

Human Rights Council

Complaint Procedure Form

- You are kindly requested to submit your complaint in writing in one of the six official UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) and to use these languages in any future correspondence;
- Anonymous complaints are not admissible;
- It is recommended that your complaint does not exceed eight pages, excluding enclosures.
- You are kindly requested not to use abusive or insulting language.

I. Information concerning the author (s) of the communication or the alleged victim (s) if other than the author

Individual

Group of individuals

NGO

Other X

Submitting the complaint: "Katoikoi kai Filoi Prosfygikon L. Alexandras NON PROFIT CIVIL LAW COMPANY" ((Residents and Friends of Prosfygika at Av. Alexandras NON PROFIT CIVIL LAW COMPANY)

On behalf of other persons: (Please specify): The largest part of the more than 400 residents of Prosfygika Alexandras Avenue, Athens, Greece and of the whole Community of Squatted Prosfygika

II. Information on the State concerned

Name of the State concerned and, as applicable, name of public authorities responsible for the alleged violation(s):

Hellenic Republic. Responsible authorities: Region of Attica (*Periféria Attikís*), Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Greek Public Employment Service (DYPA), Ministry of Citizen Protection (Hellenic Police).

III. Facts of the complaint and nature of the alleged violation(s)

The complaint procedure addresses consistent patterns of gross and reliably attested violations of all human rights and all fundamental freedoms occurring in any part of the world and under any circumstances.

Please detail, in chronological order, the facts and circumstances of the alleged violations including dates, places and alleged perpetrators and how you consider that the facts and circumstances described violate your rights or that of the concerned person(s).

Legal Framework and Alleged Violations: The imminent threat of forced eviction and planned state intervention without community consultation violate binding human rights standards. The actions and inactions of the Greek state threaten to violate the following core international and European obligations:

- UDHR Article 25(1);
- ICESCR Article 11.1 (acceded by Greece on 16/05/1985), as interpreted by CESCR General Comments No. 4 (1991) and No. 7 (1997);
- Convention on the Rights of the Child, Articles 16.1 and 27.3 (ratified 11/05/1993);
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, Article 43(1);
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Articles 2, 5(3), 9(1)(a), 19(a); 22(1), 28(1), 28(2)(d) (ratified 31/05/2012);
- CEDAW, Article 14.2(h) (ratified 07/06/1983);
- ICERD, Article 5(e)(iii) (ratified 18/06/1970);
- ICCPR, Article 17 (acceded 05/05/1997);
- ECHR, Article 8 – Right to respect for private and family life (re-ratified 28/11/1974);
- Revised European Social Charter (ratified 18/03/2026), Articles 16 and 31;
- Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, Article 34(3);
- Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, Article 8 (Partnership Principle – mandatory consultation of civil society in EU fund management).

The actions (and inactions) of the Greek state threaten to violate the following core violations of obligations of human rights under the Greek Laws:

Violation of the Right to Adequate Housing

- Article 21(4) Constitution of Greece: “The acquisition of housing by persons who are homeless or inadequately housed is an object of special care of the State.”
- Article 21(3) Constitution of Greece: “The State must adopt measures for the protection and care of vulnerable persons and those living in poverty.”
- Law 4052/2012: Establishes social protection mechanisms and welfare support for vulnerable persons.
- Law 4359/2016 (incorporating the European Social Charter into Greek law): The right to housing (With a view to ensuring the effective exercise of the right to housing, the Parties

undertake to take measures designed: ... to prevent and reduce homelessness with a view to its gradual elimination)

- ❑ Law 4636/2019: Provides accommodation rights and reception conditions for asylum seekers and vulnerable groups.

Violation of the Inviolability of the Home

- ❑ Article 9(1) Constitution of Greece “The home is inviolable and private and family life must be protected.”
- ❑ Article 57 Civil Code: Protects individuals against unlawful interference with personality rights, including privacy and home.
- ❑ Article 59 Civil Code: Provides compensation for moral damage resulting from violations of personality rights.

Violation of the Right to Judicial Protection and Due Process

- ❑ Article 20(1) Constitution of Greece: Guarantees the right of every person to judicial protection and access to courts.
- ❑ Articles 933–938 Code of Civil Procedure: Provide remedies against enforcement measures.
- ❑ Articles 992–1001 Code of Civil Procedure: Regulate enforcement procedures including evictions.

