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PRESS RELEASE

Meeting of the Ombudsman with the Minister of Citizens' Protection

The Ombudsman Andreas Potakis met today with Minister of Citizens' Protection, Michalis Chrisochoidis, in response to the latter's invitation.

Mr. Pottakis had the opportunity to present to the Ministry's political leadership and the headship of the Hellenic Police the key findings of the first report of the Independent Authority in its capacity as the National Mechanism for investigating incidents of arbitrariness in security forces and in detention facilities (EMIDIPA) which categorize the basic pathogenicity forms in the disciplinary control of its officers regarding incidents of arbitrary behaviour.

The Ombudsman also emphasized on the country's commitment to international organizations to further enhance the effectiveness of EMIDIPA and received assurances that a series of legislative measures towards this direction will soon be on the way. Mr. Pottakis informed the participants that the next report of the Mechanism shall focus particularly on the extent to which the law enforcement authorities act effectively upon the Authority's remarks and recommendations.

Upon completion of the meeting, the Ombudsman highlighted the mutual understanding and the strong political will expressed by the Minister to take every step so that incidents of arbitrary behaviour in the law enforcement authorities are dealt with in the most suitable manner.

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