

**Addendum to The Alternative Report on Denmark 2020
to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial
Discrimination (CERD)**

**Changes concerning racism and
discrimination in Denmark
from August 2020 to October 2021**

**SOS Racisme Danmark (SOS Racisme, Denmark)
Center for Muslimers Rettigheder i Danmark (CEDA) (The
Center for Muslims' Rights in Denmark, (CEDA))
ENAR Denmark (European Network against Racism,
Denmark)
Almen Modstand (Common Resistance against the "Ghetto
Package")
Refugees Welcome
Demos
Kvinder i Dialog (Women in Dialogue)
Global Aktion (Global Action)
Muslimsk Ungdom i Danmark (Muslim Youth in Denmark)
Retspolitisk Forening (The Legal Affairs Association)**

Preface

This report gives a short overview of some changes during the past 15 months in Denmark - especially regarding new legislation and other legal aspects concerning discrimination and racism.

The Alternative Report on Denmark 2020 to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) was written and edited from February 2020 - July 2020, after that time only some smaller corrections and examples were added. It was released at an electronical e-meeting from the Danish Parliament on November 10 ,2020. It was first posted at the website of the CERD for the 105th session in October 2021.

The Authors behind the Alternative Report were the following Danish NGOs:

SOS Racisme Danmark (SOS Racisme, Denmark)

Center for Muslimers Rettigheder i Danmark (CEDA) (The Center for Muslims' Rights in Denmark, (CEDA)) - (formerly CEDAR)

ENAR Denmark (European Network against Racism, Denmark)

Almen Modstand (Common Resistance against the "Ghetto Package")

Refugees Welcome

Demos

Kvinder i Dialog (Women in Dialogue)

Global Aktion (Global Action)

Muslimsk Ungdom i Danmark (Muslim Youth in Denmark)

Retspolitisk Forening (The Legal Affairs Association)

The same organizations have been asked if they would add something to a shorter addendum on important changes during the past 15 months since August 2020 till the end of October 2021. The three NGOs that have delivered new content to the updating of this addendum are: SOS Racisme Denmark (most of the Addendum), Common Resistance against the "Ghetto Package" (Chapter 3), and The Center for Muslims' Rights in Denmark (Chapter 7). Because of lack of time it has not been possible to send the amendments to all the organizations involved and before the deadline - therefore we have chosen to present Chapter 3 and Chapter 7, under the name of the responsible organization.

We want to acknowledge and honour Jette Møller who was the former President for SOS Racisme Denmark. She sadly passed away because of cancer in October 2021. She and another member of SOS Racisme Denmark made a tremendous and thorough work editing, preparing, and coordinating the original Alternative Report on Denmark 2020 to the CERD. At the same time, we want to excuse for using a language under the standard of the former report but hope that the additions are nevertheless understandable.

SOS Racisme Denmark

October 24, 2021

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2. Short overview and Recommendations

2.1 Short overview over the past 15 months

- In Denmark, which traditionally brags of its tolerance, democracy, freedom of speech, respect for human rights and social equality, we experience now legislation and regulations by Governmental Departments that in a number of matters discriminate against foreigners and ethnic and religious minorities.
- In order to get nationalist Danish voters an Anti-foreign policy is used of the parties from the Social Democracy to the Liberal and Conservative Parties, and to Danish Peoples' Party and the New Right. There is a competition between parties about xenophobic law proposals, in order to have as few as possible refugees coming to Denmark, and to strip them of residence permission and return them the earliest possible.
- Refugees, and migrants are seen as somebody who want to exploit the Danish welfare system.
- There is very little critics of the xenophobic policy in the medias. The medias mostly focus on problems from foreigners.
- SOS Racisme Denmark has generally commented on legislation concerning foreign citizens and ethnic minorities, when new law proposals regarding foreigners, ethnic minorities and refugees come into hearing, before being presented in the Parliament. During the past 15 months we have commented on 29 proposals, many of which are strickenings of the anti-foreign policy or are discriminatory towards Muslims or Non "Western" people.
- 2020 was the year with the lowest number of spontaneous asylum seekers, and according to the Government there were more refugees leaving Denmark than arriving¹.
- The Government is trying to externalize asylum seekers and the asylum procedure to a country outside Europe where only minors and very sick persons might have an asylum process in Denmark.
- A law about a Danish asylum center outside Europe has been passed. The African Union² has condemned this act in the strongest terms possible, also the UNHCR has sharply criticized Denmark.
- The present Minister of Immigration and Integration has or will receive 200 refugees from Rwanda for the year 2020, and 200 for the year 2021. Denmark has also sold Covid-19 vaccines to Rwanda and has visited the country together with the minister for Development. We think, they attempt to get an asylum centre in Rwanda - in spite of condemnations by AU and UNHCR.

¹ *The Government's key figures on Foreign nationals as per 31-december-2020* - Retrieved 31.03.2021 from: <https://uim.dk/filer/indrejse-og-ophold/tal-pa-udlaendingeomradet/2020/tal-paa-udlaendingeomraad-et-31-december-2020.pdf>

² AU condemns Denmark attempt to shift refugee problems to Africa. Retrieved 24.10.2021 from: <https://newafricanmagazine.com/26579/>.

- Refugees' residence permits in general and those of Somalians and Syrians in particular, but also other refugees with a protective status like Afghans until August 2021, were examined regularly with a view to withdrawing their permits if possible and placing them in deportation centres or Ellebaek detention center or other types of prisonlike institutions.
- At a time with closed borders due to Covid-19, the Immigration and Integration Minister opened a Deportation Agency (named "Danish Return Agency") in August 2020 at the cost of 250 million DKK.
- Nearly all types of crime may result in imprisonment of foreign residents followed by deportation. Having a spouse or minor children with or without Danish citizenship in Denmark is seldom considered of importance.
- The access to Danish citizenship has during 2021 been even further restricted. Any conviction even suspended imprisonment will bar access to citizenship and dispensations are to be given in closed meetings. As Marie Krarup (DPP), Chairperson of the Naturalization Committee in the Danish Parliament, says, "There is a difference between a Somali criminal and a German criminal"³.
- Nearly all criminal convictions of foreigners may now be followed by expulsion. If the person has dual citizenship, the Danish citizenship is withdrawn much more often today.
- In her New Year's speech for 2020 the Prime Minister indicated the Government's intention to remove more immigrant children from the parents⁴, and Social Minister Astrid Krag has just presented the Government's child package intended to give exposed children a "safe home". Among other things adoption without consent, including adoption from birth, should be easier, and "a special effort must be made with violence against children in immigrant families"⁵.
- The Government has recently in October 2021 taken home 14 out of 19 children with Danish citizenship together with their three mothers with Danish citizenship. When arrived to Denmark the mothers were arrested and separated from their children at once. The Government left two mothers, from whom it had stripped their Danish citizenship and also their 5 children from prison camps for IS-relatives in Syria.
- A bill intended to target groups of "immigrant boys" creating insecurity in public spaces will enable the police to ban any gathering in certain public places. Harsh penalties are proposed for not complying. The bill was presented by the Prime Minister, "... when going by the S-train in Greater Copenhagen you shouldn't be afraid of going home at night because there are 15-17 immigrant boys who don't know how to behave"⁶.

