**REPORTS ON DISCRIMINATION, SEGREGATION AND THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING**

QUESTIONNAIRE

**Background and Objective of the report**

The thematic reports of the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing,   
Mr. Balakrishnan Rajagopal, to the General Assembly in 2021 and to the Human Rights Council in 2021 will focus on the issue of discrimination in relation to the right to adequate housing, including the impact of spatial segregation in urban or rural-urban environments on the enjoyment of human rights.

Spatial segregation can be understood as the imposed or preferred separation of groups of people in a particular territory by lines of race, caste, ethnicity, language, religion or income status. Spatial, including residential segregation can have different forms depending on the territorial, cultural or historical context and is often characterized by forms of economic and social exclusion, inequity and spatial disparity in access to infrastructure, services and livelihood opportunities.

Discrimination is understood as any formal or substantive distinction, exclusion, restriction, preference or other differential treatment that is directly or indirectly based on the prohibited grounds of discrimination as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, national or social origin, political or other opinion, property, birth or other status - including disability, age, nationality, marital and family status, sexual orientation and gender identity, health status, place of residence, economic and social status - which has the intention or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights.[[1]](#footnote-1)

The main objectives of the two interrelated reports will be to identify contemporary and historical forms of discrimination and segregation that affect the right to adequate housing, to highlight good practices in the prevention of discrimination and segregation and to provide guidance to States on how they can ensure their human rights obligations in relation to non-discrimination and the right to adequate housing.

To inform his reports Mr. Rajagopal welcomes contributions from States, local and regional governments, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, academics, UN agencies and other stakeholders.

The questionnaire is detailed to allow for comprehensive collection of information covering all aspects of the right to adequate housing. However, responding to only those questions on which the responding organization, institution or entity has information, or expertise is much appreciated.

**BASIC INFORMATION**

1. Name of Individual, Organization, Institution, Agency or State:

**LEGAL GROUP AGAINST THE GHETTO LAWS IN DENMARK(LGALDK**).

Type of Entity\* **NGO.**

☐ National Government or federal governmental ministry/agency

☐ Inter-governmental organization or UN agency

☐ Local or regional government, agency, representative or mayor

☐ Association, tenant union or housing cooperative

X☐ NGO network, umbrella organization

☐ Community-based NGO

☐ Academia

☐ Foundation

☐ National human rights organization, ombudsperson

☐ Real estate, urban planning or construction

☐ Real estate investor or investment fund

☐ Trade Union

☐ Other:

2. Categorization of your Work

Please select one or more responses, as appropriate. : **Legal assistance**

☐Public administration

☐Advocacy

☐Funding

X☐Legal Assistance

☐Networking

☐Policy

☐Research

☐Technical Assistance

☐Training

☐N/A

☐Other:

3. City/Town: **Aarhus/.**

1. State/Province: Click here to enter text.
2. Country (please indicate your region or “international” if focus the work of your organization covers multiple countries); **Denmark**
3. Contact e-mail (will remain confidential) in case we have questions:

**HOUSING DISCRIMINATION**

7. What specific forms of de facto or legal discrimination or barriers towards equal enjoyment of the right to adequate housing do the following groups face in your country (please provide evidence with examples, studies, reports and relevant statistical information):

* People of African Descent, or Roma
* Racial, caste, ethnic, religious groups/minorities or other groups
* Migrants, foreigners, refugees, internally displaced persons
* Women, children or older persons
* Indigenous peoples
* Persons with disabilities
* LGBTQ persons
* Low income persons, including people living in poverty
* Residents of informal settlements; persons experiencing homelessness
* Other social groups, please specify: **Refugees and persons that have applied for family reunification with a person from a “non-Western” country, persons that have had a prison sentence, and a lot of special sentences for other types of crimes.**

**Especially Danish citizens with foreign background - that is – from non-Western parental background, even if born ind Denmark, are exempted from getting an apartment in a so-called “ghetto” area.**

