**COUNTRY: Denmark**

**TOPIC:** Forced Child Marriage, Combating Child Poverty and Social Exclusion

**COMMITTEE:** UNICEF

FORCED CHILD MARRIAGE

Denmark is a country that doesn’t support any kind of activity that would harm children. The country has committed to eliminate child, early and forced marriage by 2030 in line with target 5.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals. The legal age of marriage is 18 in Denmark, while some other countries, such as Tanzania, makes it legal to marry at the age of 12. Denmark signed a joint statement for a resolution on child marriage at the Human Rights Council. The country also passed a bill probihiting people under the age of 18 from getting married. They believe forcing children for this is a way of violence and counts as crime. The underage marriage is illegal in Denmark now. As we can see, the country leaves a mark on different projects that might end child marriage once and for all.

CHILD POVERTY

If we compare Denmark with many other countries, Denmark has low levels of poverty than the other countries. Unfortunately, this has been changing for the past two decades. The researches show that every one in ten children live in poverty. The excact number was 10.900 children according to the Danish poverty indicator (2011). Some people think even if the child poverty is not a problem in Denmark right now, it might turn into a big problem in the long term. It’s a fact that chlidren born into poverty, poor parents are more likely to keep that poverty circle. But in Denmark it’s mainly because of single mothers, who can’t support their family financially and immigrant families. Refugees are mostly Syrians. Denmark has a population of 5.8 million people and 40.000 of them are refugees.

SOCIAL EXCLUSION

**Pernille Skipper** (political spokesperson) once said she believed some people were racist in Denmark. She said there was racism and White people were luckier than black ones. Even though Denmark’s own spokesperson was thinking this way, the country proven otherwise. Many Danish people protested the diffuculty of majority rights. They supported the idea ‘Human Rights For Everyone’. The country also protested everything happened to George Floyd and supported ‘Black Lives Matter’. Over 15.000 people showed how they were against racism and social exclusion.

Sources:

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