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| Ms. Isabel Santos  Chairperson,  OSCE PA General Committee on Democracy,  Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions  Tordenskjoldsgade 1  1055 København K | **Parliament of Denmark**  **Secretariat of the Danish OSCE PA Delegation**  Christiansborg DK-1240 Copenhagen K  Tel. +45 33 37 55 00 Fax +45 33 32 85 36  www.ft.dk ft@ft.dk |

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Dear colleague,

Dear Isabel,

Thank you very much for your letter dated 21 January 2016 on the serious situation following the refugee crisis. In my opinion there has been many misunderstandings regarding the Danish initiatives and regarding the Bill L 87.

Let me start by saying, that Denmark is currently facing a very large number of refugees and immigrants seeking protection from prosecution and war, as well as poverty. Denmark is one of the countries the EU that have taken and still take more asylum seekers per capita than most other EU Member States.

Denmark is one of only five countries in the world to meet the target set by the UN to devote at least 0.7 per cent of GNI to development assistance. Denmark is also recognized for promoting human rights at home and abroad, and we act in respect of our international obligations.

Earlier this week the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Danish Minister for Immigration, Integration and Housing met with the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) of the European Parliament. I include the speaking points used by the two Danish ministers when they addressed the members of the European Parliament on 25 January 2016. I hope that these speaking points may clarify any misunderstandings regarding the Danish Bill L 87.

I appreciate that you as Chair for the General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions have taken interest in Denmark. I can assure you that Denmark will continue an active engagement within the OSCE PA on migration and refugee issues. The solution to the crises must first and foremost address the underlying causes of the refugee and migration crises. This calls for collective efforts by the international community, which Denmark strive to be a part of.

Yours sincerely

Peter Juel Jensen,

Head of Delegation