



**Permanent Mission of Greece
to the United Nations Office
and other International Organizations
in Geneva**

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NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the latter's letter, dated 7.2.2020, has the honour to attach herewith the reply of the Greek Government on "the evaluation of the third phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education".

The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, 9 June 2020

**Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
In town**

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GREECE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE EVALUATION OF THE THIRD PHASE OF THE WORLD PROGRAMME FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION (2005-ONGOING)

A. Actions undertaken between 2015 – 2019 to promote human rights training for media professionals and journalists.

1. Training seminar for journalists. From March 19th to March 21st of 2015, ESIEM-TH (Journalist's Union for Daily Newspapers Thessaloniki) conducted a seminar regarding the safer use of internet services. The audience consisted of professional journalists and journalism students. The seminar followed the standards of the workshop held in Brussels by ETUI on January 2015, named "Better use of internet" with some amendments to its content in order to meet the needs of the Greek participants. The areas covered during the seminar were:

- Enhancing the security of the operating system. (Preventing virus infections, protecting the computer from digital attacks and hacking, use of open source software solutions.)
- Safe password creation, mnemonic techniques and password management.
- Introduction to digital surveillance
- Sensitive data encryption techniques and data obfuscation.
- Encrypted file backups to cloud services.
- File recovery and permanent deletion.
- Safer and anonymous internet browsing.
- Encrypted e-mail conversations.
- Secure methods of communicating with third party sources, *via* text and video conference.
- Encrypted communications using our smart phones.

2. In the context of public discourse, the Secretariat General for Media and Communication co-organized with the Secretariat General for Gender Equality and KETHI a one-day event on the occasion of Global Women Day celebrations (March 9th, 2016), under the title "**Greek Women Journalists in the Battle of Information**" where it was discussed, amongst other things, issues concerning safety in journalism and stereotypical representations and obstacles for professional women working in the media field were discussed. In addition, the Secretariat honored the world-famous photo-journalist Yiannis Behrakis with a special event on February 10th, 2016 for his entire significant contribution to journalism in times of crisis and in the battlefield, presenting a short film on his work.

3. In 2017, The **Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation (ERT)**, organized the seminar "Journalism, Society and Hate Speech" in the framework of the European Project "RespectWords" on April 24th -27th . The event took place in the Amphitheatre of the General Secretary for Information and Communication, and was about managing and dealing with information on refugees and migrants, tackling hate speech, good practices of balanced journalism and writing a relevant code of ethics. Twenty journalists and a corresponding number of observers from organizations participated. "RespectWords" is about developing a series of actions, designing and implementing an interactive good practice online map, and writing a handbook.

During the seminar, four main topics were discussed and analyzed:

- The situation and main consequences of the immigration-refugee crisis in Europe. How are these reflected in Greek and European media?
- How are these issues covered by the Greek media: What to say and what not to? Vocabulary, editorial lines, Sources, Methodology, etc.
- The Digital World: Social Media and Digital Media: Features of hate speech. How do we deal with the problem?
- Best practices for dealing with hate speech in Europe: what have we learned?

Speakers included journalists and experts on journalism, communication, human rights and humanitarian crises.

4. The Hellenic Multinational Peace Support Operations Training Center (MPSOTC) –which operates under GEETHA (**Hellenic National Defense General Staff**) - provided a multifaceted **academic and realistic practical training to Military, Civil Police and Civilian multinational students**, on Peace Support Operation related issues in accordance with current international standards (NATOUN-EU-OSCE). Taking into account the intense political and social context at global level and the growing demand for information, while safeguarding the freedom of speech, the training center focused its attention on journalism in extreme or difficult conditions: MPSOTC’s current programme of action includes the organisation of a training course aiming specifically at the **protection of journalists and media actors in conflict zones** that addresses **domestic** as well as **international** participants.

In more detail, a journalist or media worker, reporting in a conflict area, should be emotionally prepared, appropriately equipped and adequately insured. In this regard and in order to make journalists and media workers in armed conflict areas less vulnerable, the Hellenic Multinational Peace Support Operations Training Center (MPSOTC) conducted successfully a **pilot course** on the **protection of journalists in conflict zones** from the **14th to 18th of November 2016**. The programme was addressed to potential trainees **at international level**, that fell under the categories listed below:

-journalists or media workers who are to be deployed or are planning to be deployed in a conflict zone

-employees coming from the Public Service Sector

-participants from other levels of government i.e. Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defense, Environment and Internal Affairs

The overall purpose of the course was to «provide trainees with work basic knowledge of protecting themselves in Armed Conflict Areas».

Why more training?