³ *Naturalisation of persons convicted to be decided in closed [Naturalisation Committee] meetings* 20.12.2020 - Retrieved 31.03.2021 from: <https://jyllands-posten.dk/indland/ECE12645177/statsborgerskab-til-doemte-skalafoeres-paa-lukkede-moeder-i-grundlovsvaerelset/>

⁴ *Experts: No particular reluctance to deal with the placement of non-Western children* 03.03.2020 - Retrieved 31.03.2021 from: <https://www.information.dk/indland/2020/01/eksperter-ingen-saerlig-beroeringsangst-naarkommer-anbringe-ikkevestlige-boern>

⁵ *The Government wants to help exposed children in 43 ways: It must be easier to adopt children without the parents' consent*, 27.01.2021 Retrieved 31.03.2021 from: <https://www.altinget.dk/boern/artikel/regeringen-fremlaegger-boerneudspil-det-skal-vaere-lettere-at-bortadoptere-boern>

⁶ *Mette F: Immigrant boys mustn't make it insecure to go by S-train* – Retrieved 30.03.2021 from:

2.2. Recommendations

The Authors of the Alternative Report recommend that the Danish Government should:

- Adopt a comprehensive national action plan against racism, islamophobia, antisemitism, and discrimination at all levels - not just an action plan against antisemitism⁷,
- Abolish discriminatory concepts like "non-Western", "parallel societies" etc. in all laws, municipal and governmental orders, rules and regulations etc.,
- Repeal all "ghetto" legislation, including the "ghetto"/"parallel society" lists, discriminating not just the non-whites, the unemployed, the poorly educated, the sick and the poor as well as their neighbors and creating two types of Danish citizens: the Non-"Western" Danes and the "real" Danes,
- Immediately stop selling and demolishing homes – particularly those that are no longer on the Government's lists,
- Restore the unique Danish non-profit housing system and the tenant rights traditionally enjoyed by residents inhabiting non-profit housing and stop demolishing and privatizing affordable homes,
- Ensure – possibly with the assistance of the international society - that all legislation adopted since the turn of the century is cleansed of direct and indirect discrimination so that it complies with human rights and no longer discriminates against ethnic and ethnoreligious minorities,
- Revoke the "paradigm shift" shifting the focus from integration to temporary asylum and urging repatriation of not just refugees, but also of Danish citizens of "non-Western" descent and reintroduce integration as the primary aim of the Integration Act instead of repatriation and (forced) returns,
- abolish all rules on the edge of the international conventions,
- abolish the poverty-inducing "self-sufficiency and return benefit" (formerly "integration benefit") for everybody who has not lived in Denmark for 9 out of the last 10 years⁸,
- reintroduce the right of refugees to add their years in the country of origin when qualifying for old-age pension,
- reintroduce the duty of municipalities to find permanent housing for refugees,
- amend all legislation and practices regarding asylum seekers, refugees, and rejected refugees so that it conforms with the recommendations of the UNHCR,
- respect human rights at all centres for foreigners.
- close the detention and deportation centres,
- abolish the unproportionate imprisonments for not complying with duties at centres,

<https://www.dr.dk/nyheder/politik/mette-f-indvandrerdrengema-ikke-gore-det-utygt-tage-s-tog>

⁷ The Folketing unanimously adopted a statement against growing antisemitism asking the Government for an action plan against antisemitism (28.01.2020) - Retrieved from Folketinget.dk:

<https://www.ft.dk/samling/20191/vedtagelse/v54/index.htm>

⁸ Denmark has created a non-white underclass with e.g. "non-Western" children making out 56% of her 64,500 poor children, an increase by 81% in two years.

- stop returning refugees and rejected asylum seekers to countries not considered safe by the UNHCR such as Syria, Somalia, Iran, Yemen, Afghanistan, DR Congo etc.,
- replace the Refugee Appeals Board with a board or court that is impartial in its construction and operates transparently along lines similar to those of ordinary courts,
- restore foreign nationals' right to vote at local elections after residing in Denmark for three years⁹,
- Provide health services to sick asylum seekers of the same quality as health services given to Danish citizens,
- Reintroduce free interpretation in the health sector and the social sector,
- Ensure translation of important instructions to the population into all major immigrant languages.
- Change the rules of family reunification so they comply with those of the EU,
- Make it easier and faster to obtain a permanent residence permit. At present you can only apply for it after 9 years legal residence in Denmark, though 8 years for refugees.
- Make it easier to obtain Danish citizenship – currently 74 % of adult immigrants and 18 % of adult descendants are not Danish citizens and cannot vote at general elections,¹⁰
- Reintroduce the right of all foreign nationals born and raised in Denmark to be naturalized by declaration but under the same rules as Nordic citizens¹¹,
- Protect religious freedom as regards religious male circumcision performed in accordance with the Memorandum of the Danish Patient Safety Authority 2020,
- Reintroduce the principle of equality before the law by abolishing the power of the police to proclaim increased-punishment zones,
- Stop connecting the fight against crime with ethnic origin or religious background - crime is a social problem and must be treated as such,
- Train the police force in anti-discriminatory practice,
- Take effective action to prohibit rampant hate speech, especially on the part of certain politicians, and the burning and desecration in public of sacred scriptures,
- The Government should not externalize asylum for refugees seeking asylum in Denmark

⁹ Changed to 4 years in 2019

¹⁰ SOS Racisme Danmark's Mini Encyclopedia 2020 – with Facts on Refugees, Immigrants, and Discrimination, Valgret, (Source: Statistics Denmark) Retrieved at: <https://sosracisme.dk/minileksikon/minileksikon-2020/> - Scroll down to *Valgret*.

