



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF MIGRATION POLICY



### **Memorandum of Understanding**

The Greek Ministry of Migration Policy (hereinafter referred to as “the Ministry”), represented by the Minister,

and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (hereinafter referred to as FRA) represented for the purposes of signature of this Memorandum of Understanding by its Director,

Having regard to Article 14 (6) of Law 4375/2016 according to which European Union agencies, may provide assistance in the reception and identification procedures, in the context of their competences and in accordance with the General Operating Regulation,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No. 168/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2007, establishing a European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, in particular its Article 2 according to which the objective of the Agency shall be to provide the relevant institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the Community and its Member States when implementing EU law with assistance and expertise relating to fundamental rights,

Have agreed to conclude the following Memorandum of Understanding to establish a working arrangement for cooperation between FRA and the Ministry.

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to facilitate the exercise of FRA’s mandate to provide fundamental rights assistance and expertise to EU institutions and agencies supporting Greece in the management of asylum and migration issues. Additionally, it establishes a framework for the provision of fundamental rights best practices to the Ministry.

FRA will share with the Ministry expertise and best practices concerning fundamental rights issues connected to the reception and identification of newly arriving migrants and asylum seekers, covering in particular areas, such as initial reception upon arrival, identification and registration procedures, identification and referral of persons with specific protection needs (e. g. unaccompanied children, suspected victims of trafficking and vulnerable people); reception conditions; child protection safeguards; respect for the right to be heard and the right to an effective remedy.

For the purpose of implementing this Memorandum of Understanding, FRA will send experts to Greece. The deployment of experts will be coordinated with the European Commission Athens Office of the Structural Reform Support Service and with the consent of the Ministry of Migration.

FRA staff accredited by the Hellenic authorities will be provided with access to the reception and identification centres used to host migrants and asylum seekers in coordination with the responsible authorities.



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FRA staff will provide regular briefings to the Ministry on a monthly basis. FRA undertakes to keep confidential any information, document or other material provided by the Hellenic authorities. Should activities foreseen under this Memorandum result in a fact-finding report by the Agency, it shall be communicated to the Minister for opinion before publication and should include any complementary observations the Ministry may wish to make. FRA staff will respect the confidentiality of all migrants' personal information it might gather.

The Ministry and FRA shall bear their own expenses which may arise when implementing the present Memorandum of Understanding, unless otherwise agreed on a case-by-case basis. The Ministry and FRA will assess regularly the progress made in the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding. It may be amended and supplemented at any time by mutual consent between the Ministry and FRA.

The Memorandum of Understanding is concluded for a period of six months and will be extended after agreement between the Ministry and FRA.

Done in Brussels on 30 November 2016 in duplicate copy in the English language.

For the Ministry  
Minister  
Ioannis Mouzalas

For FRA  
Director  
Michael O'Flaherty