**If you apply for an apartment in a housing area described as a “hard Ghetto” you will have to prove a lot of things like: No crimes, not being of non-western heritage, to be active at labour market or under education, - and perhaps to have a Danish education, and perhaps to earn more than a certain income**

**So especially citizens with foreign background is being discriminated. But also citizens outside the labour market. Low income workers including people living in poverty.**

**See the included Reports describing the problems. Reports that have been presented to both CESCR – committee, UN, and to the CERD- committee , and to the Council of Europe: ECRI , and to the UPR: OCHRC. From the last we have included an excerpt here**

**A range of European voices have been expressing outrage at Denmark’s ‘ghetto list’ and ‘ghetto package’. The government’s stigmatisation of muslims is linked to a project to break down Denmark’s popular system of non-profit housing associations.  See also**

**http://www.irr.org.uk/news/denmarks-ghetto-package-discrimination-enshrined-in-law/**

**Here comes most of a chapter about the Ghetto-package laws in a report to UPR 3rd cycle(UNCHR), where the human rights situation in Denmark has just been examined om May 6-11, 2021. This comes here:**

Chapter 2 from the report to UPR from the Alternatrive Coalition.

2. The “Ghetto Package”

In 2010, the Danish right-wing government announced a new strategy “The Ghetto Back to Society – a Break with Parallel Societies in Denmark”.i Since then, the criteria for defining the so-called “ghettos” have been tightened repeatedly. The most dramatic changes came with the “Ghetto Package” in 2018, most of which are mentioned below.

2.1 “Western” versus ”non-Western”

A central concept in the “Ghetto Package” of 2018 is the designation non-Western. The terms

Western and ”non-Western” were invented by Statistics Denmark in 2002.ii

“Western” countries are the 28 EU countries and 8 associated Western European countries iii plusthe four

Anglo-Saxon countries: the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, not all located in the West as the term would suggest but all with white majority populations with roots in Western Europe. ”Non-Western” countries are the rest of the world, 157 countries with very different characteristics but one common characteristic: Their majority populations are non-white.

In March 2018, the Liberal minority government introduced its political plan “One Denmark without parallel societies – no ghettos by 2030” mentioning “non-Western” 42 times. For the first time “non-Western” was enacted into Danish law. The term does not distinguish between foreign nationals and Danish citizens and is applied to immigrants and their descendants, born and raised in Denmark, thus creating a distinction between those considered to be real Danes and “the others”. In the public debate, “non-Western” has become synonymous with Muslim although Muslims constitute less than half the “non-Westerners”.

2.2 “Parallel Societies”

In 2019, the Ministry of Economy and the Interior published the report “Account of Parallel Societies 2019”.

A “parallel society” is described as being “physically or mentally isolated following its own norms and rules, without noticeable contact with Danish society and without a desire to become part of Danish society.”

The report claims that “parallel societies” stem from residents having religious values and other values that differ from those of the majority - demonstrating the racialization of minorities and the desire to assimilate minority cultures and religions. The term “parallel society” has been criticized by experts or being a political construction for its lack of (reliable) data, for using methodical hocus-pocus and resembling work commissioned by the

Government.

There are eight indicators (Annex 3), of which families of 3 or less (i.e. also singles) complying with 2 indicators and larger families complying with 3 indicators are categorized as belonging to a “parallel society”. Thus, e.g. a “non-Western” single mother living with one child in a non-profit housing area1 with over25 % residents of “non-Western” background and sending her child to the local daycare institution with over25% “non-Western” children meets the criteria for belonging to a “parallel society”.

2.3 “Ghettos”

The “Ghetto Package” comprises amendments to a number of laws, most of which were passed on 22.11.2018.

2.4 Definition of Danish “ghettos”

In 2018, the definition of “vulnerable areas” and “ghetto areas” changed, and from now on, a “ghetto area” must have more than 50 % “non-Western” residents. The present PM has stated, “This is also about ethnicity. Because I want a Denmark, where we live together. I don't want areas where only people with minority backgrounds live”.

The terms “vulnerable area”, “ghetto area” and “tough ghetto” are political constructs, as are the criteria,

which were designed to target specific residential areas. If specific residential areas no longer met the criteria, the Government has adjusted them, so the areas remained on the “ghetto-list”.

