



# International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

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## Committee on Enforced Disappearances

### List of issues in relation to the report submitted by Denmark under article 29 (1) of the Convention\*

#### I. General information

1. In the light of paragraph 128 of the State Party's common core document,<sup>1</sup> please indicate the steps taken to promote the invocation of the Convention before, and its application by, national courts or other relevant authorities. Please include examples of case law, if any, in which the provisions of the Convention have been invoked.

2. As regards paragraphs 5 and 6 of the State Party's report<sup>2</sup> and paragraph 143 of its common core document, please indicate whether the State Party plans to include in the Constitutional Act of 1953 a specific provision ensuring the absolute prohibition of enforced disappearance. Please also specify the measures taken to ensure that no exceptional circumstances, including the declaration of imminent danger, may be invoked to justify an enforced disappearance; please also specify the rights that may not be derogated in such contexts (arts. 1, 12 and 24).

3. Taking into account the challenges faced by the State Party to provide statistical data due to the lack of an electronic means of compilation,<sup>3</sup> please specify the steps taken to ensure that statistical data on disappearance can be gathered and used to identify potential cases of enforced disappearance in the State Party. Please provide information on the measures taken to guarantee that these data are included in all relevant registers, including in the genetic and forensic databases; that the data are disaggregated by the sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, nationality, ethnic origin, religious affiliation and occupation of the victim; and that the data include:

(a) The number of persons who have been disappeared in the State Party, specifying the date and place of disappearance and the number of those persons who have been located;

(b) The number of persons who may have been subjected to enforced disappearance within the meaning of article 2 of the Convention;

(c) The number of persons who may have been subjected to the acts referred to in article 3 of the Convention;

(d) Data on unaccompanied minors (arts. 1–3, 12, 24 and 25).

\* Adopted by the Committee at its thirtieth session (9–19 March 2026).

<sup>1</sup> [HRI/CORE/DNK/2018](#), para. 128. See also [CAT/C/DNK/CO/6-7/Add.1](#), paras. 5 and 6; and [A/HRC/WG.6/38/DNK/2](#), paras. 20 and 21.

<sup>2</sup> [CED/C/DNK/1](#).

<sup>3</sup> [CAT/C/DNK/CO/8](#), para. 48. See also [CRPD/C/DNK/CO/2-3](#), para. 81; [CRC/C/DNK/CO/5](#), para. 11; [CCPR/C/DNK/CO/6](#); and [CEDAW/C/DNK/CO/9](#).



4. With reference to the Danish Institute for Human Rights, accredited with A status, please provide additional information about:

(a) Actions taken to enhance the Institute’s effectiveness and independence in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and to implement the recommendations made by the Subcommittee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;<sup>4</sup>

(b) Its competence with respect to the prevention and eradication of disappearances, including enforced disappearances, and related issues, specifying activities that may have been carried out in relation to the Convention;

(c) Efforts made to promote awareness of the Convention among the public and national and local authorities, including judges, prosecutors and lawyers, in particular whether the Institute has developed information and training programmes on the specific issue of enforced disappearance;

(d) Steps taken to ensure that the Institute has the necessary financial, technical and human resources to fully perform its functions, including in Greenland.

## **II. Definition and criminalization of enforced disappearance (arts. 1–7)**

5. In the light of the position expressed by the State Party in paragraphs 12 to 22 of its report that the offence of enforced disappearance as defined in article 2 of the Convention can be addressed under several provisions of the current Criminal Code, please indicate:

(a) How the State Party would ensure that the offences of the Criminal Code referred to in paragraphs 13 to 22 of the State Party’s report (sects. 146–148, 150, 151, 155, 156, 215, 237, 244–246 and 261) are interpreted in a way that adequately encompasses all the constitutive elements of enforced disappearances;

(b) Whether these provisions have been applied in relation to enforced disappearances and, if so, what the outcomes of the proceedings have been;

(c) Whether the State Party envisages adopting a specific, autonomous criminal offence of enforced disappearance reflecting all elements of article 2 of the Convention, and, if not, please explain how legal certainty and foreseeability are ensured through the cumulative application of existing provisions (arts. 2, 4 and 6).

