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TILSKUD

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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to Baytna 's activities in Syria

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) provides support to Association Baytna pour le Soutien de la Société (Baytna), which cooperates with subgrantees with the aim of strengthening the capacity of Syrian civil society to act as a force for democratic change and to promote respect for human rights and civil liberties. DKK 15 million has been granted for the period 2022-2024, of which DKK 12 million has been disbursed.

An external audit, followed by internal control, concluded that there had been ineligible expenses of DKK 256,000. The funds were spent on ineligible travel expenses and also given as grants to organisations where there was a conflict of interest. The findings presented in the audit report are significant, particularly relating to financial management procedures and compliance with the organisation's guidelines and internal controls.

The MFA has stopped the disbursement of funds to Baytna. The MFA is in dialogue with Baytna about repayment of the funds and termination of agreement.

A new report will be forwarded when there are further developments in the case.