

THE DANISH INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2006



THEME: WATCHDOG
OR LAPDOG?

READ ABOUT:

CHINA, BUSINESS AND RIGHTS
HOUSE OF DISCRIMINATION
THE UN TO PROTECT DISABLED PERSONS
WHEN THE INNOCENT ARE PUNISHED
NEW TV INFOMERCIAL
HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS IN BASRA
TEN YEARS IN MALAWI

CONTENTS

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 03 | PREFACE: GLOBALISATION |
| 04 | CRITICISM UPHELD |
| 05 | UN EXAMINATION |
| 05 | MULTIPLE DISCRIMINATION ON THE EUROPEAN AGENDA |
| 05 | A CONSTRUCTIVE VOICE FROM THE UN |
| 06 | STRASBOURG RULED AGAINST DENMARK |
| 06 | DIVERSITY IN THE HEALTH SECTOR |
| 07 | ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT |
| 08 | THEME: WATCHDOG OR LAPDOG? |
| 09 | THE PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION |
| 10 | FOCUS ON TERRORISM AND THE MIDDLE EAST |
| 11 | RIGHTS OF VULNERABLE GROUPS |
| 12 | CRITICISM OF DENMARK |
| 13 | CHINA AND ITS VICINITY |
| 14 | CULTURAL CANON AND DIVERSITY |
| 15 | ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM THE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT |
| 16 | TEN YEARS IN MALAWI |
| 17 | ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT |
| 18 | CHINA, INDUSTRY AND RIGHTS |
| 20 | DIHR PRESENTATION AT THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS |
| 21 | ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM HUMAN RIGHTS & BUSINESS |
| 22 | NEW POLICE ACADEMY IN MONTENEGRO |
| 23 | EXTENDED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION |
| 24 | HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS IN BASRA |
| 25 | DANISH CONSULTATION REGARDING THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM |
| 26 | HOUSE OF DISCRIMINATION |
| 27 | GREAT HIT IN CAMBODIA |
| 28 | ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM RESEARCH DEPARTMENT |
| 29 | RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2006 |
| 32 | DENMARK WON SILVER |
| 34 | AWARDS TO BUSINESS |
| 36 | THE UN TO PROTECT DISABLED PERSONS |
| 37 | REPORT FROM THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY |
| 38 | FINANCES |
| 39 | INFORMATION ABOUT THE DANISH INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS |

PREFACE

GLOBALISATION



MORTEN KJÆRUM

Executive Director
Danish Institute for Human Rights

2006 was the year in which the UN Commission on Human Rights was transformed into the Human Rights Council. Some people had high hopes that the Council would solve many of the problems experienced by the Commission over the years with a wave of the hand. That, however, proved rather optimistic because they seemed to forget that in the end politics are dictated by all the countries of the world, and they do not necessarily revise their politics merely as a consequence of a new structure. This being said, it should be added that the Council ought to be given a chance because its mandate is clearly an improvement compared to that of the Commission. The Council has been granted a higher status within the UN system. In principle, the Council may meet at any time throughout the year, and it is possible – at least in theory – to vote out a country. Seen from the perspective of a national human rights institution, we have obtained a much better position relative to the Council. In future, national human rights institutions may speak under all agenda items and may also contribute to the periodic examination of the individual countries to be made by the Council. During the next year, we will begin to see the Council's actions take shape; but in the meantime, all positive forces have to push forwards to make it move in the direction of improved global human rights protection.

On 17 January 2006, I was re-elected to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination by the 173 States Parties to the Convention. That was a fortunate date because just a few weeks later, the cartoon crisis exploded in different parts of the Muslim world. I would hardly have been re-elected had the election been held just two weeks later because the hostility towards Denmark following the caricatures published in the Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* was among the most violent ever experienced by Danes. The conflict between the freedom of expression on one side and the protection against humiliating and degrading treatment on the other was manifested in a terribly tangible sense through the great number of violent demonstrations. In the medium-term perspective, it has given rise to quite a few reflections in a Danish context on the coexistence of the Christian majority and the Muslim minority. We see an increasing interest in becoming familiar with the fundamental structures of each other's religions. Today there is a clearer feeling that it is vital to distinguish between the small group of fundamentalists and extremists seen in all religions and the large group of people who are moderately religious. It is still too early to say anything about the long-term effects of the crisis. However, the Danish image has taken a beating around the world, and a lot of fences have to be mended in the coming years. When I mention the great rescue efforts on my travels in the Arab world, all discussion about the cartoons ceases, and back in Denmark the efforts gave the families affected by the crisis a strong feeling of belonging to this country. They were going home to Denmark. Denmark has to continue along this track, making people feel included rather than cultivating the contrasts between 'you and us'.

For the past three years, the Danish Institute for Human Rights has chaired the global network of national human rights institutions, but it will hand over the baton to the Canadian Human Rights Commission at the beginning of 2007. During these three years we have contributed to the creation of one of the biggest and strongest human rights networks in the world. Today the network comprises about 100 institutions worldwide, which have now obtained a special status before the United Nations. These institutions will form the backbone of the global development of human rights protection in the years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Morten Kjærum'.

SPOUSE REUNIFICATION

CRITICISM UPHHELD

Although the Danish Institute for Human Rights commends the willingness to enter into dialogue on improved due process protection.



In 2004, the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) published a research and development analysis on spouse reunification among foreigners in Denmark. In 2005, this was followed up by a white paper attesting to differential treatment. A committee of civil servants from several Danish ministries published a memorandum based on these reports in 2006. This memorandum repudiated the criticism voiced by DIHR.

As regards the repudiation of the issues criticised by DIHR in its 2005 White Paper on Spouse Reunification and the 2004 Research and Development Analysis on Spouse Reunification, DIHR maintains its criticism of all issues, including the narrow interpretation of Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights in cases regarding family reunification and differential treatment of citizens as far as the administration of the requirement of affiliation is concerned.

In both the white paper, the research and development analysis and its letter of 22 November 2005 to the Ministry of Integration, DIHR explained that the human rights analyses and evaluations made by the Institute are in accordance with the classifications and rules of interpretation developed by the European Court of Human Rights and other international review bodies.

“That is the reason why it is necessary to point to two related aspects of principle,” says Birgitte Kofod

Olsen, Head of the National Department of DIHR. “The evaluation made by the Institute of what is applicable human rights law and what must accordingly be seen as non-compliance with human rights obligations is based solely on the case law of these international bodies,” she emphasises.

The examples of violations mentioned in the White Paper were cases selected on the basis of such legal evaluations and, as such, expressed the minimum requirements to be met in order to comply with the human rights obligations. In addition to its legal evaluations, the Institute also assessed the best way possible to promote human rights - as was also mentioned in the White Paper and explained in the aforementioned letter. This is done by DIHR in connection with its exercise of its statutory mandate as a national human rights institution to protect and promote human rights.

“Among other things, the Institute has emphasised that insufficient transparency is not a human rights violation as such, but that greater transparency would be in accordance with the important human rights principle of due process protection for citizens,” says Ms Olsen, and she continues: “Apparently, the working group has not understood this distinction between an independent human rights analysis and a subsequent independent human rights promotion evaluation.”

UN EXAMINATION

On 9-10 August 2006, Denmark was examined by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

On 12 January 2006, Morten Kjærum was re-elected to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD). Mr Kjærum has been an active member since 2002. He has written about the work of the Committee in his day blog.

Excerpts from 18 August 2006:

"After the examination, the country rapporteur and a member of the secretariat staff meet to write the first draft. It usually takes a couple of days, sometimes a little more. The concluding observations are based on the country reports and the subjects mentioned in connection with the actual dialogue. (...) When the country rapporteur has finished the report, it is distributed to all Committee members, who are normally allowed half a day or a whole day to submit comments. Instead of spending oceans of time on official meetings, we can take into account suggestions, ideas and objections from the other Committee members in an unofficial round. On the basis of all the material, the country rapporteur completes the draft report. However, the rapporteur needs not incorporate all suggestions because the Committee still has to discuss his/her report. The next step is an official discussion of the report, one paragraph at a time, and behind closed doors. (...) Once the text is finally adopted, our general rapporteur, Patrick Thornberry, will scrutinise the language usage to avoid any textual errors. Poor Patrick, he is right now sitting with a huge bunch of texts to go through; I presume he will finish in a couple of hours. Before I sat down in front of my computer tonight, we had a cosy concluding dinner for all Committee members. We have heated and difficult discussions during our three-week sessions, but in general there is a sober tone when we meet for a good dinner. It is essential for us to have a good laugh together every now and again; that contributes to promoting the work and rounding off some corners."

➔ **INFO** Read more about CERD at: www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/6/cerd.htm

MULTIPLE DISCRIMINATION ON THE EUROPEAN AGENDA

EU grant to the Danish Institute for Human Rights

The recipient of an outstanding master of law degree applies for several jobs yet is rejected time and again. In spite of graduating summa cum laude and her impressive resume, the newly hatched lawyer sees friends with lower exam scores and worse qualifications get a job right away. The situation is that this university graduate is a young woman from an ethnic minority. Could there be any connection between her unsuccessful job applications and one or more of these features? Is the reason that she is young, that she is female or that she has a different ethnic background?

Discrimination often takes place on the basis of several of the features illustrated by the above example. Discrimination is a complex phenomenon, and for that reason the European Union invited tenders for a study of multiple discrimination in the European Union. The Danish Institute for Human Rights was awarded the grant of € 392,681. This study is a natural continuation of the Danish equal treatment initiatives launched by DIHR during the past three years. "DIHR has been asked to study the phenomenon of multiple discrimination and how it is perceived and dealt with," explains Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Head of the National Department. She continues: "Multiple discrimination is a serious problem, and it is very important to identify where it occurs and how it affects the victims. This knowledge will help us to combat and prevent a kind of discrimination experienced by many people." The study will be conducted in ten EU Member States during the course of one year. It will end with a large conference in Denmark at which the study conclusions and recommendations for the future European anti-discrimination activities will be presented.

A CONSTRUCTIVE VOICE FROM THE UN

The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) presented its final report on Denmark in 2006.

The report emphasises the willingness of the Committee to continue the moderate tone used in connection with the dialogue with the Danish delegation when it orally answered questions to the Danish government's report. Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Head of the National Department, said on that occasion that the concluding observations are an invitation to a constructive dialogue and that CERD provides Denmark with several recommendations on how to address the issues criticised. The Danish Institute for Human Rights found that the concluding observations were well balanced and will support the future work to combat discrimination in Denmark.

➔ **INFO** Read more about the concluding observations of CERD at: www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/AdvanceVersion/denmark69.pdf

THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

STRASBOURG RULED AGAINST DENMARK

On 28 September 2006, the European Court of Human Rights found that Denmark has violated Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights on the right to a fair trial.

The suit was filed by a woman who underwent a jaw operation at a Danish hospital in 1988. In 1992 she complained to the National Patients' Complaints Board in Denmark that subsequent to the operation in 1988, she had suffered from headache and constant pain in the jaw-joints and the masticatory muscle. The Board found against her, and in 1994 she instituted proceedings against the Danish authority responsible for the hospital. Proceedings before the Danish courts lasted eight years and nine months before the parties entered into an amicable settlement. According to this

settlement, the applicant was to receive DKK 477,503. The Court in Strasbourg found that the case was to some extent complex and time-consuming and that the woman's counsel contributed to prolonging the proceedings considerably. The European Court of Human Rights also found that it was not imputable to the City Court and the High Court that the case had had to be submitted to the National Patients' Complaints Board and the Forensic Medicine Council in Denmark several times. Considering the length of the proceedings and what was at stake for the women in the dispute, the Court nevertheless found that there had been a breach of Article 6.

➔ **INFO** Read the judgment at: <http://cmiskp.echr.coe.int>



DIVERSITY IN THE HEALTH SECTOR

New partnership to place diversity and equal treatment on the agenda

The Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) and the Danish Nurses' Organization, a Danish trade union, have started a partnership aiming at placing diversity and equal treatment in the health sector on the agenda.

In 2006, the Institute focused its attention on the Danish health sector to ensure equal treatment and improve diversity in the workplace. The brochure '*Mangfoldighed i sundhedsvæsenet*' (Diversity in the Health Sector) was published jointly by the Institute and the Danish Nurses' Organization.

"It is essential to focus on the health sector because it is one of the fields in which equal treatment must be considered obvious and there is ample opportunity to benefit from a diverse staff, for example in connection with holiday planning," explains Susanne Nour, Manager of the DIHR project on diversity in the workplace. This new brochure has been distributed to all Danish hospitals, health care institutions and the relevant ministries. Moreover, two national conferences have been held. "The partnership between the Institute and the Danish Nurses' Organization

was started following several cases of ethnic discrimination within the health sector. The Danish Nurses' Organization contacted the Institute, and together we started the partnership, which is intended to be a resource in connection with cases of discrimination and to create focus on the opportunities of and barriers to diversity in the health sector. This partnership is therefore going to make a real difference to the health sector and at the same time serve as an inspiration to others," Ms Nour emphasises.

ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Head of the National Department



“You infringe upon my private life when you read my e-mails!” I hear from the TV in the living room where my children are watching cartoons on the Disney Channel. It is indeed wonderful that our children learn their rights at a tender age while watching cartoons on TV. But what does the ordinary Danish citizen know about human rights? I myself often meet the view, oh no, human rights violations do not take place in Denmark. That is only something that goes on in suppressive societies. But, in reality, we also see cases in Denmark which make fundamental human rights a household word.

In 2006, the cartoon crisis – and all its unfortunate and negative consequences in Denmark and worldwide – carried freedom of expression to the top of the agenda. Freedom of expression was emphasised as a fundamental human right in a democratic society, and this freedom was made visible and debated. However, we did not see a corresponding respect for the dignity of ethnic and religious minorities.

We see discrimination every day in Denmark, although this is not generally known among politicians and decision-makers. Even though it is sometimes difficult to catch sight of discrimination, it does not mean that there is no discrimination or that it does not have serious consequences for its victims. At the Institute we therefore have to ask about the nature and scope of the discrimination. Who feels discriminated against? What reactions follow? Is radicalisation one of them? In 2006, together with research institutions, specialised equality bodies and statistical offices in Norway, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic and Portugal, we presented two reports and several proposals for adequate European data collection procedures from registers, studies, interviews and applications to the European Court of Human Rights in order to combine all the data to form a picture of the ethnic discrimination in Europe. The European Union supported this project financially because they know – just like we do – that discrimination does occur. In order to combat this discrimination, we need to know more about it.

As a national human rights institution we are often consulted about bills. This provides us with an opportunity to comment on the human rights consequences of new legislative initiatives. In that respect, several exciting initiatives were launched in 2006 which affected human rights in Denmark. One example is that efforts to combat and prevent terrorism were strengthened in 2006, although the price to the Danes was less freedom and less due process protection. Our use of telephones, mobile phones and the Internet is now being monitored; and where, when and with whom we travel, what we eat on our way, etc. is also being registered.

In 2006, it was proposed in the Danish Parliament to establish a joint complaints body within the discrimination field to allow more minority groups access to complain. A joint complaints body would be a major step forward to ensure the effectiveness of the Danish prohibition against discrimination in practice. However, the proposal was weak in several crucial aspects. Although Parliament wanted to extend the right to complain, it would not at the same time give minorities more opportunities to complain of the kinds of discrimination experienced by them. In other words, Parliament would not amend the statutory basis. Accordingly, people who are disabled, homosexuals and other minority groups would still not be able to complain about discrimination against them when they look for a home, apply for social or other services, visit a restaurant or discotheque or apply for admission to an educational institution.

This means that Denmark can still improve in many areas. I just mentioned a few examples. Accordingly, the Institute intends to continue to sound the alarm when things are moving in the wrong direction. This is our job, and ordinary people can expect us to do it. It does indeed help a lot that our children become aware of their rights early on while watching cartoons on TV. Because they will remember them when they realise that some people may actually read their e-mail.

➔ **INFO** Read more about the international work of DIHR at:
<http://humanrights.dk/about+us/organisation/national+++department>

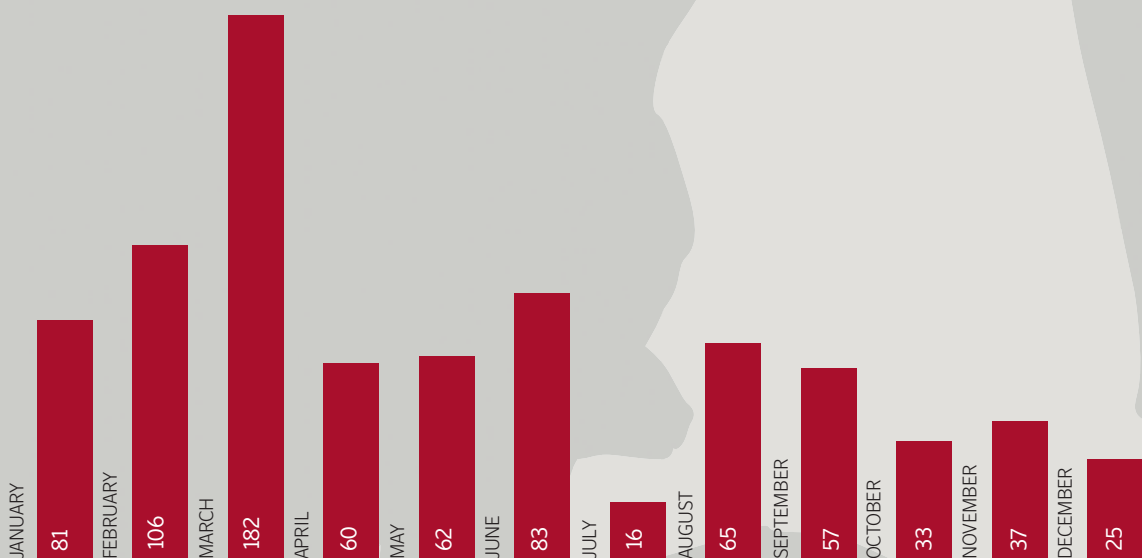
WATCHDOG OR LAPDOG?

A myth is often the same as fiction, fabrication, or at best a fairy-tale or a fable. Since demands for abolishing the Danish Institute for Human Rights began in 2002, we have had to live with loose allegations as to the silence of DIHR, particularly in connection with critical human rights cases.

As can be seen from the chart below, the actual facts speak for themselves, namely that DIHR was mentioned more than twice every day in the Danish media in 2006. Moreover, researchers and other employees have contributed articles to several trade journals.

The act providing the statutory basis for the existence of DIHR also gives the Institute the mandate to act as watchdog if Denmark fails to comply with its obligations under national and international agreements within the human rights area. Therefore DIHR publishes an extensive evaluation of the human rights situation in Denmark and a number of research and development analyses about both national and international matters every year. Moreover, DIHR employees are also actively involved in the public debate.

2006: THE VOICE OF DIHR IN THE DEBATE. REFERENCES IN DANISH MEDIA



THE PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

2006 was the Year of Mohammed. The notorious cartoons in the Danish daily Jyllands-Posten triggered protests and controversy all over the world. DIHR was among the first to organise a large public meeting in December 2005 attended by Flemming Rose, Culture Editor of Jyllands-Posten, as a follow-up to similar meetings about hate speech and civil servants' freedom of expression. DIHR's position is very clear: Freedom of expression is crucial in a democratic society, but not unlimited.

The newspaper Holbæk Amts Venstreblad quoted Morten Kjærum, Executive Director of DIHR, as saying that it is fully legitimate to restrict the freedom of expression and that the Mohammed drawings created neither "communication nor dialogue". (23 March 2006)

One week later, Mr Kjærum and his colleagues from Greece, Ireland and France issued a press release on behalf of the European national human rights institutions:

"Freedom of expression is often seen as a precondition for the exercise of other rights and as such imperative to a democratic society, but it is and has never been unconditional. All human rights must be exercised in a way which does not violate the rights of others." (3 April 2006)

According to the daily Information, Isi Foighel, currently a Senior Researcher at DIHR and a former Minister, said: "I have to admit that I was shockingly surprised when the Prime Minister stated that there are not different degrees of freedom of expression. (...) When I served as a judge at the European Court of Human Rights, I followed several cases regarding freedom of expression,

and the very problem facing us was to balance freedom of expression and the costs to society and human beings related to the unlimited use of the freedom of expression." (25 March 2006)

Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Head of the National Department of DIHR, based her letter to the editor of the newspaper Berlingske Tidende regarding the same theme on the Danish saying that you have to think before you speak. She finds that it is necessary to have cohesion among all groups of society to ensure that it is possible to enter into both dialogue and constructive criticism with mutual respect for dignity and diversity. "That standard was not observed by Jyllands-Posten when it published the cartoons. The argument that it was necessary to avoid self-censorship is untenable. To show consideration, empathy and respect has nothing to do with self-censorship." (16 February 2006)

Anette Faye Jacobsen, Ph.D. and Special Advisor at DIHR, wrote in an analysis in the newspaper Information that Europe sees a tendency towards stronger legal protection against scornful and hateful statements against minorities. At the same time, she pointed to an opposing trend within politics which promotes the secularisation of culture in Europe. "But maybe protective initiatives against scornful statements and restrictions of the right to manifest one's faith in public or semi-public contexts are in fact not opposing trends, but rather they combine to contribute in different ways to privatising or even tabooing religious subjects in the public sphere." (17 March 2006)



The International Commission of Jurists and DIHR organised a hearing on counter-terrorism measures. The reason for this initiative was deep concern as to whether the Danish Government's action plan to combat terrorism and other plans will so increase the powers granted to the Danish Security Intelligence Service and others that it will lead to infringement of civil rights. Are these proposals in accordance with due process protection? What role are private companies to play in connection with police investigations? What will be the effect of these proposals for Danish citizens' and consumers' right to respect for private life?

A lengthy analysis about the infringement of the rights of terrorists detained at Guantanamo prepared by Peter Scharff Smith, Ph.D. and Senior Researcher at DIHR, appeared in the Danish daily Politiken. In this analysis, he asked what Denmark, one of the close allies of the USA, is doing to stop the US human rights infringements. He established that international conventions have been violated on several occasions because of the US practice and concluded by referring to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who has said that Guantanamo should be closed down. "In the same spirit it would be suitable if Danish politicians, and Danish Government politicians in particular, issued statements in support of the strong political, human rights and military voices in US society who try to fight all kinds of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of the detainees of a democratic nation." (13 May 2006)

In the newspaper Information, Anette Faye Jacobsen, Special Advisor, emphasised the contrasts experienced in Denmark between anti-terrorism legislation and control mechanisms when it comes to protection of the right to respect for private life as far as sensitive personal data in a specific case is concerned. "This may affect a very great quantity of personal data about many people – most of whom may not even be involved in the case. The zealotry of the Danish Ministry of Justice to restrict the free access to information of the Security Intelligence Service for its investigation of a relatively narrow group of offences somewhat contrasts with the floodgate that is opened to sensitive personal data in connection with these cases. (...) In terms of human rights, it is definitely not adequate to refer to national security in general as the reason for intervening in civil rights such as the right to protection of private life." (19 May 2006)

In 2006, DIHR employees in the Middle East experienced the aftermath of the cartoon crisis, the fight against terrorism and the attempts to support the development of democracy in the Arab world. In the daily Politiken Hanna Ziadeh, an analyst stationed in Yemen, described how representatives of the fundamentalist Hizb ut-Tahrir group offered him a stay in "a religious training camp". According to Mr Ziadeh, it is hard for Arab regimes to believe that the West really wants to support democratic governments in the Middle East as long as free elections could give power to Islamists. On the other hand, Islamist groups fear losing their hold on certain Arab groups according to Mr Ziadeh. This dilemma shows the lack of alternatives.

It is not easy to work in the Middle East, but DIHR is positively involved in a number of projects under Partnership for Progress and Reform – the so-called 'Arab Initiative' of the Danish Government. Birgit Lindsnæs, Head of the International Department of DIHR, wrote in the newspaper Berlingske Tidende: "Since the European and Arab governments will not always agree on what is necessary to create reforms, great efforts and many mutual discussions are required to develop partnerships which can form the basis for the creation of shared political and legal standards and peaceful co-existence." Ms Lindsnæs underlined that the Arab countries do want to have a dialogue, and she mentioned examples of small steps of progress made in Morocco, Kuwait, Jordan and other countries, even in Saudi Arabia where women have now been granted seats on the national Human Rights Commission. She also pointed out that the challenge is to think in terms of integration and look both at security and the prevention of terrorism and at human rights and rule of law. "At the same time, Europe and the other countries have to focus on solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and supporting Iraq in creating peace and security. (...) Both Europe and the Arab world have an interest in preventing terrorism and promoting peaceful co-existence, and an increasing number of Arab regimes have also opened up for the discussion of human rights and rule of law. Civil servants from the relevant ministries of the two regions ought to be able to get together to define joint agendas. Although there is no doubt a long way to go before political decisions are reached, these discussions may pave the way for innovation and input to the political processes." (14 May 2006)



RIGHTS OF VULNERABLE GROUPS

The year 2006 started with a focus on the mentally ill. In the opinion of DIHR, mentally ill offenders are discriminated against when, for all kinds of crime, they are given special sentences serving a long maximum period or an indeterminate sanction that is unreasonable compared with the offence and far exceeds the sentence usually imposed for the same kind of offences.

DIHR published a research and development analysis about this subject and followed up on these matters by contributing articles to Danish media.

