

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
GREEK NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Neofytou Vamva 6 (3rd floor), GR 106 74 Athens, Greece, Tel: +30 210 7233221-2;
fax: +30 210 7233217; e-mail: info@nchr.gr, website: www.nchr.gr

<p>The Issue of Inclusion of Religious Affiliation in Greek Citizens' Identity Cards</p>

The Commission adopted a resolution noting that the inclusion of religious affiliation in Greek citizens' identity cards is not in compliance with the Greek Constitution (article 5 paras 1 and 2 and article 13), and with current international and European human rights law, as well as European Community law. The Commission pointed out that the use of religion as an element for the determination of the identity of a given person conflicts with religious freedom and, more specifically, with one's right not to declare or to remain silent as to his/her religious beliefs. This practice gives rise to dangers of possible discrimination on the basis of religious beliefs, as past experience has shown.

13 July 2000