

**GREEK HELSINKI MONITOR (GHM)
MINORITY RIGHTS GROUP – GREECE (MRG – G)**

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1999 ACTIVITY REPORT

Trial Monitoring

- 14 October (Patras): Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G) monitored the trial of the “Union of Turkish Teachers of Western Thrace,” charged for participation in an unlawful association (article 188 of the Greek Penal Code), for having used the term Turkish. The trial was postponed sine die.

Conferences, Workshops, Seminars, Public Lectures

[with participation and sometimes presentations by our members]

- 26-28 February (Ohrid, Macedonia): Representatives of Helsinki Committees from Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Greece, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Serbia, Slovakia and the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (IHF) met in Ohrid, Macedonia, as part of the project “NGO Human Rights Cooperation in the Framework of the Royaumont Process.” Participation by Panayote Dimitras (GHM).
- 5-6 March (Istanbul, Turkey): Conference organized by Bogazici University on “The Image of the Turk in Europe from the Declaration of the Turkish Republic in 1923 to 1990s.” Participation by Christina Rougheri (GHM) who presented a paper on “The Image of the Turk in the Greek Media.”
- 5-7 March (Budapest, Hungary): Conference organized under the auspices of Aspen Institute Berlin, C.S. Mott Foundation, Council of Europe, European Cultural Foundation, Freedom House-US AID Democracy Network, King Baudouin Foundation, Soros Foundation Hungary on “Southeastern Europe: An Agenda for the 21st Century.” Participation by Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G).
- 12-15 March (Sofia, Bulgaria): Greek Helsinki Monitor and Minority Rights Group - Greece, participated at a Regional Program Planning Meeting of MRG – International on “Southeast Europe: Diversity and Democracy.” Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G).
- 15-16 March (Sofia, Bulgaria): Conference co-organized by Columbia University (The Center for the Study of Human Rights) and the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, on “Islam and Human Rights in Post-Communist Europe.”

Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM), with a presentation on the “Muslims and Human Rights in Greece”, Maria Koinova (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G).

- 22 March (Vienna, Austria): OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Freedom of Religion. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G)
- 27-28 March (Bucharest, Romania): “Roles and Responsibilities in Securing Stability in South East Europe. A Dialogue between Civil Society and State Authorities”. Conference organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, and the Romanian Helsinki Committee - Center for Human Rights. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM).
- April 5 (Utica, NY): Mariana Lenkova (GHM) was a keynote speaker at Utica College of Syracuse University. She spoke on "The Human Rights Advocate: an Emerging Profession."
- 10-11 April (Budapest, Hungary): “International NGO Consultation on EU Matters and Projects”. Conference organized by European House, Budapest. Participation by Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G).
- 17-18 April (Geneva, Switzerland): Extended Steering Committee Meeting of the Human Rights Defenders Summit (which took place in Paris, on December 1998). Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM), member of the Ex St Comm.
- 24-25 April (Eisenkappel, Austria): Alternative Information Network workshop. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G)
- 29-30 April (Sofia, Bulgaria): Seminar organized by the Bulgarian Media Coalition, International Press Institute, Article 19, Open Society Institute (COLPI) and IREX-ProMedia on "Media Freedom of Press in Bulgaria". Participation by Maria Koinova (GHM).
- 20-21 May (Cologne, Germany): European Media Conference, “Cultural Diversity against Racism”, organized by the European Institute for the Media, West German Radio and Television Corporation and the European Monitoring on Racism and Xenophobia (Vienna). Participation of Gregory Vallianatos (GHM).
- 22 May (Athens, Greece): Dionysis Gousetis (GHM) participated at the festival “Panagoulia”, organized by the Municipality and the Cultural Center of Aghios Dimitrios, in the memory of Alekos Panagoulis. He made a presentation entitled “Peace in the Balkans”.
- 26-28 May (Budapest, Hungary): On 27 May, in the context of the events organized for the Human Rights Week at the European Youth Center of Budapest, Panayote Dimitras (GHM) was responsible for the workshop on “Civil Rights”.
- 6 June (Athens, Greece): Dionysis Gousetis participated at a round table organized by the Cultural Association of the Municipality of Likovrisi on “The Wars in the Balkans”.
- 11 June (Budapest, Hungary): CIVICUS meeting of International non-governmental organizations, held by the European House. Christina Rougheri

(GHM) made a presentation for the seminar on “Information Technology – The New Way to an Inclusive Society?”