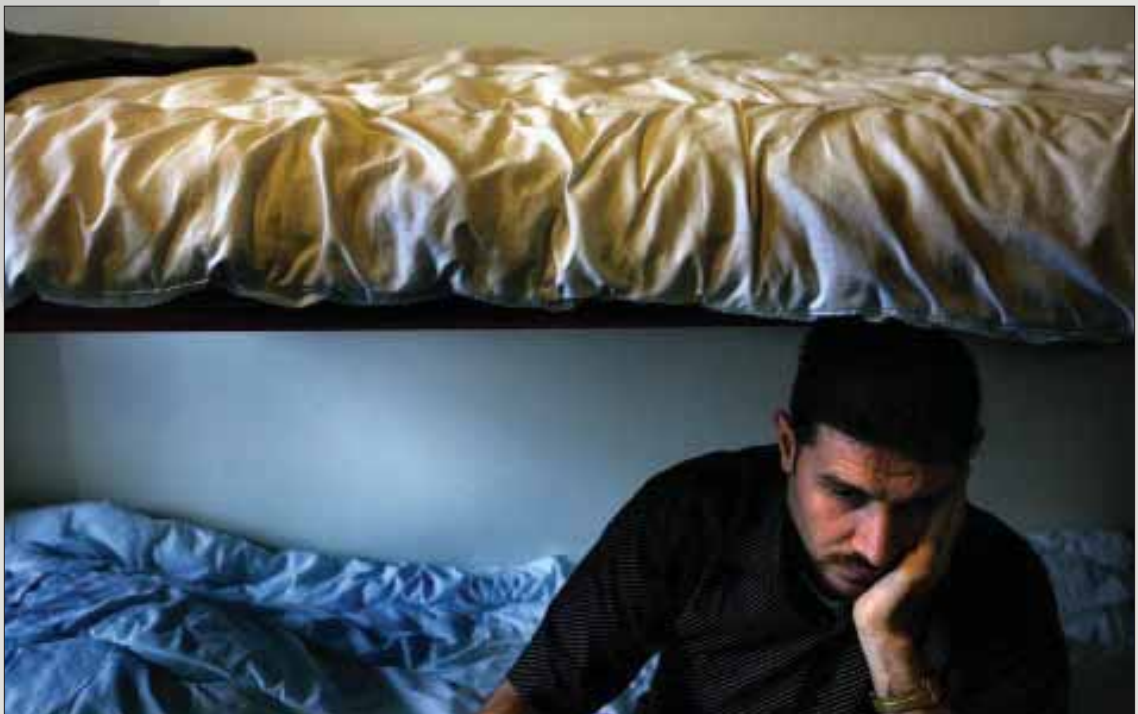
Another vulnerable group often caught in a jam in the Danish legal system is the children. Both DIHR and other Danish organisations have joined forces with the United Nations to point to this fact, and in 2006 DIHR coordinated a competition in which young people were asked to create posters on children's rights in the European Union.

Christoffer Badse, the DIHR Project Manager, said in the newspaper Politiken: "If you want to create a democracy based on universal values like human rights – which is particularly important in today's diverse society – it is essential to make children aware of both their own and other people's rights, freedoms, equality and solidarity. (...) You have to support vulnerable groups in other countries, but you should not forget that just around the corner or at the local school there might be problems involving the children of your neighbourhood. (...) Children should know that they have the right to development, the right not to be discriminated against because they are children, and that their best interest must prevail." (22 April 2006)

As early as 1993, DIHR published the report '*Lov og ret om børn*' (Law and Rights Concerning Children), inter alia about children's right to know their natural parents. In 2006, this

topic hit the agenda again when a Member of Parliament, Pia Christmas-Møller of the Conservative Party, broke with the policy of her own Government and asked that anonymity in connection with donor insemination be lifted. This is exactly the recommendation of DIHR. Anette Faye Jacobsen, Special Advisor, wrote in the daily Information: "The advocates of lifting donor anonymity also emphasise the socio-psychological considerations of the attempt to remove the taboo from donation. Reference should be made to the adoption field where researchers and legislation in most comparable countries are in favour of openness about the child's identity and where an adopted child normally has the right to know the name of his or her natural father and mother. Nor is it difficult to find specific examples of stories told by adopted persons that they were shaken to the core of their being when they accidentally found out that the two persons whom they believed were their father and mother were not their 'real' father and mother." Ms Jacobsen also mentioned that Ms Christmas-Møller probably has the upper hand because anonymity has already been lifted in Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. (10 October 2006)

Several feature articles were published, one of them being the article '*Retssikkerheden under afvikling*' (Justice being phased out) by Kim U. Kjær, Senior Researcher, in the daily Politiken. In this article, he documented the failings of the Danish asylum law system. Particularly if the asylum lawyers' knowledge leaves much to be desired. "I presume that a refusal of an asylum application is the most intervening decision that a person can get. Particularly if the wrong decision was reached because of insufficient or otherwise less fortunate advice from the applicant's lawyer." (24 July 2006)



CRITICISM OF DENMARK

Just as DIHR closely monitors international conditions, international bodies check that Denmark does not violate any human rights. In May 2006, the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) published a critical report about the Danish immigration and refugee policy and other issues. ECRI has done this before, as has Álvaro Gil-Robles, the former Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, several United Nations committees and DIHR.

This time the Government detected some errors in the ECRI Report and therefore rejected it. DIHR was annoyed by that. Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Head of the National Department of DIHR, said to the newspaper *Kristeligt Dagblad* that in spite of the shortcomings of the report, the Government should “consider the criticism in a more constructive manner and start a dialogue as other countries do. In recent years, both the Council of Europe, the European Union and the United Nations have published reports that are critical towards the Danish refugee and immigration policy, but none of these reports have induced the Government to make a fundamental change in its approach.” (17 May 2006)

The United Nations also brought up critical issues in 2006. In August, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) started ploughing its way through several country reports, including the one on Denmark. Morten Kjærum, Executive Director of DIHR, is a member of CERD and wrote a background article in the newspaper *Politiken* about the functioning of these international monitoring bodies. Mr Kjærum is himself one of the UN experts who monitors whether selected states observe the obligations undertaken by them when they accede to international conventions on torture, racism, discrimination against women, etc. He himself has had a dialogue with Ireland, Israel and other countries about their legislation and case law. Based on his own experience he wrote: “We know from many situations in life that it may often be helpful to have

some fresh, unbiased eyes give a case a second going-over. This is even more relevant when the matter at stake is human rights that may be crucial to the protection of the individual human being’s dignity. Particularly this recognition makes it essential to develop follow-up mechanisms these years, both at national and international levels. Because human rights only become really relevant to the individual human being when they are no longer merely mentioned in the toast speeches.” (18 July 2006)

They also had a critical look at themselves elsewhere in the UN system. That led to a revision of the UN human rights structure. A new UN Council on Human Rights saw the light of day in the summer of 2006.

Special Advisor Anette Faye Jacobsen wrote in the newspaper *Information* about the reason for this innovation and emphasised that the most essential novelty was a screening procedure relating to the human rights situation in all countries of the world:

“This expresses a departure from the classic doctrine in international politics not to interfere with other states’ internal affairs. Through a modest and dialogue-based procedure, it has now been established that states can no longer sidestep or feel above the authority of the international community to consider the internal affairs of other countries, from Saudi Arabia over the USA to Zimbabwe.(...) And when you see how difficult it is to stand external criticism, even in Denmark, this is indeed a very surprising result. It will certainly be very interesting to see what mandates will be established in the near future; whether NGOs and human rights institutions are allowed to play a part, e.g. as providers of information; and how much publicity the process will attract. Because one should not expect great things from a new political will to improve human rights. Rather, it is increased international pressure combined with publicity in our own country that moves things forward.” (22 June 2006)



“Show racism the red card”

CHINA AND ITS VICINITY

Is it not up to the states to ensure stability and development of democracy in the Middle East, Eastern and Central Europe, Africa and China? Yes and no. DIHR is involved in many hot spots because the Institute contributes to building bridges between civil society (NGOs), states and international companies. DIHR was criticised in the newspaper Politiken for setting up a superfluous partnership with international companies starting up enterprises in Eastern and Central Europe, China and other places. The criticism expressed concern as to whether companies should worry about human rights at all – that is what we have states for. “I only wish this was the case,” replied Allan Lerberg Jørgensen, Advisor from the Human Rights & Business Department of DIHR. “But in the real world in which also Danish companies operate, things unfortunately look quite different.” Mr Jørgensen also mentioned that global businesses wanting to observe the universal human rights are often left to their own devices. For that reason, DIHR has joined forces with the Confederation of Danish Industries (Dansk Industri) and the Danish International Investment Funds (Industrialiseringsfondene) to develop tools that will enable companies to examine how they can observe human rights. “The tool has become one of the few genuine Danish export successes,” he wrote on 23 September 2006, and in the subsequent debate he established that “when international companies take human rights seriously, it is a pragmatic response to the lack of humane governance of states.” (6 October 2006)

The longstanding DIHR project in China, which has received praise from Amnesty International, among others, received acid comments in the daily Jyllands-Posten from a debater. Hatla Thelle, China specialist and DIHR researcher, had been interviewed in a radio programme and was now given the opportunity to elaborate on the involvement of DIHR in China, which is making visible progress in spite of very difficult beginnings.

“Unfortunately, human rights violations such as torture and severe poverty are not yet history in China, and today my Institute is involved in projects intended to combat these violations. We collaborate with Chinese researchers, civil servants and activists to propose statutory amendments meant to ensure a more fair trial process; we train prosecutors and defenders in protecting suspects; we support the strengthening of human rights tuition at Chinese universities; and we are involved in efforts to improve the conditions of millions of farmers working under inhuman conditions along the Chinese east coast.” (23 September 2006)

Poverty was also the topic of an article written by Birgit Lindsnæs, Head of the International Department of DIHR, on how the right to a home and the right to water fall within the political, civil and social rights. The article appeared in the journal Udvikling (Development), published by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In it, she deems that in future we will see conflicts relating to the right to water. “The right to water is not sufficient. Just as the right to asylum is not sufficient. We also need a protection convention. We need to protect the right to water.” (No. 3/2006)



In Denmark, the Government has initiated the drafting of a 'cultural canon' listing selected Danish cultural values within architecture, literature, theatre, design, etc.

Does the Government's cultural canon have anything to do with human rights? Yes, indirectly, according to Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Head of the National Department of DIHR. She wrote in the newspaper *Berlingske Tidende* that a cultural canon does not contribute to the safeguarding of diversity.

"We are eager to adapt the lifestyle and living conditions of the minorities to those of the majority, but forget to make room for diversity. This is essential for ethnic minorities and for minorities who identify themselves on another basis, such as age, disability or political stance. A cultural canon is an example of this trend. Canons may be useful tools to determine a set of Danish values, but they may also preserve a specific image of the culture and the population. In that case, they do not contribute to an inclusive society using our diversity in a constructive manner and seeing diversity as a positive potential for growth and innovation. (...) DIHR suggests solutions on the basis of a human rights framework, keeping in mind that they have to be suited to a Danish context. For that reason, DIHR has often distanced itself from a multicultural approach that disregards the fundamental values. Instead, we base our approach on the diversity of Danish society, taking into account that the solutions must contribute to greater respect for diversity and equal opportunities for everybody." (1 September 2006)

As early as the beginning of 2006, Project Manager Susanne Nour wrote a contribution to a debate in the newspaper *Politiken* based on a study of discrimination of immigrants in the labour market. That heralded the beginning of the DIHR diversity campaign.

"Most of those who experience discrimination are well-educated people. People born and educated in Denmark," she wrote and mentioned several examples of the positive aspect of the fact that many Danish companies have recognised that discrimination is a problem in Denmark. According to Ms Nour, the reason is that they need to attract qualified employees regardless of background. Because they want to win huge international contracts, because they want to be competitive and become global market players. "As a small country in a world in which globalisation has risen to the top of the agenda, we can learn a lot from these companies. But it requires a clear vision of a more inclusive society offering equal opportunities for everybody. It requires us to look inwards and open up to self-criticism." (26 April 2006)

DIHR had a TV infomercial on DR, the Danish Broadcasting Corporation, in the spring of 2006; the message being that everybody should have the freedom to be different. At the same time, audiences could test whether their own workplace complied with the new rules introduced in Denmark and whether Denmark really safeguards equal opportunities for everybody irrespective of gender, ethnic origin, religion and faith, age, disability and sexual orientation.

The punctured myth

So much for the myth of the silent Institute. We do in fact criticise the government, the parliamentary majority, ministries, municipal administrations, other countries and particularly legislation when they violate human rights. Unfortunately, there is still reason to utter criticism, but fortunately the awareness of human rights compliance has increased very, very much since the establishment of the Danish Centre for Human Rights in 1987, and therefore we 'only' appear in the media twice a day taken on an annual average. We are proud of being a thorn in the side of the powers that be. I presume that everybody recalls Hans Christian Andersen's fairytale about Clumsy Hans who won the princess by shouting Hello-o, here I come and saying the painful truth.

"I like that," said the Princess. "You have an answer for everything, and you know how to speak. I'll take you for my husband. But do you know that everything we've said and are saying is written down and will be published in the paper tomorrow? Look over there, and you'll see in each window three clerks and an old alderman, and the alderman is the worst of all; he doesn't understand anything!" She said this only to frighten him. "Oh, so these are the gentlemen!" said Clumsy Hans. "Then I must give the alderman the best thing I have." Then he turned out his pockets and threw the wet mud in the face of the alderman.

"Cleverly done," said the Princess. "I could never have done that, but I'll learn in time!"

When needed, the Danish Institute for Human Rights copies the skills of Clumsy Hans; media statistics, our websites, publications and public meetings attest to this fact.



ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM THE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Klaus Slavensky, Head of Department



The year began just like every other year since 2003 when we coordinated the first Danish Auschwitz Day. The European countries have decided to commemorate genocides on 27 January, the date when the Russians freed Auschwitz and the world witnessed one of the most gruesome genocides ever to occur. This year too I am to assist local authorities in Denmark in organising public events about this ultimate human rights violation. Thousands of people all over the country commemorate Armenia, the Gulag, the Holocaust, Cambodia, Rwanda, the Balkans and other atrocities through witness statements, films, speeches and other features. It is important for us to assist in making these tragic historic events visible to distance ourselves further from new atrocities.

We have other red-letter days to prepare for. In 2007, the Danish Institute for Human Rights will celebrate its 20th anniversary. This means publications, events and campaigns. We have plans for at least three public events each week during the entire anniversary year. One of these events is an exhibition at the Royal Library in Copenhagen showcasing examples of the 200-odd publications that we have issued since 1987.

One of these publications is a two-volume version of a 600-page white paper on the public debate concerning the demands to shut down the Danish Centre for Human Rights and the efforts to promote human rights.

Another big communication task is the preparation of a permanent exhibition centre for democracy and human rights. The Humanitarium is intended as a unique conglomerate of facts, debates and question marks clashing with hypotheses, theory and practices and united in an interplay of new interactive technology and learning. The Humanitarium will not have any of the traditional bulletin boards, tableaux or theme exhibitions. The Humanitarium is intended as an open 'laboratory' focusing on the human being, where human rights are complex elements that may interact and present paradoxes and dilemmas. In direct confrontation with human stories, the Humanitarium invites everybody to become involved, debate and think. It will become an energetic fulcrum that communicates, produces and gathers information on human rights and democracy in a direct dialogue with visitors, national and international researchers, and partners.

But first we need to raise funding, public grants and support. In the meantime we are to relaunch the websites www.menneskeret.dk and www.humanrights.dk, which communicate the work of the Danish Institute for Human Rights to the public. The working group involved in this project comprises Adam Nissen Feldt and Henrik Lindholt as well as Johanne Mortensen, Martin Vernal-Lassen and Brendan Sweeney. Mediha Can, Rikke Broe Petersen and Ditte Goldschmidt are in charge of handling the everyday inquiries from journalists, educational institutions, NGOs and others as well as all the distressed people whose rights are violated in their daily life. DIHR appeared in Danish fiction again in 2006. The Institute plays a positive part in Olav Hergel's highly acclaimed novel *'Flygtningen'* (The Refugee). DIHR and its work have previously been incorporated in other Danish novels, such as *'Undtagelsen'* (The Exception) by Christian Jungersen and *'Ondets rod'* (The Root of Evil) by Frank Esmann.

It is becoming ever more important to communicate news from the work of the Institute as the criticism of rights and international monitoring bodies increases in Denmark as well as in other countries. For that reason, the Board adopted a communication policy in 2006, and now the Information Department is to draw up an overall strategy and action plan for both internal and external communication. One of the major decisions in that respect is the one made by the Board that the Institute is to be more proactive, which has also been reflected in our involvement in the public debate, the great number of research and development analyses, research seminars and specific collaboration projects undertaken by all employees in 2006.

➔ **INFO** See the feature on 'Watchdog or lapdog' on pages 8-14.



ANNIVERSARY

TEN YEARS IN MALAWI

On 28 October 2006, the Malawi Human Rights Resource Centre (MHRRC) celebrated its tenth anniversary. The MHRRC is one of the oldest partners of the Danish Institute for Human Rights and may even be seen as a kind of model for the great number of international partnerships of DIHR - partnerships which are characterised by having a shared human rights vision, mutual respect and a working procedure according to which the local partner is in charge of implementation and DIHR offers technical assistance and training.

The partnership commenced formally in 1996 when an NGO network was established through assistance from DIHR and MHRRC. This NGO monitored the political and constitutional development in the country closely and pointed to serious human rights problems, such as bills amending the constitution, dismissal of supreme court judges, lack of food, violence against women, etc.

“From its start as an NGO, which we initiated ourselves because of the lack of strong NGOs then, MHRRC

has grown into a fully fledged, independent institution with its own visions and funding from many different sources,” says Maria Løkke Rasmussen, Project Coordinator of the DIHR partnership with MHRRC. She continues: “It appears very clearly from my work with MHRRC during the past couple of years, and not least from the internal review last autumn, that MHRRC is a key player in the human rights field in Malawi. People listen to what they say, and their courses and advisory services are in great demand. In

this way they have really become a success as a resource centre. DIHR values MHRRC very much as a partner, and even though we still support capacity development of the Centre, our cooperation today is a much more professional collaboration between two equal partners about specific, selected rights: public involvement and the rights of the child.”

➔ **INFO** Read also: The DIHR website about Malawi: <http://humanrights.palermo.magenta-aps.dk/publications/all/eandr29>
See also MHRRC's own website: www.humanrights.mw

ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Birgit Lindsnæs, Head of Department



I am the only person left on the third floor, and the dim light from my office casts shadows along the long, empty corridor that links all the small offices of the International Department. In the darkness of the evening it seems as if the building is resting, pondering about the year that went by. What did our Department actually achieve in 2006? What pinnacles did we reach, and what can we look forward to in 2007?

A wind cold as ice is howling outside, and my thoughts go to warmer climes, in particular to West Africa and our new strategy for this vast area. I know that we have now found a good tool to coordinate our efforts in the region and create an agenda that is independent of donors. I am looking forward to hearing more about the conference that Monique Alexis is planning in Dakar. The West Africa Strategy also takes into account the research conducted in these countries, in particular research on women.

Today the region has no coherent family legislation. Instead, the countries in the region have a mixture of French or English law dating back to the colonial period and local traditions, which means that the rights of women are disregarded. We would indeed like to assist in changing this situation. Elsewhere in the world, we sensed the presence of history. It was a great moment when the Yemeni Minister of Human Rights put her signature and the mandatory stamp of approval on an agreement to have dialogues about fundamental human rights issues with the Ministry of the Interior, the judiciary and the security forces. This was the first time DIHR set up a formal partnership in the region at such a high level. It is indeed promising for our future collaboration that the officers of the state apparatus responsible for the human rights development in Yemen are now willing to discuss human rights. When I now look at this region, I really have great expectations for our future collaboration with the Jordanian National Centre for Human Rights regarding the planning of the Arab-European Dialogue on Human Rights to be held in early 2007 in preparation of a platform.

I pop by the office of Paul Dalton, Legal Advisor, and I realise that globalisation has contributed to many positive initiatives within the human rights field. In 2006 we developed an informal network of legal aid organisations in Africa, Asia and Europe. In spite of the great number of cultural and geographical differences, we sense the great number of common features of the problems faced in these countries. Preparations for a large international conference in March 2007 are in full swing. Representatives of countries as different as Vietnam, Ukraine, Malawi and Bangladesh will meet in Kyiv to discuss legal aid. For this purpose I am not in doubt that our brand new legal aid website will create positive synergies – in spite of the great distances between the countries.

The office of Anders Buhelt, Team Leader, reminds me of how far we have come on law reform: It was an inspirational moment when it became clear to me that the Cambodian Government, Cambodian civil society and the international community had agreed on the need for an indicator system to measure the functioning and progress of both the judicial reform and the justice sector. I am sure that this comprehensive a system has not previously been developed in such a poor developing country. It will become an interesting challenge for the parties involved to work together.

The next office belongs to Team Leader Charlotte Flindt Pedersen and I am reminded of our many accomplishments in Central Asia in 2006. A very big event was the Annual Report on the human rights situation in Kyrgyzstan edited by the Ombudsman himself. The Report was published by the National Human Rights Council, which received support from DIHR and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In Tajikistan, DIHR supported a conference on ombudsman institutions and national human rights institutions organised together with the United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peace-Building (*UNTOP*). Even representatives of the Danish Ombudsman's Office attended. As maybe the first Western human rights institution to be granted access to their General Prosecutor's Office, we have contributed to a manual on prosecution and human rights.

On my way out, I pass by the office of Team Leader Lone Lindholt. I become almost nostalgic at the thought that the educational team was re-established in 2006. Thanks to a combination of human rights education and the university programme, we have managed to create new synergy. The specific changes were an increase in the number of courses available and a re-evaluation of the types of courses offered. The two-week basic course was supplemented by short, advanced human rights courses. I leave the building feeling that, thanks to the great efforts of my entire staff, we have displayed true fireworks of interesting initiatives and activities in 2006, and they will keep scintillating far into 2007, hopefully much longer.

➔ **INFO** Read more about the international programmes of DIHR at:
www.humanrights.dk/about+us/organisation/international+department

COLLABORATION

CHINA INDUSTRY RIGHTS

The Danish Institute for Human Rights has collaborated with Chinese institutions since 1998, the starting point being the EU-China dialogue on human rights organised that year at the initiative of the Chinese government. The main purpose of this collaboration is to enhance the incorporation of human rights standards into Chinese legislation. In accordance with its mandate, the main function of DIHR in China is to support national enforcement of human rights, not to monitor and document violations. The Human Rights & Business Department of DIHR is in charge of a comprehensive programme regarding the encounter between business and human rights in China. The programme includes collaboration with and counselling of companies operating in China. A project along with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs is expected to bring forth a manual that introduces Chinese companies to Human Rights & Business and guides them on how to incorporate human rights into their activities in principle and in practise. A China-specific version of the Human Rights Compliance Assessment Quick Check (*HRCA QC*) is also in the pipeline.

The original Human Rights Compliance Assessment (HRCA) took a six-year research process to develop and involved representatives of more than 100 companies, human rights-oriented organisations and international experts/researchers. It is the most comprehensive and reliable tool for international companies as regards the human rights issues of greatest relevance to their specific activities. The HRCA database comprises more than 350 questions and 1,000 corresponding human rights indicators. The *HRCA QC* is based on a synthesis of this internationally recognised HRCA. The Chinese translation of the *HRCA QC* was launched in 2006, and the China-specific version will be ready sometime in 2007.

The winds of change are blowing in China

China has signed and ratified various UN conventions, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (*ICESCR*) and signed the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (*ICCPR*). Today many universities in China include international law and human rights in their academic disciplines. Human rights have been implemented to a greater extent in the statutes, but there is still a long way from legislative theory to everyday practice.





THE INSTITUTE'S CHINA UNIT MADE GREAT PROGRESS IN 2006

DIHR PRESENTATION AT THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS



The China Unit at the Institute made great headway in 2006 in connection with the proposed reform of the Chinese Administration of Justice Act, particularly with a view to safeguarding the rights of suspects.

Lisbeth Garly, Project Manager and team coordinator of the China Unit, says that the group has worked in four key areas: Increased access to legal assistance, prevention of torture during interrogation, postponed prosecution of juvenile offenders and more thorough information to suspects about their rights. The Danish Institute for Human Rights has collaborated with different partners about practical and academic issues related to these four key areas: representatives from the prosecution service, two universities and a law firm. This team has agreed on preparing a joint proposal for the reform of the Administration of Justice Act in accordance with international human rights standards.

DIHR and its four partners have launched comprehensive surveys intended to map the general public's attitudes to the four key areas, e.g. what are the general views on the use of torture in interrogation, and what do inmates themselves think of their treatment? The prosecution service has conducted a broad study in which ordinary people in the street, judges, police officers, attorneys and others were asked their views on human rights. Finally, the defence authorities have collected data on torture cases in China and interviewed several people about this subject.

Based on this research, DIHR and its partners submitted well-founded recommendations for a reform of the Administration of Justice Act within the aforementioned four key areas.

Some of the revisions proposed by DIHR and its partners are:

- That suspects should be allowed legal assistance at an earlier stage than today
- That forced confessions cannot be used as evidence (the prosecution service has already started mounting video cameras in interrogation rooms)
- That suspects are informed of their rights (i.e., the right to counsel, the right speak one's own language through an interpreter and the right to complain of infringements)

The National People's Congress was positive towards the proposals. Accordingly, significant changes are expected within three of the four areas.

THE DEATH PENALTY

Through the years, DIHR has followed the internal and external debate in China on ways to reduce the use of the death penalty and eventually abolish it. Most recent change: Death penalties now have to be approved by the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China. This is expected to lead to a reduction of about 30 %.

ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM HUMAN RIGHTS & BUSINESS

Margaret Jungk, Head of Department



In 2006, we at the Human Rights and Business Department extended our corporate focus into new tools, new collaborations, and new countries. The addition of a China expert to our team extended our opportunities to work with China-specific issues, and one of 2006's biggest successes was the commencement of the handbook *Towards Global Citizenship – Chinese Companies Promoting Global Standards and Rights*. The handbook comes out of a collaboration with the Swiss Foreign Ministry, and draws upon extensive human rights research in the Chinese context, as well as an expansive network of Chinese and international contacts.

Many of our tools have also been customized to the Chinese human rights environment. For example, the Quick Check version of our Human Rights Compliance Assessment, which helps companies identify human rights risks in their business model, was translated into Chinese after a consultation process with local partners and testing through both Chinese companies and international corporations with operations in China.

