



PRESS RELEASE

Monday, 4 June 2018

Mr Andreas Pottakis elected President of the Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen (AOM)¹

The Greek Ombudsman Andreas Pottakis was elected President of the Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen (AOM).

AOM comprises 28 countries from three continents. Its institutional role is noteworthy in the international diplomatic environment, given that it actively participates in shaping policies concerning immigrant and refugee issues and, in general, supervises the implementation of the principles of the Rule of Law, in the field of political rights in particular.

AOM exercises a significant influence on independent international organisations of Ombudsmen, given that it brings about Ombudsmen from areas of conflict and areas where the refugee crisis is rampant. It monitors the operating conditions in some of the biggest refugee camps in the world and also gives opinions and proposes solutions on specific problems which require the cooperation of the involved Independent Authorities.

Ombudsmen from France, Italy, Spain, Serbia, Albania, FYROM, Slovenia, Croatia, Turkey, Cyprus, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Morocco and Algeria are members in AOM. Apart from Mr. Pottakis, Francisco Fernandez Marugan (Spanish Ombudsman) and Erinda Ballanca, (Albanian Ombudsperson) were elected Vice Presidents and Anthony C. Misfud (Maltese Ombudsman) was elected Secretary General and Treasurer. Moreover, the Ombudsmen from France, FYROM, Israel, Palestine, Slovenia, Cyprus and Tunisia have also been elected as Board Members.

It is recalled that Mr Andreas Pottakis has been recently elected Regional Director of the International Ombudsmen Institute for IoI-Europe while the Deputy Ombudsperson Mrs Kalliopi Lykovardi has been elected member of the Board of Equinet, the European Network of Equality Bodies.

The next General Assembly of AOM will be hosted in Athens in two years.

Information: 2131306670 2131306712, email: Press@synigoros.gr

¹ <https://www.ombudsman-med.org/introduction-to-the-association/?lang=en>