

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
GREEK NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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Resolution on Terrorism and Human Rights in the Aftermath of 11.09.2001
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The National Commission for Human Rights,

Expresses its revulsion at the terrorist blow struck on 11 September 2001 against the USA which cost the tragic killing of thousands of innocent victims and caused unprecedented upheaval not only in American society but in the whole international community.

It urges the appropriate organs of the international community and all governments, including the Greek Government, to undertake all necessary action for the arrest and lawful punishment of those guilty of the terrorist attack of 11 September 2001, and a radical approach to the causes which led to it and lead in general to the phenomenon of terrorism and its exacerbation.

It would, however, remind them that any action against terrorists at a world, European, and national level should not violate or threaten human rights. The safeguarding of world peace is the principal objective both of the United Nations Charter and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The realisation of this objective can only be based on respect for human rights.

It stresses that the values of our civilisation and the principles of European public order, which are an indicator of behaviour and the basis of the open

democratic society which the citizens of our countries founded by means of harsh struggles, are *par excellence* in harmony with the above principles and must be protected from any danger. International terrorism is certainly such a serious danger, but so is any excessive reaction which includes military preparations and actions which risk dividing humanity and producing new, incomparably more numerous, innocent victims, thus intensifying the vicious circle of bloodshed.

Athens, 20 September 2001