

**ECRI CONCLUSIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS
IN RESPECT OF DENMARK
SUBJECT TO INTERIM FOLLOW-UP**

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¹ Any developments which occurred after 9 October 2014, date on which the response of the Danish authorities to ECRI's request for information on measures taken to implement the recommendations chosen for interim follow-up was received, are not taken into account in this analysis.

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FOREWORD

As part of the fourth round of ECRI's monitoring work, a new process of interim follow-up has been introduced with respect to a small number of specific recommendations made in each of ECRI's country reports.

Accordingly and in line with the guidelines for the fourth round of ECRI's country-by-country work brought to the attention of the Ministers' Deputies on 7 February 2007¹, not later than two years following the publication of each report, ECRI addresses a communication to the Government concerned asking what has been done in respect of the specific recommendations for which priority follow-up was requested.

At the same time, ECRI gathers relevant information itself. On the basis of this information and the response from the Government, ECRI draws up its conclusions on the way in which its recommendations have been followed up.

It should be noted that these conclusions concern only the specific interim recommendations and do not aim at providing a comprehensive analysis of all developments in the fight against racism and intolerance in the State concerned.

¹ CM/Del/Dec(2007)986/4.1.

1. *In its report on Denmark (fourth monitoring cycle) published on 22 May 2012, ECRI urged the Danish authorities to carry out a wide-ranging reform of the spousal reunification rules in order to remove any elements which amount to direct or indirect discrimination and/or which are disproportionate to their stated aims.*

ECRI notes that the Danish authorities have not taken any initiative to carry out a wide ranging reform of the spousal reunification rules.

ECRI therefore considers that this recommendation has not been implemented.

2. *In its report on Denmark (fourth monitoring cycle), ECRI recommended that the Danish authorities ensure that NGOs and other civil society actors working on issues relating to groups of concern to ECRI receive sufficient funding and that there is closer cooperation between them and the authorities.*

ECRI has been informed that positive steps have been taken by the Danish authorities towards implementing this recommendation.

In December 2013, the strategy Civil Society Building Bridges was launched in order to strengthen the cooperation between civil society and local authorities regarding the integration of newly arrived migrants. A total amount of 16,750,000 DKK has been allocated to finance the implementation of the strategy, including the following three projects that illustrate its overriding goals:

a) The Right Welcome is a project implemented by the Danish Red Cross and Danish Refugee Council and aims at documenting best practices of structured cooperation between municipalities and civil society in welcoming and integrating migrants into Danish society. This activity will be funded with 3,700,000 DKK in the period 2014-2016.

b) Cooperation Between Ethnic Minority Organisations and Municipalities aims at building the capacity of migrant associations and encouraging municipalities to include them in their integration activities. This project is supported financially with 2,250,000 DKK in the period 2014-2016 and is implemented by the Danish Refugee Council.

c) Baba seeks to educate fathers in migrant families in order to improve their ability to interact more effectively with local authorities and to participate as active citizens and thereby help others to do the same. The project is inspired by a similar activity, Neighbourhood Mothers, which focused on women. A positive evaluation in 2012 showed that neighbourhood mothers perceived themselves as positive role models who contribute actively to integration in Denmark. Baba will be supported financially with 3,800,000 million DKK over a three year period (2014-2016) and is implemented by the Centre for Social Responsibility.

Although these projects have not been fully implemented yet, as they cover the period of 2014-16, ECRI considers that they are evidence of a move in the right direction.

ECRI considers that this recommendation has been partially implemented.

3. *In its report on Denmark (fourth monitoring cycle), ECRI encouraged the Danish authorities to intensify their efforts in recruiting members of ethnic minorities to the police.*

ECRI has been informed that the Danish National Police intensified its efforts and took a number of initiatives to increase diversity in policing.

In November 2013, the Danish National Police adopted a diversity strategy, which had been developed with the help of the Danish Institute of Human Rights (DIHR) to embrace and utilise a “broader variety of perspectives, competences and knowledge” brought into the police force by employees with different social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The strategy involves local police districts. The DIHR also facilitated a process of “diversity dialogue” throughout the Danish National Police.

The Danish police has also adopted a new “employer branding strategy” in order to attract a workforce that represents the diverse population in the country by branding the police force as a relevant and suitable workplace for all.

The police initiatives also include close dialogue and confidence building measures with networks of migrants and improved direct contact with persons of non-Danish ethnic background. One example is the cooperation between the police in Aalborg and the local integration council. Joint information meetings are organised with the purpose of informing members of different ethnic groups about the role of the police in Danish society and the importance of contributing to a diversified police force. A similar project is being set up in Aarhus.

ECRI views these steps as positive measures, which are evidence of sincere efforts to diversify the police force.

ECRI therefore considers that this recommendation has been implemented.

