

**HELLENIC REPUBLIC**  
**GREEK NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

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<p><b>Decision regarding the Continuing Use by Greece of Anti- Personnel Mines in Border Areas</b></p>
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The NCHR welcomed the deposition by Greece of the instrument of ratification of the Anti-Personnel Mine Convention (Law 2999/2002) at the United Nations on 25 September 2003. However, the NCHR expressed its grave concern at the continuing use by Greece of anti-personnel mines in border areas that have caused a large number of victims including asylum seekers and irregular immigrants. This has been a practice that violates the fundamental human right to life entrenched in international human rights law, as well as basic international principles of refugee protection.

The NCHR called upon the Greek State to immediately de-mine the above areas, to destroy the anti-personnel mines currently on stock and to avoid their use in the future.

30 October 2003