- 18-19 June (Sofia, Bulgaria): “Balkan Roma Conference for Peace and Security”, organized by the European Roma Rights Center (Budapest) and the Human Rights Project (Sofia). Participation of Dimitris Angelidis (GHM) and Maria Koinova (GHM).
- 19-20 June (Delphes, Greece): General Assembly of the Forum of Social and Youth Organizations for Human Rights. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G)
- 19-21 June (Prague, Check Republic): Conference in the Framework of the Student Forum 2000. “Young people in the Global Society – Challenges and Perspectives for Education”. Participation of Christina Rougheri (GHM).
- 24-26 June (Ohrid, Macedonia): Conference organized by the International Federation of Journalists on “Conflict Reporting and the Media: The Role of Journalism in the Prevention and Resolution of Conflict.” Presentation made by Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G) on “Respect for diversity-related issues in the prevention and resolution of conflict”. Participation also of Donyssis Goussetis (GHM)
- 24 June (Essex, England): Minority Rights Seminar on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM).
- 27-29 June (Moscow, Russia): International Helsinki Federation and Moscow Helsinki Group meeting on “Human Rights Violations on the Territory of Balkan Peninsula.” Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM)
- 28 June - 3 July (Budapest, Hungary): Advocacy Rights Training Seminar organized by Minority Rights Group International. Participation of Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G) and Christina Rougheri (GHM).
- 6 September (Vienna, Austria): OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Roma and Sinti Issues. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G).
- 21-22 September (Vienna, Austria): OSCE Review Meeting: sessions on stateless, minorities and the Roma. Interventions made by Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G).
- 23-25 September (Herceg Novi, Montenegro): "Seminar on Minority Rights and Freedom of Religion in Balkan Countries." Organized by the International Helsinki Federation, the Montenegrin Helsinki Committee for Human Rights and Greek Helsinki Monitor. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G).
- 24 - 28 September (Salonica, Greece): Seminar organized by the "Doctors of the World" (Greece) for young volunteers on "Training in [the] Humanitarian Action" [for young volunteers]. Participation of Christina Rougheri (GHM) who made a presentation on "Interviewing Minority Groups".

- 1 October (Athens, Greece): A conference organized by Save the Children - Greece on "Asoun Man: Promoting the Social Integration of Roma". Participation by Christina Rougheri (GHM) and Dimitris Angelidis (GHM).
- 8 October (Athens, Greece): Greek Helsinki Monitor and Minority Rights Group – Greece organized an In Camera Meeting with the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities Mr. Max van der Stoel and his advisor Mr. John Packer. In the meeting were present representatives of the Turkish and Macedonian national minorities of Greece, the Catholics and Jehovah's Witnesses, the Greek Ombudsman and Deputy Ombudsman, representatives of NGOs, as well as political parties and intellectuals.
- 10 - 13 October (Prague, Czech Republic): Forum 2000 Conference on the "Process of World Integration - Alternative Visions". The conference took place under the auspices of the President of Czech Republic with participants from all over the world (intellectuals, politicians, and journalists). Participation of Christina Rougheri (GHM) who made a panel presentation on the "Visions of Countries in Transition and the Developed World".
- 20 October (Athens, Greece): Greek Helsinki Monitor and Minority Rights Group – Greece organized the briefing of the contact mission to Greece of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance by minority representatives. They had discussions with representatives from the Turkish and the Macedonian minorities, Jehovah's Witnesses and Catholics, Roma and Immigrant Communities.
- 21-22 October (Athens, Greece): Workshop on NGO Empowerment in Preventing Torture in South Eastern Europe organized by the European Association for the Prevention of Torture and the Greek Medical Rehabilitation Center. Participation of Nafsika Papanikolatos (GHM).
- 20-23 October (Athens, Greece): Conference on The Greek Civil War: from Varkiza to Grammos organized by the Department of Political Science and Sociology of Athens University, attended by Panayote Dimitras (GHM) on the sessions concerning the participation of the Macedonian minority in the Greek Civil War.
- 25 October (Athens, Greece): Conference on "The Platform of the European Social Non-Governmental Organizations in Greece" organized by the National Confederation of Disabled Persons. Participation of Gregory Vallianatos (GHM).
- 29-30 October (Szeged, Hungary): Seminar organized by the European Commission and the Council of Europe "On the Role of National Minorities in Electronic Media and Transfrontier Broadcasting. Participation as expert of Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G and coordinator of CEDIME-SE). She presented a paper on "Minorities in the Era of Modern Electronic Media and the Internet".
- 30-31 October (Paris, France): Meeting of the Extended Steering Committee of the Human Rights Defenders Summit. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM).
- 1 November (Athens Greece): Briefing on human rights in Greece of the Greek member of the European Parliament and member of the Parliamentary Commission for Civil Liberties and Human Rights, Justice and Internal Affairs, Ms. Anna

