

Press release:

Increasing discrimination from the Danish government towards people with disabilities in Denmark - Grassroots movement appeals for help from international authorities

August 30, 2021 (DENMARK) - The grassroots movement #enmillionstemmer - OneMillionVoices has sent an appeal for help to the United Nations, the European Council, and Amnesty International.

Monica Lylloff, one of the spokespersons from the movement, says: *"We have sent an appeal for help to international authorities, due to the Danish government's persistent discrimination against people with disabilities. This has resulted in persons with disabilities and their families being subjected to violations of their human rights"*.

The movement fights for fair and equal justice for people with disabilities and mental vulnerability, and their appeal to the world is supported by attorney Mads Kroeger Pramming, attorney Bjørn Elmquist, Stage Law Firm, attorney Thomas Taguchi, Bonnez & Ziebe Attorneys, lawyer Sanne Møller, professor Birgit Kirkebæk, professor John Klausen, professor Kirsten Ketscher, FOA - The Danish Trade Union for Public Employees, and DH/Danske Handicaporganisationer - Disabled People's Organisations Denmark.

The repercussions of a large structural reform of the Danish public sector in 2007 has been catastrophic for people with disabilities and mental vulnerability, and has resulted in violations of basic human rights, and increasingly widespread discrimination and exclusion of this minority group from Danish society.

For the last several years, Danish municipalities have made decisions and rulings in the area of disabilities which have been in direct violation of the law and basic legal principles, and without the intervention of any sitting government. In 2020 alone, there were errors in 52% of decisions and rulings regarding the area of child disability services. Every erroneous decision and ruling can have serious and long term consequences for the person with a disability, as well as for their families.

Despite the serious problems in the management of disability services, and the subsequent major ramifications for Denmark as a society as well as socio-economically, the area of disability management and policy remains irresponsibly underprioritized, both politically and financially, and without the prospect of actual improvements. An example of this was on June 3, 2021 when a

majority in the Danish Parliament voted against the incorporation of the UN Disability Convention into Danish law.

Despite repeated inquiries by numerous political and non-political groups and individuals, the Danish government continues to ignore the extent and gravity of the conditions for people with disabilities in Denmark. The current situation is now so serious, that #enmillionstemmer - OneMillionVoices has found itself forced to appeal for help from international authorities.

The inquiries to international authorities from #enmillionstemmer - OneMillionVoices can be found on the movement's website: www.enmillionstemmer.dk

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