

Vegan party Chairman arrived in the Faroe Islands in the middle of a media storm to start a long-awaited conversation about dolphin killings

Press release – 13th August 2020 at 12:00

While the Vegan Party in Denmark is waiting for an approved review of the party from the Election Board, the party's chairman and co-founder, Michael Monberg, has travelled to the Faroe Islands to start a dialogue about the grind killings on the islands.

Two days before the Vegan Party passed on its voter declarations to the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Interior, the chairman, Michael Monberg, went to the Faroe Islands to document dolphin killings. It was also from here that he emotionally pressed the famous button that was to hand over the digital voter declarations to the ministry.

For the past two years, the front person, together with the Vegan Party, has worked hard to get support to be eligible to run. But none of the hard work has yet borne direct fruit and helped the animals or nature, which is the party's main focus.

The trip to the Faroe Islands aims to start a long-awaited conversation among Danes and Faroese about the gate killings, which every year attract lots of international attention - but are often far below the radar in our own national media.

"It simply came to our notice then. Criticism of the dolphin killings is strong abroad, and there are many good reasons why this practice does not belong in 2020", says Michael Monberg, front person for the Vegan Party and continues:

"I feel there is a clear reluctance among the other parties to talk about the grind killings as something other than a local tradition for which a legal exception has been made in the Bern Convention."

The Bern Convention is a convention that Denmark has signed decades ago and committed to work with. It aims to protect Europe's wildlife and natural habitats. The convention entered into force in Denmark in 1983. However, the declaration under Denmark states that the Faroe Islands and Greenland are exempt.

Since Denmark originally excluded the Faroe Islands and Greenland, there has been no dialogue or action to push for a phasing out of the dolphin killings.

"Now is the time to talk about whether this should continue." says Michael Monberg.

The exception in the Convention still exists even though the islands are not dependent on grind meat for food or industry, and that the grind is considered unsuitable for human consumption, due to excessive concentrations of heavy metals.

"How long must tradition and habit take place without being challenged in the same way as fishing or pig factories in Denmark must? We have to debate whether it is time for change," says Michael Monberg and continues:

"Protecting the pilot whales in the North Atlantic is an issue we can just as well address now in 2020 - and get one step closer to living up to the intent of the Bern Convention."

About the Vegan Party

The Vegan Party is waiting to have its voter declaration and party letter approved by the Electoral Unit. Animal rights are one of the party's top priorities.

About Michael Monberg:

Michael is a co-founder and Chairman of the Vegan Party. Michael has spent the last four years articulating and reducing violence and abuse against animals in Denmark and abroad.

More inspiration: <https://jyllands-posten.dk/debat/kronik/ECE8004701/er-der-forskel-paa-grinder-og-grise/>

High resolution images: [LINK](#)

Press Contact:

Michael Monberg
Chairman for the Vegan Party
+45 2178 8810
monberg@vgpt.dk