Karamanou, by Greek NGOs. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G).

- 11-13 November (Lisbon, Portugal): Fourth International MigCities Conference Migrants and Minorities in European Cities European Policies towards immigrants at the turn of the millennium organised by CEDIME, Center on Studies over Migration and Minorities and CEMRI, Center on Studies on Immigration and Intercultural Relations. Participation of Panayote Dimitras as discussant.
- 20 November (Thessaloniki, Greece): Round Table on “Racism and Xenophobia in Greece Today” organized by the Greek delegations to ECRI and the Vienna Observatory. Participation of Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nikos Katsaris (MRG – G).
- 25-27 November (Ohrid, Macedonia): The Council of Europe, in collaboration with the International Helsinki Federation and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, organized a forum on "Promoting Compliance With International Human Rights Standards" for non-governmental organizations in South-east Europe and neighboring states. Participation by Christina Rougheri (GHM).
- 3-4 December (Warsaw, Poland): Regional Seminar on the Implementation of Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Central and South East Europe organised by the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights. Participation and presentation by Dimitris Angelidis (GHM).
- 11-15 December (Berlin, Germany): First meeting of participants in the TRANSFUSE Project organized by Aspen Institute. The general theme of the meeting was MEDIA. Participation by Christina Rougheri (GHM), one of the two Greek members of this international group.
- 10-12 December (Amsterdam, Holland): “Essay International” Meeting on Connecting Practices and Ideas: A Platform For Dialogue, organized by The Felix Meritis Foundation, The Informal Working Body of Gulliver and The Network of European Reviews. Participation and presentation by Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G), Greek member of “Essay International.”
- 10-11 December (Istanbul, Turkey) Round Table Debate organized by the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights and the Helsinki Citizens Assembly in cooperation with the Council of Europe, on “The Application of Human Rights Standards Adopted by Turkey as a Member State of the Council of Europe and the OSCE.” Presentations on Minority Rights and Freedom of Expression by Panayote Dimitras (GHM).

Fact - Finding Missions

- 1-18 February. Maria Koinova undertook a fact-finding mission in Macedonia to collect first hand information on its minorities, which would then be used for the preparation of reports on the Roma, the Turks, the Muslims and the Catholics of Macedonia.
- 19-21 May. Panayote Dimitras (GHM) and Nafsika Papanikolatos (MRG-G) did

a fact-finding mission on the Roma of Kefallonia. They visited their camp and had a meeting with the local authorities (mayor, vice-mayor and social workers) to discuss Roma issues.

