Denmark's Permanent Residency Rules



Constant Changes & Uncertain future of Expats;
Undermining the future of Denmark





Danish Green Card Association & Voice for Justice, Unfair PR Rules

- DGCA established: October, 2010.
 - A Frivillig Forening
 - Represent and help integrate Danish Green Card Holders.
- Voice for Justice established: December, 2015
 - A Frivillig Forening
 - Represent and protect the rights and interests of all immigrants.





Agenda

- The overall issue; Constant Changes
- Attracting and Retaining Foreign Professionals
- Consequences for Danish Employers and Economy
- A source of Dis-integration
- Employment and Residence Requirement
- Education counted as full time work
- Possible Amendments

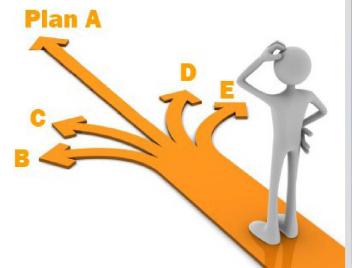




The overall issue; Constant Changes

► 68 times changes in Immigration Laws in last 15 years, Jens Vedsted-Hansen.







In last 3 years there has been 4 changes in Immigrations laws that have directly effected me.





Attracting and Retaining Foreign Professionals

Danish Universities including Copenhagen, Aarhus, DTU and CBS have shown discontent and argued that <u>frequent changes have adverse</u> <u>impact on foreign researchers and students who seems to be losing</u> <u>interests in staying in Denmark.</u>

Aarhus Business and International Community has argued that it is hard to retain international professionals and thus harder to maintain Denmark's reputation as innovative and creative nation in the near future.





Attracting and Retaining Foreign Professionals

• These professionals will seriously be effected if bill L154 is passed. There should be at least some amendments to the bill so that their uncertainty comes to an end.



Molly Durham, USA Pay Limit Scheme



Shagufta Haneef with her Husband, Pakistan, PhD Scholar, Aalborg University





Consequences for Danish Employers and Economy

- Karsten Dybvad, CEO, ID says that 24 billion kr added to Danish Economy by foreign workers between 2010-14.
- Around 60,000 Danes with foreign spouse has suffered & many are thinking of leaving the country after getting education financed by Danish taxpayers (The Invisible Danes).
- ► Kristian Weise, CEO, Cevea says that since 2000, the number of *Danish* nationals in the working age has decreased by 13.3 % which means that Denmark is facing demographic changes and we will be short of labour in near future.





Bill L154; A source of Dis-integration

- Catholic Church; Tightening rules will weaken the integration process.
- ► Plums Funds for Peace; Bill L154 will increase the level of uncertainty, lower the opportunities for family unification, create unsafe conditions in labour market
- Danske Uddannelse 3, 3,5 years full time work, one year voluntarily work, Citizenship Test, 275,000 Kr in last 2 years.
- Jack of all, Master of None.







Employment and Residence Requirement

- When you are required to do or not to do something then your choice to choose is no more. <u>Malala Yousafzai</u>.
- In a bit to fulfil employment, income and residence requirement people accept worse working conditions. Bilal Yousaf, Tahir Mahmood, Asif Sohail









Education counted as full time work

• These families were seriously effected with last year changes in Permanent Residency rules and will be devastated if Bill L154 is passed without amendments.



Dani Feller & family, Family Visa, Israel



John Kibuuka, Family Reunified, Cand.IT (BSc), IT University of Copenhagen, and his wife Signe Hermann, M.Sc., University of Copenhagen





Mario Casas, Establishment Card, Columbia





Possible Amendments

At least Amendments to the Bill L154.

- Bill L154 to be applied on those who come to Denmark for the first time after 15th May 2017 when is the bill effective *not applicable on existing immigrants or introduce a transitional period to apply this new law.*
- Study period again be counted as full time work as before 10th December 2015.