A vulnerable area is an area of over 1,000 residents “where at least two of four criteria are met:

(a) 40 % with no connection to the job market or the educational system,

(b) Number convicted of violations of the Criminal Code, the Weapons Act, or the drugs law 3 times the

national average,

(c) 60 % of residents aged 30 - 59 years with only basic education,

(d) 55 % of the average gross income for taxpayers in the region.”(See exact definitions in Annex 1)

A “ghetto” is a “vulnerable area” where immigrants and descendants from ”non-Western” countries –

whether Danish citizens or not – exceed 50 % .

Thus, only ethnicity distinguishes a “ghetto” from a vulnerable area. If an area is on the “ghetto list” for four years, it becomes a “tough ghetto”, and 60 % tenants will be evicted.

(a) The Government explicitly stated in the explanatory notes to the Bill that early retirement

counted as unemployed although they are unable to work. This contributes to maintaining certain residential areas on the “ghetto-list”, as early retirement pensioners are seldom able to change their status.

(b) When in 2017, the Government realized that the crime rate was falling, and thus only 2 residential areas met the crime criterion, it was changed into a so-called “dynamic” criterion, which is changed every second year and increased the number to 25.

(c) Before 2017, there was no data on almost 177,000 immigrants’ education registered by Statistics Denmark as basic education. Together with the Rockwool Foundation’s Research Unit, Statistics Denmark financed a project out of its own pocket. “It is ...remarkable that there has been no data collection on education and training brought by immigrants since 2004”.

“So far, changing governments have ignored the fact that thousands of immigrants are doctors, teachers, jurists, and skilled workers. If their education and training had not been registered in public records, they counted as persons with only basic education...“. According to the Workers’ Council for Trade and Industry, 13 out of the 25 housing areas should not have been on the “Ghetto list” for 2016.

2 Transfer incomes are taxed in Denmark.

The study was disregarded by the lawmakers, but 50 % with only basic education was raised to 60 %. Only Danish education count plus foreign education and training approved in Denmark (the eye of a needle).

(d) Last but not least, transfer incomes are the same nationwide, but because of Denmark’s richest

municipalities north of Copenhagen “the average gross income of the region” is higher in the capital region than elsewhere. If the “ghetto” of Mjølnerparken, Copenhagen, had been located somewhere else, its average gross income would exceed “55 % of the average gross income of the region”

All four definitions serve to inflate the number of so-called “ghettos”.

In the list of 01.12.2019 there were 28 “ghettos”, 15 “tough ghettos”, and 40 “vulnerable areas”.

2.5 Changing Housing Types – The Danish Non-profit Housing Sector

Danish non-profit housing is affordable housing run by non-profit housing associations and not owned by the State. A benchmark of success under the “Ghetto Package” is a reduction of non-profit housing in “ghettos” and vulnerable areas. The Government’s intention is indicated in the explanatory notes to the Bill L38 regarding housing allocation:

Non-profit housing – explanatory notes

“Residents in the non-profit housing sector differ significantly from residents in the general housing market by... having more than 20 % residents of “non-Western” background. That means that slightly more than half of all immigrants and descendants from “non-Western” countries live in the non-profit housing sector. It is necessary to change the resident composition in the vulnerable housing estates... It is here in particular that many residents – often immigrants from “non-Western” countries and descendants of immigrants – live in isolated enclaves and do not adapt to Danish norms and values

to a sufficient extent.”

“The aim is to change the composition of housing types in the vulnerable housing estates by increasing the number of owner-occupied dwellings, private rentals, or co-operative dwellings.”

Furthermore, the “Ghetto Package” ensures that private owners are unable to let the flats to the former

tenants. In Elsinore, 300 residents were informed that their housing associations had decided to evict them

from their 96 flats and replace them with tenants over 50 years of age without children (and presumably of Western descent) as the estate may otherwise develop into a “tough ghetto”.