As well as tailoring our tools to the Chinese context, the Quick Check of the Human Rights Compliance Assessment has also been developed for businesses in South Africa. Like China, South Africa provides a highly unique business and human rights environment for our assessment tools, complete with its own risks and opportunities. The South African version of the tool is being developed through intensive collaboration with Dutch NGO HOM, as well as consultations with local stakeholders. Also in the area of tools development, we finalized a tool for companies in India to use to ensure that caste discrimination is not occurring within their sphere of influence. Like our other tools, the 'Dalit Discrimination Check' was the product of meetings and research into the unique Indian context.

This year also brought five new Country Risk Assessments, identifying the major human rights risks in law and practice for Tanzania, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, South Africa, and Brazil.

Much of our department's work consists of direct consultation with companies. In 2006, these relationships resulted in numerous projects, including a trip to Turkey to assess human rights risks in the operations of Novartis, a large pharmaceutical company. The assessment consisted of employee interviews, site tours and consultations on corporate complicity and proximity to human rights violations. Another of our corporate partners is Shell, and in 2006 we conducted an on-site training at Shell Nigeria and participated in the company's external review committee, which aims to assess Shell's annual report coverage of human rights issues.

Many of the projects we embarked upon in 2006 are ongoing, and each one expands our experience and expertise at the intersection of human rights and company operations. We look forward to this year's experiences and opportunities.

NEW POLICE ACADEMY IN MONTENEGRO

“The new Police Academy is a prerequisite for a qualified and professional police force operating according to democratic principles.”

Husnija Redzepagic, Director of the Police Academy

Montenegro is distancing itself from its past in many respects. In 2006, this implied the decision to establish a new Police Academy. The Academy is to train police units and also carry out research, says Lisbet Ilkjær, Project Manager at the Danish Institute for Human Rights. The establishment of the Academy was an element of comprehensive reforms launched by the Montenegrin Ministry of Interior Affairs and Public Administration. DIHR has assisted the Ministry in drafting legal reforms and organisational restructuring and in implementing contemporary administrative standards.

The Ministry and DIHR started the partnership in 2003 to develop the Ministry into becoming a body guaranteeing the security of the individual human being. The project has received financial support from the Danish Neighbourhood Programme. Such sweeping change requires a long process. The first step in Montenegro was that 28 working groups started by defining the ideal ministry of interior affairs. Only then were the actual measures initiated, such as the establishment of the Police Academy.

Ms Ilkjær emphasises that the deep involvement of the Montenegrin Ministry of Interior Affairs throughout the process has been very essential, as have the major and important contributions made to the process at all levels. The first recruits started their training at the Police Academy in September 2006. This is mainly attributable to the Director of the existing Police School and the new Police Academy, Mr Husnija Redzepagic.



NEW BOOK PUBLISHED IN 2006

PH.D-THESIS

The Evolution of national Human Rights Institutions – The Role of the United Nations

National Human Rights Institutions have increasingly been the object of academic study, leading to their recognition as a distinct, and in many ways unique, concept in international human rights law and practice. In this study, the author takes a systematic and analytical approach, by looking into how the United Nations has contributed to the increasing role played by national human rights institutions on the international scene. Focusing on the evolution and spreading of national human rights institutions and the decade-long work by the United Nations in this field, this study introduces one more case demonstrating that international organizations can indeed make a difference.

After discussing the normative status of the Paris Principles, the study sets out by analysing the concept of national human rights institutions and its historical evolution from the 1940s to 1990s. It then moves on to describe and analyse the strategies and forms of active support used by the UN to advocate national institutions through the 1990s. Finally, the study concludes by identifying three main stages and their important lines of development in the evolution of national institutions in the United Nations framework.

This study is based on the author's PhD dissertation "Establishing National Human Rights Institutions: The Role of the United Nations", defended at the Department of law of the European University in November 2004.

Anna-Elina Pohjolainen, 164 pp. DKK 198, ISBN: 87-90744-97-7, Danish Institute for Human Rights

→ **INFO** Read more: <http://shop.humanrights.dk/product.asp?product=1221&sub=3>

EXTENDED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In 2006, the Danish Institute for Human Rights entered into cooperation agreements with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the Canadian organisation Rights & Democracy. They are not project agreements, but wider framework agreements, emphasises Birgit Lindsnæs, Head of the International Department of DIHR.

The collaboration with Switzerland includes supporting the efforts to abolish torture in Vietnam and issues relating to Human Rights & Business. Margaret Jungk, who is in charge of this work at DIHR, looks forward to the opportunities gained through this partnership to strengthen the strategic cooperation with business. According to this agreement, DIHR will also investigate the possibilities of collaborating on national human rights institutions and of access to information and

openness in public administration.

Under the agreement with Rights & Democracy, annual cooperation plans will be prepared.

To begin with, Rights & Democracy will appoint a young university graduate trainee to DIHR to work mainly with West Africa. In this respect as in others, issues relating to access to information and openness in public administration may be part of the cooperation. Later, DIHR can send a trainee to Canada. Ms Lindsnæs emphasises that the cooperation with like-minded countries and organisations to promote human rights strengthens not only the work as such, but also supports the coordination, thereby preventing duplication of work. All subjects selected are already top priority subjects of DIHR; thus the partnership will build on existing activities.

HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS IN BASRA

In 2006, the security situation in the Basra area of Iraq impeded the democracy-building efforts carried out for the past two years now by the NGO House supported by DIHR.

The NGO House in Basra in Southern Iraq was established in 2003 as one of the projects set up by DIHR to strengthen civil society. For the last couple of years, several educational programmes have been offered to local organisations concerning the constitution, elections and women's and children's rights.

"It is always difficult to operate in areas of conflict," says Morten Kjærum, Executive Director of DIHR. "These are the conditions faced by us as well as anybody else working in this type of area. However, in the long run, the efforts benefiting civil society are necessary and beyond dispute. We still have contact with relevant groups who endeavour to strengthen democracy and human rights in Iraq. Even though the current situation is critical, it is important that we continue supporting these groups."

DIHR terminated its partnership with the NGO House in 2006; it is now being reorganised and registered as a local organisation. This registration is necessary for the NGO House to be able to operate legally under the new Iraqi NGO legislation, but also to safeguard local ownership. Due to the deteriorated security situation, the office has operated under extremely difficult conditions since January 2006, and intermittently it has been closed down entirely. Still, the NGO House has continued all the activities possible.

In 2006, DIHR concluded negotiations with the University of Basra on an agreement on the training of university teachers in human rights and democracy and the preparation of curricula focusing on the development of democracy. Moreover, DIHR is planning the human rights education of police officers in conjunction with the Danish police and is considering a multi-purpose strategy for its collaboration with Iraqi civil society.

US TREATMENT OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS

The US Supreme Court ruled in 2006 that the Geneva Conventions are applicable "in the war against terrorism". At the same time, a new law was enacted to permit the prosecution of al Qaeda terrorists extrajudicially and to render the Geneva Conventions non-applicable.

Peter Vedel Kessing, Ph.D. student at DIHR, finds that the new US law deprives a very vaguely defined group of people of their normal and fundamental procedural guarantees, such as the right to have the lawfulness of their detention decided by an impartial court; the right to rely on international rules (including the Geneva Conventions); the right not to be subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment; the right not to have evidence procured by inhumane treatment; and the right to know the fundamental guarantees that apply to them.



DANISH CONSULTATION REGARDING THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

The Danish Institute for Human Rights and the International Commission of Jurists (*ICJ*) organised a hearing in March about the Danish Draft Bill intended to implement the Government's action plan to combat terrorism.

To follow up on the 49 measures recommended by a committee of civil servants in November 2005 to combat terrorism, the Danish Government introduced Draft Bills in February and March 2006 to implement parts of the action plan. Some of the measures proposed are intensified state surveillance and extended powers of investigation to the police and the Danish Security Intelligence Service. The consultation focused on the issue of balancing considerations and on the problems raised by the Draft Bills. Some of the essential questions in relation to these Bills were: Are these proposals in accordance with the rule of law? What will be the effect of these proposals for Danish citizens' and consumers' right to respect for private life? How far will the new powers of investigation granted to the police and the Danish Security Intelligence Service extend? What part are private companies to play in connection with future police investigations?

► **INFO** The panel members were: Jonas Christoffersen, Lecturer at the University of Copenhagen and member of the ICJ; Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Head of the National Department of DIHR; Gunnar Homann, the Council of the Danish Bar and Law Society (*Advokatrådet*); Henning Mortensen, Consultant at the Confederation of Danish Industries (*Dansk Industri*)/the Danish Trade Association for IT, Telecommunications, Electronics and Communication Enterprises (ITEK); and Mogens Ritsholm, Head of Telecommunications at TDC.

NIGHT OF CULTURE

HOUSE OF DISCRIMINATION



The greatest violation of human rights is differential treatment. Both in Denmark and internationally. Vulnerable groups are discriminated against. This applies to the disabled, sexual minorities, ethnic groups and others. The Danish Institute for Human Rights focused on that when the Night of Culture lit up the darkness of Copenhagen.

The actors Thure Lindhardt, Katja Holm and Hassan Preisler became allies of the Danish Institute for Human Rights and made themselves ready to discriminate against everybody who visited the House of Discrimination on Friday, 13 October 2006. The visitors could choose an identity as a person from one of these vulnerable groups, and they were then dragged around for job interviews, the first day at work and a visit to the discotheque (if they were allowed in). They experienced in person what it feels like to be subjected to differential treatment. Simultaneously, there was an ongoing interactive discussion on equality in Denmark between Morten Kjærsum, Executive Director, Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Head of the National Department, and others.

Several organisations were represented to provide help and advice on how to avoid making discrimination and being discriminated against. Some of the organisations represented were the Danish National Association of Gays & Lesbians (*Landsforeningen for Bøsser og Lesbiske*), the Complaints Committee for Ethnic Equal Treatment (*Klagekomitéen for Etnisk Ligebehandling*), the Danish Association of Senior Citizens (*Ældremobiliseringen*), the Equal Opportunities Centre for Disabled Persons (*Center for Ligebehandling af Handicappede*), the Department of Gender Equality of the Danish Ministry of Social Affairs, and the Danish Youth Council (*Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd*).

The two-hour Night of Culture attracted more than 300 visitors, many making a bee line to the entrance an hour before being let in at 10 PM.

On 12 October 2007, the success will be repeated and DIHR will once again be transformed into the House of Discrimination.

GREAT HIT IN CAMBODIA

Quiz shows and drama series about human rights



A radio programme intended to inform ordinary Cambodians about their legal rights turned out to be a smash hit in a country where the Government still controls all mass media, and the genocide of the Khmer Rouge is still painfully remembered. According to an evaluation report published in 2006, the programme supported by Denmark is “indispensable” to the work of informing Cambodians of their human rights. Thanks to various features, such as a quiz show where people can phone in and answer questions about their rights and a popular drama series informing people of the legislation, the number of listeners participating in the programme has almost sextupled from 2003 to 2006.

‘The Path to Justice’ is one of the most popular programmes broadcast on FM 102. And in a country in which illiteracy is common and TV sets are not ubiquitous, people remember what they hear. When the quiz show started, only 23 % of listeners phoning in could answer the questions about rights correctly. In 2004, this figure had increased to 55 %; in 2006, 88 % of the listeners knew the right answer.

The radio programme is the outcome of a close partnership between the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Women’s Media Centre (WMC), a Cambodian NGO using media to enhance female involvement in democracy. The WMC has its own radio station, FM 102, which reaches a great part of the Cambodian population.

Birgit Lindsnæs, Head of the International Department of DIHR, is enthusiastic about the partnership: “I am impressed with the professionalism of our partners and

with the clever way they have found to communicate difficult concepts within human rights and legislation. This is formidable considering the fact that so many highly educated people were killed in the genocide. It gives hope for the future that a country with very few formally educated people can carry out such a project.”

Mette Holm, DIHR Advisor on Human Rights in the Media, has supervised the editorial board since the first broadcast of ‘The Path to Justice’ in January 2003. According to the evaluation report, Ms Holm’s supervision has been of great importance to the success of the radio programme. Ms Holm has also enjoyed her work on the programme: “I have a splendid relationship with WMC and the editorial board. Everybody is committed, full of ideas and highly diligent. They are very inspiring to work with.”



MILLION KRONER GRANT TO INTERNET RESEARCH

The Danish Culture and Communication Research Council (*Statens Forskningsråd for Kultur og Kommunikation*) awarded Rikke Frank Jørgensen of the DIHR a 2.5-year research fellowship, or about DKK 1.5 million (€200,000), in 2006.

Rikke Frank Jørgensen is a Senior Advisor at DIHR specialising in human rights problems within the information society. She was involved in the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) from 2003 to 2005 as an advisor to the Danish delegation and as the co-ordinator of the civil society working group on human rights. She is a member of the Board of the Danish NGO Digital Rights and of the Brussels-based European Digital Rights and a member of the International Advisory Board of Privacy International in London. Rikke Frank Jørgensen holds an MA in information science and an E.MA in human rights. The subject of the research project is ‘The Internet as a civil society resource’.



ANNUAL BLOG REPORT FROM THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Hans-Otto Sano, Head of Department



What should I mention as outstanding DIHR research in 2006? It is logical to mention the many results essential to our four objectives: the objective of publication; the objective of cross-disciplinarity; the objective of synergies from collaboration with the International and the National Departments of DIHR and our sister institute, the Danish Institute for International Studies (*DIIS*); and the objective of research capacity development.