Freedom of expression and free flow of information should not, by any way, be hindered. Media reporting by journalists and other media workers should be in line with ethical and professional standards (eg. Code of Conduct) as well as media professionals shall practice journalism in conflict areas with extra care in a non inciting and inflammatory manner. Furthermore, journalists should not, in any way take advantage of violent and difficult situations in order to pursue their own interests, but on the contrary, they shall act towards conflict resolution. Conflict-sensitive and wartime reporting attracts intense new media attention and hence, requires in-depth analytic skills along with digital literacy techniques to deal, especially with online media platforms (social media, secure networks).

Mechanisms and tools to reinforce safety and protection of journalists and other media actors offline & online

By and large, in view of better networking and cooperation among member-states with effective mechanisms and tools, we shall take into consideration the following facts:

- Safety risks have moved from offline to online services, hence a multi-stakeholder approach is required in order to explore all emerging challenges.
- More digital security tools (encryption tools) need to be available (low costs, user friendly, safety use) for journalists and other media workers. The familiarization with digital protection tools, through more systematic training and less *ad hoc*, training would ensure a higher quality of image and text, reporting with better protection of sources and less fear of life threats or injustice punitive actions.
- There is an increased need for effective and real-time reporting mechanisms (buttons) and better co-operation with the police state authorities (hot lines at crime and cyber-crime departments).
- There is also a need for open educational resources on safety and conflict case reporting by media workers and stakeholders (eg. UNESCO, Journalistic organizations and unions)
- State and non-state psychological support for conflict-case and wartime journalists, after their mission is completed, needs to be available through various mechanisms and channels in order for them to be able to deal with the side effects of journalism act (eg. post-war trauma syndrome).

Journalists' Union of the Athens Daily Newspapers (JUADN)

- **April 2015** JUADN run a four session pilot seminar under the main theme "Xenophobia and the Media":
 - Xenophobia, stereotypes and integration: Migration to Greece and the role of media
 - Islam, Islamophobia and understanding the religious different
 - We and the "Others": Second generation migrants in the media
 - Migrant labour exploitation, as revealed in the case of the Manolada trial.

JUADN is contributing to COLOUR YOUTH- ATHENS LGBTQ YOUTH COMMUNITY's campaign for social equality by granting Union main hall free of charge starting:

- **May 2015** Round table discussion on "Youth and Homophobic /Transphobic Violence and Discrimination: The State Role".
- **May 2016** to hold event for raising social awareness on LGBTQ Youth matters and discrimination.
- **May 2017** to organize open event on "LGBTQ Youth Mental Health: The State Role.
- **May 2018** to hold a round table discussion on "LGBTQ Youth School reality-presentation research findings on school climate".
- **May 2019** to hold an International Conference on "Combating homophobic, transphobic and biphobic stereotypes and prejudices through mainstream media".

2018 JUADN contributed to the effort of the Research Center for Gender Equality through JUADN Cultural Foundation activities by informing journalists JUADN members to participate in seminar organized by the Research Center for Gender Equality and providing necessary room space free of charge.

The seminar was successfully conducted in the Union building on eight hourly sessions, aimed at raising awareness among media professionals to promote gender equality, fight against sexism and discrimination on the basis of identity and sexual orientation.

The **JUADN Cultural Foundation** in 2009 published the first cartoon's edition titled "SOS ENVIRONMENT". This successful edition by cartoonists JUADN members was later followed by more editions. The Union contributed by providing financial assistance to cartoonists JUADN members to publish their yearly books which were presented at the Athens Metro central station in Syntagma Square.

- **2016** "Suspended Step" Cartoons on the Refugee Crisis
- **2017** "Sweet Europe" Cartoons on the People's Europe (with the participation of the British Professional Cartoonists Organisation)
- **2018** "War S.A." Cartoons on the war nearby as well as all over the worldan illustrated message on people's friendship against militarism, bombs and death (with the participation of Portuguese Cartoonists).
- **2019** "Democrisis" Democracy in crisis, illustrating with humour repression, authoritarianism and the rise of far right parties (with the participation of Italian Cartoonists).

B. Educational activities on Human Rights in the Armed Forces

Below is a table with the main educational activities of the Hellenic Armed Forces in the topic of Human Rights.