¹¹ Non-Nordic citizens born and bred in Denmark must comply with the same rules as all other foreign nationals when applying for Danish citizenship. However, they could become Danish citizens by declaration in 2013-2016 under stricter rules than the ones applying to Nordic citizens. This right was repealed when there was a change of government in 2016. The right of Nordic citizens who have not had Nordic citizenship from birth has been repealed recently in 2021.

3. Addition to Chapter 3, The “Ghetto” law package

Contribution by The Common resistance against the “Ghetto” Law

The Danish government has in a new law proposal announced its intention to eliminate the stigmatizing term “ghetto”, but the “ghetto” law will just be renamed the “parallel society” legislation, another stigmatizing term. With the new law proposal the Government constructed a new type of housing areas of concern: “Prevention areas”.

Furthermore, the new “Updating of the Parallel Society Report” from the Ministry of the Interior and Housing reveals that the Government intends to lower the limit of “non-Western” residents to 30% in housing areas of at least 1000 residents to areas of concern¹². At least two out of four of the kind of criterias for “ghettoes” must apply - but for these 58 “prevention areas” the criterias have been tightened: by lowering the crime rate from three times to double the national average, and the proportion of adult residents outside the labour market from 40% to 30%, while increasing the average income limit from 55% of the average of the region to 65%, while the proportion of people aged 30 - 59 years without further education after compulsory school stands still at 60%, but still only exams passed in Denmark will count, unless they have been accepted by Danish authorities.

The term “non-western” is central in the categorization of these areas, a term also used to exclude citizens from these areas on ethnic and national criteria, an exclusion that in its consequence is racial discrimination. This policy is based on the premise that those of “non-western” background form a problematic group that must be regulated. This has created and reinforced racialization of a group of citizens that is more heterogenous than uniform leading to exclusion and discrimination. A statistical category is constructed and misused against the minorities. No other members of a social group are treated the same way. In prevention areas there is introduced restrictions to exclude citizens on both social and ethnic/national criteria when applying for an apartment. The communes get more rights to order demolitions in the housing areas also against the democratic decisions of the housing association.

A law proposal¹³ of the changes was sent to hearing and may be seen here together with hearing answers, among others a very thorough answer from the Danish Institute for Human Rights concerned of discrimination. The law is being treated in a Parliamentary Committee at present and - if not rejected or changed - may be passed in the middle of November 2021.

As to chapter 3 about the “Ghetto Package” an updated overview of pending cases in the housing areas mentioned in the Alternative Report on Denmark 2020 to the CERD can be seen here, by October 2021.

¹² *Mixed Housing Areas – the Next Step in the Struggle against Parallel Societies*, (March 2021) The Ministry of Housing and the Interior - Retrieved on 24 March 2021 from: https://im.dk/Media/8/4/Pjece_Blandede%20boligområder.pdf

¹³ The new law amendment. [Høringsdetaljer - Høringsportalen \(hoeringsportalen.dk\)](https://hoeringsportalen.dk)

Table 1. Pending cases, October 2021

Municipality	Estate	Instance	Topic	Started	Result/Phase
Odense	Birkeparken	Equal Treatment Board	Eviction plan	February 2020	Suspended, awaiting High Court
Elsinore	Nøjsomhed	High Court	Eviction	March 2020	Judgment expected in May 2022
Slagelse	Schackenborg-vænge	High Court	Eviction	May 2020	Pending
Copenhagen	Mjølnerparken	High Court	Overall plan	May 2020	Pending
Odense	Bøgeparken	Equal Treatment Board	Eviction plan	July 2020	Suspended, awaiting High Court
Elsinore	Nøjsomhed	Equal Treatment Board	Discrimination	June 2020	Suspended, awaiting High Court
Aarhus	Bispehaven	District Court	Short time lease	July 2021	Pending
Aarhus	Gellerup	District Court	Overall plan	September 2021	Pending

Note: The Danish Institute for Human Rights has intervened in the High Court cases in support of the residents.

Since its introduction into Danish law with the “ghetto” package of 2018, the Danish term “non-Western” has spread to Muslim face-based schools, that are being selected for intensified surveillance because of their proportion of pupils descendants of parents from “non-Western” countries - for definition see p. 9 and footnote 13 in the main Alternative Report to the CERD, 2020.

Furthermore, the Minister of Immigration and Integration recently announced his decision to launch a new statistical subclassification of non “Western” countries of origin, once again a special Danish invention: MENAPT countries. They comprise The **M**iddle **E**ast - excluding Israel - and **N**orth **A**frica, including Somalia, Djibouti and Sudan, but excluding Eritrea and Ethiopia but including **A**fghanistan, **P**akistan and **T**urkey. This way he has only included Islamic countries.

The reasoning from the Minister is that migrants or refugees from these countries differ from the rest of non-Western citizens being more frequently unemployed or criminal. But only a small percentage of people have been sentenced for a crime during a year, so we think that there is not much reasoning using such criterions. “We need more honest figures, and I think it will benefit and enhance the integration debate if we have the figures out in the open, for basically they show that in Denmark we don’t really have any problems with people from Latin America and the Far East. Where we do have problems is with people from the Middle East and North Africa”¹⁴.

¹⁴ [The Minister of Immigration and Integration] *Tesfaye wants to chart people from the Middle East and North Africa* –Retrieved 27.03.2021 <https://nyheder.tv2.dk/politik/2020-12-13-tesfaye-vil-kortlaegge-personer-fra-mellemmosten-ognordafrika>

4. Addition to Chapter 4: Racial Discrimination

In Denmark most basic human rights are respected for most Danish citizens, but in many cases “the foreigners” are discriminated against. This was also reflected in the Universal Periodical Review of Denmark in May 2021. About two thirds of the recommendations had to do with: discrimination of foreigners, ethnic and religious minorities, migrants and refugees, racism and hate speech, ranging from recommendations of ratifying the International Convention of Migrants, to recommendations of allowing refugees and asylum seekers to reunite with their family members

-to improve conditions in Ellebaek detention center for foreigners, and to avoid prison-like rules and solitary confinement as punishment in the centers for rejected asylum seekers.

-to respect the obligation for non-refoulement, and not to externalize the asylum procedure.

Denmark accepted 202 out of the 299 recommendations - especially those where an action was not concretized. But in reality the Government has often written something that means: “Denmark already does this!” - also even if it does not!