2006 saw the publication of two major books: The book *Acquisition and Loss of Nationality in 15 European States*, which is essential because it is the outcome of a research network on citizenship funded by the European Union; and the book *Human Rights in Turmoil*, large elements of which sprang from the cross disciplinary work of the various researchers of the Research Department.

Secondly, there was the publication of four articles in international journals (peer reviewed) and the publication of 22 other scientific articles in international books or in Danish journals and books. The articles include front themes like religion and human rights, economic and social rights; the rights of inmates; asylum legislation; and law and the sharing of power.

Thirdly, the decision to have the following three new focus areas for the Institute's research:

- Discrimination and equal treatment
- Rule of law – procedural and substantial human rights protection
- International regulation and local interests

These themes are important because they reflect a different objective of the research activities, namely the creation of synergies between research and the National and International Departments of the Institute. Subsequently, the focus areas have been used to formulate cross-disciplinary themes on which all three Departments work.

Fourthly, the hosting of the conference 'Rights-Based Approaches'. This conference received support from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was attended by all major Danish NGOs as well as international delegates. The conference was essential because it communicated knowledge and implied methodology discussions with the civil society in the human rights field.

Fifthly, the publication of a theme issue of the Danish journal *Den Nye Verden* (The New World) about human rights and development. This publication is essential because it is an update of a widely used theme issue published in 1998 and because this theme issue opens up for reflections with the DIIS regarding the sharing of responsibility for the publication of this journal.

Sixthly, we have launched a new research theme regarding 'Children of Inmates'. This theme is significant because previously, there has been no Danish research on this subject and because it is of extreme relevance to a particularly vulnerable group.

Seventhly, again in 2006 we applied successfully to a Danish research council, the Danish Research Council for Culture and Communication (*Forskningsrådet for Kommunikation og Kultur*), for the funding of a research fellowship. This grant enabled us to commence a new research project (Ph.D. thesis research) on the Internet, democracy and civil society.

Finally, in 2006 the Research Department also prepared a new strategy for the objective of research capacity development. This strategy was phrased together with the International Department of DIHR and included a strategy for the recruitment of research partners in West Africa as well as a strategy for the recruitment of Ph.D.-level research partners who are invited to the Institute jointly with junior research partners, who have traditionally been the basis of the cooperation under the Research Partnership Programme.

➔ **INFO** Read more about the research of the DIHR at:

www.humanrights.dk/about+us/organisation/research++department

PUBLICATION

HUMAN RIGHTS INDICATORS AT PROGRAMME AND PROJECT LEVEL

GUIDELINES FOR DEFINING INDICATORS, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

One of the challenges of working with human rights at programme and project level is to measure results and performance. Indicators are used as tools to perform measurements, but the formulation of these indicators also gives rise to conceptual questions. These guidelines provide human rights practitioners with a toolbox that can be used to plan, monitor and evaluate human rights projects. The manual offers three types of information:

1) A presentation and discussion of the fundamental concepts relating to indicators and to monitoring and evaluation. 2) Proposed monitoring procedures of the Danish Institute for Human Rights. 3) A discussion of relevant human rights indicators that can be used for the preparation and implementation of human rights programmes and projects.

Erik André Andersen and Hans-Otto Sano
86 pages, ISBN: 87-91836-06-9
The Danish Institute for Human Rights

➔ **INFO** Read more: <http://shop.humanrights.dk/product.asp?product=1239&sub=3>



PUBLICATION

HUMAN RIGHTS IN TURMOIL

FACING THREATS, CONSOLIDATING ACHIEVEMENTS

Are human rights gaining or losing ground? This question has become relevant after two decades of undisputed progress in the development of human rights standards and institutions. This thought-provoking collection of essays written by leading experts and practitioners of human rights investigates the areas in which human rights are now being challenged and impaired, but also the areas in which they are strengthened in essential and ground-breaking ways. The essays investigate the many ongoing debates focusing on secularisation and religious norms; on minimum social standards and health insurance; on the future regulation of citizenship; on prison reforms; on the use of humane methods in connection with detention; and on UN reforms and the future challenges of the overburdened European Court of Human Rights.

Stéphanie Lagoutte, Hans-Otto Sano and Peter Scharff Smith (Eds.),
299 pages, DKK 596, ISBN: 90-04-15432-9
Martinus Nijhoff Publishers

➔ **INFO** Read more: <http://shop.humanrights.dk/product.asp?product=1226&sub=3>



RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2006

Hans-Otto Sano

- Global governance and human rights
- Rights-based development
- Human rights indicators in the World Bank

Hristina D. Vassileva

Ph.D. project: Human rights and development: Diverging European and African reactions to the crisis in Zimbabwe

Maria V. Liiisberg

Ph.D. project: Scandinavian disability legislation and labour market disability policy – analysis and proposed improvements

Ida E. Koch

- The indivisibility of human rights – socio-economic rights as a component of civil and political rights
- Economic, social and cultural rights – conceptual clarification, judiciability and implementation

Stéphanie Lagoutte

- “Proceduralisation” of European human rights
- Reform and the future of the European Court of Human Rights
- Freedom of religion

Kim U. Kjær

- European asylum law – the European Union, Schengen, the Nordic countries and Denmark: A comparative analysis
- Implications of soft law on Danish asylum law

Eva Ersbøll

- Ph.D. project: Danish nationality in an international and historical context

Eva Maria Lassen

- Danish reactions to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights during the period 1947-1960 with current perspectives
- Religion and human rights:
(1) Legal and religious/cultural problems and discourses regarding conflicts between freedom of religion and other rights in a European context
(2) Human rights relative to Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions
- History of human rights. Traditional and new constructions of the history of human rights

Hatla Thelle

- Development of legal aid in China

Peter Scharff Smith

- The history and harmful effects of solitary confinement
- When the innocent are punished: Children of inmates
- Prisons and human rights

Peter Vedel Kessing

Human rights and terrorism

Line V. Slot

Ph.D. project: A sociological examination of the nature and scope of institutional discrimination in relation to the distribution of apprenticeships and traineeships

Erik André Andersen

International criminal law from a historical and current perspective

Henrik Nielsen

Capacity development for human rights initiatives in Africa

Isi Foighel

Freedom of expression and other current problems, as interpreted by the European Court of Human Rights

DIHR CHAIRMAN:

DIVIDING PUPILS MAY BE CONTRARY TO LEGISLATION



The Complaints Committee for Ethnic Equal Treatment (Klagekomité for Etnisk Ligebehandling) under DIHR has requested the elementary school Vesterbro Ny Skole to give an account and considers investigating the matter of the dividing of pupils.

In 2006, the Management and Board of Vesterbro Ny Skole in Denmark decided to divide the pupils of the new pre-school form into three groups: One for ethnic Danes and two for bilingual pupils. The Complaints Committee for Ethnic Equal Treatment found it likely that this practice is illegal and requested the elementary school Vesterbro Ny Skole to give an account. The Committee considers investigating the matter of the division of pupils.

"If the division of pupils is based exclusively on their skin colour or their ethnic background, this would constitute discrimination due to ethnicity, which

is contrary to Danish law," says Claus Haagen Jensen, Committee Chairman and Professor of Jurisprudence at Aalborg University (Denmark). Mr Jensen, who is also Chairman of the DIHR Board, refers to Article 3, Section 1 of the Danish Act on Ethnic Equal Treatment. This provision stipulates that no one may subject another person to direct or indirect differential treatment on the basis of his/her or any third party's race or ethnic origin.

The task of the Complaints Committee for Ethnic Equal Treatment, which was established in 2004, is to consider specific complaints of differential treatment due to racial or ethnic origin. Moreover, the Committee has the mandate to institute independent investigation of differential treatment on its own initiative, publish reports and make recommendations.

➔ **INFO:** Read more about the Complaints Committee at: <http://www.klagekomite.dk/?AFD=1>

MEMORANDUM:

THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AND CHILDREN OF REFUSED ASYLUM-SEEKERS IN DENMARK

In connection with the debate in Denmark about the conditions of the children of refused asylum-seekers, the Danish Institute for Human Rights was asked how to assess the situation of these children in the light of their rights under the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Recommendation from DIHR

It has not been possible for DIHR to perform a comprehensive examination of the children's conditions at the asylum centres as seen in relation to their rights under the Convention on the Rights of the Child. However, these children constitute a particularly vulnerable group which ought to be protected by receiving ongoing attention to avoid that they will become victims of the problems faced by

their families. The Institute therefore recommends that the Government and other relevant authorities as well as the organisations involved, the press and others continue their focus and involvement with respect to this group of children in order to make their lives as normal as possible and to strengthen their personal development.

The International Convention on the Rights of the Child imposes a number of obligations on the Danish Government and the Danish authorities of great relevance to children at asylum centres.

The response was prepared by Anette Faye Jacobsen, Special Advisor at DIHR, on 10 May 2006.

ROUND TABLE

WHEN THE INNOCENT ARE PUNISHED

“Two armed police officers sat there monitoring that we did not discuss the case because the investigation was still in process (...) Julie was holding me tight for every single minute of the 45-minute visit. The visiting room was disgusting. (...) a couch covered with paper, a cup with condoms and a bucket for shooting needles.”

This is how a father remanded in custody at a closed Danish prison recalls the first time his daughter Julie visited him. Unfortunately, his story is not an isolated example. The facilities of most Danish prisons are not suited for children and family visits. When a person commits a crime and is sentenced to imprisonment, it may be a tough experience for his or her relatives. But what if the relatives are children?

A boy with several younger siblings was 12 years old when both his parents were imprisoned on the same day. The police came at night to pick up the children's mother. They stuffed the children into another car and carted them off to different orphanages. They had to live in separate places because of their age difference, and only after 1½ and 2½ months, respectively, were they allowed to see their parents. “I told my young siblings that our mum and dad had gone on holiday. I didn't know what to say, but I thought that my young siblings would know that mum and dad would come back again if I told them that they had gone on holiday,” said the boy. These two examples show how imprisonment may severely affect inmates' children and have a significant negative impact on their everyday lives and mental well-being. Research from other countries indicates that inmates' children may suffer from a wide range of symp-

toms and side-effects, such as hysteric, depressive and criminal reactions. Still, very few have chosen to focus on this aspect of the problems related to incarceration.

In February and October 2006, DIHR therefore arranged a round table meeting about prison inmates' children. Representatives of the Prison and Probation Service (*Kriminalforsorgen*), the National Council for Children (*Børnerådet*), Red Cross, the Copenhagen Police, correctional institutions and inmate representatives were among the attendees. Afterwards, the Prison and Probation Service has taken some of the proposals under advisement and hopes to implement them in the Danish prison facilities.

At the international level, a number of promising initiatives have now been launched. They may serve as examples for the Danish prisons. In Great Britain, a number of NGOs have started programmes to train prison staff in handling visits by children and to plan programmes for children. Peter Scharff Smith, Ph.D. and Senior Researcher at DIHR, has a very positive view of the private initiatives, but at the same time emphasises that it is crucial that the public system also has the necessary resources and competences to handle this kind of problems.

“Today's challenge is precisely to follow up on all these good local initiatives and go for an overall strategy for the entire prison system with focus on the children of inmates and their everyday lives,” he says.

HARD FACTS

In February 2005, based on calculations from Statistics Denmark (*Danmarks Statistik*), the Danish Crime Prevention Council (*Det Kriminalpræventive Råd*) estimated that at all times, at least one parent of between 4,000 and 7,000 children is in prison. About two thirds of these children are under six years of age. As of 1 January 2002, a total of 44,200 children had experienced the imprisonment of at least one parent. At that time, this figure corresponded to 4 % of all Danish children.

DENMARK WON SILVER

European poster competition on children's rights

"I didn't know we had that many rights!" – the 12-year-old Danish pupil Peter Raasthøj exclaimed. In the spring of 2006, children of all EU Member States were given the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings in connection with the poster competition 'Children's Rights in the European Union', the purpose being to raise children's awareness of their rights. On behalf of the European Commission, the Danish Institute for Human Rights organised the poster competition in Denmark, which was followed by international finals in Brussels attended by more than 250 children from all over Europe.

After the competition, Christoffer Badse, Project Manager of DIHR, visited the elementary school Langhøjsskolen in Hvidovre (Denmark) to inform pupils of the importance of knowing their rights. Even though Denmark and the other Nordic countries are leading countries as regards human rights, we have problems in Denmark, which maybe takes most people by surprise.

"To mention one example, Denmark has problems with under-age, unaccompanied asylum-seekers. Therefore the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has recommended an investigation of the number of under-age asylum-seekers who disappear from reception centres in Denmark," says Mr Badse. They are not Danish children, but children staying in Denmark.

"Danish children should also be aware of their rights. It could be the opportunity to be heard, or protection against all forms of discrimination and bullying, or the age of criminal responsibility. Other rights of the child are the right to protection and care; the right to express their views freely; the right always to have their interests taken into consideration; the right to maintain a personal relationship and direct contact with both parents on a regular basis. All these rights now enjoyed by all children of the European Union are specified in Article 24 of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights. However, rights are worth nothing unless people know them, actually enjoy them and defend them," says Mr Badse.

