



Mapping the Danish asylum procedure

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In Denmark, an individual who demonstrates a well-founded fear of being persecuted or face a real risk of being subjected to torture is eligible for asylum. The exact legal thresholds pertaining to protection eligibility reflect those established by international conventions, e.g. The 1951 Refugee Convention. Even though Contracting States to the 1951 Refugee Convention base their legal frameworks on the same definition of the refugee, the determination process is organized in different ways in each national context. In Denmark, the first legal instance to determine an applicant's protection eligibility is The Immigration Service (*Udlændingestyrelsen*). A refused protection claim is automatically appealed to the second legal instance, The Refugee Appeals Board (*Flygtningenævnet*).

DATA4ALL's two PhD students, Anna Højberg Høgenhaug and Trine Rask Nielsen, have thoroughly mapped the Danish asylum procedure on the online visual platform, MIRO. This enables a meticulous overview of the trajectory step-by-step. Furthermore, it will allow us to fastidiously compare the Danish asylum procedure with Nordic procedures, i.e. the Norwegian and Swedish, in order to discover similarities and disparities.

Parts of our dataset, in particular data on the overall construction of the asylum procedure, have been obtained directly from the websites of the Immigration Service and the Refugee Appeals Board, www.nyidanmark.dk and www.fln.dk. Our data collection enabled us to thoroughly map the Danish asylum procedure in detail, e.g. modelling the trajectories of the manifestly unfounded procedure, manifestly unfounded urgency procedure, the Dublin procedure and the usual procedure as well as the influence of NGO's pertaining to certain cases (e.g. cases concerning unaccompanied minors).

Moreover, Anna has worked at The Refugee Appeals Board for several years and therefore has an in-depth understanding of internal case processing steps. Thus, our mapping provides both a birds-eye overview of the asylum procedure as well as internal aspects, i.e. when evidentiary material is obtained in the process, i.e. linguistic tests or forensic torture/age/psychological analysis, how the Refugee Appeals Board categorizes cases before they are framed for an oral decision meeting and the amount of participants during a decision meeting.

You can see examples below:



