

Knudsen, Mette (Denmark)

[original: English]

Curriculum vitae

FAMILY NAME:	KNUDSEN	
FIRST NAME:	Mette	
MIDDLE NAME:	Trandse Lyster	
GENDER:	Female	
DATE OF BIRTH:	16 August 1969	
NATIONALITY:	Danish	
REGIONAL CRITERIA:	WEOG	
SECONDARY NATIONALITY: (IF APPLICABLE)	None	
MARITAL STATUS:	Single	
LIST A/LIST B	List A	
LANGUAGES	Mother tongue: Danish	
- ENGLISH	(written) Advanced	(oral) Advanced
- FRENCH	(written) Basic	(oral) Basic
- OTHERS	Spanish: (written) Intermediate	(oral) Intermediate
	German: (written) Intermediate	(oral) Intermediate
EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:		
09/2011 - 10/2011 - <i>Institution:</i> Danish Defence Academy - <i>Qualification(s) obtained:</i> Defence Command Security Policy		
09/1992 - 01/1995 - <i>Institution:</i> University of Copenhagen - <i>Qualification(s) obtained:</i> Master of Laws		
09/1989 - 06/1992 - <i>Institution:</i> University of Copenhagen - <i>Qualification(s) obtained:</i> Bachelor of Laws		

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

08/2019 - present

- *Employer:* Eastern High Court, Court of Appeals, Denmark
- *Post title:* High Court Judge
- *Other information:*
 - Adjudication of all categories of criminal cases, including terrorism, organised and cross-border crime, cybercrime, rape, homicide, deprivation of liberty, serious violence (including against women and children), and cases concerning the lawfulness of police use of force.
 - Long-standing experience in complex and highly technical evidentiary assessment in comprehensive cases involving specialized investigations and prosecutors.
 - Extensive experience as Presiding Judge and Deputy Presiding Judge.
 - Adjudication of a large number of cases involving interpretation and application of the European Convention on Human Rights, EU law, and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
 - Case Management: Reviewing case papers, conducting preliminary hearings, and managing legal processes to ensure efficient progression.
 - Legal Leadership: Ensuring fairness, maintaining courtroom order, and providing leadership within the judicial system to ensure the efficient dispatch of business.
 - Administrative Duties: Approving final court orders and managing cases through technology, both in court and in chambers.
 - Experience relevant under list A.

06/2023 – 06/2024

- *Employer:* Expert Committee on Implementation into Danish Penal Code of Crimes of Torture, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity, and Ratification of the Amendment to the Rome Statute on the Crime of Aggression
- *Post title:* Chair of the Expert Committee
- *Other information:*
 - Chair of a government-appointed Expert Committee mandated to analyse Danish legislation and propose legislative amendments concerning the independent criminalisation of war crimes and other international crimes in the Danish Penal Code in accordance with the Rome Statute.
 - Responsible for the committee's legal analysis, drafting work, and preparation of legislative proposals which were subsequently presented by Government and within six months passed by a broad majority in parliament.
 - Responsible for committee's interactions with various ministries and national authorities as well as the dialogue with Danish and international civil society.
 - Experience relevant under list A and list B.

09/2015 – 08/2019

- *Employer:* District Court of Glostrup, Denmark
- *Post title:* Judge
- *Other information:*
 - Pre-trial duties such as conducting hearings on confirming arrest, reviewing detention and granting or denying the police/prosecution certain investigative measures such as search, seizure and wiretapping.
 - Head of the section responsible for preparing criminal trials
 - Adjudication of all categories of criminal cases, including terrorism, organised and cross-border crime, cybercrime, rape, homicide, deprivation of liberty, serious violence (including against women and children)
 - Experience relevant under list A.

11/2014 – 08/2015

- *Employer:* Eastern High Court, Court of Appeals, Denmark
- *Post title:* Acting High Court Judge
- *Other information:*
 - Part of three different divisions within the court adjudicating a broad portfolio of both civil and criminal cases, including murder, rape, violence and organized cross-border crime.
 - Participating in deliberations together with the appointed judges.
 - Responsible for written submissions of appeals.
 - Preparation and drafting of decisions, judgments and rulings.
 - Ensuring the quality of case preparation.
 - Evaluation of qualifications as presiding judge, where the overall-evaluation of qualifications for appointment was: Extremely highly qualified.
 - Experience relevant under list A.

11/2013 – 10/2014

- *Employer:* North Zealand Police
- *Post title:* Assisting Chief of Staff
- *Other information:*
 - North Zealand Police comprises approximately 700 police staff and 50 prosecutors.
 - Responsible for project which improved efficiency in case-management.
 - Experience relevant under list A.

01/2011 – 11/2013

- *Employer:* Danish Security and Intelligence Service (PET)
- *Post title:* Director of Administration and Member of Executive Management
- *Other information:*
 - Member of PET's executive management. PET is responsible for prosecuting terror related crimes etc. before Danish courts.
 - Overall responsibility for finance, human resources, internal security, IT, logistics, and project portfolio.
 - Chair of the EU working group on information exchange and data protection during the Danish EU Presidency (first half of 2012).
 - Experience relevant under list A.

