

# **Greenland**

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## **Disability policy and current activities**

# Disability policy and current activities

- Background on Greenland
- Social services and disability
- Disability policy and practices
- Civil society in Greenland

# Geography

Population: 57.000

Size: 2,2 mill km2



# Historical background

90% of the population is Inuit  
Greenlandic is the national language

Danish colony from 1721 – 1953

Danish county from 1953-1979

Home rule from 1979-2009

Self-governed part of the danish realm 2009





# Social services and disability

In 2012 the Parliament of Greenland ratified the conventions on the rights of people with disability.

The social security system is to a large extent a copy of the Danish welfare state and it is challenging to implement it.

The municipalities in Greenland have the responsibility for social services.

People with disability were and still are sent to Denmark.

# Disability policy and practices

## 2020: New law regarding disability services

Refers directly to the convention and its definition of disability

Establishing rights for the individual

- the municipality **shall** not **can** provide support



# Disability policy and practices

## 2020: New law regarding disability services

Implementation of the rights in the law is still lacking due to

- Inadequate amount of educated staff
- Not enough focus on national and regional level

# Disability policy and practices

## Developments in 2022

**Spring:** Statement on the Greenlandic compliance with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

**Autumn:** National action plan for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities





# The civil society





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