this is not meant seriously." She added: "It's an absurd discussion, and Greenland's Prime Minister Kim Kielsen has of course made it clear that Greenland is not for sale. That's where the conversation ends." The USA has a history of being interested in Greenland. In 1946, President Harry Truman offered Denmark \$100 million for the island but Denmark said no. In 1867, President Andrew Johnson paid Russia \$7.2 million for Alaska.

Sources: bbc.com / cnn.com / thelocal.dk

Writing

No country should be able to buy territory from another country. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

interested / Greenland / island / property / real estate / minerals / concept / priority / prime minister / for sale / hope / discussion / conversation / history / no / Alaska

True / False

- a) Greenland is the world's second largest island. T / F
- b) President Trump likened buying Greenland to a real estate deal. T / F
- c) President Trump says the USA protects large portions of the world. T / F
- d) President Trump said buying Greenland was a top priority. T / F
- e) Greenland does not have a prime minister. T / F
- f) Denmark's prime minister said Greenland could be for sale. T / F
- g) The USA tried to buy Denmark in 1946. T / F
- h) Russia tried to buy Alaska from the USA in 1867. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. buying | a. top concern |
| 2. territory | b. background |
| 3. deal | c. useful |
| 4. valuable | d. land |
| 5. priority | e. journalists |
| 6. autonomous | f. obvious |
| 7. reporters | g. purchasing |
| 8. absurd | h. self-governing |
| 9. clear | i. silly |
| 10. history | j. agreement |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about Greenland?
- b) Why do you think Greenland is called Greenland?
- c) Why does Donald Trump want to buy Greenland?
- d) Is it OK to buy a territory or country?
- e) Do you think Donald Trump is good at property deals?
- f) Would you like to go to Greenland?
- g) Why is Greenland important strategically?
- h) What is your top priority?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. he is interested in buying the territory | a. minerals |
| 2. the world's second | b. to Greenland |
| 3. it was essentially a large real | c. priority |
| 4. a lot of valuable | d. sale |
| 5. buying Greenland was not his top | e. ends |
| 6. Greenland is an autonomous territory | f. largest island |
| 7. Greenland is not for | g. absurd discussion |
| 8. Greenland belongs | h. of Denmark |
| 9. It's an | i. of Greenland |
| 10. That's where the conversation | j. estate deal |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- Should Greenland become an independent country?
- What might Greenlanders think of Mr Trump's interest?
- What do you think of the Danish prime minister's comments?
- How would Greenland change if Donald Trump bought it?
- Could Greenland become Trumpland if Mr Trump buys it?
- Was the purchase of Alaska good for the USA and Russia?
- What questions would you like to ask Donald Trump?

Spelling

- the rtireytor of Greenland
- any eurhsacp
- a large real seetta deal
- a lot of albaveul minerals
- the ceoptcn came up
- Greenland was not his top roiitypr
- Greenland elgonbs to Greenland
- this is not meant irsyeluos
- It's an sduabr discussion
- That's where the nivaoctnrose ends
- a oihryts of being interested in Greenland
- Truman eodffre Denmark \$100 million

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. c	5. a
6. h	7. e	8. i	9. f	10. b

Role Play

Role A – Guam

You think Guam is the most important U.S. Territory. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their territories. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): Hawaii, Alaska or Puerto Rico.

Role B – Hawaii

You think Hawaii is the most important U.S. Territory. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their territories. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): Guam, Alaska or Puerto Rico.

Role C – Alaska

You think Alaska is the most important U.S. Territory. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their territories. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): Hawaii, Guam or Puerto Rico.

Role D – Puerto Rico

You think Puerto Rico is the most important U.S. Territory. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their territories. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): Hawaii, Alaska or Guam.

Speaking – U.S. Territory

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important U.S. territory at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| • U.S. Virgin Islands | • Guam |
| • American Samoa | • Puerto Rico |
| • N. Mariana Islands | • Hawaii |
| • Midway Atoll | • Alaska |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.