



Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the European Charter of Local Self-Government (*Monitoring Committee*)

Indicative list of questions¹ for the meeting of the Congress Delegation with the Members of the Parliament

(Tuesday, 3 May 2022)

THEMATIC ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

- Current work programme of the Parliament with respect to local and regional self-government.
- Latest legal and political developments/reforms concerning local and regional democracy in Denmark.
- Mechanisms of consultation with local and regional authorities and their associations on draft legislation that concerns them directly.
- Legal protection of local and regional self-government and access to domestic courts.
- Impact of the COVID-19 sanitary crisis and of the refugee crisis caused by the Russian war against Ukraine (on local and regional levels).

1. What have been the main political developments in terms of local and regional self-government in Denmark recently, since the last Congress monitoring visit in 2013?
2. What is the impact of the COVID-19 health crisis on local and regional self-government in Denmark? What measures have been taken at the central level to assist local and regional authorities in overcoming its consequences?
3. What is the impact of the refugee crisis caused by the Russian war against Ukraine on local and regional self-government in Denmark? What measures have been taken at the central level to assist local and regional authorities in hosting the displaced persons from Ukraine?
4. Are there any other challenges that local and regional authorities have to face at the moment?
5. Do you consider that local and regional self-government is sufficiently guaranteed in Denmark, both in law and in practice?

¹ Replies to these questions may be given to the delegation during the meeting; however, written replies would be much appreciated and may be sent **before 22 May 2022** by mail to the following address: congress.monitoring@coe.int

6. How would you evaluate the financial situation of local and regional authorities? Do local financial resources seem to be adequate and commensurate with the competences that local authorities must fulfil?
7. What is your opinion on the status of local elected representatives in Denmark and the conditions for exercising their mandate, particularly in terms of remuneration and financial compensation?
8. Do you hold regular consultation with local and regional authorities and/or their associations on draft legislation and any other matters that concern them directly? How frequent are such consultations? Is it required by law?
9. To what extent can the positions expressed in the context of consultation procedures with local/regional authorities and/or their associations influence the legislative process? Could you provide examples where legislative proposals have been modified following consultations?
10. Is the European Charter of Local Self-Government sometimes invoked in the Parliament's debates relating to local and regional self-government?
11. What legal remedies are available to local and regional authorities in order to ensure the free exercise of their powers and respect for the principles of local self-government?
12. What other specific points would you like to raise, if any, with regard to local and regional democracy in Denmark?