The Table¹⁵ below shows examples of recommendations to Denmark of non-discrimination action plans in the UPR 3rd cycle, and the Government’s answers:

Table 2. Selected UPR recommendations of an action plan against discrimination/racism

Number	Recommendation	Accept	The Government’s reasoning
60.40	Seek a legislative framework that guarantees protection against discrimination of any kind (Nicaragua);	Accepted / or Noted: not accepted	The Government attaches great importance to combatting discrimination. All citizens are equal before the law, and public authorities cannot discriminate citizens on any ground. Danish law also contains a number of acts on non-discrimination.
60.44	Continue its efforts to address the gaps in the anti-discrimination legal framework including by adopting a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation and to repeal provisions that have direct and indirect discriminatory effect on refugees and migrants (State of Palestine);	Accepted	See 60.40.
60.45	Continue efforts to develop measures to prevent discrimination, intolerance and racism and combat hate speech and crimes (Tunisia);	Accepted	While Denmark fully recognizes the need to fight racism in all its forms, we do not have plans to develop an action plan on racism as we have a number of initiatives in specific areas with a view to fighting these types of discrimination
60.53	Repeal provisions that have a discriminatory effect in public policies, particularly in education and access to social housing (France);	Noted	The Government does not find that there are provisions with discriminatory effect.
60.54	Further provide information on other measures, and on developing of an action plan on racism in the next periodic report (Georgia);	Accepted	While Denmark fully recognizes the need to fight racism in all its forms, we do not have plans to develop an action plan on racism as we have a number of initiatives in specific areas with a view to fighting these types of discrimination.
60.55	Intensify efforts to combat discrimination, xenophobia as well as racism and bring perpetrators to justice (Ghana);	Accepted	The Government finds that the sufficient legislation and practices are already implemented in this regard.
60.57	Develop a comprehensive national human rights plan which incorporates actions to prevent xenophobia, racism and hate crimes, and further encourage social integration (Indonesia);	Noted	See 60.26 and 60.46.

¹⁵ <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/DKindex.aspx> , Under Third Cycle, Outcome of the Review: Annex. Retrieved 23-10-2021.

¹ Source: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/DKindex.aspx> , Under Third Cycle, Outcome of the Review: Annex. Document: A_HRC_48_10_Add.1_Denmark_Annex_E.xlsx .Retrieved 23-10-2021.

At the 2nd UPR in 2016 25 countries recommended Denmark to develop a national action plan against discrimination, racism, intolerance, hate speech and hate crimes, and to promote tolerance and interreligious dialogue. SOS Racisme tried to contact the politicians and the media about that perspective after the 2nd UPR, but without any immediate success. One party published a broad Anti-Racist Action Plan as a frame, but it did not come any further.

The Danish Parliament continues to pass discriminating laws by majority votes, but denies that they are discriminating. The Government continues to make anti-foreign regulations.

The ongoing political debate hits all foreigners and their descendants born and grown up in Denmark, but some groups more than others. Generally people from outside the EU and the EEC, people from non-Western countries, and people from Islamic countries, and people of colour are them who are hit the most. They may meet restrictions and fewer possibilities defined after how many years, they have lived in Denmark during the past 10 years, or by their country of birth - or by nationality of their parents, and if their parents have had their nationality from birth or if their present nationality (if from a Nordic country) is acquired. Statistics Denmark has even been ordered by the Government to show statistics for being part of the labour force based on grandparents' nationalities.

People can also be discriminated after their refugee status. People with a status after Foreign Act Article 7, 1 (convention status) are better protected than people with an Article 7, 3 status (temporary protection status).

5. Addition to Chapter 5: Hate crimes

In October 2020 the National Police published a 27% increase in the number of registered hate crime cases from 449 in 2018 to 569 in 2019. However, only 143 of the cases were followed by charges (84 in 2018), and the number of cases taken to court, including convictions, remains unknown. The official Victims Survey of 2019 showed that between 4,000 and 5,400 victims of violence were certain that they had fallen victim to a racist hate crime, approx. 8% of all victims of violence (excluding religious hate crimes). Another 7% thought they might possibly have been victims of racist hate crime - meaning that an annual estimate of 8,100-10,900 thought they had definitely or possibly been exposed to racist hate crime¹⁶. The only overview available of cases of hate speech (Section 266b of the Danish Penal Code) shows that in 2019 out of 168 cases reported only 68 resulted in charges, 13 were tried in court, and 10 ended in convictions¹⁷.

So, the State party's registration and monitoring of hate speech and hate crime is still highly inadequate. AnmeldHad.dk (Report Hate), a private initiative registering victims' and witnesses' experiences of discrimination and racism, ran out of private funding and closed down in 2020.

Furthermore, there appears to be a reluctance on the part of the police, the public prosecutors, and the courts to acknowledge racism. Recently, the Supreme Court (5 to 3 judges) acquitted three members of The Party of the Danes, a neo-Nazi party now dissolved, of hate speech when they handed out "asylum spray" to passers-by on the grounds that "non-Westerners" do not fall under the so-called racism section 266b (page 32) since the group is too wide, nor do "refugees"¹⁸.

¹⁶ *Victim surveys 2005-2019 – Key Figures* - Retrieved on 25 March 2021 from: <https://dkr.dk/materialer/vold-ogvoldtaegt/offerundersogelser-2005-2019-hovedtal/>

¹⁷ SOS Racisme Danmark's Mini Encyclopedia 2020– with Facts on Refugees, Immigrants, and Discrimination Retrieved at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/19RfN9-jul3sWsOIFj62gjQF6tOg39TYm/view>

¹⁸ *The Supreme Court's Decision – passed on 21 January 2021* – Retrieved 28.03.2021 from: <https://www.domstol.dk/media/3bgfnrhl/100-2020-dom-anonym.pdf>

6. Addition to Chapter 6.1: Rasmus Paludan and Stram Kurs (Hard Line)

Some of the worst hate speech in Denmark is delivered by the leader of the extreme right-wing party Stram Kurs (Hard Line) - see Chapter 6.1 in the Alternative Report. He advocates the ethnic cleansing, scorns, and insults Islam and Muslims across the country in their own neighbourhoods or outside their schools under protection of the Danish Police. To get an idea of what it can be, please have a look at one of his own propaganda videos which he used in order to gather voters' declarations from 06.04.2019. In this he also speaks some English:

<https://twentysixeight.wetransfer.com/downloads/3bc756d3820e2f1ad9a58ee5dd5f367520200402125018/7b77722444cb5f24c1d0f3d0c04c049b20200402125018/aae1b0>

The link should be put into the browser of the computer. The video lasts about 11 minutes and may take 1 - 5 minutes to download, we have secured it as a proof - in case of a process.

