

Mr. President,

The Council of Europe congratulates the Greek delegation for the successful examination of their national report under the UPR.

We are aware of the economic conditions which burden the government while assuring that citizens under its jurisdiction enjoy their human rights. We welcome the ratification of the Revised European Social Charter.

- Our monitoring bodies are concerned particularly about asylum seekers, refugees and migrants, focusing on the need for improvements in the camps and reception facilities, the protection of unaccompanied minors, the processing of asylum claims and migrant integration policies.
- Other recommendations aim at assisting the authorities in addressing the increasing levels of xenophobia and racism, discrimination against persons belonging to vulnerable ethnic, religious or social groups.
- A third challenge concerns shortcomings in the judicial and penal system, particularly inadequate investigations into allegations of ill-treatment by law enforcement officials and overcrowding of prisons.

This delegation stresses the excellent cooperation with the Greek authorities and welcomes the measures already taken to address those issues.

We also invite Greece to ratify the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and to sign and ratify the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

Thank you,