6. Regarding paragraph 23 of the State Party’s report, the Committee notes that section 118d (10) of the Criminal Code provides for enforced disappearance as a crime against humanity. Please specify whether the application of this provision has already been envisaged, and under which circumstances it would be applied. Please also specify:

(a) How the authorities ensure that section 118d (10), which does not include the notion of “acquiescence” but refers to acts carried out on behalf of, or with the consent, support or authorization of, the State, is in full compliance with article 2 of the Convention. Please also clarify whether situations of deliberate omission, tolerance or failure to investigate by State authorities may fall within the scope of section 118d (10);

(b) The understanding and interpretation of the words “in order to deprive that person of the protection of the law”, included in section 118d (10) (arts. 2, 4 and 5).

7. In relation to paragraphs 13 to 22 of the State Party’s report and the offences laid out in the Criminal Code (sects. 146–148, 150, 151, 155, 156, 215, 237, 244–246 and 261), please explain how the State Party would ensure that the punishments applied in cases of enforced disappearance are commensurate with the seriousness of the offence of enforced disappearance, particularly in view of section 261 (1) of the Criminal Code. Please also

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<sup>4</sup> Report and recommendations of the session of the Subcommittee on Accreditation (1–3 and 14–18 October 2024), pp. 24–26.

specify the minimum penalties envisaged and the actions adopted to ensure appropriate penalties that take into account the extreme seriousness of the offence of enforced disappearance (art. 7).

8. In the light of paragraphs 14 to 21 of the State Party's report, please specify whether the Criminal Code provides for the criminal responsibility of superiors in accordance with article 6 (1) (b) of the Convention (art. 6).

9. With regard to paragraphs 25 and 26 of the State Party's report and in the light of sections 21 (attempts) and 23 (participation) of the Criminal Code, please further explain how the legislation ensures that any person who commits, orders, solicits or induces the commission of, attempts to commit, is an accomplice to or participates in an enforced disappearance can be held criminally responsible (arts. 2, 4 and 6).

10. In relation to paragraph 27 of the State Party's report, the Committee notes that "it is generally assumed that orders and commands do not normally" exempt a person from criminal liability. Please indicate whether the notion of due obedience as a criminal law defence has any impact on the implementation of the prohibition of invoking an order or instruction from a public authority to justify an offence of enforced disappearance. In this context, and in the light of paragraph 26 of the State Party's report, please describe the conditions under which a subordinate might be exempted from punishment "because of a mistake or for other reasons" under section 151 of the Criminal Code (art. 6).

11. With respect to paragraph 27 of the State Party's report, please indicate whether, in national legislation, it is guaranteed that persons who refuse to obey orders or instructions that prescribe, authorize or encourage enforced disappearance will not be punished, and provide information on any remedies available to subordinates against any potential disciplinary measures resulting from their refusal to carry out a criminal act ordered by a superior (arts. 6 and 23).

12. With reference to paragraphs 28 and 30 of the State Party's report, the Committee takes note that sections 261 (2), 146, 155 and 156 of the Criminal Code establish aggravating circumstances applicable for specific offences, while section 81 provides the general regime governing aggravating circumstances. Please explain the measures taken to guarantee the full compliance of these dispositions with the aggravating circumstances provided for under article 7 (2) of the Convention (arts. 2, 4 and 7).

### **III. Judicial procedure and cooperation in relation to enforced disappearance (arts. 8–15)**

13. As regards paragraphs 31 to 34 of the State Party's report, the Committee notes that, under section 93 of the Criminal Code, the right to bring charges becomes time-barred if charges have not been brought within 2, 5 and 10 years, where the most severe punishment is 1, 4 or 10 years, respectively. Please clarify how this limitation is proportionate to the extreme gravity of enforced disappearance and how it takes into account the continuous nature of the offence. Please clarify the moment from which the time for the application of the statute of limitations applies to crimes that can currently be invoked under national legislation to deal with acts enumerated in article 2 of the Convention. Please also describe the measures taken to ensure that, when an autonomous offence of enforced disappearance is included in national legislation, superior responsibility will apply to the crime (art. 8).

14. Please provide information on the measures taken to guarantee the right of victims of enforced disappearance to an effective remedy during the term of limitation. Please also describe the remedies available to complainants in situations in which the competent authorities appear to refuse to search for a disappeared person and to investigate the related allegations, and please clarify whether, under the Administration of Justice Act, the office of the public prosecutor can choose not to prosecute an act of enforced disappearance, even if there is enough evidence to commence criminal proceedings<sup>5</sup> (arts. 8–10, 12 and 24).

<sup>5</sup> [HRI/CORE/DNK/2018](#), para. 139.

