Ministeren

Udlændinge- og Integrationsudvalget Folketinget Christiansborg 1240 København K



Udlændinge- og Integrationsudvalget har den 12. februar 2018 stillet følgende spørgsmål nr. 423 (alm. del) efter ønske fra Mattias Tesfaye (S) til udlændinge- og integrationsministeren, som hermed besvares endeligt.

Spørgsmål nr. 423:

Vil ministeren tage initiativ til at undersøge, hvilke erfaringer man i Tyskland, Sverige og Finland har gjort sig med modtage- og hjemrejseprogrammer for afviste asylansøger, hvor økonomisk støtte indgår som et af evt. flere elementer i programmet, jf. svar på UUI alm. del – spm. 364?

Svar:

1. Til brug for besvarelsen har Udlændinge- og Integrationsministeriet indhentet bidrag fra Federal Office for Migration and Refugees i Tyskland, som har oplyst følgende:

"Together with the long existing German AVR program REAG/GARP, the "StarthilfePlus" program builds the German offer of return cash assistance for voluntary returnees. The amount of the financial support depends on the date of departure, the nationality and the resident status. Thus different program-stages exist, rewarding e.g. the binding decision to leave Germany voluntarily before the asylum decision is delivered (Stage 1). Furthermore there are special stages for persons with a legal protection status (Stages S) or persons with a tolerated stay status (Stage D).

In 2017, 9959 persons returned by means of "StarthilfePlus".

As the program started at 1st February 2017 and is running for one year yet, an evaluation started only recently and no resilient data on actual meaning is available."

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Sags nr. 2018 - 2768 Akt-id 409042 **2.** Til brug for besvarelsen af spørgsmålet har Udlændinge- og Integrationsministeriet yderligere indhentet bidrag fra Swedish Migration Agency, Unit for Return Co-ordination, som har oplyst følgende:

"The Swedish Migration Agency has since 1 August 2007 had the possibility to grant cash re-establishment support to those returning to certain countries following the rejection of their asylum application. There are certain requirements which must be fulfilled in order to receive support and those requirements are as follows:

- The returnee's application for asylum has been rejected or withdrawn.
- The returnee intends to return voluntarily to a country where the conditions for establishing themselves are limited due to the security situation. At present the following countries are considered to have such limited conditions for reestablishment of returnees: Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, Eritrea, Iraq, Yemen, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Palestine, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, Chad.
- It is likely that the returnee will be allowed to enter and live the country to which they intend to return.
- The application for support must be made soon after the application for asylum has been rejected/dismissed and before the returnee leaves Sweden.

The cash support available is SEK 30,000 for each person over the age of 18, and SEK 15,000 for children under the age of 18. A family can receive a maximum of SEK 75,000.

The support payment is made in the returnee's home country after they return. In most cases, payment is made via IOM but in those countries where IOM is not able to make payment, the money is transferred to the returnee's bank account in their home country after return.

We have found that the number of returnees applying for cash support has increased over the last few years and that returnees to Afghanistan and Iraq account for the vast majority of applications.

In relation to our payment procedures, we have generally found our co-operation with IOM to work well. We have a contract with IOM in terms of which they receive a fee for each support payment which they make. They are obliged in terms of the contract to verify the returnee's identity and entitlement to support before making payment.

In countries where IOM is unable to make payment, we have experienced problems with making transfers to returnee's bank accounts. Returnees have to open a bank account after return and send the account details to the Swedish Migration Agency. We have had difficulties in some cases in securing complete and correct account details. We have also experienced problems with bank transfers to certain countries due to sanctions.

It is perhaps also worth mentioning that no recent studies have been carried out into the effect of the cash support on return rates. One study was carried out in 2010 which looked at this and which concluded that there was no evidence to suggest that the provision of cash re-establishment support increased the number of people who chose to return. Unfortunately the report is only available in Swedish but in case you would like to have a look at it, you can find it here. As I say, however, no recent studies have been carried out in relation to this.

The Swedish Migration Agency does not do any follow-up with returnees after return to find out how the support payments are used, so we are unable to comment on the effect of the cash support on returnee's ability to re-establish themselves after return."

3. Udlændinge- og Integrationsministeriet har fra Migrationsverket i Finland modtaget en række links til hjemmesider med beskrivelser af de finske hjemrejseordninger og lovgivningen på området.

Migrationsverket har henvist til følgende links, der indeholder nærmere oplysninger om de finske hjemrejseordninger, herunder støttebeløbenes størrelse, der differentieres efter hjemland:

- http://migri.fi/sv/aterresa
- http://migri.fi/sv/bidrag-till-olika-lander
- http://finlex.fi/sv/laki/alkup/2017/20170648
- http://finlex.fi/sv/laki/kokoelma/oikaisut/fs20170648 1.pdf
- http://finlex.fi/sv/laki/ajantasa/2011/20110746

Migrationsverket har herudover oplyst, at erfaringen i Finland er, at udlændinge, som udrejser frivilligt, i højere grad vælger kontant støtte fremfor in-kind støtte, uanset at kontant støtte udgør et lavere beløb.

Inger Støjberg

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Frederik Gammeltoft