

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

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Rusland - Bortførelser i Dagestan

Dokumentations- og Projektkontoret modtog henvendelse fra Asylkontoret pr. mail den 19. januar 2010.

På baggrund af asylsamtaler med et tjetjensk ægtepar, som har boet hele deres liv i Dagestan i byen Khasavyurt, ønsker asylsagsbehandleren en række spørgsmål vedr. Dagestan nærmere belyst.

Besvarelsen er udarbejdet efter kilder, som er tilgængelige for offentligheden og i den aktuelle situation tilgængeligt for Dokumentations og Projektkontoret. I besvarelsen bliver der ikke taget stilling til den videre sagsbehandling i de pågældende asylsager.

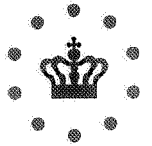
Baggrund:

Dagestan er en autonom russisk republik med et areal på ca. 50.300 km² og en befolkning på ca. 2.500.000, hvoraf langt størstedelen er muslimer. Dagestan er hjemsted for adskillige etniske grupper og der tales mere end 30 sprog i republikken. Et tjetjensk mindretal har i mange år beboet området i det vestlige Dagestan nær grænsen til Tjetjenien.



1. Finder der bortførelser sted i Dagestan med henblik på organudtagelse?

En lang række kilder og databaser er undersøgt i forbindelse med dette spørgsmål, herunder www.e-coi.net, www.refworld.org samt helt brede søgninger på internettet. Ingen kilder nævner eksempler på bortførelser med henblik på organudtagelse i Dagestan.



Adskillige kilder beskriver dog, at bortførelser og forsvindinger finder sted i Dagestan, såvel som i det øvrige nordlige Kaukasus. Der er eksempler på, at disse bortførelser udføres af såvel kriminelle bander som sikkerhedsstyrker. Kilderne nævner eksempler på, at motiverne både kan være politiske og med henblik på opkrævning af en løsesum.

US Department of State nævner flere eksempler på dette, i deres seneste rapport om Rusland fra februar 2009:

"In Chechnya, Ingushetiya, and Dagestan, security forces were allegedly involved in unlawful killings and politically motivated abductions. While disappearances declined overall, extrajudicial killings increased in Ingushetiya."

"During the year there were reports of disappearances throughout the North Caucasus in connection with the conflicts in Chechnya, Ingushetiya, and Dagestan. Some disappearances were alleged to be politically motivated and to have involved federal or local governments."

"During the year at least 50 kidnappings reportedly took place in the North Caucasus region. The Caucasian Knot reported 15 kidnappings in Chechnya, 24 disappearances in Ingushetiya, and 11 disappearances in Dagestan. In 2007 the overall number of disappearances in the North Caucasus was 75. In most cases government forces involved in disappearances acted with impunity. Criminal groups in the region, possibly with links to rebel forces, frequently resorted to kidnapping."

"During the year there were reports of federal and local government involvement in disappearances in Chechnya, Dagestan, and Ingushetiya. The number of disappearances declined in Chechnya and Ingushetiya but remained the same in Dagestan. There were continued reports of abductions followed by beatings or torture to extract confessions, abductions for political reasons, and kidnappings for ransom by criminals. Security forces alleged to be involved in these disappearances acted with impunity."

"Criminal groups in the Northern Caucasus, possibly having links to rebel forces, frequently resorted to kidnapping. The main motivation behind such cases apparently was ransom, although some cases had political or religious overtones. The hostage-takers held many of their victims in Chechnya or Dagestan."

Kilde: 2008 Human Rights Report: Russia, US Department of State, 25. Februar 2009. <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/eur/119101.htm>

EN russisk NGO med særligt fokus på menneskerettigheder i Kaukasus beskriver en stigning i antallet af bortførelser i Dagestan i september 2009:

"During summer of 2009 HRC Memorial registered radical increase of the number of crimes connected with abductions, disappearances and killings in Dagestan. In September, the trend continued."

Relatives of the abducted apply to HRC Memorial with written statements. According to our information, for the first half of September 5 people were abducted in Dagestan."

Kilde: Number of crimes in Dagestan increased radically, Memorial, 14. september 2009. <http://www.memo.ru/eng/news/2009/09/18/18090910.htm>



Nyhedstjenesten Caucasian Knot nævner et tal på 22 bortførelser i Dagestan i 2009.