01/2007 – 01/2011

- *Employer:* Zealand and Lolland-Falster Police
- *Post title:* Deputy Police Director
- *Other information:*
 - Member of the senior management team, running the police district with more than 900 employees also covering the prosecution service.
 - Responsibility for implementation of national police reform, including structural reorganisation, decentralisation, and personnel and budgetary management.
 - Representative of Danish police in international programme organized by civil society partner Dignity, focusing on the prevention of torture in Jordan.
 - Experience relevant under list A.

01/2002 – 01/2007

- *Employer:* Ministry of Justice, Denmark
- *Post title:* Head of Department / Deputy Head of Department
- *Other information:*
 - Responsibility for ministerial advisory services in the fields of policing, criminal justice, and emergency preparedness.
 - Chair of inter-ministerial working groups on implementation of EU legislation.
 - Coordination of initiatives in the fields of criminal law and policing during the Danish EU Presidency (second half of 2002).
 - Experience relevant under list A.

04/1996 – 09/1998 and 09/1998 - 12/2003

- *Employer:* Copenhagen Police and State Prosecutor of Zealand, Denmark
- *Post title:* Prosecutor and assisting prosecutor
- *Other information:*
 - In charge of criminal law cases in varying fields, such as violence, sexual offences, financial crimes, drug crimes.
 - Solid court room experience, including in appeal cases.
 - Followed the police district's criminal investigations in all phases and advised on procedural rules etc.
 - Experience relevant under list A.

02/1995 – 04/1996 and 09/1998 - 01/2022

- *Employer:* Ministry of Justice, Denmark
- *Post title:* Head of Section
- *Other information:*
 - Assessment of new Danish legislation regarding compatibility with international human rights and EU law obligations.
 - Contributions to Danish interventions before international courts.
 - Lead of project group working on reorganization of the Danish police and local prosecution services.
 - Experience relevant under list A.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**08/2025 - present**

- *Activity:* Coordination Forum for the Annual Conference of the International Bar Association in 2026. Preparation of hosting the conference in Denmark, with particular focus on rule of law and human rights.

10/2024 - present

- *Activity:* Lecturer at Annual Specialized Course for Senior Prosecutors and Special Police Teams on the assessment of evidence in cases involving serious or complex violent crime.

09/2011 - present

- *Activity:* Danish Defence Command Security Policy Academy (2011) and subsequent annual Security Policy Seminars (SIKU) on foreign, security, and defence policy.

09/1995 - present

- *Activity:* External Lecturer, examiner and supervisor in the Law of Evidence and Witness Examination, Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

03/2003

- *Activity:* International Visitor Program of the United States Department of State: “Combating International Crime”.

MOST RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author, The European Convention on Human Rights – for Practitioners [in Danish], 6th edition, Djøf Publisher, forthcoming.
- Co-author, four chapters on various matters pertaining to criminal proceedings (including evidentiary issues and serious crimes) in annotated commentary on the Danish Administration of Justice Act [in Danish], Djøf Publisher, 2024.
- Articles on evidentiary assessment of technical evidence, including DNA, and the burden of proof, Danish Weekly Law Report [in Danish], 2022.
- Co-author, chapter on consent-based rape legislation, the Istanbul Convention, and the judicial assessment of evidence in edited volume on The Administration of Justice Act 100 years [in Danish], Djøf Publisher, 2019.
- Article on the new implementation of Rome Statute crimes in the Danish Penal Code, Journal of Criminal Law [in Danish], 2025.

MOST RELEVANT SEMINARS

- Speaker at several international conferences on human rights and international criminal law, including Danish Institute for Human Rights, National Conference on 75 Years of the ECHR, and conference organised by Danish NGO Dignity on prosecution of international crimes, including victim-centred perspectives, Copenhagen, Denmark (2025).
- Expert panellist, European Network for Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence: Measures and responses to high-risk domestic violence perpetrators, online (2023).
- Speaker, Nordic Symposium on the Law of Evidence, Lund University, Sweden (2018).
- Speaker and co-organiser, conference on the EU Information Management Strategy (IMS), The Hague, The Netherlands (2012).

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND SOCIETIES

- 2024 - President, Danish Association of Judges.
 - Representing all Danish judges in matters that involve or affect the Danish judiciary such as relevant new legislation; negotiating salaries; accountability of judges; future structure, specialization and digitalization of the Danish courts. Working towards safeguarding the rule of law and the independence and integrity of judges.
- 2024 - Advisory Board Member and Vice-President, Fourth Study Commission (Public and Social Law), International Association of Judges.
 - Co-chairing annual sessions of the commission and co-drafting questionnaires, reports and conclusions on a wide range of topics with regard to e.g., labour law and social law.
- 2024 - Co-President, Working Group on Salaries and Pensions, European Association of Judges.
 - Co-chairing meetings of the group and co-drafting statements, with particular focus on remuneration of judges and material independence of judges.
- 2023 - Member, Working Group on Ways to Brussels, European Association of Judges.
 - Focus on fundamental rights and judicial independence under EU law.
- 2002-2003 - European Judicial Network in criminal matters.
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PERSONAL INTERESTS

Travelling, photography, literature (both fiction and professional literature), and opera.

OTHER RELEVANT FACTS
High Court Judge Mette Lyster Knudsen has experience from administering sensitive and large criminal law cases, involving multiple judges on, inter alia, organised crime, terrorism and sexual violence; strong international profile as active member of both the International and European Association of Judges; chair of national expert committee on ratification of Kampala amendments and incorporation of Rome Statute crimes into Danish penal code; robust background from range of different roles in the judicial system, including as prosecutor.