

Denmark briefing

July/August 2023

July

- [Rasmus Paludan](#), leader of the far-right anti-Islam party *Stram Kurs*, was banned from attending this year's *Folkemøde*, a democracy festival.

The reason, according to the authorities, was that the police saw themselves unable to protect him, but it was later revealed that the American embassy had close correspondence with the Ministry of Justice about the situation.

- [A new study](#) shows that "non-Western" children often assumed to be Muslim are less likely to be diagnosed with dyslexia, and instead teachers assume that their difficulties have to do with the child being bilingual.
- [Confidential documents](#) reveal that the UAE has hired a private Swiss intelligence company, Alp Services, to map the Muslim Brotherhood in Europe.

14 Danish Muslims have been registered and 6 organisations. One person's name was revealed, a Danish imam, who has no ties with the Muslim Brotherhood.

- [The ruling Social Democrats](#) announced that they want to close the "legal loophole" that allows a Muslim man to take multiple wives via Islamic marriages by making the nikah legally binding.
- A majority of the UN Human Rights Council has voted in favor of a new [resolution](#) on religious hatred following several incidents of the burning of the Quran.
- In a [press release](#) June 30th, the Danish government distanced themselves from and condemned the burnings of the holy Quran.

The Danish government stated that they will “explore the possibility of intervening in special situations where, for instance, other countries, cultures, and religions are being insulted, and where this could have significant negative consequences for

Denmark, not least with regard to security”.

[Danish Muslims](#) have criticised the fact that the Danish government wants to ban Quran burnings in front of embassies only, which means that Muslims in Denmark can still face insult and denigration of their religion.

[They](#) also expressed disappointment that a ban was suggested as a result of international pressure instead of as a way to protect Muslims in Denmark.

August

- [The Danish intelligence services \(PET\)](#) announced that Al Qaeda has issued threats against Denmark following the burning of the Quran. The threat remains unchanged at the “serious” level four out of five, but PET has assessed that recent incidents have increased the threat within this level.
- A Muslim-led radio program, [Det Muslimer Taler Om](#) (*The Muslim Conversation*), revealed that a young 11-year-old Muslim girl who attended a French private school in Denmark was expelled from school for wearing the hijab. The school referred to French law of secularism (laïcité).

The father had contacted public authorities 6 months before going public without response. After the case was made public, the [Danish Agency for Education and Quality](#) said that they would look into the case. The 11-year-old girl's family is planning to file a [lawsuit](#) against the school.

- The Danish Supreme Court ruled that [Rasmus Paludan](#) must pay DKK 15,000 in compensation to a Somali woman whose honor he violated during a demonstration.
- A new [megaphone poll](#) shows that most Danes agree with the government that Quran burnings should be banned. 51% are supporters of a ban against 39% who are opposed to a ban.
- [August 25](#), the Danish government announced at a press conference that they will now ban "improper treatment" of important religious objects, for example the Quran, the Bible and the Torah.

The ban is not restricted to embassies only but will also include actions in a public place or with the intention of spreading in a wider circle.

The ban is not restricted to burning, but also, for example, smearing or trampling. If done anyway, the punishment will be with both a fine and imprisonment of up to two years. Satirical drawings and expressions in writing and speech are not covered by this intervention.