"In 2009, media reported about 22 kidnappings; 17 of them were confirmed by human rights activists of the HRC "Memorial", in two more cases, according to the Centre, disappearances happened. 10 kidnapped persons were killed, four - released, and the fate of five of them is still unknown."

Kilde: Counterterrorism in Dagestan: 15 CTOs in 2009. Caucasian Knot, 12. januar 2010, <http://www.eng.kavkaz-uzel.ru/articles/12199/>

2. Såfremt der findes eksempler på organudtagelser, er der så nogen dokumentation for, at Kadyrov skulle stå bag, eller er det mere sandsynligt, at der er tale om kriminelle bander?

Se svar på 1 fsva. organudtagelser.

Hvem der udfører bortførelserne og deres motivation, er umuligt at give et klart svar på. Kilderne ovenfor bekræfter, at der finder adskillige bortførelser sted i Dagestan, og at de både udføres af kriminelle bander, med økonomisk berigelse for øje, samt af forskellige sikkerhedsstyrker i området. Flere kilder, herunder US Department of State, nævner flere eksempler på at det er Dagestans egne sikkerhedsstyrker og kriminelle bander, der udfører bortførelserne.

Som reaktion på befolkningens manglende tillid til myndighederne i Dagestan, har mødrene til de forsvundne dannet en forening, der indsamler oplysninger om overgreb begået af myndighederne i deres kamp mod islamistiske oprørere.

"The group, the Mothers of Dagestan for Human Rights (MDHR), was formed in 2007 by mothers of young men believed to have been forcibly "disappeared." With an office in Makhachkala, the capital of Dagestan, the group gathers information on abuse by the police and other law enforcement authorities as the government fights an Islamist insurgency, and provides legal support to victims of rights violations."

Kilde: Russia: Investigate Dagestan Arson Attack, Human Rights Watch, 20. august 2009, <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2009/08/20/russia-investigate-dagestan-arson-attack>

Dertil kommer dog en række beskyldninger fra myndighederne i Dagestan, som peger på styrker, der er loyale over for Præsident Kadyrov i naborepublikken Tjetjenien. Disse beskyldninger skal dog ses i lyset af, at befolkningen i Dagestan beskylder myndighedernes sikkerhedsstyrker for selv samme bortførelser. Myndighederne i Dagestan kan således have en interesse i at sende beskyldningerne videre til en ydre fjende. I den forbindelse kan Tjetjenien være et naturligt valg, idet forholdet mellem de to republikker ikke er det bedste. Dette skyldes blandt andet uoverensstemmelser mellem tjetjenere bosiddende i den vestlige del af Dagestan og landets andre etniske grupper:



Meanwhile, in the town of Khasavyurt, which is in the western part of the republic, ethnic Chechens that reside in Dagestan held a rally regarding their historical lands. The participants demanded an acceleration of the process of the return of certain territories from the Laks, one of Dagestan's ethnic groups, to the Chechens, who were evicted from those lands from 1944 to 1956 (www.chechnyatoday.com, November 2). This sparked a discussion of the rights of land ownership, which is a very delicate issue in multi-ethnic Dagestan. Any help coming from Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov is viewed negatively by Dagestan's population at all levels (www.kavkaz-uzel.ru, November 17).

Kilde: The Security Situation in Dagestan Continues to Deteriorate, Jamestown Foundation, 4. december 2009

http://www.jamestown.org/single/?no_cache=1&tx_ttnews%5Bwords%5D=8fd5893941d69d0be3f378576261ae3e&tx_ttnews%5Bany_of_the_words%5D=dagestan&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=35806&tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=7&cHash=54ceeb93b5

Den nuværende spændte sikkerhedssituation i regionen har ikke medvirket til at skabe større tillid mellem Dagestan og Tjetjenien:

"There is little trust between the presidents of Dagestan and Chechnya in the current context of spiralling violence. Aliyev and Kadyrov regularly trade recriminations, both refusing to accept responsibility for kidnappings and other destabilising acts."

Kilde: Russia's Dagestan: Conflict Causes, Europe Report N°192 – 3 June 2008, International Crisis Group. <http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=5466>

Myndighederne i Dagestan nævner grupper af terrorister med islamisk baggrund, som opererer i området:

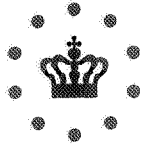
"Dagestan's acting Interior Minister, Aleksandr Trofimov, told reporters in the republic's capital Makhachkala yesterday (December 10), that six terrorist groups totaling up to 150 members are operating in Dagestan. He said the six groups are operating in Makhachkala, Khasavyurt and Kizilyurt, Gubden, Gimry, Balakhani and southern Dagestan, and that each number 10 to 40 members."

