

Seminar

Reception Centers for Asylum seekers in Norway and Greece: Benefits and Implications for Local Communities

22nd and 23rd of May

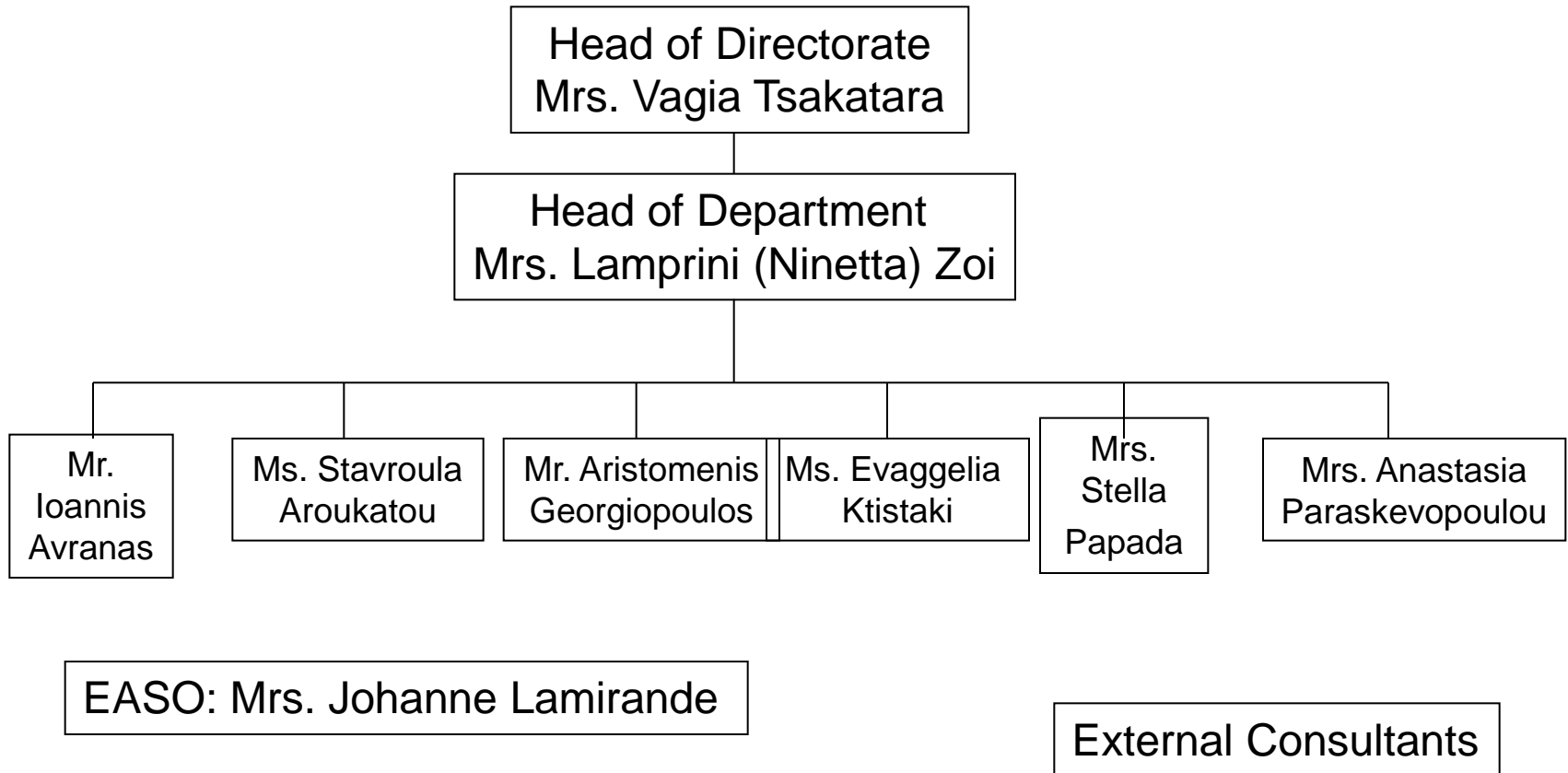
Thessaloniki, Electra Palace Hotel

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**Welfare Policy in Greece:
The Greek Welfare State
on the Move...
“*SNAPSHOTS*”**