The link to the webpage with the YouTube-videos for "Stram Kurs" has now been closed. In the start and at the end of the video is included an appeal of Rasmus Paludan to the visitor to sign a voter's declaration of support for his party to stand for parliamentary election. The visitor was asked to send it to the Ministry directly after, even if the regulations state that there should be a memorandum of one week until the final confirmation, for the voter's declaration to be valid, the collection of voters' declarations did not respect the law. And, even if the kind of collection of voter's declarations was unlawful, R.P. got more than about the needed 20.000 voters' declarations - so that his party was allowed to run for the seats in the Danish Parliament. Because of the existence of a minimum threshold of two percent of all votes for entering Parliament, his party did not get enough votes to enter Parliament, but after the elections he got an annual support to his party of about 33 DKK per vote per year from 2019 - 2023 with a small increase - more than 300.000 US dollars a year until the next election for parliament. So, the Danish State is actually supporting his party's work, even if - because of a new law was passed after the 2019 elections - Stram Kurs will no longer be able to gather voter's declarations - at least under the Danish name. It uses now the English name: Hard Line.

R.P. was sentenced for violation of The Penal Code art. 266 b, no. 1 and no. 2 (named: the Racism-article) in 2019 in a district court, and the penalty was later upheld in a superior court on July 4, 2019. The penalty was fines. After new violations of the same articles he was again sentenced, and after the sentence he appealed to a superior court. The initial punishment was - among other things - 3 months prison of which the first month was not suspended, together with speeding tickets for violations on four occasions, and having lost his driver's license for a year, a compensation for publicly having accused a woman of prostitution and losing part of his possibilities as a lawyer. In the Superior Court the punishment was softened so that all the three months of imprisonment were suspended and would not be enforced if no more crimes were performed during the next two years. The compensation to the woman was lowered.

This clearly shows the limitations of the Danish Racism Paragraph: Even if the hate speech is serious, and even if R.P. intend with it to provoke bystanders to public disorder or to violence - perhaps in order to take away the Quran from him to secure that the holy book will not be tossed around or burnt or otherwise desecrated: not R.P. but many of the bystanders have got severe punishments such as long prison sentence, sometimes followed by eviction from Denmark, if they are not Danish citizens.

With the new laws for obtaining Danish citizenship, a prison sentence will hinder obtaining of Danish citizenship forever. If a bystander has thrown anything against R.P. or against the police protecting him, he would be blamed and probably punished for violence. If this happens within 1 km from the housing area where he lives renting an apartment, not only he himself but the whole family may be punished by losing their apartment, and according to a new law proposal this could happen as soon as the District Court has sentenced him, even if the case is appealed to the Superior Court.

Addition to Chapter 7: Discriminatory Laws focused on Muslims

Contribution by The Center for Muslims' Rights in Denmark (CEDA)

7.1 Ban on Muslim Faith-based Schools

Problem: In recent years, there has been an increased surveillance of Muslim faith-based schools with the intention to close them. Muslim faith-based schools are selected for surveillance solely based on the number of “non-Western descendant” pupils enrolled in the school. The surveillance of these schools continues as part of the current government's election pledge to introduce an absolute ban on state funding of Muslim faith-based schools. Paragraph 70 of the Danish Constitutions¹⁹ had until mid 2020 prohibited such a ban, as it discriminates on the basis of religious belief. In 2020 however, the Danish Minister of Justice stated that an absolute ban on state funding for Muslim faith-based schools would no longer be a violation of the Danish constitution. The intended ban would in all likelihood mean that all Muslim faith-based schools in the country will be closed, affecting 24 schools. The Ministry of Justice has yet to present a justification for their new interpretation.²⁰

Another worrying aspect about when a school loses state funding, is that it is not based on the school's performance or objective criteria, but rather on the agency's own elusive appraisals. According to a lawyer, the Danish Agency for Education and Quality (STUK) withdraws state funding to schools, without any recourse for correction, leaving the affected schools in a legally uncertain position.²¹

Solution:

- Stop discriminating against and banning Muslim faith-based schools.
- Uphold the rights of faith-based schools.
- Create an independent review to ensure that The Danish Agency for Education and Quality only target schools based on their performance or objective criteria, and not on the agency's own elusive assessments.

¹⁹ Paragraph 70, Constitutional Act of the Realm of Denmark (Danish Constitution), Folketinget, <https://www.ft.dk/da/dokumenter/bestil-publikationer/publikationer/grundloven/danmarks-riges-grundlov/kapitel-7/paragraf-70> (Access date: 2 December 2020).

²⁰ Naja Dandanell, Ekspert er dybt forundrede: Justitsministeriet foretager kovending om muslimske friskoler”, Skoleliv, 24 September 2020, <https://skoleliv.dk/nyheder/art7934456/Justitsministeriet-foretager-kovending-om-muslimske-friskoler?fbclid=IwAR1do51oC0wZ7Sy70nr3JcCEaxMj6zQEziY-xBP4ZB-ITUCHsri-Ye6XA5Y> (Access date: 2 December 2020).

²¹ Lise Richter, “Flere muslimske friskoler har fået frataget statstilskud – nu går Ombudsmanden ind i sagen”, Information, 12 October 2020, <https://www.information.dk/indland/2020/10/flere-muslimske-friskoler-faaet-frataget-statstilskud-gaar-ombudsmanden-sagen> (Access date: 2 December 2020).

7.2 Danish as a Prerequisite in all Religious Sermons

Problem: The government is proposing a bill that will enforce the use of the Danish language as a prerequisite in all religious sermons, whether in the form of simultaneous translation or a follow-up translation.

It would be unconstitutional to single out the Muslim community, however, the government has made it clear to the public that the intended target of the bill is Islamism²² and what they perceive to be a threat of radicalization.^{23,24} Although in this exchange the Prime Minister uses the words “Islamism”, this is a concept that she has made no effort in differentiating from conventional Islamic practices.

Solution:

- Urge the prime minister to stop discriminating against Muslim religious sermons.
- Urge the prime minister to stop charging the Muslim religious community as a suspect community.

7.3 “Social control” as a means to decrease Muslims’ basic Rights

The Ministry of Immigration and Integration has proposed a bill to address what the government calls ‘negative social control and honour-related violence’, its offenders are to be sentenced up to three years in prison.

Amongst the examples of ‘social control’, the minister wants to include religious leaders advising or negotiating divorce agreements; and religious leaders conducting religious marriage ceremonies of minors (even though it is already illegal to get a civil marriage as a minor).