Kilde: Insurgent Violence Reported in Dagestan, Ingushetia and Karachaevo-Cherkessia. The Jamestown Foundation, 11. December 2009.

http://www.jamestown.org/single/?no_cache=1&tx_ttnews%5Bwords%5D=8fd5893941d69d0be3f378576261ae3e&tx_ttnews%5Bany_of_the_words%5D=dagestan&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=35825&tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=7&cHash=46a48ac357

3. Er Kadyrovs mænd – det være sig militær eller civile myndigheder til stede i Dagestan?

Det fremgår af kilderne ovenfor, at myndighederne i Dagestan og Tjetjenien gensidigt beskylder hinanden for destabiliserende handlinger begået på hinandens



områder. Dagestans ledere mener således, at Kadyrovs loyale militser, de såkaldte "kadyrovtsy", opererer i Dagestan og står bag flere af bortførelserne:

"In turn, Dagestani leaders accuse Chechen authorities of involvement in forced disappearances near the border. During an October 2006 meeting in Makhachkala at which the disappearances were raised, Aliyev claimed that 47 men had been kidnapped since 2003. Law enforcement officials present then blamed the kadyrovtsy (militias loyal to Kadyrov). A few days later, Dagestan's interior minister, Adalgirey Magomedtagirov, referred to a "third force" in Chechnya which wanted to unsettle Dagestan."

Kilde: Russia's Dagestan: Conflict Causes, Europe Report N°192 – 3 June 2008, International Crisis Group. <http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=5466>

En analyse fra Jamestown Foundation antyder, at Dagestans sikkerhedsmyndigheder i høj grad selv er involveret i bortførelserne, men at de forsøger at skyde skylden på Kadyrov-loyale styrker i Dagestan:

The security officials, who in fact know quite well that they themselves or their colleagues from other security bodies were involved in these kidnappings, pointed the finger at pro-Russian forces in Chechnya – the so-called kadyrovtsy. On October 20, Dagestani Interior Minister Adalgirey Magomedtagirov referred to a "third force" from Chechnya which, he said, is not interested in peace in Dagestan.

But while Dagestani officials pointed accusingly at the kadyrovtsy and the United States, the locals blame the Dagestani authorities and Russian security officials.

Kilde: Dagestan's Hidden Insurgency, North Caucasus Analysis Volume: 7 Issue: 42, The Jamestown Foundation, 1. November 2006.
http://www.jamestown.org/single/?no_cache=1&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=32200

4. Er det muligt at søge myndighedsbeskyttelse i Dagestan i forbindelse med tvangsmæssige organudtagninger, hvad enten det er kriminelle bander eller Kadyrov, der står bag?

Vedr. organudtagning se svar på spm. 1.

For så vidt angår generelle bortførelser bemærker US Department of State i deres rapport fra februar 2009, at myndigheder, som har været involveret i bortførelserne, ofte ikke bliver retsforfulgt:

"In Chechnya, Ingushetiya, and Dagestan, security forces were allegedly involved in unlawful killings and politically motivated abductions. While disappearances declined overall, extrajudicial killings increased in Ingushetiya."

"Some disappearances were alleged to be politically motivated and to have involved federal or local governments."

"The government used indiscriminate force in areas of the North Caucasus with significant civilian populations, resulting in numerous deaths. Security forces generally conducted their activities with impunity."



"During the year there were reports of federal and local government involvement in disappearances in Chechnya, Dagestan, and Ingushetiya."

Kilde: 2008 Human Rights Report: Russia, US Department of State, 25. Februar 2009. <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/eur/119101.htm>

Memorial beskriver et eksempel på manglende reaktion fra myndighedernes side i forbindelse med anmeldelse af en bortførelse:

"On that very day, the Rashidovs filed an application to the militia, which, as they assert, was registered only on the following day. According to their story, there were practically no investigatory actions. No criminal case was opened on the fact of the above crimes."

Kilde: HRC "Memorial": another kidnapping in Dagestan. Caucasian Knot, 30. December 2009. <http://www.eng.kavkaz-uzel.ru/articles/12122/>