2.5.1 Dismantling “ghettos”/Demolishing Flats

The Minister can issue an order to a non-profit housing association ordering the dismantling of a “tough

ghetto” under certain circumstances including failure to implement a development plan.

The housing association and the local municipality can then decide on a ”development plan”, which may include demolishing housing blocks/flats in the “ghetto” area. If the non-profit housing associations do not present an over-all plan for the reduction of “tough ghettos” or the Government does not approve their plans, the Government will take over and instead reduce the “tough ghetto” by 75%.

According to the ”development plans” 5,363 flats will be dismantled – of those 3,745 will be demolished,

sold to private buyers and transformed into youth or senior housing – and around 11,000 people will lose

their homes. 10,131 new,more expensive homes will be built, primarily private.

New housing built in vulnerable neighbourhoods can only be rented according to criteria laid down by the

municipal council. The "ghetto” laws enjoin the private landlords to use the same excluding criteria as the non-profit associations so tenants evicted cannot rent the private dwellings(Annex 4).

The new law also restricts the allocation of housing. A non-profit housing association branch located in a “tough ghetto” area must reject applicants e.g. if they receive welfare benefits, are unemployed or are refugees etc. Furthermore, no residents can apply for family reunification.

2.6 Double-punishment Zones

The Government’s initiative to eliminate “ghettos” also included harsher punishment in certain areas called “increased-punishment zones”. In September 2018, a bill was passed to empower the police to proclaim geographical zones, in which punishments for certain crimes (e.g. violence, vandalism, burglary, threatening behaviour, arson, drug offences, possession of weapons), could be doubled. The former prime minister of Denmark stated, "Danishness itself is under threat, so it is necessary to break with the idea that everyone in Denmark should be treated equally".The law took effect on 01.01.2019 and may lead to an increase in the deportation of foreign nationals including persons born and raised in Denmark

.The bill has been criticized by the Council of the Danish Bar & Law Society and the think tank Justitia for being “quite alarming in terms of the rule of law.”

2.7 Mandatory Pre-school Programme

From the age of one, children living in vulnerable areas must be separated from their parents for at least 25 hours a week to attend “a targeted and intensive course..., which will focus on supporting children's language development and general learning readiness.” The compulsory “offer” allegedly also supports “social integration, personal and cognitive development and democratic insight”.

If parents do not allow a child to register, or the child does not use the compulsory day care “offer” sufficiently, the municipality may decide to withdraw child benefits. These provisions can be viewed as an attempt at forced assimilation as they target specific areas where there is a high number of ethnic minorities.

3 Acquiring Danish citizenship har become increasingly difficult since 2001 and today a non-suspended sentence of 3 months for certain offences will bar Danish citizenship forever even if the person was born and bred in Denmark.”

8. Discrimination in housing can affect various dimensions of the right to adequate housing and other human rights. Could you provide more details regarding the specific areas in which housing discrimination is experienced? Below are examples of various forms of discrimination that can be experienced in relation to different dimensions of the right to adequate housing:

*Accessibility*

* Discrimination in relation to access to land, including water and natural resources essential for habitation;
* Discrimination in relation to housing for rental or for acquisition or in accessing public or social housing;
* Access to emergency and/or transitional housing after disaster, conflict related displacement or in case of homelessness, family or domestic violence;
* Accessibility of housing for persons with disabilities or older persons, including access to housing for independent living or to care homes;
* data collection or requirements to furnish certain certifications resulting in the exclusion of particular persons from accessing housing;

*Habitability*

* discrimination in relation to housing conditions, overcrowding or housing maintenance;
* Exposure to health risks within the home, including lack of ventilation, heating or insulation, exposure to fire or housing collapse risk, unhealthy building materials, or other unhealthy housing covered by the WHO Guidelines on housing and health;
* Exposure to other risks which render housing uninhabitable, including sexual or gender-based violence, interference with privacy and physical security in the home and neighbourhood;
* Discrimination in relation to housing renovation or permission of housing extension;

*Affordability*

* Discrimination in relation to access to public benefits related to housing;
* Lack of equal access to affordable housing;
* Discrimination in public and private housing financing;
* Discrimination related to housing and service costs, housing related fees, litigation or taxation;

