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THE OMBUDSMAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposals to the Ministry of Justice in connection to Family Law revision

The Ombudsman sent a letter to the Minister of Justice Konstantinos Tsiaras on the revision of Family Law. The Ombudsman is in favour of a brave, radical revision that will represent a substantial change in paradigm based on the following principles:

- The distinction of relations between the couple (parents) from relations between the parents and their children. This principle is summarised in the phrase *'marriage or partnership may be dissolved, but the parental role exists for life'*.
- The recognition and effective protection of the right of the children to enjoy shared care and upbringing by their parents, irrespective of the break-up of the legal and/or physical bond between the parents.
- The establishment of the equal role of parents vis-à-vis their children as of birth.
- The regulation of the individual issues of the exercise of shared parental responsibility as a whole by an agreement of the parents.
- The recourse to justice invoking serious reasons, based either on legislation or on the agreement between parents.

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