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SUBMISSION TO THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF CORRUPTION ON THE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Danish Institute for Human Rights (the Institute) welcomes the call for input in relation to the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Generally, the Institute finds, corruption is not an issue impeding the realisation of Denmark's human rights obligations. Thus, the Institute has conducted little work in Denmark on the subject matter and refers the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Right to other sources, e.g. the following:

According to Transparency International Denmark was the least corrupt country in the world in 2018.¹ Nevertheless, in a recent report by Group of States Against Corruption (GRECO) finds that there is reason to strengthen prevention measures in the Danish integrity system in which trust is a central feature.²

¹ Transparency International, Denmark overview of corruption and anti-corruption (2018), available at:

<https://knowledgehub.transparency.org/helpdesk/denmark-overview-of-corruption-and-anti-corruption>.

² Fifth evaluation round, preventing corruption and promoting integrity in central governments (top executive functions) and law enforcement agencies, evaluation report Denmark, GrecoEval5Rep(2018)8, available at: <https://rm.coe.int/fifth-evaluation-round-preventing-corruption-and-promoting-integrity-i/168097203a>.

Likewise, Transparency International has highlighted that recent scandals – most notably a money-laundering case involving the largest bank in Denmark, Danske Bank – have exposed weaknesses in Denmark’s integrity system, particularly in relation to the private sector as well as gaps in the legislative framework relating to issues such as conflict of interest, lobbying, political financing and whistle blower protection.³

Yours sincerely,

Emilie Thage
Legal adviser

³ Transparency International, Denmark overview of corruption and anti-corruption (2018), available at: <https://knowledgehub.transparency.org/helpdesk/denmark-overview-of-corruption-and-anti-corruption>.