Ferrera (1996) concludes that *the southern European welfare state* is a distinctive model. While formally it resembles other “corporatist” (and Catholic) countries, there is a different “socio political etiquette”. These welfare regimes are not embedded in open universalistic political cultures with solid, impartial Weberian state bureaucracies. They are closed, particularistic cultures with relatively weak state apparatuses. The reasons for this particular development are several: persistent economic and political “backwardness”; sectoral and territorial dualism; amoral familism; a strong Catholic [Orthodox in Greece] church and a weak political left; weak institutions, especially in regard to bureaucratic professionalism and autonomy; the prominence of political parties in the absence or atrophy of other institutions of civil society; and ideological polarization with maximalist and divided political Left. (Kleinman 2002, p. 50).

What are the characteristics of the Mediterranean model?

- 1. In terms of income maintenance, these welfare states are not only highly fragmented, especially Italy and Greece, but are also characterized by strong internal polarization (Ferrera, 1996).**
- 2. In Mediterranean welfare states there has been some departure from corporatism through the creation of national health systems on universalistic principles.**

What are the characteristics of the Mediterranean model?

- 3. There is a low degree of state activity in the welfare sector.**
- 4. These welfare states are clientelistic and particularistic. This includes straightforward political corruption, but more typically political clientelism, trading favours for votes.**

(Kleinman 2002, p. 50-51)

A comprehensive historical reference on the Greek Welfare State

1st period: foundation (1934 – 1974)

(Several decades later than Germany 1883, Italy 1886, Austria 1888, Sweden 1891, UK 1911)

2nd period: consolidation (1975 -1981),

3rd period: development (1981-1989), and

4th period: readjustment (1989 - today).

Katrougalos, G. “The south European welfare model: the Greek Welfare State, in search of an identity”. *Journal of European Social Policy* 6-1: 39-60, 1996.

Traditionally the Reception System for Refugees and Asylum Seekers has fallen under the responsibility of the *Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity*.

Since July 2012 according to Law 4052/2012, the General Secretariat for Welfare has been transferred to the *Ministry of Labor, Social Insurance and Welfare*, thus the responsibility for the protection of refugees and asylum seekers along with the management of the ERF is currently the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor, Social Insurance and Welfare.

However, according to Law 3907/2011 the First Reception Service is under the *Ministry of Public Order and Citizens Protection*.

REFUGEE RECEPTION CENTRES IN GREECE

***Current total capacity ca 1000 places
co-financed by the Hellenic Ministry of
Labour, Social Security & Welfare
and
the European Refugee Fund***

- 1. Accommodation centers for unaccompanied minors in need of international protection (overall capacity: 358 persons)**
- 2. Accommodation centers for families/ single asylum seekers adults (overall capacity: 648 persons)**

