



PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF GREECE  
TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

*The Permanent Representative*

Strasbourg, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
F. 6686/AS 372

Dear Secretary General,

Further to your informative remarks during the Committee of Ministers' session on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and onwards with regard to the establishment of the CoE Platform for the Protection of Journalism and Safety of Journalists, as well as your specific suggestions to the CoE member states as to "submit timely and comprehensive responses, where an alert concern our country, so that they can also be published", I would like to forward herewith the pertinent response on behalf of the competent Greek Authorities upon a past (20.02.2017) incident concerning the harassment of two journalists by far-right wing protesters, which has been already posted to the aforementioned Platform. Furthermore, I would like to kindly ask you as for the said reply of my country to be timely published in the Platform.

While seizing that opportunity to extend to you my wholehearted gratitude for your sincere and truthful cooperation with the Greek Authorities, I would like once more to renew my Government's unwavering commitment to the challenging mandates of the organs and mechanisms of this Organization.

Yours sincerely,

  
Professor Stelios Perrakis  
Ambassador

To: H.E. Mr. Thorbjorn Jagland

Secretary General

Council of Europe



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

In relation to the case - abuse against journalists in Oreokastro Thessaloniki on 20.02.2017, the *Head of the Prosecutor's Office at the First Instance Court of Thessaloniki* by certified order to the Prosecutor of Criminal Prosecution, requested:

a) to comply with the procedure applied for persons found in flagrante delicto in the cases that fall within the remit of the antiracism law. With regard to that particular case, one person was brought to trial on 23.2.2017 for violating article 1 par.1 of Law 927/79 and that person was declared innocent based on the judgment no. 4087/17 of the Flagrante One-Member Misdemeanours Court of Thessaloniki.

b) By the aforementioned order, an urgent preliminary examination was requested in relation to the incidents that took place at the school and in particular, the legal file no. A2017/5245 was opened and forwarded to the Security Police of Thessaloniki, for offences referred to Law 927/79 and articles 81A, 308-309 and 330 of the Greek Penal Code (corporal injury, simple and grave, and illegal violence).



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF CITIZEN'S PROTECTION**

With regard to the case abuse against journalists in Oreokastro, Thessaloniki, on 20.2.2017, we would like to inform you that, so far, the said journalists have not filed a complaint, lawsuit or any other report of relevant content with the Hellenic Police services.