15. Regarding paragraphs 35 to 38 of the State Party's report, please:

(a) Clarify whether, considering the condition of dual criminality contained in the Criminal Code, national courts are competent to exercise jurisdiction over cases of enforced disappearance if the country in which the enforced disappearance was allegedly perpetrated does not specifically criminalize enforced disappearance;

(b) Indicate whether the State Party plans to include in sections 7 (2) (a) and 7a (2) of the Criminal Code, which describe the types of acts committed outside Danish territory that may fall under Danish jurisdiction regardless of whether the act is criminalized in the country where it was committed, acts involving enforced disappearance;

(c) In the light of the condition contained in the Criminal Code regarding foreign nationals having an abode or similar habitual residence within Denmark, specify whether national courts are competent to exercise jurisdiction over cases of enforced disappearance if they involve foreign nationals without an abode or similar habitual residence within Denmark who are not extradited. In the light of paragraphs 40 and 49 of the State Party's report, please describe the procedures in place to ensure the presence of alleged offenders before the competent authorities and the legal, administrative and judicial measures for carrying out a preliminary inquiry or investigation to establish the facts should the State Party take the measures referred to in article 10 (1) of the Convention. If available, please provide examples of such application (arts. 9 and 10).

16. Please clarify the legal framework enabling the national courts to exercise universal jurisdiction over the offence of enforced disappearance, including section 8 of the Criminal Code. Please indicate whether the competent national courts have ever applied the principle of universal jurisdiction in cases related to enforced disappearance and, if so, what the outcome of the proceedings was. Please also specify the measures taken to ensure that cases of enforced disappearance may be investigated and tried only by the competent civilian authorities and remain expressly outside the jurisdiction of the military courts (art. 11).

17. Please describe how the State Party ensures that persons suspected of having committed an enforced disappearance are not in a position to influence the progress of an investigation, in particular:

(a) Whether domestic law provides for suspension from duties, from the outset and for the duration of an investigation, when the alleged offender is a State official;

(b) The mechanisms in place to ensure that law enforcement officers, security forces or any other public officials do not participate in the investigation of an enforced disappearance when one or more of the officials are suspected of being involved in the commission of the offence (art. 12 (4)).

18. The Committee takes note of the information provided in paragraphs 22 and 140 of the State Party's report that an offence of enforced disappearance may be punishable under the Military Penal Code when committed by military personnel, and that relevant rules on deprivation of liberty, the prohibition of enforced disappearance, and the duty to act and report are set out in the military manual on international law applicable to the Danish Armed Forces in international operations. In view thereof, please specify:

(a) The legal provision of the Military Penal Code that expressly prohibits the offence of enforced disappearance and the applicable limitation period;

(b) The legal safeguards in place to ensure that military authorities are not permitted to investigate or prosecute cases of enforced disappearance, including the mechanisms available to receive and investigate allegations involving military personnel, and how the State Party ensures the independence and impartiality of such processes;

(c) The mechanisms that ensure that any deprivation of liberty carried out by the Danish Armed Forces, including during international operations, is promptly registered, that family members, legal representatives and relevant oversight bodies are notified and that detainees have access to all procedural safeguards set out in the Convention.

19. Please describe the measures taken to prevent and combat corruption in the treatment of any case related to enforced disappearance, and the outcomes (arts. 11 and 12).

20. With regard to paragraphs 54 to 57 of the State Party's report, the Committee notes that the Extradition Act differentiates between extradition requests to or from the Nordic countries, to or from European Union countries and to or from all other countries. In this context, please specify:

(a) Whether enforced disappearance has been included in extradition agreements, in particular under chapter 3 (extradition to Nordic countries) and chapter 4 (extradition to European Union member States) of the Extradition Act, and, if not, whether the offences justifying the request for extradition address all acts of enforced disappearances as defined in article 2 of the Convention;

(b) The criteria applied to verify that extradition requests are made only for criminal offences and not for a political offence, an offence connected with a political offence or a politically motivated offence;

(c) Any extradition agreements with other States Parties that may have been concluded since the submission of the State Party's report to the Committee, including whether enforced disappearance is included in such agreements and the applicable time frames and protocols;

(d) Whether the State Party has made or received any requests for international cooperation in respect of cases of enforced disappearance since the submission of its report to the Committee, and if so, please report on the measures taken;

(e) Whether there has been any extraditions related to cases of enforced disappearance that may have occurred since the submission of the State Party's report (arts. 9, 13–15 and 25).

21. With regard to paragraphs 60 to 63 of the State Party's report, please indicate whether any restrictions or conditions apply to requests for mutual legal assistance or cooperation. Please also describe the measures taken by the State Party to ensure mutual assistance is granted to the authorities of requesting States, with a view to facilitating the sharing of information and evidence, searching for and identifying disappeared persons and assisting the victims (arts. 13–15 and 25 (3)).

#### **IV. Measures to prevent enforced disappearances (arts. 16–23)**

22. With reference to paragraphs 64 to 68 of the State Party's report, and to section 31 (1) of the Aliens Act, please indicate:

(a) Whether the State Party envisages adopting an explicit legal provision prohibiting the expulsion, return, surrender or extradition of any person where there are substantial grounds to believe that he or she would be in danger of being subjected to enforced disappearance, similar to section 31 of the Aliens Act, which explicitly prohibits refoulement where there is a risk of the person being subjected to the death penalty or torture;

(b) The procedures, mechanisms and criteria applied to evaluate and verify the risk that a person subject to expulsion, return, surrender or extradition to another State may be subjected to enforced disappearance;

(c) Measures taken to enable access to effective means of legal entry for asylum-seekers that protect against non-refoulement and collective expulsion, including through fair and efficient refugee status determination procedures and non-refoulement determinations;

(d) How the State Party assesses, in individual cases, whether the cumulative impact of residence obligations, daily reporting requirements, and living conditions at the Kærshovedgård return centre may amount to indirect refoulement, particularly in cases where individuals are reported as missing, and what safeguards exist to prevent exposure to a risk of enforced disappearance upon departure;

(e) Measures taken to ensure that the prohibition on carrying out an expulsion, return, surrender or extradition in cases where there are substantial grounds for believing that the person would be in danger of being subjected to enforced disappearance is implemented

in practice. In particular, please indicate whether the State Party accepts diplomatic assurances when there are substantial grounds for believing that the person concerned would be in danger of being subjected to enforced disappearance;

(f) The procedures available to appeal a decision authorizing an expulsion, return, surrender or extradition, specifying before which authority they can be presented and whether they have suspensive effect, including in cases of fast-track border procedures that result in negative asylum decisions (arts. 13 and 16).

23. In the light of the Committee's general comment No. 1 (2023) on enforced disappearance in the context of migration:

(a) Please provide information on the measures taken by the State Party to avoid practices that may contribute to enforced disappearances, such as unregistered detention, trafficking in persons, pushbacks, group expulsions and forced relocation of refugees and asylum-seekers;

(b) Please clarify whether disappearances occurring in the context of migration, including cases involving persons on tolerated stay and unaccompanied and separated children reported as missing, are systematically recorded and assessed to determine whether they may fall within the scope of articles 2 or 3 of the Convention;

(c) Please indicate the number of complaints that have been lodged concerning cases of disappearance that occurred in the context of migration, including migration of refugees and asylum-seekers;

(d) Please describe the measures taken in these cases to search for the disappeared persons, investigate their disappearance, bring the perpetrators to justice, provide the victims with appropriate protection and reparation and prevent such disappearances. In particular, please report on the measures taken to prevent the disappearance of unaccompanied migrant children, including from migrant detention centres (arts. 1–3, 12, 16, 24 and 25).

24. With regard to paragraphs 80 to 104 and 106 to 111 of the State Party's report, and in the light of information indicating that persons deprived of their liberty are not always provided with sufficient legal safeguards from the outset of their detention,<sup>6</sup> that there has been an increase in the total duration of pretrial detention in recent years, that restrictive regimes have been imposed on detainees that, in some cases, amount to de facto solitary confinement<sup>7</sup> and that only a small percentage of the visits carried out to all places of detention are unannounced,<sup>8</sup> please provide further information on:

(a) The measures taken to guarantee that, from the outset of the deprivation of liberty, all persons deprived of liberty, including migrants, regardless of the offence of which they are accused, have access to counsel, can contact their relatives or any other person of their choice and, in the case of foreign nationals, can communicate with their consular authorities;

(b) Any restrictions that can be applied to the above-mentioned rights, in particular with reference to sections 773 and 775 of the Administration of Justice Act, and describe any complaints regarding a failure to observe those rights and the outcomes thereof. In the light of section 772 (1) of the same Act, please clarify the meaning given to the notion of "very particular circumstances"<sup>9</sup> under which the police may deny a foreign remand prisoner access to unchecked correspondence with the diplomatic or consular representatives of his or her country of origin;

(c) How access by the authorities and institutions authorized to visit places in which persons are deprived of liberty, including the Danish Parliamentary Ombudsman as the national preventive mechanism, is granted access in practice, including for visits that are unannounced (art. 17).

