



Permanent Representation of Greece  
to the Council of Europe

Strasbourg, 18 February 2020  
Ref. No. 6686/158

Dear Secretary General,

Following the submission of an alert with regard to Greece to the Platform for the Safety of Journalists and Protection of Journalism of the Council of Europe, concerning the attack against the journalist Thomas Jacobi in Athens, Greece on 19 January 2020, please find attached, in addition to my letter of 10 February, a response from the Ministry of Citizen's Protection. I would kindly ask for the said reply to be published in the Platform.

Panayiotis Beglitis  
Ambassador

To: **Ms Marija Pejcinovic Buric**  
Secretary General  
of the Council of Europe

*In town*



## HELLENIC REPUBLIC

### **Alert against Greece with regards to the attack against the journalist Mr Thomas Jacobi**

#### **Respond of the Greek Authorities, Ministry of Citizen's Protection**

With regards to the incident referred to in the 23 January 2020 alert, please be informed about the following:

On Sunday, 19 January 2020, at midday, two demonstrations were held in Syntagma Square of downtown Athens, namely a Greece-wide rally by members of nationalist associations and a counter-protest organized by members of an anarchist group.

At about 14:00 hrs., a number of non-identified persons approached journalist Thomas-Martin Iacobi, present on the scene, and demanded that he hand over his camera to them. Upon the journalist's refusal, they physically attacked him with punches and kicks and then left the spot, after stripping him of three mobile phones and a tape recorder.

A police unit, along with first-aiders, arrived immediately on the spot. Subsequently, Mr Iacobi was driven to the Syntagma Police Station, where he testified about the incident.

The said incident is being currently under investigation by the competent Authorities.