



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: registry@ohchr.org

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Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 80th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Denmark, pursuant to Rule 65(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the timely submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 13, 15, 18 and 19 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/DNK/CO/18-19), adopted following the consideration of the State party's eighteenth and nineteenth periodic reports in September 2010. The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its twentieth and twenty-first periodic reports to be submitted in a single document by 8 January 2013.

**Paragraph 13 of the Concluding Observations.** The Committee welcomes the information that the Danish Aliens Act, cf. section 19 (8) stipulates that if a residence permit has been granted on the basis of marriage or marital cohabitation, and this basis is no longer present, the authorities must pay special attention as to whether the marriage or cohabitation has ended as a consequence of the alien concerned having been exposed to outrages, abuse or ill-treatment, etc., by a spouse. The Committee encourages the State party to closely monitor the implementation of this provision and relevant administrative practice in order to enhance the protection of foreign women.

His Excellency Mr. Steffen Smidt  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative  
Permanent Mission of Denmark  
to the United Nations Office and other international organization in Geneva  
Rue de Moillebeau 56 (7th Floor)  
1211 Geneva 19  
Fax: +41 22 918 00 66



**Paragraph 15 of the Concluding Observations.** The Committee thanks the State party for the information provided. While taking note with interest the adoption of the Government's strategy to combat residential segregation in October 2010, and of the on-going monitoring of developments, the Committee expresses its regret that the information provided does not directly address the impact that this strategy may have had on the targeted people's rights to freedom of residence. Also, the State party has not analysed how this strategy may have positively or negatively impacted on the practice of the culture of the affected group or the preservation of their cultural identity.

**Paragraph 18 of the Concluding Observations.** The Committee thanks the State party for the information provided and takes note of its argumentation regarding the functioning of the Board of Equal Treatment according to its administrative law. However, the Committee encourages the State party to work towards the effectiveness of the Board of Equal Treatment including envisaging expanding its powers or reviewing its procedures. In order to assist victims of racial discrimination, the State party has the duty to facilitate their access to this body by providing the requisite legal information to persons belonging to the most vulnerable social groups who are often unaware of their rights. It should also simplify the procedural criteria employed by the Board so that alleged cases of racial discrimination are not rejected but dealt with in a fair manner.

**Paragraph 19 of the Concluding Observations.** The Committee thanks the State party for the information provided and for its efforts to compile data on the composition of the Danish prison population disaggregated by geographic origin, age, ethnic origin, etc. The Committee therefore encourages the State party to provide it with data in its next periodic report on the ethnic origin of the prison population.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Denmark, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

Alexei Avtonomov  
Chairperson of the Committee  
on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination