

Info on voluntary return

This brochure provides basic recommendations before you have an interview with the Danish authorities or sign any papers.

The issues of financial support or identification as a trafficked person are not up to HopeNow. It is the decision of the Danish authorities.

You will be offered financial support only if you accept and sign a voluntary return. How the financial support will be used depends on your/the applicant's situation and the conditions in the country of return. You must clearly communicate what you want to do with the money and participate actively with your contact person from the Center Against Human Trafficking.

It is only the Danish Authorities which will provide you with financial and administrative support for the voluntary return and reintegration in your country of origin.

You are advised to write down your goals for the financial support (email or a handwritten letter). HopeNow can help write down your wants and wishes if you contact our caseworker:

MICHELE MILDWATER,
Director of HopeNow
Peter Bangs Vej 18, 4 sal
Frederiksberg

michelle@hopenow.dk

+ 45 2616 1012

BEFORE your official interview with the Danish authorities

★ Draw a timeline of problematic events

Draw a timeline of your problems before you are scheduled for an interview with your contact person from the Center Against Trafficking. Write down all important events on it, and note details about alias names, places, and dates.

HopeNow can help you write down your timeline. We are not part of the Danish government and are not allowed to say or act on anything you have not permitted to.

★ Focus on the journey and stay in Denmark

Write down your story of abuse and hardships and explain your **journey from your country to Europe and Denmark.** You don't have to provide the names of people who have abused you if you wish not to for safety reasons. We can help so that all relevant information and details about your journey and hardships in Denmark are included in the timeline.

★ Do not change details during the interview

It's important that your written timeline includes every detail and that **you do not change your story** or important details along the way. Write in English if you are a fluent speaker. **HopeNow can also help you write down your story on paper.** We are only allowed to write down what you want written down.

The Danish authorities have the final say on financial support, - not HopeNow.

You will receive financial support only if you agree to and sign a voluntary return. To determine the best way to meet your needs and desires, you must actively engage with your contact at the Center Against Human Trafficking regarding the design of financial support for your voluntary return and reintegration.

The Danish Authorities are the providers of financial and administrative assistance for your voluntary return and reintegration into your home country.

HOPENOW
Empowering Trafficked People



HopeNow's
recommendations
before an
interview with the
Danish authorities

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During your scheduled Interview with the Danish authorities

★ Tell the whole truth

This is your prime opportunity to share your timeline and truth. Engage actively and provide complete details of your hardships from your written timeline. It's advisable to trust the contact person from CMM. **If you wish, HopeNow can be present during this interview to support you.**

★ Ask for an interpreter at the meeting

When meeting with a CMM representative and struggling to understand their English, it is important to always request the presence of an English or dialect interpreter.

★ Ask for a cultural mediator at the meeting

Always ask in advance for a cultural mediator the final interview meeting. HopeNow can help with cultural interpretation and mediation. **We have had 15+ years of experience of cultural mediation from African countries.**

★ Always have a written complaint

If your interpreter is unable to speak your specific language flawlessly or if you struggle to understand the English spoken by the contact person from Danish authorities, you are allowed to give a verbal and written complaint. **Rest assured, HopeNow can assist you by documenting and transmitting an official email to the relevant authorities.**

★ Check for translation errors in your papers

Before signing any documents, make sure to check for translation errors and misunderstandings in your official papers. For assistance in reviewing your legal papers, you can reach out to HopeNow.

★ Record your interview

Ask the contact person from CMM if you are allowed to make an audio recording of the interviews on a smartphone.

★ Ask for a gender appropriate interpreter

Ask for female/male interviewers well in advance if it is relevant because of your sexual orientation or preference.

During your scheduled Interview with the Danish authorities

★ Does your child have a parent with papers ?

Talk about your children if they are born in Denmark/Europe and have a **parent with a European residency paper**. Talk about the possibility to reunited with this parent.

★ Be precise with your answers

Answer all questions as accurately as possible at the Interview. If you'd like to add something more after the Interview, you should have it written down and officially emailed to your contact person in CMM. **HopeNow can help you with that.**

★ You are allowed to change your mind

When signing the cooperation contract for voluntary return, please read it carefully. If you ever change your mind in the future, you have the **right to change your mind**. **Your circumstances and feelings may change, and we respect your need to reconsider.**

★ Do you suffer from health problems?

You must tell your health problems immediately to your contact person from CMM and get treatment as soon as possible

★ Get legal help with your criminal charges

We understand the importance of having legal representation at the Danish Courts. We can offer you recommendations for specialized lawyers who have expertise in cases similar to yours, you are more than welcome to reach out to us. For over 15+ years, HopeNow has been providing our clients with trusted recommendations for specialized lawyers.

Our Services

✔ SUPPORT FOR HEALTH NEEDS

HopeNow can provide means for communal cooking and eating, trauma counselling, food packs, medicine, arrange luggage, medical tests, over-the-counter medication, clothes, top-ups of their travel cards, hospital visits or referrals to other actors.

✔ COUNSELLING AND 24/7 HOTLINE SUPPORT

We have a 24/7 hotline providing counselling, supportive/therapeutic/legal guidance, and information on state services. We have managed to step in in emergencies and help desperate people who need acute help.

✔ PRISON VISITS, ONLINE AND TELEPHONE COUNSELLING

We also provide ongoing contact with trafficked people and alleged victims in prison, e.g. supportive and therapeutic counselling. This also applies to long-term imprisonment.

✔ COOPERATION WITH PARTNERS

We aim to provide comprehensive support to undocumented migrants. In addition to our services, we cooperate with specialized lawyers and NGO's Reden International, Ami Ami and the Red Cross. We also cooperate with Center Mod Menneskehandel (a government organisation that coordinates efforts to combat human trafficking).

24/7 HOTLINE

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