

## **FOLLOW UP TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS' REPORT ON GREECE OF 16 APRIL 2013 – ISSUES ON WHICH COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION IS REQUESTED**

Paragraph 36 of the report: The Commissioner would appreciate receiving information on the follow-up that is being provided by the government to the Council of State's judgment No 460/2013 concerning foreign nationals' naturalisation and participation in local elections.

Paragraphs 70 and 97 of the report: The Commissioner wishes to receive information on the possibility of establishing continuous and systematic training in anti-discrimination law and practice targeting all police and coast guard officials, prosecutors and judges. The Commissioner has been informed that the Council of Europe Directorate General of Programmes has engaged in discussions with the Greek authorities on this issue.

Paragraphs 73 and 98 of the report: The Commissioner welcomes the new reported version of the anti-racism bill and its provisions that provide for heavier sentences for racist acts, in accordance with his recommendations. He would like to receive information on the possibility to accelerate the adoption and effective application of this law.

Paragraph 90 of the report: The Commissioner would like to receive more information on possible legislative developments aimed at making clear and enforceable an exemption from the fee of Article 46 of the code of criminal procedure with regard to victims of racially-motivated attacks.

Paragraph 107 of the report: The Commissioner wishes to receive more information on the progress of the case described in this paragraph concerning the conviction in 2012 of a police official on the ground of acts of torture, and the suspension of the sentence pending appeal.

Paragraph 108 of the report: The Commissioner would like to receive information regarding possible amendments to the definition of torture contained in Article 137 of the criminal code in order to align it with Article 1 of the 1984 UN Convention against Torture, as announced by the Greek delegation to UN Committee against Torture in 2012 during the consideration of the report of Greece.

Paragraph 116 of the report: The Commissioner would like to receive information on the background and application of Article 19 of Law 4058/2012 amending the criminal procedure code and exempting police, coast guard and fire brigade officials who commit offences "during the exercise of their duties and because of them" from being immediately arrested and referred to a judicial authority in cases where a criminal complaint is lodged against them.

Paragraphs 120 and 134 of the report: The Commissioner would like to be informed on any measure envisaged by the Greek authorities in order to establish an effective and independent mechanism able to deal with complaints concerning action of law enforcement authorities, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the Commissioner's report.

Paragraph 125 of the report: The Commissioner is interested in receiving further information on the functioning of the hotline (11414) through which incidents of racist violence may be reported to the police and information may be provided to victims by the police anti-racist units. In particular, the Commissioner would like to know how the hotline is operated, if the police officers answering the calls have benefitted from specific (including language) training and whether access to the hotline is free of charge.

Lastly, the Commissioner would appreciate receiving information on the possibility of ratification by Greece of the following Council of Europe treaties mentioned in his report and whose ratification is recommended: Protocol No 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights; the 1997 European Convention on Nationality; the 1992 European Convention on the Participation of Foreigners in Public Life at Local Level.