Violation of the Principle of Equality and Non-Discrimination

- ❑ Article 4(1) Constitution of Greece: Equality of all persons before the law.
- ❑ Article 4(2) Constitution of Greece: Equal rights and obligations for men and women.
- ❑ Article 5(2) Constitution of Greece: Protection of all persons within Greek territory regardless of nationality.
- ❑ Law 4443/2016: Prohibits discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, disability, age, or sexual orientation in employment and access to goods and services including housing.

Violation of the Right to Human Dignity and Personal Development

- ❑ Article 2(1) Constitution of Greece: Respect and protection of human dignity constitute the primary obligation of the State.
- ❑ Article 5(1) Constitution of Greece: Right to free development of personality and participation in social and economic life.
- ❑ Article 57 Civil Code: Protection of personality against unlawful infringement.

Violation of the Protection of Family and Children

- Article 21(1) Constitution of Greece: Family, motherhood, and childhood are under State protection.
- Law 2101/1992: Ratifies the Convention on the Rights of the Child and ensures adequate living conditions for children.

Background: The Prosfygika housing complex on Alexandras Avenue, Athens, consists of 8 Bauhaus-style building blocks with 228 apartments, built by the state between 1933 and 1936 to house Greek refugees from Asia Minor. The site bears visible bullet and mortar scars from the December 1944 Battle of Athens. In the early 2000s, the Greek state planned to demolish the complex for commercial development. Most original residents were forced to sell their homes at below-market prices or were expropriated. 177 apartments passed into state ownership. However, 51 residents resisted and, supported by solidarity groups and the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), appealed successfully to the Supreme Administrative Court of Greece. Through decisions (verified as laws of the Greek State) by the Ministry of Culture: ΥΠΠΟ/ΔΙΝΕΣΑΚ/Β/803/63030/2003, ΥΠΠΟ/ΔΙΝΕΣΑΚ/118103π.ε./2896/2009 combined with the decisions of the Supreme Administrative Court of Greece: ΣτΕ 3050/2004, ΣτΕ 3059/2009, ΣτΕ 1507/2010, ΣτΕ 2274/2011, ΣτΕ 1970/2012) the buildings were officially declared preserved historic monuments. Despite this legal victory, the Greek state abandoned the largely emptied buildings, allowing them to decay. Over time, vulnerable individuals lacking housing alternatives sought shelter in the vacant apartments. By 2010, residents began to organize, forming the Assembly and subsequently the Community of Squatted Prosfygika.

Current Community: Today, more than 400 residents from 27 countries speaking 20 languages reside in the complex. The community includes families with more than 50 children, women, elderly individuals, people with chronic illnesses, immigrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and individuals in addiction rehabilitation. For 16 years the community has operated as one of Europe's largest self-organized neighborhoods, running over 22 open, self-organized social welfare structures, not only to the residents but also to the broader population of Athens. Key structures include:

1. **Education and Childcare:** The "Children's House" and the "Self-Organized Nursery School" operate daily, providing a full educational program complementary to the public school system. This structure works in direct cooperation with local public schools, parents' associations, and teachers' unions nationwide.
2. **Healthcare and Solidarity:** The "Health Structure and Social Pharmacy" offers vital care to residents and neighbors in need, collaborating with dozens of self-organized health clinics and healthcare workers' unions at a panhellenic level. Furthermore, the community runs a "Hosting Structure for Patients and their Companions," providing free accommodation for people receiving treatment at the nearby Anticancer Hospital "St. Savvas," in direct cooperation with the hospital employees' union.
3. **Food Security:** The Collective Bakery "Berkin Elvan" produces bread and pastries daily, feeding both the community and residents of the wider neighborhood.

4. **Protection of Women:** The "Women's Structure" focuses on the empowerment of women and femininities, fostering a culture opposed to the patriarchal system, and functioning as a crucial emergency shelter for women in crisis.

The community is legally represented by "Katoikoi kai Filoi Prosfygikon L. Alexandras" Non-Profit Civil Law Company.

Chronology of Alleged Violations:

Past 10 Years – Systematic Repression: The Greek state has engaged in a consistent pattern of repression. Apart from the daily repression through surveillance (drones of the police, civil police in the neighborhood, even by traffic cameras that target the buildings instead of the streets), hundreds of illegal detentions and arrests (releasing the victims with no charges after many hours) and constant provocation by the police passing through the neighborhood (verbal and showing their guns threatening even minors), there have been four major violent police attacks (2016, 2019, 2022, 2024) resulting in arrests, injuries, imprisonments (defendants later found innocent), and reported torture including of minors. Tear gas used during operations affected patients at the nearby hospitals.

