



ASIA HOUSE

HOME OF BUSINESS - CULTURE - PEOPLE



Towards brighter times

While in our part of the world we are finally seeing the first signs of Spring, the IMF expects the global economy to grow 5.5 percent in 2021, and 4.2 percent in 2022. The projected growth recovery this year follows the very severe 2020, with global growth contraction estimated at -3.5 percent. The strength of the recovery is projected to vary significantly across countries, with areas hit the hardest by the pandemic, like the Euro zone, gaining speed slower than Asia and Emerging markets.

The Danish government has prolonged its recommendation to avoid international travel until April. Most countries in Europe and Asia have imposed a variety of travel restrictions and quarantine demands, and we are still seeing networking events cancelled or held as webinars. As ASEAN's Chair for 2021, Brunei Darussalam has announced the year's theme of "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper".

Asia House is also preparing for brighter times ahead, and we look forward to being able to welcome old and new partners and friends in groups larger than five!

SPECIAL MENTIONS



Ambassador to Denmark H. E. Sang-jin Park, paying his respects at the Jutlandia Memorial at Langelinie on 23 January 2021. (Photo: ØK Bladet)

New novel marks 70th anniversary of hospital ship Jutlandia's Korean voyage

"The Girl from the Big White Ship" (original title: Pigen fra det store hvide skib) by Mich Vraa and Jesper Bugge Kold is a new novel set aboard the Jutlandia – the EAC ship that was transformed into a giant, state-of-the-art floating hospital and sailed to Korea in 1951, to treat the war-injured.

Reviewers are enthusiastic about the novel, which weaves together the fictional stories of Molly, one of the 42 highly trained Danish nurses serving aboard the Jutlandia, and Yun, an 11-year-old Korean girl caught in the devastating crosshairs of war.

The hospital ship Jutlandia is a significant symbol in Danish history and, one could say, national identity – the idea of sailing across the world to help others in need is a noble notion that the Danes are proud to embrace. Even so, author Jesper Bugge Kold realised how little he actually knew of the famous ship's history, which, it turned out, is well-documented, including video footage and interviews with staff on-board. That Denmark was – as far back as the '50s – already

setting its sights as far away as Asia, and the fact that “one felt, one could actually make a difference in a country that is so far away,” was something that Kold found fascinating.

The authors thought the true story of nurses and doctors sailing around in the Indian Ocean was a romantic notion and surely had all the right elements for a good novel. Mich Vraa felt the fact that they were headed into a war provided ample fodder for drama and death, as well as love. “So it was just a question of getting the facts straight – and then writing a novel”, says Vraa.

Published on 23 January this year, the historical fiction marks 70 years to the day in 1951, when the Jutlandia left the safety of Copenhagen harbour, which was bustling with an applauding crowd and a celebratory orchestra for the occasion. This day is still marked every year when the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Denmark lays a wreath at the Jutlandia memorial at Langelinie.

The Jutlandia was built by the East Asiatic Company at its shipyard in Naskov, originally as a regular passenger and freight ship, and was transformed into the famous hospital ship in 1951, in a charitable collaboration between the UN, the Red Cross and the EAC.

The EAC Foundation supported “The Girl from the Big White Ship” project with a grant (DKK 30,000), and Asia House is looking forward to hosting a book-release reception for the authors, as soon as conditions allow.

The novel "Pigen fra det store hvide skib" is in Danish and can be purchased from a number of online book sellers or directly from the publisher [here](#).

[Source](#)



News from Innovation Lab Asia

An Asia House Project

Don't forget to check out Asia House project [Innovation Lab Asia's](#) latest [newsletter](#), detailing TechBBQ's in-depth analysis of the Danish Cleantech industry. Most notably in the report – and especially useful to investors – is the fact that of the more than 4000 new startups and scaleups in Denmark, roughly 10% are so-called “impact startups”, meaning that, in addition to being financially profitable, they also aim to have a positive impact on society and/or the environment. Of these, 310 startups are classified as Cleantech, which is a positive sign for the future of Danish energy technologies.

Despite growing demand for environmental action and sustainable solutions, the Cleantech industry remains challenged by a relatively low investment rate (only 7% of all investments from 2016-20). Read more in the [IIA newsletter](#) and the [TechBBO report](#).

E A C P O S T E R S F O R S A L E



EAST ASIATIC COMPANY POSTERS NOW AVAILABLE

We currently have reproductions of two EAC posters available for purchase: Saffron Ships (left), created in the 1930s by an unknown artist, and Midnight Sky (right), a sombre midnight blue scene created by Danish artist Sven Dalsgaard around 1950.

The posters are available for purchase at Asia House and through our [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) & [LinkedIn](#). For more details visit our [website](#).

Protect yourself and others



Wash your hands frequently or use an alcohol-based hand rub



Cough or sneeze into your sleeve



Limit physical contact



Be diligent with cleaning



If you are older or have a chronic illness, avoid crowds of people and advise others to be aware of your condition

PHOTO FROM THE DANISH HEALTH AUTHORITY

EVENTSPACE



ASIA HOUSE

FOLLOW EVENTSPACE ASIA HOUSE



ASIA HOUSE / YOUR ACCESS TO ASIA

Indiakaj 16 / DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø / +45 35 26 56 11 / ah@asia-house.dk



*Copyright © ASIA HOUSE
All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:

ah@asia-house.dk

reflect the increased transparency requirements of the EU GDPR. The revised policy clarifies your privacy rights and how to exercise them; how Asia House collects, uses, shares and protects personal data; and the legal bases we rely on to process personal data. Please click here to read our updated [Privacy Policy](#).

If you should no longer wish to receive emails and news from Asia House, please contact us and your data will be removed from our list and you won't receive emails or invitations from us in the future.

[Unsubscribe](#)