

**YOUR CONTRIBUTION COULD END UP
IN THE WRONG HANDS**



Collections

Money raised through collections and private donations has always been a cornerstone in the pool of resources available to charitable organisations for their projects.

Occasionally, funds are raised through national campaigns to alleviate acute humanitarian crises. However, funds are often collected on a regular basis as well.

This holds true of the general aid operations carried out by a number of humanitarian organisations. Similarly, collections are core activities in organisations and in connection with religious events such as the Friday Prayer at the mosques.

This is a fine tradition that should of course be maintained.

However, over the past few years there has been increasing concern that some of the collected funds may end up in the pockets of organisations that directly - or indirectly – make these funds available for terrorist activities.

This concern has been fuelled by the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks and the subsequent terrorist actions elsewhere in the world.

Denmark follows the UN and the EU

Like a large number of other countries, Denmark has implemented UN Security Council Resolution 1373 on counter-terrorism measures and the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. Immediately after the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks, the EU countries also agreed on a so-called framework agreement on the fighting of terrorism. Both the UN resolution and the EU framework agreement contain provisions on the financing of terrorism and stress just how important it is for each country to introduce legislative initiatives to strengthen the efforts within this field.

New legislation

The Danish Parliament, the Folketing, has adopted a number of legislative changes to the Danish Criminal Code, of which some are related to the financing of terrorism. The amendment took effect as of 8 June 2002.

The new provisions are aimed at preventing the transfer or passing of money to individuals, organisations, groups or associations that support terrorism or include terrorism in their activities.

For this reason, too, you should be aware of whom you give money to.

Section 114a of the Danish Criminal Code stresses that anyone collecting funds for or donating funds to persons, organisations, groups or associations should adopt a critical attitude towards these.

As a precaution, you could check:

- The reputation, past, regulations and accounts of the organisation or person
- The organisation's management and board of directors
- The humanitarian purposes of the organisation or person
- The control provisions and auditing practices of the organisation or person
- The humanitarian results achieved by the organisation or person

Be inquisitive. The fewer answers you are given, the greater your reservations about donating funds to or collecting funds for the organisation, person, group or association should be.

If in doubt, you could check whether the organisation or person you wish to support or for which you want to collect funds is on the official EU terrorist list.

It is a criminal offence to:

- donate money to a person, an organisation, a group or an association that supports or commits acts of terrorism
- collect money for a person, an organisation, a group or an association that supports or commits acts of terrorism
- raise loans from a bank or other source of finance for a person, an organisation, a group or an association that supports or commits acts of terrorism
- support projects that may indirectly be part of a terrorist group's efforts to obtain equipment
- support humanitarian projects that indirectly support terrorist activities
- to make means such as money, capital, bank accounts and equipment available for terrorist groups