- 22-23 May. Panayote Dimitras and Prof. Diane F.Orentlicher, Special Advisor to the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe visited Roma camps in Athens and Thessaloniki and had meetings with Greek government authorities.
- 1 December. Panayote Elias Dimitras and Christina Rougneri, together with Mr. Fredy Stamos from the Prime Minister's Office for the Quality of Life, visited the city of Rio (Peloponese) and three local sites where there are Roma camps. The delegation had meetings with Roma residents of Rio, the municipal and prefectural authorities, as well as the dean of the University of Patras.

Public statements and publications

Press releases of GHM

(most of them are also signed by MRG - G; some by other NGOs too)

[They can all be found usually in both Greek and English in the web site

<http://www.greekhelsinki.gr>

- 25/1/99 IFEX/GHM: Foreign Minister continues verbal attacks against journalists
- 25/1/99 IFEX/GHM: Journalist acquitted
- 29/1/99 IFEX/GHM: Book censorship quashed
- 12/2/99 Athens News Agency and Greek MFA Fabricated "Favorable" Council of Europe Report on Minority in Thrace
- 13/2/99 Continuous Prosecution of Mehmet Emin Aga Violates Freedoms of Expression and Religion
- 15/2/99 IPI Criticizes Greek Government's Press Freedom Record
- 17/2/99 The International Community is Exposed and an Accomplice for the Tragedy of the Kurdish People and for the Ocalan Affair
- 18/2/99 Roma Homes Sacked by Police and Municipal Authorities
- 25/2/99 New threats by the Municipality of Aspropyrgos against the Roma
- 25/2/99 Deposition of a statement on the firing of the Roma camp in Nea Zoi
- 26/2/99 Commitments by the Municipality of Aspropyrgos not to chase away the tent-dwelling Roma of Nea Zoi
- 28/2/99 Helsinki Committees Insist on Fairness, International Observers in Ocalan Trial
- 28/2/99 Some Changes and Some Persistent Human Rights Problems in Macedonia
- 4/3/99 Repeated International Reactions to Discrimination against the Roma of Greece.
- 9/3/99 IFEX/GHM: Editor, journalists charged
- 19/3/99 Public Appeal of a Political Party, 3 Minority Deputies and 27 Minority or Non-Governmental Organizations on the Occasion of the Universal Day Against Racism (21 March)

- 3/4/99 Greek State News Agency Distorts IFJ Statement on B92: Unscrupulous Journalism Reigns Supreme in Greece
- 4/4/99 Letter of Veteran Journalist Richardos Someritis to the Athens Journalists' Union (ESIEA)
- 6/4/99 Letter of Journalist Takis Mihas to the Athens Journalists' Union (ESIEA)
- 13/4/99 Letter of Journalist Pashos Mandravelis to the Athens Journalists' Union (ESIEA)
- 13/4/99 Letter to the Panhellenic Federation of Journalists' Union (POESY) by its Vice-President Christos Telidis
- 21/4/99 Greek-Bulgarian NGO Appeal for Peaceful Resolution of Yugoslav Conflict
- 29/4/99 IFEX – Twenty-three IFEX members express solidarity with independent media workers in FRY
- 5/5/1999 Greek Government Report on the Humanitarian Situation in FR Yugoslavia
- 3/5/1999 World Press Freedom Day. International Solidarity with Independent Yugoslav Journalists, Forgotten even today by the one-sided Greek Journalists' Unions
- 5/5/1999 Journalist attacked by Journalist
- 31/5/1999 Appeal to Albanian and Greek Governments for Responsible Reaction to Tragic Hostage Crisis
- 19/5/1999 Journalist sentenced (GHM/IFEX)
- 25/5/1999 Journalist sentenced (GHM/IFEX)
- 7/6/1999 CounterPunch and NGOs. Advancement of Journalistic Clarity or Yellow Journalism
- 11/6/1999 Mega TV: Tolerance of fascists not of minorities
- 12/6/1999 A UNHCR Kosovar Writes to Eleftherotypia (Distributed by GHM)
- 1/7/1999 This is Greek Journalism!
- 6/7/1999 Appeal against racism and xenophobia
- 12/7/1999 Intolerant, Provocative, Illegal and Arbitrary Action by the Kassandra Municipality (in Halkidiki) against a religious minority
- 23/7/1999 Public Appeal for the Recognition of National Minorities by 3 Minority Deputies and 13 Minority or Non-Governmental Organizations on the Occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Restoration of Democracy (24 July)
- 16/8/1999 “August: A Time to Expel Gypsies” (under undetermined conditions the expulsion of the Roma in the municipality of Anatoli, Ioanninon)
- 14/9/1999 Appeal for denunciation of racist statements by, and for possible political isolation of, the Zefyri mayor.
- 15/9/1999 In Memoriam: Yannis Kranidiotis (A Politician with sensitivities on Human Rights)
- 20/9/1999 Open Letter to Costas Simitis: Roma (Gypsies) are Greek Citizens too...
- 13/10/1999 Greek Diplomats Improprieties Compromise Greece Internationally
- 13/10/1999 Reopening of Jewish Synagogue revives prejudices
- 22/10/1999 Greek Mini “Krystalnacht” Yesterday in Athens and in Kassandra, Chalkidiki. State responsibility with thousands of accomplices
- 1/11/1999 New Victim of Police Brutality against Roma when continues to linger unduly the unraveling of old cases.

