

FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND

Corruption prevention in respect of members of
parliament, judges and prosecutors

FIFTH INTERIM COMPLIANCE REPORT

DENMARK

Summary

www.coe.int/greco

FOURTH ROUND FIFTH INTERIM COMPLIANCE REPORT - DENMARK

SUMMARY

The publication of Evaluation and Compliance Reports shortly after their adoption is a long-standing practice among GRECO member States. This serves two important purposes: ensuring overall transparency of the GRECO process and facilitating the implementation of recommendations at domestic level by raising awareness of GRECO's findings across society.

The Fourth Round Fifth Interim Compliance Report on Denmark was adopted by GRECO at its 102nd plenary meeting (23-27 March 2026) and the authorities were invited to authorise, as soon as possible, its publication, to translate it into the national language and make the translation public. Since then, confidentiality of the report has not been lifted.

At its 102nd plenary meeting (27 March 2026), GRECO decided that, pursuant to Rule 35, paragraph 2 of the Rules of Procedure, and in the absence of authorisation from the authorities to publish the entire report, a summary of the report be made public within six months from its adoption. Accordingly, this summary is made public on 28 September 2026.

The following are the conclusions from the Fourth Round Fifth Interim Compliance Report on Denmark¹.

16. In light of the foregoing, GRECO concludes that there has been no progress in Denmark's level of implementation of the four recommendations concerning members of parliament contained in the Fourth Round Evaluation Report. Out of six recommendations in total, only two have been implemented satisfactorily (concerning judges and prosecutors, as noted in previous reports), three remain only partly implemented and one not implemented (all pending recommendations in respect of members of parliament).
17. More specifically, recommendations i, iii and iv remain partly implemented and recommendation ii remains not implemented.
18. GRECO deeply regrets that, 12 years after the adoption of the Fourth Round Evaluation Report, none of the recommendations addressed to members of parliament have been fully met. It is essential that a Code of Conduct for members of parliament is issued and coupled with counselling, awareness-raising, and supervision measures. A requirement of ad hoc disclosure for members of parliament when a conflict of interest may emerge should be introduced. The public registration system of occupations and financial interests of MPs needs to be further developed.
19. GRECO further notes that there is little prospect of progress on the outstanding matters referred to above. Denmark has taken no action to implement the four outstanding recommendations since 2020, despite GRECO's high-level mission, which aimed to generate momentum and advance reforms, offering an opportunity to discuss how best to achieve the recommended legislative and policy

¹ GrecoRC4(2026)1.

changes. The Danish Parliament's explicit refusal to pursue implementation of these recommendations is a setback, particularly in light of Denmark's previous commitment and strong performance within GRECO.

20. In view of the situation described above, having resorted to the measures provided for in Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i), (ii) and (iii), GRECO decides to terminate the compliance procedure in respect of Denmark and to cease the application of Rule 32, while noting with deep regret that Denmark is not in sufficient compliance with the recommendations issued under the Fourth Evaluation Round, in particular those concerning members of parliament. While GRECO refrains from issuing a public declaration of non-compliance, a measure provided for in Rule 32, paragraph 2 (iv), GRECO nevertheless makes clear its dissatisfaction with this state of affairs, which is contrary to Denmark's commitment, as a member of GRECO, to effectively prevent corruption.
21. Accordingly, the adoption of this Fifth Interim Compliance Report terminates the Fourth Round compliance procedure with respect to Denmark. The Danish authorities are invited to keep GRECO informed of further developments concerning the implementation of recommendations i-iv, which remains incomplete at the time of the adoption of the present report.
22. Finally, GRECO invites the authorities of Denmark to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report, to translate the report into the national language and to make this translation public.

The adoption of the present summary does not in any way substitute for the publication of the full Fourth Round Fifth Interim Compliance Report Compliance Report. GRECO therefore invites the authorities of Denmark to authorise its publication as soon as possible.