



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE  
AT GENEVA

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Geneva, December 10, 2010

Your ref: Case GRE 040408.4 -Follow-up of Case  
GRE 040408/11.10.2010

Dear Mr. Sottas,

Following your electronic mail communication, dated October 11, 2010, concerning "new developments" in the alleged "acts of harassment against GHM and activists who filed criminal actions against Greece's neo-Nazis", let me acknowledge receipt and inform you that it has been duly forwarded to the proper Greek Authorities.

Your concern arises about specific cases pending before Greek courts following complaints/lawsuits filed by Mr. Plevris. However, unhindered access to courts, as an expression of fair trial, is an inalienable right of every citizen on Greek territory. This right is recognized and safeguarded by the Greek Constitution and the European Convention on Human Rights and respect thereto is a primary obligation of any democratic State where the rule of law prevails.

An aspect of this right is the possibility of all people to appeal to justice by filing complaints/lawsuits against persons, if they deem that the latter have prejudiced them. These cases are examined by courts, which are independent from the executive power, pursuant to the principles of separation of powers and independence of justice.

Therefore, in the cases at hand, the plaintiff, in implementation of his right to have access to a court, lawfully appealed to justice by reporting allegedly illegitimate acts. These cases are undertaken by the prosecuting and judicial authorities, which are the only competent authorities to decide thereon. This procedure cannot be interfered with by agencies of the executive power.

Greece and its legal system meet the requirements of the UN Declaration on human rights defenders and of international tools and mechanisms providing protection of human rights.

To: Mr. Eric Sottas  
International Secretariat of  
The World Organisation against Torture  
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fax: 022 809 49 29

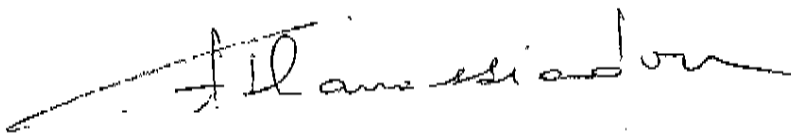
In the event of valid reports, accompanied by evidence, about the infringing behaviour of certain persons against legally protected rights of specific citizens (e.g. the defendants), the State has the necessary mechanisms to intervene through its institutional bodies (prosecutor, police) and take appropriate action to protect any citizens at risk.

Furthermore, the GHM and its spokesperson Mr. P. Dimitras, as well as any other Greek citizen, have the right, to initiate proceedings in Court against any individual and it is for the Court to value the arguments of the sides involved and establish the truth.

Appreciating your interest in human rights, let me note that you should rest assured that the competent Greek Authorities will give their attention to these cases and that they are doing their utmost to uphold the provisions of the Greek Constitution, the respective laws as well as all relevant international obligations of the country.

Looking forward to the continued cooperation of the Permanent Mission of Greece with OMCT.

Sincerely Yours,



Constantina Athanassiadou  
Deputy Permanent Representative