- 29/11/1999 Open Letter to the Prime Minister and the Ministers of Interior and Foreign Affairs: Selective Application of Law by the Greek Authorities; Victims are the Roma and all those (few) who defend them.
- 13/12/1999 Annual Report of Human Rights Watch on Greece; International Report 2000: Greece
- 29/12/1999 Complicity to the Racist Crimes of Kazakos-Apostolou and guilty indifference for the victims
- 30/12/1999 Hellenocentric Reception of the Year 2000 by the Government and Athens' Municipality

Articles by GHM/MRG - G members (and other publications)

[They can all be found in the web site <http://www.greekhelsinki.gr>]

- Panayote Dimitras, "The Astonishing Advance of Greek-Macedonian Relations", in **Reporting MACEDONIA**: the new accommodation, a cross-community reporting project of the Institute for War & Peace Reporting and Search for Common Ground, January 1999 (reprinted from AIM, November, 1998)
- Panayote Dimitras, "When 'Extremes' Can Match and No 'Dominos Are Falling' in the Balkans: the 'Lessons' from the New Macedonian Government" in **Alternative Information Media**, January 1999
- Mariana Lenkova, "Greece's Turks: Last phase of the Ostrich Phenomenon?", in **Alternative Information Media**, January 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, "Greek-Serb Love Story Turns Sour", in **Alternative Information Media**, February 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, "Hypocrisy Over Human Rights. The International Community as Accomplice to the Kurdish Tragedy and to Ocalan's Savage Abduction", in **Alternative Information Media**, February 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, "Greece, Ocalan and the Shadow State", IWPR, **Balkan Crisis Reports**, no. 5, March 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, "Realist Greek Foreign Policy Embarrassed Anew by Returning Anti-Western Serbophilia", in **Alternative Information Media**, March 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, "Greek Orthodox Churches' Discordance Over NATO Strikes", in **Alternative Information Media**, March 1999
- Nafsika Papanikolatos, "When Western Television silences the 'Other Serbia'", in **Alternative Information Media**, April 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, "Shocking Greeks", in **Alternative Information Media**, April 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, "Should Serbian NGOs "Bomb" (or "Ban") RFE/RL", in **Alternative Information Media**, May 1999