BRANCH	INSTITUTE	EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY
HELLENIC NATIONAL DEFENCE GENERAL STAFF	B2 Directorate	International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Workshops under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Athens (ICRC) (twice a year since 2018)
	Hellenic National Defense College	Humanitarian Rights topics in the course “International Law and Security”
	Hellenic Supreme Joint War College	Lecture “Law of Armed Conflict” (LoAC)
	Hellenic Military Academy of Combat Support Officers	IHL Course for the 4 th year Cadets in the Law Department - Selective Course
	Multinational Peace Support Operations Training Centre	Human Rights topics are contained in three different one week courses each year: (1) Peace Support Operations (2) United Nations Military Observers (3) Sea/Land Border Security and Refugees/Arms/Dual - Use Goods Control 1-week course “IHL” - Since 2019
Hellenic Army General Staff	Hellenic Army Academy	Humanitarian Rights topics the courses “Law” for the 1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd year Cadets
		“LoAC” course, during the international semester for the 3 rd year Cadets, in the context of the Military Erasmus program
Hellenic Navy	NCO Army Academy	Human Rights topics in the course “International Law - Constitutional Law”
	B2 Directorate	Humanitarian Rights topics during the pre-deployment training of Naval Units in UNIFIL
	Hellenic Naval Academy	IHL topics in the course “Law of the Sea” for the 4 th year Cadets
Hellenic Air Force	Hellenic Naval Petty Officers Academy	“Humanitarian Law Elements” course for the 1 st year Cadets
	Air Force War College	Lecture “LoAC”
	Hellenic Air Force Academy	Humanitarian Rights topics in three different courses “Law” - “Sociology” - Philosophy of War”
		Humanitarian Rights topics in the “Common Security and Defence Policy”, in the context of the Military Erasmus program
Hellenic Air Force NCO Academy	Humanitarian Rights topics in the course “Elements of War - Military and Air Force Legislation”	

C. Educational activities on Human Rights in the Police Forces

The Hellenic Police has already incorporated courses and seminars in the curriculum of police cadets, at a graduate, post-graduate and master level, as well as through the seminars of the national CEPOL department. The said courses are “Constitutional Law – Human Rights”, “International Public Law and Humanitarian Law”, “European best practices and standards on border control”, “Fundamental Rights and Police Ethics”, “Human Rights and Fundamental Rights of Police Personnel”, “Detention conditions and treatment of the detainees” and “Human trafficking”, among others. The seminars organized during the period 2015-2019 can be found below.

YEAR	SEMINARS ON HUMAN RIGHTS	DATES	TOPIC	EDUCATOR
2015	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Secondary Officers (T.E.M.A.), of the School of Postgraduate Training and Training of the Hellenic Police.	9/2/2015 to 12/6/2015	«Constitutional Law – Code of Conduct of Policemen with regard to human rights protection»	University Professor
	Chief of Staff Training Seminar.	23/03/2015 to 09/10/2015	"Human Rights - Racism - Xenophobia - International Protection"	Policeman
	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Staff-Executives	12/01/2015-20/02/2015 and 26/10/2015 to 04/12/2015	"Constitutional individual rights in the Greek legal order"	University Professor
	Human - Fundamental Rights during border control.	6-8/04/2015	« Introduction to fundamental rights during border guarding, "Border guards' rights", "Ethics of police personnel and fundamental rights", "Protection of fundamental rights at the first reception", "Fundamental rights of rights" and "deprivation of liberty" at the time of arrest.	Policemen
	Education on issues related to the protection of the human rights of returnees.	19/2/2015 to 6/3/2015	"Personnel Behavior in Police Action - Ethics and Human Rights. Prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment "	Ombudsman experts

	Training of Greek Police personnel in Human Fundamental Rights during Border Guard.	18-28/05/2015 and 2-12/06/2015	"Ethics of Police Personnel and Fundamental Rights", "Protection of Fundamental Rights in Arrest", "Introduction to Fundamental Rights in Border Guard", "Protection of Fundamental Rights at First Reception", ».	UNHCR legal advisor.
	Racist and hate crimes and their police handling	26-27/10/2015	"Definition of hate crimes and hate crimes Legislation".	Ombudsman - ODIHR
2016	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Secondary Officers (T.E.M.A.), of the School of Postgraduate Training and Training of the Hellenic Police.	8/2/2016 to 10/06/2016	« Constitutional Law "-" Ethics - Police Behavior in Relation to the Protection of Citizens' Human Rights "	University Professor
	Chief of Staff Training Seminar.	07/03/2016 to 03/06/2016	"Human Rights - Racism - Xenophobia - International Protection"	Policeman
	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Staff-Executives	24/10/2016 to 02/12/2016	"Constitutional individual rights in the Greek legal order"	University Professor
	Staff training in citizen identification (screening).	10-14/10/2016	"Basic Principles of Interviewing with an Emphasis on the Protection of Fundamental Rights"	Policeman
	Human - Fundamental Rights during border guarding.	17-19/10/2016	Introduction to fundamental rights during border guarding, "Border guards' rights", "Ethics of police personnel and fundamental rights", "Protection of fundamental rights at first reception", "Fundamental rights of rights" and "deprivation of liberty" rights at the time of arrest.	UNHCR - Police