June 16, 2025: A programmatic contract was secretly signed between the Ministry of Culture, the Region of Attica, and DYPA (Public Employment Service) for the "Restoration of four (4) refugee apartment blocks." The contract uses 15 million Euro of EU structural funds (NSRF – National Strategic Reference Framework) and completely omits the existence of the 400 residents, treating the inhabited buildings as vacant, thereby bypassing any obligation for consultation or alternative housing provision. This constitutes a breach of the EU Partnership Principle under Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, Article 8.

January 14, 2026: An article hosting the interview with Attica Regional Governor Nikos Chardalias, published in "newmoney.gr," explicitly confirmed that emptying the complex for construction will be executed by the police (Ministry of Protection of Citizen), confirming an imminent plan for a violent mass eviction.

Ongoing: To protect their fundamental rights as well as the historical and collective memory of the buildings, as listed monument of modern history, the community advocates for a "Zero Evictions" approach supported by the International Alliance of Inhabitants, proposing a phased renovation plan, organized by the Community, its legal entity (Non Profit Civil Law Company), the Committee for the promotion and defense of Prosfygika and its collective memory, as well as with the collaborating group of architects, civil engineers, archaeologists and academics that have already been working on it, that allows residents to remain on-site. The community is actively mobilizing to highlight the state's violation of the UN International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)—specifically Article 11 and General Comments No. 4 and 7 regarding protection against forced evictions and the right to adequate alternative housing—as well as the violation of the EU Partnership Principle (Article 8 of Regulation EU 2021/1060) in managing EU funds due to the authorities' refusal to consult with the affected civil society.

February 5, 2026 - ongoing: Due to the imminent threat to their lives and the complete absence of any institutional dialogue, a resident began an indefinite hunger strike, with others preparing to join.

Nature of the Violations: The state is orchestrating a collective forced eviction without individualized proportionality assessments, without consultation, and without providing adequate alternative housing, directly violating procedural safeguards required by General Comment No. 7 of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The planned use of police force against a highly vulnerable population – including children, elderly persons, the sick, refugees, and asylum seekers – constitutes gross violations of fundamental human rights under both international and domestic law, including Article 21(4) and Article 9(1) of the Greek Constitution, Law 4052/2012, Law 4359/2016, and Law 4636/2019.

IV. Exhaustion of domestic remedies

1- Steps taken by or on behalf of the alleged victim(s) to exhaust domestic remedies– please provide details on the procedures which have been pursued, including recourse to the courts and other public authorities as well as national human rights institutions¹, the claims made, at which times, and what the outcome was:

In the past, residents successfully appealed to the Supreme Administrative Court of Greece (Council of State), achieving formal preservation of the historic buildings as monuments through decisions (verified as laws of the Greek State) by the Ministry of Culture: ΥΠΠΟ/ΔΙΝΕΣΑΚ/Β/803/63030/2003, ΥΠΠΟ/ΔΙΝΕΣΑΚ/118103π.ε./2896/2009, combined with the decisions of the Supreme Administrative Court of Greece: ΣτΕ 3050/2004, ΣτΕ 3059/2009, ΣτΕ 1507/2010, ΣτΕ 2274/2011, ΣτΕ 1970/2012). These decisions and judgments prevent demolition combined with other clauses and provisions about any given plan of renovation of the buildings, which are totally neglected in the programmatic contract (June 2025) by the Regional Government of Attica and by the other parts that sign the contract, especially by the Ministry of Culture, but do not shield current residents from eviction, as gentrification pressures, the acute housing crisis in Athens, and the extreme real estate value of the central location have made the complex a target for commercial exploitation. The state has not provided any alternative housing mechanism.

2- If domestic remedies have not been exhausted on grounds that their application would be ineffective or unreasonably prolonged, please explain the reasons in detail:

Domestic remedies are currently ineffective because the eviction is being planned as an abrupt police operation rather than a formal administrative or judicial eviction process. The June 16, 2025 programmatic contract completely ignores the residents' existence, preventing them from legally challenging an eviction order that does not formally name them. Common practice by Greek authorities in such cases involves extreme police violence without prior notice, making preventive legal recourse impossible and exposing residents to irreparable harm before courts can intervene. The prohibitive cost

¹ National human rights institutions, established and operating under the Principles Relating to the Status of National Institutions (the Paris Principles), in particular in regard to quasi-judicial competence, may serve as effective means of addressing individual human rights violations.

and duration of Greek judicial proceedings further render formal legal challenges inaccessible to a community composed largely of unemployed, stateless, or otherwise vulnerable individuals.

