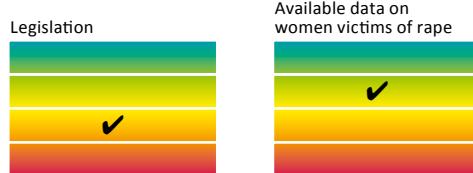


## NATIONAL ANALYSIS

# Denmark



### Legislation

The Danish Penal Code has some elements complying with the Istanbul convention but presents some differences and elements to improve:

Point a: In the Danish penal code (§ 216) the word "intercourse" is used as the basic term for sexual penetration, whereas the convention has a more specific description: "vaginal, anal or oral penetration of a sexual nature of the body of another person with any bodily part or object".

In relation to point b "*engaging in other non-consensual acts of a sexual nature with a person*", the Danish penal code is compliant(§ 225), stating that the law can be applied in cases of other forms of sexual act (meaning other than intercourse).

The Danish penal code does not include point c: "*causing another person to engage in non-consensual acts of a sexual nature with a third person*". Danish law only refers to the involvement of a third person in a sexual act in relation to pimping (§ 228, § 229)

The Danish penal code also specifies that it is a criminal act to force sexual intercourse on a person who is disabled, mentally ill or unable to prevent the intercourse (§ 218) and that rape can also take place in cases where victim and perpetrator are of the same sex (§ 225)

Expert  
Mette Holm Volsing

Generally speaking the Danish penal code is very old and the Government is planning a revision. The issue of consent in place of force or threat should be integrated more clearly.

### Available data on women victims of rape

Regarding official statistics on rape, Statistics Denmark regularly provides figures on criminal offences: [www.statbank.dk/statbank5a/default.asp?w=1280](http://www.statbank.dk/statbank5a/default.asp?w=1280)

The website is in English. Under living conditions/criminal offences it is possible to get data on reported sexual offences, convictions, etc., not disaggregated by gender.

The national statistics for reported crimes do not include the relationship between the victim and the criminal but give sexually disaggregated data on victims. In 2012, there were 381 cases of rape reported in Denmark (373 women and 8 men).  
<http://dst.dk/en/Statistik/emner/kriminalitet/ofre-for-anmeldte-forbrydelser.aspx>

There are five regional health centres for victims of rape and sexual assaults and they make yearly reports, though these are not nationally coordinated. These include cases (both reported to police and not reported) under the following three categories:

- Rape by partner or former partner
- "Contact rape" – where the victim and criminal had contact before the rape. It could be a friend, neighbour, college, client or somebody the victim met at a bar/restaurant or on the internet.
- Rape by an unknown person

National reports based on these data are not made regularly.

Here is the link to the latest report from The Centre for Victims of Sexual Assault in Copenhagen (only available in Danish):

[www.rigshospitalet.dk/menu/AFDE-LINGER/Enheder+paa+tvaers/Center+for+Seksuelle+Overgreb/Unge/%C3%85rsrapport.htm](http://www.rigshospitalet.dk/menu/AFDE-LINGER/Enheder+paa+tvaers/Center+for+Seksuelle+Overgreb/Unge/%C3%85rsrapport.htm)

According to the report, the Copenhagen centre had 283 cases in 2011 – 276 women and 7 men.

The Crime Prevention Council in Denmark collates statistics based on data from the rape centres and police. They estimate that:

- 2,000 rapes are committed in Denmark every year.
- 500 cases are reported to the police.
- In 300 cases charges are brought.
- In 150 cases there is a conviction.

### Useful Contact

#### Centre for victims of rape:

Center for Seksuelle Overgreb  
Rigshospitalet  
Blegdamsvej 9  
2100 Copenhagen Ø  
Denmark  
Email: cso@rh.regionh.dk  
Phone: +45 35453984 or +45 35454085  
[www.rigshospitalet.dk/menu/AFDE-LINGER/Enheder+paa+tvaers/Center+for+Seksuelle+Overgreb](http://www.rigshospitalet.dk/menu/AFDE-LINGER/Enheder+paa+tvaers/Center+for+Seksuelle+Overgreb)

