Chapter 2

The Danish Neighbourhood Program (2004–2018) in the Perspective of the European–Russian–Ukrainian Conflict

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ABSTRACT

In this chapter, the Danish Neighbourhood Policy (DANEP) in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) will be analysed along with their results in the last 15 years. Firstly, a statement of the actual global situation and the special Danish-European relations that depend on the Eastern Partnership projects and Russia is presented. Secondly, an analysis of the Danish involvement in the forums and the implementations of DANEP, especially in Ukraine is presented. Thirdly, the influence of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict from 2013 and onwards on the Danish and European Neighbourhood Policy is presented, and fourthly, the results and success of the European Union’s efforts to implement as well EU as Danish special values in the neighbourhood are presented.

INTRODUCTION

The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), conceived in 2004, is a foreign relations instrument of the European Union (EU), which seeks to tie the countries to the East and the South to the EU. The EU offers financial assistance to countries within the
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European Neighbourhood, as long as the post-Soviet states meet the strict conditions of government reform, economic reforms and other issues surrounding positive transformation. In 2008-2009, the establishment of the Eastern Partnership Program between the European Union and six former post-Soviet states was a reality. Within these two forums, both the EU and Denmark sought to influence the social and economic development of the post-Soviet states, among other neighbours, Ukraine. In this article, the Danish Neighbourhood Policy (DANEP) in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) will be analysed and furthermore, commented on its results in the last 15 years. Firstly, a statement and an analysis of the actual global situation and the special Danish-European relations what regards the Eastern Partnership projects and Russia. Secondly, an analysis of the Danish involvement in the forums and the implementations of DANEP, especially in Ukraine. Thirdly, the influence of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict from 2013 and onwards on the Danish and European Neighbourhood Policy and fourthly, the results and success of the European Union’s efforts to implement as well EU as Danish special values in the neighbourhood.

The European Neighbourhood Policy

At a 2003 presentation of Polish thoughts on the Eastern dimensions in the new European Neighbourhood Program, the former Polish Foreign Minister Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz stated that:

*Europe does not end at the European Union’s eastern border and it will not do after enlargement. Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova are deeply rooted in Europe - with their culture, history, traditions of, and science. (Poulsen-Hansen, 2004, p. 56)*

In 2004, the former Ukrainian Foreign Minister Boris Tarasjúk said:

*By entering the European Union or by being a part of the European integration process Ukraine contributes directly to spread stability and democracy and prosperity to the eastern part of Europe. Ukraine is the centre of Europe and it is logical that Ukraine must be an inseparable part of the European integration. Let us not forget that in terms of territory, Ukraine is the largest European country, apart from the European part of Russia, and Ukraine is number five in Europe in terms of population. Due to its geopolitical location, Ukraine is a bridge between North and South, between East and West and the wider Europe and Asia. (Poulsen-Hansen, 2004, p. 57)*

After the admission of six former Eastern Bloc countries (Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) in the European Union in May 2004, a new
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