



PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF GREECE  
TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

*The Permanent Representative*

Strasbourg, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016  
F. 6686/AS 1021

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 (14.06.2016) incident in the facilities of the SKAI TV station, 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

**Subject: The search carried out by police officers accompanied by the competent Public Prosecutor in the facilities of the SKAI TV station with the purpose of arresting a journalist (Athens, 14 June 2016)**

As regards the incident that took place on 14/06/2016 in the facilities of the Skai TV station, we would like to emphasize that, in Greece, Prosecutors enjoy full functional and personal independence and in this particular case all due decency and morality prescribed by law was exercised, including through the presence of a representative of the TV station.

Furthermore, and concerning various relevant reports following reproaches against police officers regarding their actions, we would like to inform you that a Preliminary Administrative Inquiry by the Hellenic Police is under way.