
Hovedtema: Rethinking disability inclusion in the current international juncture and ahead of the Summit of the Future

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Talens varighed
3-4 min.

Det talte ord gælder

Thank you, Mr. chair,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen

It is my pleasure to address the 17th Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities plays a crucial role when developing new policy. Denmark ratified the Convention in 2009, and by
doing this, we committed ourselves to ensure that that both existing and future policy must comply with the Convention.

Denmark is continually working to promote the full realization of the rights of persons with disabilities; to continually strengthen the support and care that persons with disabilities need, to improve their quality of life and to have equal possibilities to live independent lives.

And there are both achievements and challenges to be found in this work, when it comes to the overarching theme of the Conference.

In Denmark we have in many ways a well-functioning welfare system, where persons with disabilities receive the assistance they are entitled to.

However, the disability sector is today affected by some fundamental and structural challenges. This includes rising costs in the municipalities and pressure on the experienced quality of the service, legal security and in the trust towards the municipalities.

To counteract this, the Danish Government has recently entered into an agreement with several political parties consisting of 25 initiatives.

The overall purpose of the agreement is to ensure an economically sustainable and high-quality development of the disability sector by focusing on prevention,
development, as well as the well-being and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

The agreement includes an action plan that aims to establish better opportunities for persons with disabilities in the workforce and to ensure more flexible ways to be involved in the education system.

In addition, the agreement aims to ensure that the employees at secured residential accommodations have the necessary education and competences when working with some of the most vulnerable persons in our society.

Another initiative consists of a plan for the specialized social services in the disability sector by dividing the area into separate specialized areas. The aim is, by gathering more knowledge and competences, to ensure highly specialized services for people with highly specialized needs, enhance the quality and establish a better match between complex needs and the help offered.

Central NGO’s in the disability field and organizations representing persons with disabilities in the new dialogue forum, United on Disability, have been included in the work process and framing of the agreement by providing new solutions, relevant knowledge and different perspectives.
The Conference of States Parties is a unique platform to share these experiences and gain knowledge on how to solve some of the challenges we encounter.

As we look ahead, the Summit of the Future provide opportunities for States to reaffirm their commitment to protecting the human rights of all individuals including persons with disabilities.

Thank you.