*Security of tenure*

* Discrimination in relation to ownership or inheritance of housing and land and related natural resources including water including on the basis of a distinction between formal and informal tenure arrangements;
* Discrimination in relation to evictions, resettlement and compensation for loss or damage of housing, land or livelihoods;
* Differential treatment in land or title registration, permission of housing construction;

*Availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure*

* Discrimination in relation to access to work, schooling, health care or public benefits based on the residential address or related to a lack of an official address;
* Public transportation services and transportation costs;
* Provision of water, sanitation, energy, waste collection and other utility services; their quality or cost, including interruptions/blackouts including policies relating to disconnection from utility services;
* spatial disparities in access to health care, education, child care, cultural and recreational facilities;

*Location*

* Discrimination in relation to freedom of choice of the place of residency within the country, within a particular region or location;
* Discrimination based on place of residence or address, such as exclusion from invitation to job interviews or access to credit;
* Exposure to environmental health risks, such as external air quality, flooding, toxic ground exposure; noise; risk of landslides etc.;
* Living quality and physical security in the neighbourhood, including geographical disparities in policing and law enforcement;

*Cultural adequacy*

* Discrimination in relation to the recognition of culturally adequate dwellings as housing as well as equal access to public space;
* Prohibition of accessing, maintaining or constructing culturally adequate housing;
* Lack of recognition of mobile forms of residency.

**Discrimination is mainly in relation to location as so called non-western citizens are discriminated against in certain housing areas. If the location/housing area is having more than 50 % non-western tenants their housing area is threatened with demolitions and evictions.**

**Definition of Danish “ghettos”**

In 2018, the definition of “*vulnerable areas*” and “*ghetto areas*” changed, and from now on, a “ghetto area” must have more than 50 % “non-Western” residents. The present PM has stated, “This is also about ethnicity. Because I want a Denmark, where we live together. I don't want areas where only people with minority backgrounds live”.

**The terms “*vulnerable area*”, “*ghetto area*” [[2]](#endnote-1)and “*tough ghetto*” and “parallel society area” are political constructs, as are the criteria, which were designed to target specific residential areas. If specific residential areas no longer meet the criteria, the Government has adjusted them, so the areas remained on the “ghetto-list”.**

**Discrimination and exclusion is also targeting poor people and people with low income and outside the labour market. Their rights to rent a home and saws to social housing are less than others. It appears from the "Ghetto" laws, the upcoming "parallel society" laws and the special rules in the general housing laws ( called "combined and flexible renting"). All laws targeting the non profit public housing.**

**Discrimination is also seen as a consequence of the rampant speculation in the market of private housing. There is weak or non-existent regulation leading to rising inequality and blocking the mobility of citizens with weak economy. As citizens with ethnic background proportionally are members of this group their chances of moving to other areas are reduced.**

9. Are there any particular current laws, policies or practices in your country, region or town/community that contribute to or exacerbate discrimination in relation to the right to adequate housing?

**The ghetto laws**

10. Can you explain exemptions in national law that allow (certain) public, private or religious housing providers to give preferential or exclusive access to housing to members of a particular group, for example based on membership, employment contract, public service, age, disability, civil status, sex, gender, religion, income or other criteria?

**Discrimination is also taking place in relation to socio-economic factors so low economic status can mean exclusion.**

**See the included Alternative Coalition Report to the Universal Periodic Review of Denmark.**

11. In case there may be differential treatment of particular groups in relation to housing, please explain why such treatment could be justifiable according to international human rights standards - for example positive measures benefiting a particular group to overcome systematic discrimination or disadvantage-or if it would amount to discrimination?

**There is only negative discrimination in the ghetto package.**

**SPATIAL AND RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION**

**12.** What forms of spatial segregation along racial, caste, ethnicity, religion, nationality, migration status, heritage, economic status/income or other social grounds can be observed in urban and urban-rural contexts in your country?