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<sup>6</sup> CAT/C/DNK/CO/8, para. 12.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., para. 18.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., para. 10.

<sup>9</sup> CED/C/DNK/1, para. 88.

25. In the light of the information received regarding the adoption of the agreement on defence cooperation between Denmark and the United States of America on 11 June 2025, under which United States forces may detain personnel within United States-controlled areas on Danish territory (art. 13), please clarify whether Denmark retains effective jurisdiction to ensure compliance with articles 17 and 18 of the Convention in areas under the control of the United States, including the obligation to ensure prompt registration of any deprivation of liberty, access by relatives and legal representatives to information and access by the Parliamentary Ombudsman acting as the national preventive mechanism (art. 17).

26. The Committee takes note of the systems used by the Prison and Probation Service for the records of inmates (Klientsystemet) and of patients (Sundhedssystemet), and also takes note of the police database (the criminal register). Please indicate whether any complaints have been lodged concerning failure to record, or delays in recording, a deprivation of liberty, or the recording of inaccurate information and, if so, the measures taken to ensure that such omissions and errors are not repeated, including any disciplinary proceedings, sanctions and training involving the personnel concerned. Please also specify the access rights to the information contained in detainee registries and the procedures required for such access (arts. 17 and 21–23).

27. Please explain how the State Party guarantees the right of any person in custody to notify and communicate with the consular authorities of the State of which he or she is a national, and specify the cases in which this right can be denied (art. 17).

28. Please describe the procedures to be followed to guarantee that any person with a legitimate interest has access to at least the information listed in article 18 (1) of the Convention. Please indicate the restrictions and conditions that may be imposed on such access, the means available for appealing against the refusal to disclose such information, and the measures in place to prevent the delay and obstruction of such appeals and to impose sanctions for delays or obstruction (arts. 18, 20 and 22).

29. In the light of information received by the Committee indicating that most victims of trafficking in the State Party identified between 2020 and 2024 were foreign women and that undocumented migrants, asylum-seekers, refugees, women engaged in prostitution, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, in particular transgender women, and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children face heightened risks of trafficking and disappearance, and given concerns regarding insufficient early detection, obstacles in accessing specialized legal aid, the low numbers of convictions and the increasing use of technology to facilitate exploitation, please provide information on:

(a) Measures taken to identify and protect persons who may be at risk of trafficking-related disappearance, including undocumented migrants, asylum-seekers, refugees, unaccompanied children, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and individuals staying irregularly in Denmark as a consequence of trafficking, and on how the State Party prevents indirect refoulement in such cases;

(b) Steps adopted to prevent and investigate the disappearance of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children from reception facilities and to ensure that they are provided a safe, protective environment while their applications are processed. In this context, please provide more information on the measures taken to address the issue that unaccompanied children, particularly boys from Morocco, are reportedly trafficked by criminal networks for involvement in criminal activities and that disappearances from the children's centre at the Sandholm reception centre remain unsolved. Please also provide statistical data on the number of unaccompanied children reported missing from reception facilities in the past five years and indicate how many of those cases remain unresolved;

(c) Efforts to strengthen early detection of victims and to investigate the root causes of the above-mentioned disappearances, including potential trafficking-related factors;

(d) Measures taken to enhance proactive investigations and prosecutions of trafficking cases, including trafficking for labour exploitation, that may involve risks of enforced disappearance (arts. 1–3, 12 and 16).

30. While taking note of the information provided by the State Party in paragraphs 129 to 144 of its report, the Committee requests clarification as to whether the State Party provides,

or envisages providing, regular and compulsory training on the Convention aimed especially at those employed in law enforcement, the defence forces, the judiciary, social services and the health sector. Please indicate the content and frequency of such training (art. 23).

## V. Measures to protect and ensure the rights of victims of enforced disappearance (art. 24)

31. Concerning paragraphs 145 to 148 of the State Party's report, the Committee takes note of provisions in the Administration of Justice Act, Executive Order No. 1108 of 21 September 2007 and circular No. 9522 of 1 July 2024 requiring that victims of a crime be informed and provided with guidance regarding the process and investigation of the case. In this context, please specify:

(a) To what extent the definition of the victim's close relatives, under section 741e of the Administration of Justice Act and section 2 (1) of Executive Order No. 1108 of 21 September 2007 comply with article 24 (1) of the Convention, and please clarify whether, as seems to be indicated,<sup>10</sup> the recognition of relatives as victims is possible only upon the confirmation of the death of the disappeared person;

