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人权理事会

第三十七届会议

2018年2月26日至3月23日

议程项目3

促进和保护所有人权——公民权利、政治权利、  
经济、社会及文化权利，包括发展权

## 希腊常驻联合国日内瓦办事处代表团 2018年3月29日 致联合国人权事务高级专员办事处的普通照会

希腊常驻联合国日内瓦办事处和其他国际组织代表团向联合国人权事务高级专员办事处致意，并谨就(“非政府组织”(“FWTTE”提交的书面声明(A/HRC/37/NGO/157)，随函附上一份书面声明，作为对上述(“非政府组织”的回应(见附件)。

希腊常驻代表团谨请将本普通照会及其附件\* 作为人权理事会第三十七届会议的文件分发。

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\* 附件不译，原文照发。



**Annex to the note verbale dated 29 March 2018 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**Comments of the Greek Government in relation to the written statement A/HRC/37/NGO/157**

It is deplorable that the “NGO” “FWTTE” continues to make biased and inaccurate references to a “Turkish community” in Thrace, thus clearly displaying not only a total ignorance of the international legal order but also lack of good faith on minority issues. It is in fact not the Greek Authorities but the 1923 Lausanne Peace Treaty, to which Greece fully abides by, that officially recognizes a Muslim minority in Thrace, not a Turkish one.

Greece fully respects international law, fundamental human rights, as well as minority rights and religious freedoms, a commitment carried out by both the State and civil society.

We have proven time and again our unwavering dedication to addressing issues pertaining to the Greek citizens that are members of the Muslim minority in Thrace, with full respect to the principle of equality and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the 1923 Lausanne Peace Treaty, the Greek Constitution and the religious and cultural background of the minority.

Furthermore, rule of law and freedom of association are fundamental principles of the Greek legal order, and as such apply to all citizens without any ethnic, cultural or religious discrimination, in compliance with the existing national and international legal frameworks. The Greek citizens belonging to the Muslim minority in Thrace are considered equals before the law and are treated as such.

The progress that Greece has achieved towards the full implementation of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, as well as the recommendations of the Council of Europe, is clear for all to see. The recent amendment of our Code of Civil Procedure, with the adoption of Law 4491/2017 is evidence that we keep addressing any issues which the Muslim minority might have.

With regard to specific cases mentioned by the “NGO” “FWTTE”, we note that it falls within the discretion of the associations in question to pursue any legal action pertaining to the recognition of their legal status before a domestic court or before the European Court of Human Rights.

Greece, for its part, will continue to step up its efforts in pursuing comprehensive minority policies for the Muslim minority of Thrace.

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