- Panayote Dimitras, “Nationalism and Albanophobia on the Greek Elections Campaign Trail”, in **Alternative Information Media**, May 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, “Are Greek Socialists on the Way out?”, in **Alternative Information Media**, June 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, “Kosovo Serb Refugees: Unimportant Detail or The Real Ethnic Cleansing?”, in **Alternative Information Media**, June 1999
- Nafsika Papanikolatos and Panayote Dimitras, “(Non-) Reporting Diversity and its (Non-) Contribution to the Prevention and Resolution of Conflict”, an article presented at the Ohrid conference organized by the International Federation of Journalists and Open Society Macedonia (24/26 June 1999)
- Maria Koinova, "Ethnic and Religious Minorities in Bulgaria", published in the **South-East Europe Review** of the Hans-Boeckler Foundation, (Baden-Baden: Nomos Publishing House), vol. 2, no. 2, June 1999, pp: 147- 158.
- Nafsika Papanikolatos, “Minorities: Sacrificial Lamb at Greek Democracy’s Silver Jubilee”, **Alternative Information Media**, July 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, “Greece: Racist Government Answers to Racism in Rise”, **Alternative Information Media**, July 1999
- Christina Rougheri, “The Pope: Persona Non-Grata in Greece”, **Alternative Information Media**, September 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, “Non-Governmental Organizations in Greece”, **Alternative Information Media**, September 1999
- Panayote Dimitras, “‘People’s Diplomacy’ Spearhead of Greek-Turkish Rapprochement”, **Alternative Information Media** October 1999
- Dimitris Angelidis, “Church of Greece vs. Patriarchate of Constantinople; The Angel of History in the Era of Opinion Polls”, **Alternative Information Media** October 1999
- Nafsika Papanikolatos, “Greek Doctors With(out) Frontiers”, **Alternative Information Media** November 1999
- GHM & MRG-G, “A Contribution against racism in memory of “Kristalnacht”: The Roma in place of the Jews, article in the daily Avghi, 9/11/1999
- Panayote Dimitras, “The Greeks’ Persistent Anti-Americanism”, **Alternative Information Media**, December 1999

- Panayote Dimitras, “A ‘C’ That Made Turkey Happy”, **Alternative Information Media**, December 1999
- Nafsika Papanikolatos, “Western Media and the ‘Other Serbia’”, in the special issue of the **Human Rights Review** on human rights in the Balkans, vol. 1, no 2, forthcoming January-March 2000

(see also CEDIME-SE articles below)

Human rights reports

[They can all be found in the web site <http://www.greekhelsinki.gr>]

- Announcing the Center of Documentation and Information on Minorities in Southeast Europe (1/1/1999)
- Greece: Religious Discrimination and Related Violations of International Commitments (Joint NGO Report Developed for the OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Freedom of Religion, Vienna 22 March 1999)
- Report on Greece to the 1999 OSCE Implementation Meeting – Roma Rights (22/9/1998)
- Report on Greece to the 1999 OSCE Implementation Meeting – Minority Rights (22/9/1998)
- Report on Greece to the 1999 OSCE Implementation Meeting – Stateless Persons (21/9/1999)

(see also CEDIME-SE reports below)

Media Monitoring

- 13/3/1998 Greek Helsinki Monitor reports on the various dimensions of the Kosovo crisis given by the Greek press.

Roma Office Reports

- 29/3/99 Report on the Coverage of the Roma by the Greek Press, January 99
- 29/3/99 January Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office
- 29/3/99 Report on the Coverage of the Roma by the Greek Press, February 99
- 9/4/99 February Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office
- 30/4/99 Report on the Coverage of the Roma by the Greek Press, March 99
- 22/4/99 March Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office

- 29/5/99 Report on the Coverage of the Roma by the Greek Press, April 99
- 25/5/99 April Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office
- 18/6/1999 Report on the Coverage of the Roma by the Greek Press, May 99
- 16/6/1999 May Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office
- 30/7/1999 Report on the Coverage of the Roma by the Greek Press, June 1999
- 30/7/1999 June Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office
- 21/8/1999 Report on the Coverage of the Roma in the Greek Press, July 1999
- 26/8/1999 July Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office
- 4/9/1999 Report on the Coverage of the Roma in the Greek Press, August 1999
- 8/9/1999 August Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office
- 11/10/1999 Report on the Coverage of the Roma in the Greek Press, September, 1999
- 11/10/1999 September Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office
- 15/11/1999 Report on the Coverage of the Roma in the Greek Press, October 1999
- 15/11/1999 October Activity Report of GHM Roma Office
- 23/12/1999 Report on the Coverage of the Roma in the Greek Press, November 1999
- 23/12/1999 November Activity Report of GHM Roma Office
- 7/1/2000 Report on the Coverage of the Roma in the Greek Press, December 1999
- 11/1/2000 December Activity Report of the GHM Roma Office