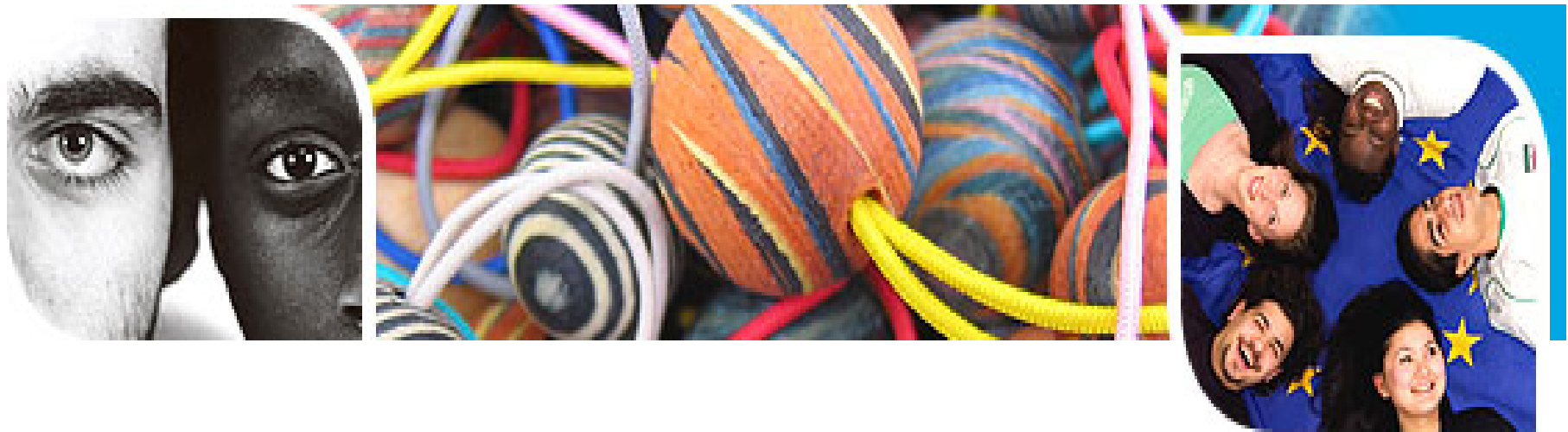
Accommodation centers for unaccompanied minors in need of international protection

No.	Reception Centre	Location	Capacity	Premises Ownership
1	“APOSTOLI” (MISSION) Philanthropic NGO by the Holy Archdiocese of Athens <i>(operating since May 2011)</i>	Athens	20	PRIVATE OWNERSHIP-FREE OF CHARGE
2	“Kentro Merimnas Anilikon”, Child Care Association of Athens, Exarheia	Athens	15	STATE OWNED
3	Institution of Social Welfare Aghiasos Lesvos Theomitor-NGO “Ilihtida”	Aghiasos, Lesvos Theomitor	60	STATE OWNED
4	“ARSIS” Association for the Social Support of Youth	Oraiokastro, Thessaloniki	30	STATE OWNED
5	National Foundation for Youth (EIN)	Anogeia, Crete	25	STATE OWNED
6	National Foundation for Youth (EIN)	Athens	30 ¹¹	STATE OWNED
7	Centre for the care of children, Ministry of Labour, Social Security & Welfare	Konitsa, Epirus	80	STATE OWNED
8	Hellenic Red Cross	Agria, Volos	48	STATE OWNED
9	“ARSIS” Association for the Social Support of Youth	Makrinitza, Volos	30	PRIVATE OWNERSHIP FREE OF CHARGE
10	“ARSIS” Association for the Social Support of Youth	Alexandroupolis, Evros	20	RENTED
		TOTAL	358	

of this particular Accommodation Centre is 50 places. It accommodates two categories of beneficiaries (unaccompanied minors & single-parent families with young children) with fl

Accommodation centers for families/ single asylum seekers adults

No	Reception Centre	Type	Location	Capacity	Premises Ownership
1	Hellenic Branch of Medecins du Monde	Asylum seekers/families and single persons	Athens	70	PRIVATE OWNERSHIP FREE OF CHARGE
2	National Foundation for Youth (EIN)	Asylum seeking single parent families, young women and girls	Athens	25	STATE OWNED
3	“PRAKSIS” NGO for the creation, application and implementation of humanitarian and medical action	Apartments for asylum seekers (17)	Athens	85	RENTED
4	Hellenic Red Cross as an Implementing Partner of the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare	Asylum seekers/families and single persons	Lavrio	320	STATE OWNED
5	“PRAKSIS” NGO for the creation, application and implementation of humanitarian and medical action	2 Apartments for asylum seekers	Mytilini, Lesvos	10	RENTED
6	“PRAKSIS” NGO for the creation, application and implementation of humanitarian and medical action	4 Apartments for asylum seekers	Thessaloniki	20	RENTED
7	“ARSIS” Association for the Social Support of Youth	Asylum seekers/families	Athens	48	STATE OWNED
8	“Nostos” Organisation for Social Integration	Asylum seekers/families	Athens	70	RENTED



Thank you very much for attentive listening!