

Udvalget for Udlændinge- og  
Integrationspolitik  
UUI alm. del - Bilag 93  
Offentlig

**Emne:** VS: Denmark: Social assistance to refugees / Your letter of 24October 2004  
**Prioritet:** Høj

Fra: Brian GORLICK [<mailto:GORLICK@unhcr.ch>]  
Sendt: 11. januar 2005 17:26  
Til: Christian@FriisBach.dk  
Cc: Machiko Kondo; Annika LINDEN  
Emne: Denmark: Social assistance to refugees / Your letter of 24October 2004

11 Jan 05

Mr Christian Friis Bach  
Former chairman of Mellempfolkligt Samvirke Denmark

Dear Christian,

Further to our earlier telephone conversation on the letter from yourself and some Danish politicians dated 24 October 2004, I can reiterate that UNHCR's views as expressed in our Comments on the Draft Bill on amending the Aliens Act, etc of 18 March 2002 remain valid (re: para 12 'Social Benefits', Comments available on-line at: [www.unhcr.ch](http://www.unhcr.ch)). In particular, UNHCR is of the view that differential payment of social welfare benefits to refugees is not equitable.

We have noted the difficulties of individual refugees who receive lower benefits as documented in your letter, and regret that our recommendations to the Danish authorities were not taken on board.

The fact that you and other concerned individuals and organisations are keeping this issue in the public agenda may help contribute to a changing of the current policy and practice. Kindly keep us informed of your efforts.

Best wishes and regards,

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