

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
GREEK NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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Comments on Bill titled ‘Providing Legal Aid to Persons with Low Income’

The Commission submitted to the Greek Ministry of Justice its comments on the above Bill (later Law 3226/2004). The major issues raised by the Commission were the following:

(a) The Commission maintained that the provision of legal aid to non-nationals should not be conditional upon the latter’s legal or habitual residence within the European Union;

(b) The Commission proposed that legal aid should be expanded so as to cover both administrative law litigation and preliminary (including legal counseling) stages of all legal proceedings (civil, criminal and administrative);

(c) The Commission also recommended that legal aid should be provided to asylum seekers and refugees as well as to victims of racial discrimination.

30 October 2003