

SPRING 2019 REFORM BAROMETER – DENMARK

European Semester - Overall assessment of 2018 cycle

	To what extent do you agree with these statements:		Detailed comments
1.	The National Reform Programme submitted by your Government (March 2018) is appropriate.	Not enough	The Danish government describes in the report only already implemented initiatives. There is a lack of proposed initiatives to increase labour supply and initiatives to prevent and overcome the growing shortage of labour. Danish Employers (DA and DI) welcomes that the Danish government, on an initiative from the social partners, has given the Danish vocational schools a needed boost, which can raise the quality of the education programs.
2.	The Commission's country specific recommendations for your country are appropriate.	Not at all	No recommendations were given to Denmark on labour market and education policy in 2016 and 17. Danish Employers (DA and DI) wishes the European Commission to give Denmark recommendations on policy initiatives. A country specific recommendation on initiatives to overcome a current shortage of labour have a high priority.
3.	The Commission assessment of reform implementation the year before is appropriate.	Not enough	The report is a fine overview of the Danish employment policy and the European Commission recognize the beginning of labour shortages in particular areas. The Commission needs to set more focus on the problems on the Danish labour market with weak growth and that, in spite of the weak growth, an increasing challenge of growing labour shortages.
4.	The Commission assessment of excessive imbalances (in-depth review) is appropriate.	Not at all	There is no Country Report for Denmark

Assessment of Country Specific recommendations 2018 in detail

		Q1: The recommendation is:	Q2: implementation on effort is:	Detailed comments
CSR 1	Increase competition in domestically oriented services sectors, for instance in the distribution of utilities, network industries and in the financial sector.	Extremely important	Mixed	No recommendations on labour market or education policy for Denmark

Reform Progress in your Member State in 2018

How would you assess reform progress in 2018, for the following broad areas:

Taxation and Public Finances	Mixed
Business environment (regulation/access to markets)	Mixed
Labour market	Unsatisfactory
Innovation and skills	Satisfactory
Access to finance and Financial stability	No progress

Is there any example of an economic reform, specific to your country that BusinessEurope could highlight in its 2019 Reform Barometer?

Denmark has adopted some measures giving seniors economic incentives to remain longer on the labour market. Parts of the agreements are a tax bonus for persons working over 30 hours weekly the first year after the general pension age and an online job portal, where seniors can exhibit their skills and qualifications and make it possible for companies to search for the specific competences they need.

Reform priorities for 2019

	I. Policy Area	II. Concrete Recommendations	III. Are the proposed recommendations already in the agenda of your Government?
Priority 1	Labour market mismatch and labour mobility	National initiatives to address and prevent labour shortages through easier access, less red tape and initiatives to facilitate recruitment for qualified foreign workers and through initiatives to increase the number of skilled workers.	yes
Priority 2	Labour supply measures for specific groups (older workers, women...)	National initiatives that can contribute to ensure companies access for employees with the right skills.	yes
Priority 3	R&D and Innovation	Increase of public research and development (in technical areas) and specific business-oriented innovation programs	no
Priority 4	Public sector efficiency	Put up specific targets for how many public sector tasks that are being subject to private sector competition. Improved procurement processes in the public sector and an increased use of technology.	yes
Priority 5	Tax reforms	Reduce progressiveness of income tax system. Simplify and lower capital income taxes. Continue to reduce tax burden on companies. Align tax rules for corporations with international norms and standards.	no