The bill will allow the government jurisdiction to take the passports of minors if parents are suspected to want to travel abroad with their child to force marriage or inflict harm on the child, and it will enable the possibility of deporting any religious leader or parent found guilty of such charges.²⁵

The bill was accompanied with a larger national campaign to increase attention to Muslim women’s victimhood to their families’ social control (i.e., control over their social, romantic, and even professional lives).²⁶

²² Mette Frederiksen, Extended Question Time with the Prime Minister, 10 November 2020, <https://www.ft.dk/aktuelt/webtv/video/20201/salen/13.aspx?from=10-11-2020&to=10-11-2020&selectedMeetingType=Salen&committee=&as=1#player> (Access date: 22 January 2021)

²⁴ Maja Hagedorn Hansen, ”Regeringen vil have prædikener og forkyndelse på dansk: ‘Vores hensigt er at undgå parallelsamfund’”, Altinget, 12 October 2020, <https://www.alinget.dk/artikel/regeringen-vil-have-praedikener-og-forkyndelse-paa-dansk-vores-hensigt-er-at-undgaa-parallelsamfund?fbclid=IwAR3UZC9e58EsDxthcSDhDiJiS0LPyZsa8h6S1eneouBk-qj7MnNrx1V99Z0> (Access date: 2 December 2020).

²⁵ Foreign and Integration Ministry, “Negativ social kontrol skal i højere grad straffes som psykisk vold”, 7 October 2020, <https://uim.dk/nyheder/negativ-social-kontrol-skal-i-hojere-grad-straffes-som-psykisk-vold> (Access date: 2 December 2020).

²⁶ For more information on this matter, please see Amani Hassani: Islamophobia in Denmark: National Report 2020, in: Enes Bayraklı & Farid Hafez, European Islamophobia Report 2020, Istanbul, SETA, (forthcoming).

Solution:

- Urge the Ministry of Immigration and Integration to stop falsely associating “negative social control” with the Muslim community.
- Urge the Ministry of Immigration and Integration to stop limiting the rights of Muslims under the guise of abolishing “negative social control”.
- Urge the Ministry of Immigration and Integration to stop discriminatory and stigmatizing laws directly or indirectly targeting the Muslim community.

7.4 “The Safety Package” Laws

Problem: In October 2020 the Danish government proposed a set of laws, named “The Safety Package”. “The package” consist of four new changes to existing laws. First the government wishes to make it possibly for housing associations to evict not just individuals, but entire families from their rental apartments, if just one person in the household is convicted of a crime, even if the accused is not convicted of said crime.

Secondly, they wish to make it possible for the police to declare a residence ban in certain areas. The police will be able to make these decisions simply based on their own assessment of how they perceive citizens standing in an area. This law is especially intended to target groups of young men standing together.

Thirdly, they wish to enable the police to legally seize people’s valuables without a legal warrant, if they commit an offence, and have debts to the public. The police will thus be able to deprive people of any valuables, including phones, jewelry, watches etc., on the spot. Lastly, they wish to banish convicted perpetrators from city nightlife for up to 2 years. Critics says that these laws will disproportionately affect ethnic minorities. 21 prominent academics have criticized the bill in an open letter, arguing that it is counterproductive and goes against current research, which indicate that the measures will not have a positive effect.

Solution:

- Withdraw all legislation that affects entire families, instead of only affecting the individual suspected criminal.
- Halt the making of specific laws that particularly criminalize minorities.
- Follow the advices of current research and implement and fund more social projects in local areas that can help residents with social challenges, instead of implementing laws that are counterproductive and do not follow an evidence-based approach.

Questions to ask Danish parliamentarians and authorities:

- Why is it that the government does not wish to follow the directives and advice of several scholars regarding the counterproductiveness of this new “package”?
-

7.5 Double Citizenship as a Means to strip Danish Citizens of their Danish Citizenship

Sam Mansour, (previously known as Said Mansour), was in 2016 deprived of his Danish citizenship after being found guilty of inciting terror on Facebook.²⁷ In 2019 he was deported from Denmark to Morocco, despite risking the death sentence in Morocco.^{28, 29} The case with Mansour raises questions whether Denmark is only performatively living up to international treaties of human rights.³⁰

Although Sam Mansour was the first, he is certainly not the last resident Dane, to be stripped off of his Danish citizenship.³¹ Recent examples are seen in regards to women abandoned by the Danish government in Syria's al-Roj and al-Hol camps, where several Danish residents have been stripped of their Danish citizenship,³² even without being indicted or convicted of any crimes.

In 2019 a new law targeting “foreign fighters”, who have travelled to Syria presumably with the intent to join ISIS, made it possible for the Minister of Immigration and Integration to deprive citizenship of Danish citizens with dual citizenship through political and administrative means instead of through the courts. This means these verdicts lack the legal guarantees, which the usual judicial process provides.³³ The law has been criticized for violating the fundamental right to a fair trial, and for threatening the principle of distribution of power, and to pose a risk against the otherwise established Danish legal system, since there already exists legal procedures for dealing with criminal cases, and charges of treason as well as other suspected criminal matters in relation to “foreign fighters”.³⁴

Solution:

- Urge the Danish government and the Ministry of Justice to comply with their obligations within the international treaties of human rights.
- Urge the Danish government and the Ministry of Immigration and Integration to end their practice of stripping Danish citizens off their Danish citizenship so that they can deport unwanted Danish citizens.

²⁷ Anton Lind, “Efter afsonet fængselsdom: Boghandleren fra Brønshøj skal blive i fængsel”, *DR*, 18 February 2018, <https://www.dr.dk/nyheder/indland/efter-afsonet-faengselsdom-boghandleren-fra-broenshoej-skal-blive-i-faengsel> (Access date: 2 December 2020).

²⁸ Kevin Ahrens. 2. november 2020. ”Mansour dømt til døden i Marokko trods garanti: 'Stiller den danske stat i uheldig situation'“ <https://www.dr.dk/nyheder/indland/mansour-doemt-til-doeden-i-marokko-trods-garanti-stiller-den-danske-stat-i-uheldig>

²⁹ Kevin Ahrens. 2. november 2020. ”Mansour dømt til døden i Marokko trods garanti: 'Stiller den danske stat i uheldig situation'“ <https://www.dr.dk/nyheder/indland/mansour-doemt-til-doeden-i-marokko-trods-garanti-stiller-den-danske-stat-i-uheldig>

³⁰ For more information on this matter, please see Amani Hassani: Islamophobia in Denmark: National Report 2019, in: Enes Bayraklı & Farid Hafez, *European Islamophobia Report 2020*, Istanbul, SETA, (forthcoming).