	Training of national instructors of the FRONTEX Organization in the field of fundamental rights.	25 έως 27/10/2016	"Recognition, interpretation and promotion of fundamental rights in relation to border guard duties".	Foreign Instructors
2017	Training of national instructors of the FRONTEX Organization in the field of fundamental rights. Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Secondary Officers (T.E.M.A.), of the School of Postgraduate Training and Training of the Hellenic Police	06/02/2017 έως 09/06/2017	"Constitutional Law" - "Ethics - Police Behavior in Relation to the Protection of Citizens' Human Rights"	University Professor
	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Staff-Executives	23/10/2017 έως 01/12/2017	"Constitutional individual rights in the Greek legal order"	University Professor
	Chief of Staff Training Seminar.	06/03/2017 έως 23/06/2017	"Human Rights - Racism - Xenophobia - International Protection"	Policeman
	Operation of the institution "Local Policeman".	15- 16/02/2017	"Dealing with vulnerable groups. Racism - Xenophobia. "	Policeman
	Training of Police personnel in citizen identification (screening).	20- 24/03/2017	"Basic Principles of Interviewing with an Emphasis on the Protection of Fundamental Rights"	Policeman
	Training of individuals hired by the Greek Police as Special Task Force Officers	18/09/2017 έως 13/10/2017	"Human Rights - Racism - Xenophobia - International Protection"	Lawyer
	Human - Fundamental Rights during border guarding.	10- 12/04/2017	Introduction to fundamental rights during border guarding, "Border guards' rights", "Ethics of police personnel and fundamental rights", "Protection of fundamental rights at first reception", "Fundamental rights of rights" and "deprivation of liberty" rights at the time of arrest.	UNHCR - Police
	Training of the special category of uniformed civilian personnel of the Hellenic Police, which is classified as Special Guards.	27/03/2017 to 28/07/2017	"Elements of Constitutional Law - Human Rights".	Lawyer

	EU common plan and the Council of Europe on Women's Access to Roma and Travelers to Justice (JUSTROM).	12-14/07/2017	"Fighting Discrimination - Police". Council of Europe Experts
	Educational action of Greek Police personnel in collaboration with the Greek Ombudsman.	30/10/2017	"Issues of racist violence - Fighting discrimination". Ombudsman
2018	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Secondary Officers (T.E.M.A.), of the School of Postgraduate Training and Training of the Hellenic Police.	05/02/2018 to 08/06/2018	"Constitutional Law" - "Ethics - Police Behavior in Relation to the Protection of Citizens' Human Rights" University Professor
	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Staff-Executives	22/10/2018 to 30/11/2018	"Constitutional individual rights in the Greek legal order" University Professor
	Chief of Staff Training Seminar.	16/04/2018 to 15/06/2018	"Human Rights - Racism - Xenophobia - International Protection" Policeman
	Operation of the institution "Local Policeman".	14-15/06/2018	"Dealing with vulnerable groups. Racism - Xenophobia. " Policeman
	Training of Police personnel in citizen identification (screening).	05-09/03/2018	"Basic Principles of Interviewing with an Emphasis on the Protection of Fundamental Rights" Policeman
	Human - Fundamental Rights during border guarding.	26-28/03/2018	Introduction to fundamental rights during border guarding, "Border guards' rights", "Ethics of police personnel and fundamental rights", "Protection of fundamental rights at first reception", "Fundamental rights of rights" and "deprivation of liberty" rights at the time of arrest. UNHCR – Policemen
2019	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Secondary Officers	08/01/2019 to 10/05/2019	"Constitutional Law" - "Ethics - Police Behavior in Relation to the Protection of Citizens' Human University Professor

	(T.E.M.A.), of the School of Postgraduate Training and Training of the Hellenic Police.		Rights"	
	Operation of the Department of Vocational Training of Staff-Executives	04/11/2019 to 13/12/2019	"Constitutional individual rights in the Greek legal order"	University Professor
	Chief of Staff Training Seminar.	04/03/2019 to 12/04/2019	"Human Rights - Racism - Xenophobia - International Protection"	Policeman
	Training of Police personnel in citizen identification (screening).	15- 19/04/2019	"Basic Principles of Interviewing with an Emphasis on the Protection of Fundamental Rights"	Policeman
	Fighting racism, xenophobia and homophobia - raising awareness of hate crimes against LGBTI people.	24/6/2019	"Human Rights and the Role of the Police"	Policeman
	Human - Fundamental Rights during border guarding.	05- 07/06/2019	Introduction to fundamental rights during border guarding, "Border guards' rights", "Ethics of police personnel and fundamental rights", "Protection of fundamental rights at first reception", "Fundamental rights of rights" and "deprivation of liberty" rights at the time of arrest.	Reception and Identification service. Policemen
	Training of police escorts, in matters of return operations under the auspices of the European Organization for Border Guard and Coast Guard FRONTEX.	10- 14/06/2019	"Fundamental Rights - Human Rights - Monitoring"	Ombudsman
	Training of Greek Police officers in seminars to combat discrimination by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg .	03- 04/10/2019	"Human Rights and the Role of the Police"	Policeman