**Spatial segregation along racial and economic status is mainly due to lack of adequate cheap housing mainly in the bigger cities.**

13. What impacts do these forms of spatial and residential segregation have on affected communities? Please point to indicators such as rates of poverty, un-employment and under-employment; prevalence rates of malnutrition; disparities in access to services and facilities (such as access to schooling, health care or other public benefits); disparities in access to infrastructure (lack of and/or poor quality provision of water, sanitation, transportation, energy, waste collection and other utility services); rates of exposure to environmental health risks (poor air quality, flooding, toxic ground exposure, etc).

**The concentration of poor citizens in certain housing areas can mean lack of role models for young people**

14. Have any particular historical or current laws, policies or practices in your country, region or town/community caused or exacerbated segregation?

**The ghetto laws have accelerated segregation as people feel stigmatized by these laws.**

15. In your view, what factors (current or historical) are the principal *drivers* of spatial and residential segregation in urban and urban-rural contexts in your country?

**The housing market with rampant speculation and lack of adequate cheap housing has lead to rising inequality and reduced mobility. People can´t afford to move and in consequence of this the socioeconomic segregation in the urban areas has grown.**

16. Are there examples in your country of where spatial and residential clustering has been a result of voluntary choices of residence by members of particular groups?

**Not more than common found in societies with ethnic minorities that seek to live together with people with the same language and cultural background. But lack of mobility and high prices in the housing market blocks that people can move more easily to other areas.**

17. The preservation of cultural identity, the right to self-determination of indigenous peoples and the protection of minority rights are examples of grounds for which groups may choose to live separately. Can you comment on how these forms spatial/territorial separation are evidenced in your country, if these communities they are subject to discrimination and suffer adverse consequences from spatial segregation such as through disparities in access to services, infrastructure, living conditions, etc.?

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**Especially the muslim community has problems with access to mosques in certain areas where the authorities blocks or delays their efforts to establish community places.**

18. In your view, are certain forms of observed residential separation/voluntary clustering compatible with human rights law and if so why? (for example to protect rights of minorities or to respect the freedom of choice of individuals to decide with whom to live together).

**The ghetto laws is a policy that blocks people of so called non-western background to live together. In so called ghettos families have been living here may be 20 to 30 years and have friends and family relations in the area. Evicting them alone because of their ethnicity is an infringement of their human rights.**

The result is less affordable housing as the number of family flats are reduced or sold to private investors. It targets mainly so called “non-western” citizens and the working class and they are pushed to more expensive flats. Also homelessness is rising in the big cities: København, Århus, Odense, Ålborg.

19. Are there any laws or policies requiring certain individuals (and their families) to live in particular housing provided to them or in a particular geographical area (e.g. asylum seekers, migrants, IDPs, refugees, ethnic, religious, linguistic or other minorities, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, public service and military personnel)?

**There are camps for asylum seekers that have been refused to get a permit of residence. In these camps you can find people that fear for their life if they return to their home country.**

20. In your view, what are the principal *barriers* to diminishing spatial, including residential segregation?

**Lack of cheap and adequate housing.**

**“Ghetto" and "Parallel society" Laws”**

**Special Rules in the general housing laws  
“ The paradigm shift”.**

**A unregulated housing market**

**MEASURES AND GOOD PRACTICES TO CURB DISCRIMINATION AND REDUCE SEGREGATION**

21. What laws, policies or measures exist at national or local level to prevent or prohibit discrimination in relation to the right to adequate housing?

**There are only weak regulations and in public housing the existing anti discrimination rules have not prevented this development. So we see citizens are excluded and evicted due to ethnic factors due and their relatively low socioeconomic status.**

22. Have your State, regional or local Government adopted any positive measures, such as measures of affirmative action, to reduce discrimination, segregation or structural inequality in relation to housing? To what extent have such initiatives been successful to address housing discrimination and segregation?

**No and the ghetto laws have been high on the political agenda with a nearly bipartisan support.**

23. Have any particular laws, policies or measures been implemented to limit or reduce residential segregation? To what extent have such policies raised human rights concerns?