³¹ Jasmina Blichert. “Højesteret: Said Mansour mister dansk statsborgerskab“ 8. juni 2016.

<https://nyheder.tv2.dk/krimi/2016-06-08-hoejesteret-said-mansour-mister-dansk-statsborgerskab>

³² Jakob Hohlmann Villumsen & Jonas H. R. Moestrup ”OVERBLIK: Hvem er familierne fanget i Syrien?“ Retrieved 29/3/2021 <https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2021-03-26-overblik-hvem-er-familierne-fanget-i-syrien>

³³ Jeppe Sahlholdt, “Omstridt lov om fremmedkrigere er vedtaget med stemmer fra V og DF”, *Altinget*, 24 October 2019, <https://www.alinget.dk/artikel/omstridt-lov-om-fremmedkrigere-er-vedtaget-med-stemmer-fra-v-og-df>, (Access date: 2 February 2020).

³⁴ Philip Sune Dam and Frederikke Palmu Johansen, “Eksperter kommer med hård kritik af nyt lovforslag: ‘På kanten af menneskerettigheder’”, *Berlingske*, 15 October 2019, <https://www.berlingske.dk/samfund/eksperter-kommer-med-haard-kritik-af-nyt-lovforslag-paa-kanten-af>, (Access date 2 February 2020).

8. Additions to Chapter 8.2: Consequences of the Paradigm Shift Law Package

8.1 Risk of rRefoulement

Even if refugees should be treated on equal footing with citizens of the host country, the Paradigm-shift law packet from 2019 includes various discriminating rules. Most concerning is that the refugee status is being regularly reviewed in order to cease their asylum and deport them, with a big risk of violating the non-refoulement obligations. If the refugee has not gained convention status after the 1951 UN Convention of Refugees, Denmark may after a law return him to the country in which the refugee has citizenship, even if the cessation clauses in the Convention are not fulfilled in that country, and the country is still experiencing civil war or unrest and other wars.

As soon as the Danish State see some improvements in a war-torn country, which are not thought to be fully temporary, Denmark considers whether refugees from the country may be sent home - voluntarily or by force. This may happen even if the situation in the country is still serious, unstable and volatile - a refugee without convention status can be sent back either to his home area or - if not possible there - to a place for internally repelled (IFA) or for rejected refugees from abroad (IRA).

The latter is the case with Somalia, Afghanistan, Iraq, D.R. Congo and Syria. Although Denmark has not a return agreement with the Syrian Government now, Denmark has stripped the permission to stay for 329 Syrian refugees from Damascus and Rif Damascus until August 31, 2021. Denmark was returning Afghan refugees to Afghanistan - the last one in July 2021 and executing pressure on the EC Commission to continue forced returns to Afghanistan as late as 14 days before the Taliban took over Government in Kabul, even if the former Government of Afghanistan, had asked for a memorandum, and said that it could not protect returned refugees during the Taliban offensive. The Danish Government had for a long time known that the then Afghani Government would not be able to hold the power, after the US had redrawn their forces.

So the Danish Government has not respected international rights concerning non-refoulement in the case of Afghanistan and in cases with other countries such as Somalia. Denmark has stripped 1493 Somali refugees for their permissions to reside in Denmark, but in about 25 % of the cases they have been granted it again from the Refugees' Appeals Board. We do not know how many Somali refugees have been returned to Somalia yet, since such numbers are kept secret in Denmark. What we know is that many Somalis have fled to other European countries and lived as undocumented refugees there. In some cases they have later been granted asylum, and in other cases they have been returned to Denmark to a deportation centre or to the Ellebaek Detention Centre.

8.2 Asylum is not a safe haven

One of the worst anti-refugee laws was the paradigm-shift law package which was voted for in 2019. The law amounted to a kind of attack on the UN Convention on Refugees of 1951. It stated that no refugee should ever think that the future would be safe and guaranteed as a

refugee in Denmark, because they - as a rule - should return to their country of origin as soon as possible, if they were not any longer in need of international protection.

Therefore the refugees were only granted a permit to reside in Denmark for 1 or 2 years, and their permission could at any time be redrawn, if the Immigration and Integration Service found that they could be returned and did not need international protection. There would be a chance for appeal to the Danish Refugees' Appeal Board, which in effort has repealed about 25%-30% of the decisions of ceasing asylum status of the Immigration Service.

8.3 New Return Act in 2021

On January 1st 2021 a proposal for a Return Act was presented and later voted for, after the Danish Return Agency had been created with 250 persons from August 1st 2020. The aims were to put heavy pressures on rejected asylum seekers, refugees who had been stripped of their asylum status, and other foreigners who had been evicted of Denmark, but whom Denmark could not easily deport to another country for lack of identity papers or for lack of a return agreement with their country of origin. From the moment they got a negative answer on asylum from the Danish Immigration Service, they would be asked to consider a certain small amount of money for voluntarily going back at once, instead of appealing to the Refugees Appeal Board, and thus save money for the asylum procedure, housing and nurturing, and control in Denmark.

8.4 Unsafe and humiliating Conditions for evicted Foreigners in Deportation Centres

As of October 2021, at least 950 foreigners are evicted from Denmark, since they have no legal permission to stay here. About half of them cannot be sent back by force, since their country of origin has not a return agreement with Denmark, e.g. Iran. Some can neither be sent back voluntarily, since they don't possess identity papers that proves their nationality, or because their country of origin will not accept them as their citizens, or because they are stateless. If not cooperating enough for a voluntary return to their country, they will be sent to a deportation centre or set into Ellebæk detention centre. This will only be the beginning of a humiliating regime, where they are not allowed to work, nor to live with their family, unless the family is also evicted. Mothers are taking from babies while still breastfeeding. At the centre they are not allowed to prepare a meal, neither a cup of coffee or tea in between meals. Life is without meaningfulness and without possibilities, - but meant to get them to change their decision. This type of treatment has since 28 years been shown in Denmark not to be productive for voluntarily returns even under harsh pressure, because the most of the foreigners fear for the conditions, e.g. persecution or violence in their homeland. The placement with "no future" brings about apathy and depression in many, and some become psychotic. Many have already traumas from war and will be retraumatized because of the insecure and boring setting they live in, and because many can never know when they might be imprisoned or returned. The chair person for Refugees Welcome has recently written an English Report³⁵ about their situation - based on interviews.