1- Have you already submitted the same matter to a special procedure, a treaty body or other United Nations or similar regional complaint procedures in the field of human rights?

No. This matter has not yet been formally submitted to any other special procedure, treaty body, or regional complaint mechanism. An Urgent Appeal to the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing is being prepared as a parallel step.

2- If so, detail which procedure has been, or is being pursued, which claims have been made, at which times, and the current status of the complaint before this body:

.....

VI. Request for confidentiality

In case the communication complies with the admissibility criteria set forth in Council resolution 5/1, kindly note that it will be transmitted to the State concerned so as to obtain the views of the latter on the allegations of violations.

Please state whether you would like your identity or any specific information contained in the complaint to be kept confidential.

Request for confidentiality (*Please tick as appropriate*): Yes No ☒

Please indicate which information you would like to be kept confidential: Given the public nature of the hunger strike and the community's active public advocacy, the authors request NO general confidentiality. However, the personal data (names, contact details, health status) of individuals should be treated as confidential and not disclosed to the State without prior consent.

Date: 3/4/2026

Signature: Nikolaos Kolokotronis / Xrisovalanto Siova

N.B. The blanks under the various sections of this form indicate where your responses are required. You should take as much space as you need to set out your responses. Your complaint should not exceed eight pages.

VII. Checklist of supporting documents

Please provide copies (not original) of supporting documents (kindly note that these documents will not be returned) in one of the six UN official languages.

- Decisions of domestic courts and authorities on the claim made (a copy of the relevant national legislation is also helpful):
- Complaints sent to any other procedure mentioned in section V (and any decisions taken under that procedure):
- Any other evidence or supporting documents deemed necessary: The following documents are enclosed or available upon request:

1. Programmatic Contract (June 16, 2025) – Contract signed by the Finance Committee of the Regional Government of Attica, the Ministry of Culture, and DYPA (Public Employment Service) for the restoration and redevelopment of the Prosfygika complex, funded by the NSRF (EU structural funds). The contract treats the inhabited buildings as vacant and makes no provision for the more than 400 residents.

2. Decisions (verified as laws of the Greek State) by the Ministry of Culture (2003 and 2009) which declare the Prosfygika buildings as listed protected Monuments of Modern History – ΥΠΠΟ/ΔΙΝΕΣΑΚ/Β/803/63030/2003, ΥΠΠΟ/ΔΙΝΕΣΑΚ/118103π.ε./2896/2009. English translations to be provided.

3. Supreme Administrative Court of Greece Rulings (2004, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012) – Rulings declaring the Prosfygika buildings officially preserved historic monuments combined with other clauses and provisions about any given plan of renovation of the buildings, which are totally neglected in the above programmatic contract (June 2025) by the Regional Government of Attica and by the other parts that sign the contract, especially by the Ministry of Culture (ΣτΕ 3050/2004, ΣτΕ 3059/2009, ΣτΕ 1507/2010, ΣτΕ 2274/2011, ΣτΕ 1970/2012). English translations to be provided.

4. Media Publications (chronological order):

– 22 February 2026, TRISE (Transnational Institute of Social Ecology), *The Community of the Occupied Prosfygika under threat by the Greek State*, English: <https://www.trise.net/2026/02/22/the-community-of-the-occupied-prosfygika-under-threat-by-the-greek-state/>

– 22 February 2026, Efsyn (I Efimerida ton Syntakton / The Editors' Journal), *Η κοινωνική κατοικία είναι εδώ!* (Social housing is here!), Greek (Compatible with standard browser auto-translation tools): https://www.efsyn.gr/ellada/koinonia/501830_i-koinoniki-katoikia-einai-edo

– 23 February 2026, Infobae, *Prosfygika: una enorme comunidad okupa autogestionada desde hace casi dos décadas en Atenas se enfrenta al desalojo (400 personas pueden quedarse sin hogar)* [Prosfygika: A massive self-managed squatter community for almost two decades in Athens faces eviction (400 people may be left homeless)] Spanish: <https://www.infobae.com/espana/2026/02/23/prosfygika-una-enorme-comunidad-okupa-autogestionada-desde-hace-casi-dos-decadas-en-atenas-se-enfrenta-al-desalojo-400-personas-pueden-quedarse-sin-hogar/>