The Danish contributors did very well in the international competition and could bring home a fine



silver medal. The Danish posters expressed themselves in vivid graphics and won much praise. The winners of the two age categories were, however, from Cyprus and Slovakia.

On the occasion of the International Human Rights Day on 10 December 2006, the Danish Institute for Human Rights published a calendar with 12 of the Danish contributions.

This is the photo of the winner of the first prize in Denmark, which was awarded second prize in Europe. The poster was created by Mette Thomassen, Freja Drabæk, Katrine Jørsum and Ann Katrine Olsen.

This is the photo of the winner of the first prize in Denmark, which was awarded the second prize in Europe. The poster was made by Mette Thomassen, Freja Drabæk, Katrine Jørsum and Ann Katrine Olsen.



THE SANTA CRUZ DECLARATION

ON THE RIGHTS OF MIGRANT WORKERS

National human rights institutions and NGOs from all over the world gathered on 23-26 October 2006 in Santa Cruz in Bolivia to discuss the need for promoting and protecting the human rights of migrants, including the migrant workers comprised by the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. The conference was organised by the Bolivian Ombudsman in cooperation with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the International Coordinating Committee (ICC) of National Human Rights Institutions.

The conference adopted a Declaration as future general guidelines for NHRIs.

Morten Kjærum, Executive Director of DIHR, chaired the global network of more than 80 NHRIs in 2006.

The conference is a major step forward in connection with the efforts of the NHRIs to create global awareness of the immense human rights violations suffered by millions of migrant workers and their families.

The delegates expressed special concern with regard to two issues:

- The fact that in many countries migrants, particularly irregular migrants, are deemed not to have right to protection according to the international human rights standards. Women and children and indigenous peoples are particularly vulnerable in this respect.
- Very few countries have ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families (ICRMW) and – so far – no developed countries have ratified the Convention.

The Conference emphasised the acute importance of the problem and that an improvement of this intolerable situation requires active involvement and commitment both from states sending and receiving migrants.

National human rights institutions play a key role in promoting and protecting human rights in their individual countries. Through the Declaration, they undertake to increase focus on the work to enhance the rights of migrants and adhere to the principles guiding this work. The Declaration also mentions the establishment of a Working Group to define a detailed plan of action for implementing the Declaration.

➔ **READ MORE:** The Santa Cruz Declaration can be accessed at the website of the High Commissioner (www.ohchr.org) and the website of the network of national human rights institutions (www.nhri.net).

NEW CATALOGUE OF INSPIRATION

Towards the end of 2006, the DIHR Diversity Team could take stock of four years' work with diversity in working life. This resulted in the publication of a catalogue of inspiration, listing and communicating the best and most tangible examples of promotion of diversity and the safeguarding of equal opportunities. They were found among all the former nominees for the so-called MIA Prize, which is awarded to companies that actively promote diversity in working life. Through a presentation of DIHR's three principles for good diversity management and through a number of real examples, the catalogue offers perspectives, background, practical advice and specific recommendations for initiatives to promote diversity and safeguard equal opportunities in your own organisation. Accordingly, the catalogue can be used as a tool for starting a long-term diversity strategy, and for the same reason it is mainly aimed at executive officers, HR managers and the persons in charge of diversity issues in small, medium-sized and large public or private organisations – but of course the catalogue can be used by everybody as a source of inspiration and ideas. The catalogue is particularly useful for those wishing to nominate their organisation for the next MIA Prize. The catalogue of inspiration is free of charge and can be ordered by contacting mia@humanrights.dk.



➔ **INFO** Read more about DIHR's work regarding diversity and equal opportunities in working life at: www.mangfoldighed.dk/?ID=682&WEBID=0 – the only Danish Internet portal about diversity. The other products from the Diversity Programme regarding diversity and equal opportunities are also described and can be ordered at this website.

THE DANISH INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HAS NAMED THE DANISH CHAMPIONS OF DIVERSITY

AWARDS TO BUSINESS

The Danish Institute for Human Rights selected three companies as Danish diversity champions in 2006. This time the MIA Prize – celebrating diversity in working life – was awarded to Aarhus Municipality, IBM Danmark A/S and Micro Matic A/S. The winners were rewarded for their efforts towards making diversity a resource and to ensure equal treatment in working life. So now they can call themselves national champions.

“Diversity and equal treatment are actually the best tools we have to meet the challenges of globalisation,” states Morten Kjærum, Executive Director of DIHR. “By awarding the MIA Prize, we celebrate the organisations that are role models of diversity management. And we urge others to take heed of what these front runners have accomplished,” he says, emphasising that the MIA Prize should be considered a carrot, rather than a stick.

Diversity essential to business

The Prize caused glee at IBM Danmark A/S. The company has made diversity an element of its business strategy. “Being an international organisation with offices all over the world it is obvious that diversity is a fundamental prerequisite for our ability to provide our customers with the best and most innovative solutions at all times,” said Lars Mikkjelgaard-Jensen, CEO of IBM Danmark.

One of the reasons why IBM Danmark won was that “the company is ready to swim against the

current and demonstrate that diversity is more than just a matter of mercy,” wrote the jury of the MIA Prize about the company. “The fact is that IBM, with great respect for human differences, shows that diversity and equal treatment are crucial to an efficient business strategy,” the jury also said.

Nicolai Wammen, Mayor of Aarhus, was also enthusiastic about winning. “As a large municipality, we are under a special obligation to lead the way for other municipalities – but not least lead the way for the rest of the urban community of Aarhus when it comes to diversity in working life. Because we want a good city for everyone, and we only create that if the employers give everybody a chance – without differential treatment, without discrimination and without any prejudice. Therefore it is important that the local authority and its employees are pioneers,” said the Mayor.

The Prize was awarded in connection with a new campaign designed to attract focus to diversity and equal treatment. At the same time, DIHR aired a TV infomercial and distributed a test to companies which conveyed the message that there should be freedom to be different. At www.mangfoldighed.dk there are ten quick questions (in Danish) that can be used to test whether one’s own organisation could be nominated for the MIA Prize, or whether it needs to have its HR policy reviewed. This website also offers help and inspiration, and it can be used to order publications on diversity and equal treatment (in Danish).

➔ **INFO** Read more about the MIA Prize at: www.miapris.dk/?AFD=0&ID=233&PID=233

THE DIVERSITY PROGRAMME

Diversity and equal opportunity in working life have been major DIHR focus areas since 2003. The main purpose of the programme is to safeguard equal opportunities for everybody in their working lives irrespective of gender, age, ethnic origin, disability, religion or sexual orientation. “The increased globalisation and the great demand for expertise and labour has made the need to consider and organise the workplace and tasks in a diverse manner even more relevant,” states Susanne Nour, Head of the Diversity Programme.

The DIHR diversity team gathers information, develops tools and offers advice on best practices within diversity management and equal treatment in the Danish labour market. Under the Diversity Programme, efforts are made to actively pursue diversity and equal opportunities through various projects and activities; including Denmark’s only diversity prize to organisations, the MIA Prize; diversity training and workshops; compliance tools, websites; and courses on diversity and equal opportunities. 2006 also saw closer collaboration with trade unions focusing on their role in promoting diversity and ensuring equal treatment at the workplaces and internally within the trade unions.



NEW TV INFOMERCIAL

FREEDOM TO DIVERSITY

In 2006, the Danish Institute for Human Rights presented the TV infomercial 'To Blend into the Background'. The infomercial was used in connection with an information campaign run by DIHR under the heading of 'Freedom to Diversity' to improve its information activities. The campaign was based on the new rules introduced in Denmark and the European Union to promote diversity and safeguard equal opportunities for everybody. The aim was to create greater awareness of the rules and also draw the attention of both companies and employees to the advantages of opting for diversity and respecting differences. The campaign comprised diversity tests for companies, an extended check-up on legislation, increased efforts aimed at the press and the infomercial. The infomercial was directed by Simon de Tusch-Lec and Louis Paldrup and was broadcast regularly throughout 2006. It features actress Laura Drasbæk.

The infomercial shows a woman who arrives at her office and sits down at her desk. Instead of doing her job, she starts on an entirely different project. She starts camouflaging herself until she literally 'blends into the background'. The infomercial illustrates how many people in Denmark are willing to go far – just to be accepted. How many people have the feeling that there is no room for diversity at the workplace – and that they cannot be themselves at work.

➔ **INFO** See the TV spot at: www.mangfoldighed.dk/?ID=686&WEBID=0

EVENT

THE UN TO PROTECT DISABLED PERSONS

New human rights convention adopted by the UN

In 2006, for the first time in 16 years, the United Nations adopted a new human rights convention. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will become a new United Nations convention in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and it will become essential to the human rights of the disabled all over the world. Maria Ventegodt Liisberg, Ph.D. student, explains: "The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities establishes that people with disabilities have the same rights as everybody else and elaborates on what is required to safeguard respect for their rights. In Denmark about half of all deaf and blind children never get a full lower secondary school-leaving exam. This

is one of the many areas in which we face problems in relation to the rights of disabled persons in Denmark today. This Convention can be used to safeguard the right of the blind and the deaf to receive an education or training like everybody else."

Ms Ventegodt Liisberg continues: "Today landlords may refuse to rent premises to persons with disabilities, travel agencies may refuse to sell travels to disabled persons, and private educational institutions may refuse to admit disabled persons. This Convention obliges Denmark to introduce a statutory prohibition against discrimination due to disability that would safeguard the protection against such treatment."

The Convention was opened for signature by all United Nations Member

States on 30 March 2007 and will enter into force when 20 countries have ratified or acceded to the Convention. When the Convention enters into force, a UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will be set up. Individuals who have experienced violations of the Convention can complain to the Committee. The Committee will also regularly consider reports by the States Parties regarding the situation of persons with disabilities in the countries that have acceded to this Convention. The Danish Institute for Human Rights has been actively involved in the genesis of the Convention through participation in one of the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee and through the network of national human rights institutions.

➔ **INFO:** Read the final version of the text adopted at www.un.org/disabilities/convention

A SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION

New human rights convention to prevent enforced disappearances

On 20 December 2006, the UN General Assembly adopted a new International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance. The Convention specifies how States Parties to the Convention may take the necessary legislative steps to ensure that political kidnappings ordered by or made on behalf of the government will be prevented and punished. It establishes

that the continued practice of enforced disappearances in several continents is an international offence; in certain circumstances even a crime against humanity. Article 2 of the new Convention defines enforced disappearances as "... the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting

with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law". The Convention defines a victim as "the disappeared person and any individual who has suffered harm

as the direct result of an enforced disappearance". In cases of enforced disappearances, victims have, according to the Convention, the right to know the truth regarding the circumstances of the enforced disappearance, the right to compensation, and the right to form and participate freely in organisations and associations attempting to establish the circumstances

REPORT FROM THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Lis Dhundale, DIHR Team Leader, reported in her blog from the hub of the Universe



“The afternoon of Tuesday, 17 October 2006, the major theme for the Third Committee was the report from Louise Arbour, High Commissioner for Human Rights. Her report concerned the main areas in which her Office had been involved during the past year. The basis of the activities was an action plan and a strategic management plan for the Office of the High Commissioner.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (*OHCHR*) has grown during the past year. A top priority of Kofi Annan’s reform of the United Nations is to put greater focus on the human rights area. This has led to an expansion of the OHCHR.

This year, the OHCHR has facilitated the newly established Human Rights Council, and Ms Arbour has prepared a proposal for the development of a new universal reporting format intended to combine the individual state’s reports on all the human rights conventions to which it is a State Party. She sees both initiatives as essential efforts.

To a great extent, the participants of the Third Committee reacted positively and supported Ms Arbour. The oral comments focused mainly on two issues of her speech: Comments on the strategic choices of themes made by the OHCHR and reactions to the proposed new universal format for periodic reports. China and Cuba agreed that the High Commissioner should focus her work on strengthening social and economic rights rather than putting unilateral emphasis on civil and political rights.

Japan, Lichtenstein, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Australia, Canada and New Zealand all expressed support for a uniform reporting format to replace the current reporting structure requiring states to prepare separate reports related to the conventions to which they are states parties. The main arguments were a hope of avoiding duplication of work and that a combined report would be more rational and efficient. The potential synergies between uniform national reporting and the UN country reports and country rapporteurs were also mentioned. However, there were no oral comments about the fact that uniform national reports would be more demanding to prepare and that they might make states choose a line of cutting corners and greater problems!”

