



To:
Michael O'Flaherty
Commissioner for Human Rights

Dear Commissioner O'Flaherty

Thank you for your letter of 8th July 2026 and for your attention to the important topic of addressing our common European challenges with irregular migration.

Since 2019, Denmark has been working to gain support to address Europe's challenges with irregular migration through new and innovative solutions.

From the beginning, our work has been complemented by legal assessments on compliance with our obligations under relevant international and Union law. This will also be a core principle guiding our future work, including our efforts to establish return hubs in cooperation with partner countries. As such, it is important for me to stress that the Danish government's engagement in measures such as return hubs will require that they are in full compliance with relevant Union and international law.

The common analysis now shared by a majority of EU Member States is that we need to remove the incentive to migrate irregularly to the EU using the asylum system as a means. Migrants are currently being exploited by an extremely profitable migrant smuggling industry. This situation is not acceptable. We need to be in full control of who can enter our Union and who cannot, and ensure that migration happens in a safe, orderly and regular manner.

I have taken good note of your recommendations as set forth in your letter, and look forward to continuous dialogue and cooperation with you on this matter.

Your sincerely,

Morten Bødskov
Minister for Immigration and Integration

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Ministry of Immigration
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