– 18 March 2026, [Rosa . gr](https://www.rosa.gr) Προσφυγικά Αλεξάνδρας: Ανάπλαση ή εκκένωση στον βωμό του χρήματος. Κινητοποιήσεις, απεργία πείνας και αντιδράσεις για το σχέδιο εκκένωσης και το μέλλον της περιοχής

[Prosfygika of Alexandras Av.: Regeneration or evacuation "on the altar of profit". Mobilizations, hunger strike and reactions against the plan of evacuation and about the future of the neighborhood], Greek (Compatible with standard browser auto-translation tools): <https://www.rosa.gr/koinonia/prosfygika-alexandras-anaplasti-i-ekkenosi-ston-vomo-tou-chrimatos/>

– 20 March 2026, Pan.Sy.Po., (Panhellenic Association of Employees of the public organizations of former OAED (The Manpower Employment Organization, now renamed the Public Employment Service (DYPA), of former OEK (Organization of Social Housing Title) and of former OEE (the Workers' Housing Organization). *Για μια συνεταιριστική κοινωνική κατοικία στα Προσφυγικά Λ. Αλεξάνδρας – μαζί με τους κατοίκους* [For cooperative social housing at Prosfygika at Alexandras Avenue - in collaboration with the residents]. Greek (Compatible with standard browser auto-translation tools) <https://pansypo.gr/gia-mia-synetairistiki-koinoniki-katoikia-sta-prosfygika-l-alexandras-mazi-me-toys-katoikoys/>

– 24 March 2026, Le Monde Title: A Athènes, une communauté autogérée mobilisée contre un projet de réhabilitation de « son » quartier [In Athens, a self-managed community mobilized against a redevelopment project in "its" neighborhood]. Language: French (Compatible with standard browser auto-translation tools) URL: https://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2026/03/24/a-athenes-une-communaute-autogeree-mobilisee-contre-un-projet-de-rehabilitation-de-son-quartier_6673993_3210.html

– 30 March 2026, tvxs.gr Title: Όλγα Νάσση / Στην Αθήνα, η παγκόσμια κινητοποίηση υπερασπίζεται τα Προσφυγικά [Olga Nassi . In Athens, the global mobilization defends Prosfygika]. Language: Greek (Compatible with standard browser auto-translation tools) URL: <https://tvxs.gr/apopseis/arthra-gnomis/olga-nassi-stin-athina-i-pagkosmia-kinitopoiisi-yperaspizetai-ta-prosfygika/>

4. Video documentation of police repression: «Καθίστε στα γόνατα, κλείσε την κάμερα» [Stand on your knees, close the camera]:

Η επέμβαση της ΕΛ.ΑΣ. στα προσφυγικά(2022) [The attack of Greek Police at Prosfygika] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pla11ewL3aI>

Τα ΜΑΤ σπάνε πόρτες σπιτιών στα προσφυγικά και ο κόσμος αντιστέκεται (2019) [The riot police breaks the doors of the houses at Prosfygika and the people resist] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Y_vw8Kis6g

5. Investigation asked by the Council of Integration of Migrants and Refugees of the Municipality of Athens into police abuse and torture of a minor refugee, resident and member of the Community of Squatted Prosfygika (2024): <https://thepressproject.gr/prosfygika-diervnisi-poinikon-efthynon-ton-astynomikon-gia-tin-kakopoiisi-15chronou-zita-to-symvoulion-entaxis-metanaston-kai-prosfygon-tou-dimou-athinaion/>

6. Public Petition: Over 4,000 signatures collected (Available at: [Support the community of squatted prosfygika](#)).

7. Academic Case Study on the Squatted Community of Prosfygika -Human Rights Centre, University of Padua (Italy) A.Y. 2025-26, MASTER’S DEGREE IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE - Laboratory on the Right to Housing / Mapping and tracing forced evictions in Athens and the former Clark airbase, the Philippines. Official academic integration of Prosfygika as a primary international case study on forced evictions.
<https://www.spgi.unipd.it/laboratory-right-housing>

Contact: prosfygikacommunity@proton.me (Non-Profit Civil Law Company) / [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

VIII. Where to send your communications?

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
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Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/HRCIndex.aspx>