

Statement by Hungary on Greece

25th Session of the UPR Working Group

3rd May 2016

Mr. President,

Hungary welcomes the delegation of Greece and thanks for the national report and the update. We appreciate that the report has been prepared in an inclusive manner, in close consultation with the NGO community and the National Commission for Human Rights.

We appreciate the progress achieved in the implementation of accepted UPR recommendations. We took note of the remaining gaps, and wish to **recommend** the ratification of the Protocol No. 12 to the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

Hungary notes that the sole recognized minority in the country is the Muslim religious minority in Western Thrace. Hungary encourages Greece to recognize ethnic and linguistic minorities as well. In this context, we **recommend** intensifying the work aimed at the ratification of the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, signed by Greece in 1997. We also **recommend** the consideration of its accession to the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

Hungary is concerned by the reported cases of discrimination and hate crimes affecting religious and ethnic minorities therefore we encourage Greece to develop a comprehensive national strategy to combat racism and intolerance.

Finally, Hungary welcomes the National Human Rights Action Plan, established in 2014, and would like to know what practical measures Greece is envisaging to take to effectively implement this Action Plan.

Thank you, Mr. President!