**Concerns have been raised by many, see the See the included Alternative Coalition Report to the Universal Periodic Review of Denmark.**

24. What is the role of the media, as well as other non- governmental organizations, of religious and governmental institutions, in fostering a climate that reduces or exacerbates discrimination in relation to housing and segregation?

**NGOs and certain media have documented and campaigned against the ghetto laws, but sadly to no avail**

25. Which institutional mechanisms exist to report, redress and monitor cases of discrimination or segregation in relation to the right to adequate housing and how effective have they been to address discrimination?

**There is no specific institution like in UK, but Institut for Menneskerettigheder has been active on this subject.** [Www.humanrights.dk](http://Www.huamnrights.dk/)

26. In your view, what are the principal barriers to seek justice for discrimination/segregation in relation to the right to adequate housing?

**A better understanding of structural racism that today is missing in the public policies and the political debate.**

**All discriminatory laws and politics as the paradigm shift, ghetto - / parallel society laws and special rules in housing laws must be rolled back.**

**See the recommandations on page 8 -9 in "Alternative Coalition Report on Denmark 2021 to the European Commission against Racism and Discrimination"**

**- The privat housing market must be regulated by laws so that the prices an rents of private housing are kept low and so that a cealing is set on the rent.  
- More non profit public housing must be built, so that they make up 50 % of the housing in Denmark". Today is is only around 20%. 580.000 out of a total 2.700.000. See:**

https://bl.dk/politik-og-analyser/fakta-og-tal/boliger/

**- Restore the racial discrimination center which was closed.**

27. Can you specify how individuals and groups subject to structural discrimination or experiencing segregation can submit complaints to administrative, non-judicial or judicial bodies to seek relief? Please share any leading cases that have been decided by your courts or other agencies in this respect?

**Lack of adequate regulations in the area of discrimination and racism means it is nearly impossible to win a court case on this.**

**A case on ethnic discrimination is included. J. nr. 2013-6811-52011**

**We are actually going to the courts and to The Board of Equal Treatment (“Ligebehandlingsnævnet”). These cases are running. Ligebehandlingsnævnet is a state body where you can make complaints about unequal treatment. See** [**https://ast.dk/naevn/ligebehandlingsnaevnet**](https://ast.dk/naevn/ligebehandlingsnaevnet) **and**

[**https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/structures/denmark/ligebehandlingsnaevnet-board-equal-treatment**](https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/structures/denmark/ligebehandlingsnaevnet-board-equal-treatment)

**See also Question 30.**

**DATA ON DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING AND SPATIAL/RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION**

28. Is any data on housing disparities, housing discrimination and spatial segregation collected and publicly available? If so where can it be accessed? Are there any practical or legal barriers to collect and share such information in your country?

**No. The State Statistical Office has the numbers on housing. See** [**www.dst.dk**](http://www.dst.dk/)**. But as there is no official understanding of racial discrimination, there is a state of denial and lack of transparency on this.**

**Also the non-profit housing organizations have the statistics but there is lack of transparency on this.**

29. Can you kindly share any studies or surveys by local, regional or national Governments or by other institutions to understand better housing disparities, housing discrimination and spatial segregation and how it can be addressed (e.g. title and link, or kindly submit document).

**See the included reports and their references to these issues**

30. Can you provide information and statistics related to complaints related to housing discrimination, how they have been investigated and settled, and information on cases in which private or public actors have been compelled successfully to end such discrimination or been fined or sanctioned for non-compliance?

**We are actually going to the courts and to The Board of Equal Treatment (“Ligebehandlingsnævnet”). These cases are running. Ligebehandlingsnævnet is a state body where you can make complaints about unequal treatment. See** [**https://ast.dk/naevn/ligebehandlingsnaevnet**](https://ast.dk/naevn/ligebehandlingsnaevnet) **and**

[**https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/structures/denmark/ligebehandlingsnaevnet-board-equal-treatment**](https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/structures/denmark/ligebehandlingsnaevnet-board-equal-treatment)

1. See article 2.1 of International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the related General Comment No. 20 of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)