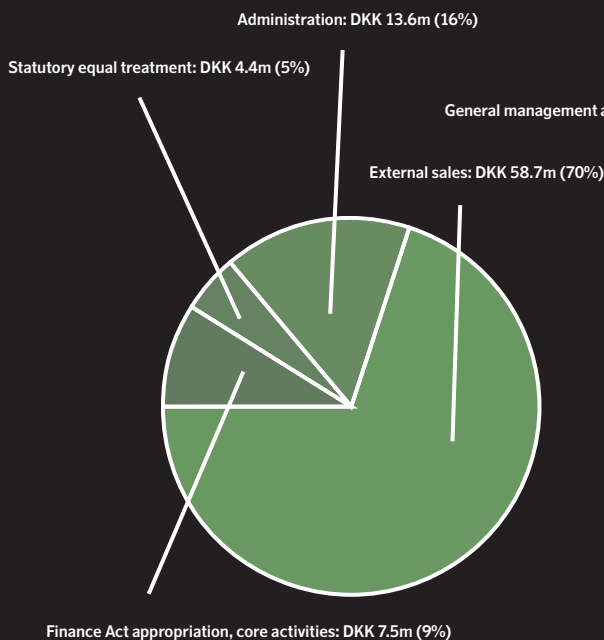
of enforced disappearances; children of victims may not be wrongfully removed from their families, nor may children be subjected to falsification, concealment or destruction of documents attesting to their true identity. Enforced disappearances are fundamental breaches of the principle of rule of law. Such violations often imply that the victim is no longer under

the protection of the law, and the violation may also cause hardship and long-term suffering among the victim’s family and friends. “It is essential that the new Convention concerns not only the rights pertaining directly to persons who are or have been subjected to enforced disappearances, but extends to the rights of any children and family of theirs,” says Paul Dalton,

DIHR Project Manager within Access to Justice. A follow-up mechanism to be established under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights will become an essential tool for specific cases in the future. It will become possible for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to react promptly to any threatened enforced

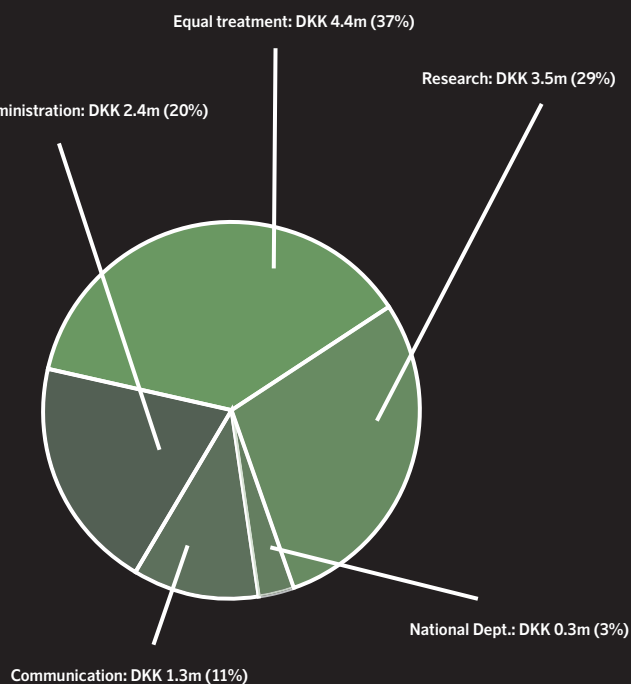
disappearance of a specific person. The idea of creating an efficient and legally binding convention dates back to the Argentinean Nobel Prize laureate Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, who in the early 1980s expressed his concern over the tragic problem of persons disappearing in his home country.

FINANCES



Break-down of 2006 turnover, DKK 84.2m

Finance Act appropriation vs. external turnover and administration (less income balance of DKK 0.3m)



Expenditure of Finance Act funds for core activities and equal treatment activities in 2006: DKK 11.9m, by purposes

CONTRIBUTORS AND INITIATORS:

Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI)
 British Council
 British Embassy
 Documentation and Advisory Centre on Racial Discrimination
 (Dokumentations- og rådgivningscenteret om racediskrimination)
 Danfoss A/S
 Danida (Danish International Development Assistance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
 Confederation of Danish Industries (Dansk Industry)
 Shell Denmark (Dansk Shell)
 The Royal Danish Embassy, Kathmandu
 The Royal Danish Embassy, Managua
 The Royal Danish Embassy, Maputo
 European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI)
 Egmont Foundation (Egmont Fonden)
 European Union
 DanChurchAid (Folkekirkenes Nødhjælp)
 Danish Research Councils (Forskningsrådene)
 Grundfos
 Hermod Lannung Foundation (Hermod Lannungs Fond)
 Ibis
 International Media Support
 International Organization for Migration (IOM)
 Municipality of Copenhagen (Københavns Kommune)
 Danish Confederation of Trade Unions (Landsorganisationen i Danmark)
 MEDA Trade Co.

Nordic Consulting Group
 Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (Norsk senter for menneskerettigheter)
 Novartis Foundation (Novartis Stiftung)
 Novo Nordisk A/S
 Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
 Danish Police College (Politiskolen)
 National Commissioner of Police, Denmark
 Rockwool Foundation (Rockwool Fonden)
 Shell International
 Shell Kazakhstan Development
 Danish Ministry of Social Affairs
 Stevnsgade School (Danish lower secondary school)
 Stichting M.P.G.
 Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
 TNT
 Total S.A.
 Tryg Forsikring (Danish insurance company)
 Tryg Foundation (TrygFonden)
 Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 Danish Ministry of Education
 UNDP
 UNHCR
 Université Catholique de Louvain
 World Bank
 WHO
 Aase and Ejnar Danielsen's Foundation
 (Aase og Ejnar Danielsens Fond)

STAFF

83.44 FTE employees

PROCESSING OF COMPLAINTS

75 complaints received
23 cases investigated at own initiative
25 opinions

INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

47 media coverages, television and radio
48 media coverages, international websites
712 media coverages, written press
1,551,207 visits to websites
375 replies to e-mail inquiries from the public

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

44 conferences and seminars hosted – Danish
17 conferences and seminars hosted – international
210 lectures and speeches – external/Danish
77 lectures and speeches – external/international

MEMBERSHIPS OF EXPERT FORA AND NETWORKS

28 memberships of international delegations, working groups and networks/committees
28 memberships of national delegations, working groups and networks/committees
14 national board positions
13 international board positions
2 representatives on a preparatory committee of the Danish Parliament

EDUCATION AND COURSES

31 courses and workshops hosted – Danish
11 courses and workshops hosted – international

PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

The DIHR produced 15 publications, which can be ordered at: <http://shop.humanrights.dk>

** Indicators of Management and Information Department are included in this list. See detailed data on the other departments below.*

For more details see: www.humanrights.dk

HUMAN RIGHTS & BUSINESS

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

8 research and development analyses, statements and reviews

CONSULTANCY ACTIVITIES

13 ongoing consultancy projects or other externally financed projects

PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

2 feature articles published in Danish newspapers
1 popular scientific and informative Danish book

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

1 conference or seminar hosted – Danish
2 conferences and seminars hosted – international
6 lectures and speeches – external/Danish
4 lectures and speeches – external/international

MEMBERSHIPS OF EXPERT FORA AND NETWORKS

3 memberships of international delegations, working groups and networks/committees
1 membership of a national delegation, working group or network/committee

RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

2 research and development analyses, statements and reviews
81 consultation responses
3 guest researchers and students
5 research partners
5 E.MA students
5 researchers – externally financed

CONSULTANCY ACTIVITIES

2 ongoing consultancy projects or other externally financed projects

PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

4 scientific articles published in international journals

9 scientific articles published in Danish journals
14 scientific articles published in international books
11 scientific articles published in Danish books
1 scientific book published abroad
6 informative articles published in Nordic and international journals and books
3 feature articles published in Danish newspapers

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

24 conferences and seminars hosted – Danish
2 conferences and seminars hosted – international
31 lectures and speeches – external/Danish
10 lectures and speeches – external/international

MEMBERSHIPS OF EXPERT FORA AND NETWORKS

8 memberships of international delegations, working

groups and networks/committees
5 memberships of national delegations, working groups and networks/committees
3 national board positions
1 international board position
1 representative on a preparatory committee of the Danish Parliament

EDUCATION AND COURSES

5 courses and workshops hosted – Danish
4 courses and workshops hosted – international

INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

5 research and development analyses, statements and reviews
1 consultation response

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

3 ongoing pilot studies
55 ongoing partnership projects

CONSULTANCY ACTIVITIES

9 ongoing consultancy projects or other externally financed projects

PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

1 scientific article published in a Danish journal
1 scientific article published in an international book
3 informative articles published in Nordic and international journals and books
4 feature articles published in Danish newspapers
16 popular science and informative international books

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

6 conferences and seminars hosted – Danish
11 conferences and seminars hosted – international
15 lectures and speeches – external/Danish

MEMBERSHIPS OF EXPERT FORA AND NETWORKS

6 memberships of international delegations, working groups and networks/committees
1 membership of a national delegation, working group or network/committee
8 national board positions
6 international board positions

EDUCATION AND COURSES

13 courses and workshops hosted – Danish
7 courses and workshops hosted – international

NATIONAL DEPARTMENT

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

3 research and development analyses, statements and reviews
45 consultation responses

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

9 ongoing partnership projects

CONSULTANCY ACTIVITIES

2 ongoing consultancy projects or other externally financed projects

PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

3 scientific articles published in Danish journals
4 scientific articles published in international books

1 scientific article published in a Danish book
1 scientific book published in Denmark
1 scientific book published abroad
6 informative articles published in Nordic and international journals and books
8 feature articles published in Danish newspapers
2 popular science and informative Danish books

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

13 conferences and seminars hosted – Danish
2 conferences and seminars hosted – international
132 lectures and speeches – external/Danish
17 lectures and speeches – external/international

MEMBERSHIPS OF EXPERT FORA AND NETWORKS

5 memberships of international delegations, working

groups and networks/committees
20 memberships of national delegations, working groups and networks/committees
3 national board positions
2 international board positions
1 representative on a preparatory committee of the Danish Parliament

EDUCATION AND COURSES

13 courses and workshops hosted – Danish

PROCESSING OF COMPLAINTS

75 complaints received

The Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) was originally established as the Danish Centre for Human Rights by a parliamentary decision on 5 May 1987. As of 1 January 2003, DIHR changed its status pursuant to Act No. 411 of 6 June 2002 on the Establishment of the Danish Centre for International Studies and Human Rights.

The work of the Institute follows the UN Paris Principles relating to the status and functioning of national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights; the activities of DIHR comprise research, information, education and training, as well as project activities and documentation regarding Danish, European and international conditions. DIHR is the principal organisation in Denmark for gathering knowledge on human rights, and it cooperates with NGOs and public authorities in Denmark and other countries and intergovernmental organisations, such as the Nordic Council, the Council of Europe, the European Union and the United Nations.

Board

Chairman:

Professor *Claus Haagen Jensen*, Aalborg University

Other members:

Jonas Christoffersen, Lecturer, University of Copenhagen

Bodil Folke Frederiksen, Associate Professor, Roskilde University

Kjeld Holm, Bishop

Erik André Andersen, employee representative of the Danish Institute for Human Rights

Lotte Bundsgaard, Social Democratic Party
(*Socialdemokraterne*)

Fakhra Mohammad, representative of the Documentation and Advisory Centre of Racial Discrimination

(*Dokumentations- og rådgivningscentret om racediskrimination*)

Helle Porsdam, Professor, Danish Rector's Conference
(*Rektorkollegiet*)

Jens Elo Rytter, Associate Professor, University of Copenhagen

Sten Schaumburg-Müller, Associate Professor,
University of Aarhus

Hanne Severinsen, Denmark's Liberal Party (*Venstre*)

Sune Skadegård Thorsen, Attorney, Council of the Danish Bar and Law Society (*Advokatrådet*)

Muhsin Türkyilmaz, Council for Ethnic Minorities
(*Rådet for Etniske Minoriteter*)

Council

The council is made up of 80 representatives of NGOs, ministries, political parties and individuals in Denmark.

Chairperson: *Leo Bjørnskov*

Vice-chairperson: *Aase Rieck Sørensen*

Substitute Board members:

Bent Christensen, Danish Association for International Co-operation
(*Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke*)

Tove Møller Pedersen, Women's Council in Denmark (*Kvinderådet*)

The Danish Institute for Human Rights

Strandgade 56

DK-1401 Copenhagen K

Tel.: +45 32 69 88 88

Fax: +45 32 69 88 00

E-mail: center@humanrights.dk

www.humanrights.dk

www.menneskeret.dk

Opening hours

Monday-Thursday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Wednesday from 10:00 am

Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

The library is open

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Tuesday from 1:00 to 6:00 pm

Note: July and August:

Monday-Friday from 10:00 am to 12.30 pm

Visiting address: Wilders Plads 8K, 1st floor, Copenhagen K

www.dcism.dk / Tel. +45 32 69 86 76

Editors: Klaus Slavensky (responsible), Ditte Goldschmidt, Martin Lassen-Vernal, Brendan Sweeney and Johanne Mortensen

Art direction/design: Simon de Tusch-Lec, **DETUSCH&LUBA**

Translation: Dialog Translatørservice

Printed by: Handy-Print A/S

Photos:

Nabil al-Jurani AP/PolFoto

Ditte Bjerregaard/Scanpix

Søren Bidstrup/Scanpix

Andreas Doppelmayr

Adam Nissen Feldt

Palle Hedemann/Scanpix

Mette Holm

Simon de Tusch-Lec

Muhammed Muheisen AD/PolFoto

David Troody/Scanpix

Kåre Viemose/PolFoto

Mads Winther/PolFoto

Gautier Willaume

THE DANISH INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

1987  2007

HUMAN RIGHTS – EACH AND EVERY DAY