³⁵ A firm hand – Denmark's policy on rejected asylum seekers and return. Michala Clante Bendixen. Refugees Welcome, 2021 https://refugeeswelcome.dk/media/1224/a-firm-hand_web.pdf, retrieved October 24, 2021.

8.5 Additions to Chapter 8.3. Prolonged, sharpened and unproportionate Pprison Sentences - now also for rejected Asylum Seekers!

When the changes of the Foreigner's Act as part of the Paradigm Shift were decided by the Danish Parliament in 2019 with severely prolonged prison sentences from June 1th 2019, it was decided that the prison sentences for not complying with the obligations to notify, to reside, and to report to the police should be augmented from June 1th 2021, when enough prison cells had been constructed according to the planning! We have never before heard of such considerations concerning Danish criminals! A new prison for foreigners has now opened in the small city, Ringe in Funen. A new law entered into force this year with the aims of being able to deport foreign prisoners who had made a criminal act, by deporting them to fulfill the sentence in their homeland after part of the time. The foreigners will, according to the new law, not be able for probational leave from the prison. If the net results of the new law will be an increase in the use of prison cells per day, and not less prison cells per day, Danish prisoners, who are in prison because of a non-violent crime - might then be released and be forgiven part of the sentence.

The harsher new punishments can be seen in the Table 3. They are all completely out of proportion with other Danish prison punishments, they have no real purpose other than to "make life as intolerable as possible" for those on "tolerated stay". Even if they during the parliament's debate only were intended to be given to foreigners, who had served a prison sentence for a criminal act, they are now also given to rejected asylum seekers and refugees! At the third time them from the latter group are prosecuted for not having complied with the obligations, they will usually get a prison sentence. After a prison sentence the rejected asylum seeker will be considered as a criminal, and convicted to deportation, he or she will be treated in a stricter way and be placed among people who have been punished for acts before they arrived at the deportation centre be obligated with the duty to notify, and in the future be prosecuted and sentenced after the harsh punishment tables for persons with a criminal record.

Table 3: Recommended lengths of imprisonment after number of violations over more than one calendar month

Number of violations per calendar month	1 st time violation	2 nd time violation	3 rd time violation	4 th time violation
1-2	Prison 7 days	Prison 14 days	Prison 40 days	Prison 60 days
3-5	Prison 30 days	Prison 40 days	Prison 60 days	Prison 6 months
6-9	Prison 60 days	Prison 3 months	Prison 6 months	Prison 9 months
10-	Prison 4 months	Prison 6 months	Prison 9 months	Prison 1 year

If many more than 10 violations a month occurs a higher punishment should be prosecuted, the frame of imprisonment is up to 2 years for punishments for violations having occurred after June 1st 2021.

Sometimes the punishments amounts to a kind of a closed Kafka's circle: A Superior Court and The Supreme Court have earlier decided that the obligation to reside and notify at a deportation centre after less than 4 years will violate ECHR Article 3, which bans the state's use of torture, humiliating and inhuman treatment and death penalty. So, after 4 years the foreigner is allowed to live with his family at home, but if the latest violations of the earlier obligations have not been persecuted and sentenced before, he might be sentenced to imprisonment for that now and then to deportation. After an imprisonment the foreigner might be evicted again, and if he cannot be deported, he will probably end up in a deportation centre for the second time.

The system for registration of fulfilling the obligations has been made by an automatic system that several times showed to be filled with different types of errors - the SALTO-system. So many foreigners have probably been sentenced to long prison sentences, for obligations they even have not violated. Lawyers have demanded that all the processes in Kærshovedgaard and Sjælsmark should be gone through again because of the many errors.

The Danish Data Protection Agency has criticized the Return Agency and the Immigration Service, and reported it to the police, in order that it be investigated for a process against the two agencies under the Ministry of Immigration and Integration, both of which have been responsible for using the system during some of the periods with errors.

9. New Chapter 9: The Covid-19 Pandemic and Ethnic Minorities in Denmark

At the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Government initially suspended not the compulsory handshake at naturalization ceremonies, which was introduced to force Muslims to shake hands with the opposite sex, but instead the granting of *Danish citizenship*. Not until early July 2020 was the *handshake* suspended.

The Commissioner for Human Rights stated that it would be illegal after Article 5 in the ECHR to detain asylum seekers while waiting to being relocated in another Dublin-country, since borders were closed and nearly all flights cancelled in Europe. All Dublin-transfers were cancelled during the first lock-down in Europe due to Covid-19. But the Minister of Immigration and Integration declined to set them free.

During the pandemic there were outbreaks of Covid-19 on 4 occasions in Kærshovedgaard. Refugee and human rights and anti-racist NGOs appealed to free them from their obligation to reside and notify during the pandemic, but the Minister rejected that. Many more were infected than in the general population in Denmark at that time.

Initially during the Covid-19 pandemic the Government made no attempt to include ethnic minorities in their strategy. At all press conferences announcing new rules, an interpreter for the deaf has assisted, but the Prime Minister “stated at a press conference that people who didn’t understand Danish had to find translation possibilities themselves”. According to a recent report 160,000-190,000 residents do not understand Danish at all³⁶.

During the first wave of the pandemic people of non “Western” descent have been tested positive 2.3 – 3.6 times the rate of majority Danes³⁷. Later, outbreaks appeared in some housing areas with a high number of ethnic minorities. The National Board of Health, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Housing, and some of the big housing organizations made local information campaigns via e.g., internal TV, local democratic institutions of the housing area would also help people getting tested, etc. And more, MINO Danmark which is an organization for minority-ethnic Danes - supported by private foundations - began to translate conclusions from the many Press Conferences, and made small videos in different languages, and translated some important letters to the citizens and parents from the Danish authorities - including rules about hygiene. The Danish Council of Refugees together with MINO, and with private funding made a phone-line where minorities could ask questions in their own language about Covid-19 to health workers.

At the moment, there exists much skepticism in forms of myths about immunizations in some minority communities, with much lower proportions being vaccinated than among residents with majority background, and higher incidences of the disease.

³⁶ *Harsh criticism of authorities: Lack of translation increases the risk of spread of infection*, 23.03.2020 - Retrieved 30.03.2021 from: <https://www.altinget.dk/embedsvaerk/artikel/corona-anbefalinger-naar-kun-ud-til-dansktalendeoger-smittespredning-i-sociale-boligbyggerier>

³⁷ Retrieved 30.03.2021 from: <https://files.ssi.dk/COVID19-epi-trendogfokus-07052020-4eu7> and <https://files.ssi.dk/COVID19-og-herkomst-oktober-2020>