(b) Whether national legislation provides explicitly for the rights of victims of enforced disappearance to the truth. Please also specify the measures taken to guarantee this right with regard to the circumstances of the enforced disappearance, the progress and results of the investigation and the fate of the disappeared person, and to provide a contact person within the police;

(c) The measures taken to assist victims, including free medical and psychological support and access to specialized legal aid and free legal assistance, beyond the distribution of the leaflet prepared by the Director of Public Prosecutions and the National Police, and how the specific needs of victims of enforced disappearance are addressed;

(d) Whether victims of the offence of enforced disappearance are entitled to a support lawyer;<sup>11</sup>

(e) The measures taken to promote the participation of the relatives of disappeared persons, their representatives and other persons with a legitimate interest in the search and investigation processes (art. 24).

32. Concerning paragraphs 150 to 152 of the State Party's report, the Committee takes note of the act on State compensation for victims of crime, which provides a statutory framework for awarding compensation to victims in criminal cases, and acknowledges the complementary role of the tort liability act in ensuring that victims have the right to obtain reparation. In this connection:

(a) Please specify to what extent the definition of "victim" under the act on State compensation for victims of crime and of "injured party" in tort law complies with article 24 (1) of the Convention;

(b) Please describe how a victim of an enforced disappearance that was committed as an autonomous crime can be guaranteed the right to reparation and compensation where the absence of a law specifically criminalizing enforced disappearance results in such conduct falling under several criminal offences;

(c) Please indicate the forms of reparation and compensation provided for in national legislation for victims of enforced disappearance within the meaning of article 2 of the Convention, indicating whether they include all forms of reparation listed in article 24 (5) of the Convention, including guarantees of non-repetition;

(d) Please describe the conditions under which compensation for personal injury caused by violations of provisions in the Criminal Code is granted, including the applicable

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid., paras. 145 and 146.

<sup>11</sup> [HRI/CORE/DNK/2018](#), para. 166.

time limits, and clarify whether, as the act on State compensation for victims of crime seems to require, compensation is conditional on a criminal conviction<sup>12</sup> (art. 24);

(e) Taking into account that the act on State compensation for victims of crime seems to condition eligibility for compensation on the offences being committed within Danish territory, please specify whether a victim of an enforced disappearance is entitled to obtain reparation from the State Party when the disappearance or the resulting harm originated in another State.

33. Please describe the procedures in place to issue a declaration of absence or death of a disappeared person and the impact such declarations have on the State Party's obligation to continue the search and investigation into an enforced disappearance until the fate of the disappeared person has been clarified (art. 24).

34. With regard to paragraphs 153 to 155 of the State Party's report, please specify whether the State Party envisages regulating the legal situation of disappeared persons whose fate has not been clarified, and that of their relatives, in areas such as welfare, financial matters, family law and property rights, and ensuring the application of a gender perspective in such contexts (art. 24).

## **VI. Measures to protect children against enforced disappearance (art. 25)**

35. Regarding paragraphs 159 to 168 of the State Party's report, the Committee takes note of the State Party's accession to the Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children, as well as the children's act and the adoption act, which provide protection for children and regulate the adoption process. In this context, and taking note of recent reports concerning possible unlawful international adoptions and challenges faced by adoptees in tracing their origins, please inform the Committee as to:

(a) Whether domestic law specifically criminalizes the conduct described in article 25 (1) of the Convention and, if not, whether the State Party intends to adopt legislation to that effect;

(b) Whether any complaints concerning the enforced disappearance or wrongful removal of children have been lodged since the entry into force of the Convention;

(c) What measures are taken to locate the children concerned, the results of those measures, the procedures for returning the children to their families of origin and the actions taken to prosecute and punish the perpetrators of such acts and to provide reparations to the victims;

(d) How the State Party ensures that instances of unlawful international adoption and related human rights violations are identified, and what mechanisms are in place to assist adoptees, particularly those affected by past adoption practices, in tracing and identifying their families of origin;

(e) What measures of mutual assistance have been established in connection with proceedings brought in respect of unlawful international adoptions to ensure cooperation with the States of origin.

36. In view of the Committee's joint statement on illegal intercountry adoption, please describe how the system of adoption or other forms of placement of children in the State Party address the elements of the statement, and outline any new legal or other measures taken by the State Party to ensure the protection of children against enforced disappearance in such a context (arts. 14, 15 and 25).

<sup>12</sup> See also [HRI/CORE/DNK/2018](#), para. 50.