**CENTER FOR DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION ON
MINORITIES IN EUROPE – SOUTHEAST EUROPE (CEDIME-SE)**

**SHORT NOTE ON CEDIME-SE's EXPERIENCE
FROM THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF WORK, 1998-1999**

In the first two years of its work (1998-1999) CEDIME-SE, set up by GHM and MRG-G, with its modest means, has accomplished three things. First, it has finished comprehensive presentations of Bulgaria's major minorities (Turks, Macedonians, Catholics, and Muslims) available since November 1999 at the electronic address:
<http://www.greekhelsinki.gr/english/reports/CEDIME-Reports-Minorities-in-Bulgaria.html>

and is preparing similar ones for Albania, Macedonia and Greece. In the meantime, information about minorities and minority rights in Greece, in different formats, is available at: http://www.greekhelsinki.gr/Minorities_of_Greece.html .

Secondly, CEDIME-SE has set up in the Internet the Balkan Human Rights Web Pages (<http://www.greekhelsinki.gr/>) and the Balkan Human Rights Listserve, where it circulates and/or stores and/or provides links to most credible information on human and minority rights in the Balkans.

Thirdly, it has compiled two series of articles about minorities in Europe in general and specifically in Southeast Europe, presented at a conference at the University of Montpellier (March 1998), and in a special issue of "Speaking About Rights" (August 1999) published by the Canadian Human Rights Foundation. Another article was presented at a conference in Szeged, Hungary (October 1999) organized by the "Joint Program between the European Commission and the Council of Europe on National Minorities in Europe" where CEDIME-SE's coordinator was invited as an expert. They can all be found at: <http://www.greekhelsinki.gr/english/organizations/cedime.html>

The minorities' presentations aim to be powerful analytical tools at the hands of every researcher, policy-maker, human/minority rights activist, etc. They are the most extensive to date comprehensive reports on these minorities, compiling most of the available knowledge elsewhere plus primary information collected by the researchers. They also include extensive bibliographies and as complete as possible address lists of minority institutions. The high quality of these presentations is guaranteed by the fact that many experts on each minority review them.

The Listserve and the Web Pages provide on a daily basis the largest possible information on human and especially minority issues in the Balkan countries. The main premise is that there is a large number of IGOs, NGOs and other institutions that are monitoring human and minority rights in each country. CEDIME-SE, through its various networks, is in close cooperation with some 60 of them, plus receives material from another 20. The use of the Internet here aims at providing one quick but also comprehensive guide to all this material: some of it may be found scattered in tens of other web sites; other was simply not available electronically before, but CEDIME-SE has created, in its own site, web pages for a score of such NGOs and has hosted their material so as to make it readily available.

One specific direction of this compilation is to report along the lines of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. The related Advisory Committee has encouraged NGOs to prepare alternative reports to the state ones so as to help it better review the latter. Following consultation with CEDIME-SE's advisor (also Vice-President of the Advisory Committee for the FCNM) Alan Philips, the CEDIME-SE team has initiated, through Greek Helsinki Monitor such reporting by it and 14 other Helsinki Committees from Central and Southeast Europe (from Poland down to Greece), in the framework of a Royaumont IHF project. A special web page with these reports, available state reports, various texts of -and related to- the FCNM, as well as important publications on the FCNM has been prepared at the address: <http://www.greekhelsinki.gr/english/reports/CEDIME-FCNM.html> .

Greek Helsinki Monitor and Minority Rights Group - Greece would like to acknowledge the sponsorship of the Open Society Institute (Budapest), the European Roma Rights Center, the International Helsinki Federation, EU's Royaumont Program, Alternative Information Media Network (AIM), the Swiss and Greek Foreign Ministries, and the Communication and Political Research Society.