

CONTACT INFORMATION - NGOs HELPING REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN GREECE

On the Homepage of the German Embassy in Athens www.athen.diplo.de and of the German Consulate in Thessaloniki www.thessaloniki.diplo.de we have listed International, especially German and Greek non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that help refugees and migrants in Greece

(http://www.griechenland.diplo.de/Vertretung/griechenland/de/04/Buergerservice/Hilfsorganisationen_Hilfe_fuer_Fluechtlinge_in_Griechenland.html). This paper is in German and focusses on possible help from German citizens and organizations to organizations active in Greece. It covers all spheres of refugee help (e.g. nutrition, housing, education, legal aid, medical aid).

We have been reached by requests for information in Greece from both local citizens and refugees and migrants, e.g. to urgent medical help. Thus you can find hereby information in English focusing on help available in Greece from the perspective of persons being here.

Please note that the **Greek Public Health System** is covering help for refugees and migrants e.g. due to legal provisions changed with the Law from February 20th, 2016. For further assistance by NGOs, the following organizations could be addressed.

Disclaimer

Please note that the German Embassy has collected information about organizations being well-established in Greece and tries to keep them up to date. However there can be no guarantee in any form as to the accuracy and completeness of the information.

I. Representation of International NGOs in Greece

In Greece, many well-known and established international organizations and NGOs are active in helping refugees and migrants.

The United Nations Refugee High Commission **UNHCR** is active in Greece. The contact details are: Head of UNHCR National Office in Greece, 12, Tagiapiera Street, GR11525 Athens, Tel. : 210 672 6462 +30, Fax: 210 672 6417 +30, Website: <http://www.unhcr.gr> or statistical information at <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e48e726.html>, information about social integration help in Greece: <http://help.unhcr.org/greece/living-in-greece-2/>, e-mail: great@unhcr.org.

Also, the Children's Fund **UNICEF** of the United Nations is represented in Greece and focuses on children and mothers, who have fled war and crisis zones. Homepage: <https://www.unicef.gr>, Tel.: + 30-210 72 55 555, Fax: + 30-210 72 52 555, e-mail: info@unicef.gr, Address: corner Andr. Dimitriou 8 & John Kennedy 37, 16121 Athens-Kaisariani

The **Hellenic Red Cross** is also heavily committed to help refugees, address: HELLENIC RED CROSS, Rue Lycavittou 1, 106 72 - Athens, Tel: +30 1 362 1681, Fax: +30 1 361 5606, e-mail: ir@redcross.gr, Direct Helpline for refugees in 12 languages active from 8 am to 8 pm: +30 210-5140440. Recruiting: tracingstaff@redcross.gr website: www.redcross.gr. It is worth mentioning in particular the campaign "All together we can make it": "ΟΛΟΙ ΜΑΖΙ ΜΠΟΡΟΥΜΕ" information: <http://www.redcross.gr/default.asp?pid=40&la=1&artId=214>.

The organization **Doctors of the World** / Giatroi tou Kosmou, Homepage: www.mdmgreece.gr, is particularly active in the health sector and maintains inter alia an

"open practice" for migrants, refugees and the socially disadvantaged, a homeless shelter, offers medical care and a mobile dental office. Centers for asylum seekers can be found in the following places:

Athens: Sapphou 12, 10553 Athen, Tel. + 30-210 3213150, Fax + 30-210 3213850

<http://mdmgreece.gr/epikinonia/>

Thessaloniki: Ptolemaion 29A (in the mall), 54630 Thessaloniki, Tel. : + 30-2310 566 641,

Fax: + 30-2315 314206, e-mail: thessaloniki@mdmgreece.gr

Perama (in Thessaloniki): Aristeidou 5 / corner Xenofontos, 18863 Perama, Tel. : + 30-210

4414788, Fax: + 30-216 7001596, e-mail: perama@mdmgreece.gr

Crete: Boniali 11, 73133 Chania, Tel.: + 30-28210 23110,

e-mail: chania@mdmgreece.gr

Kavala: Karanou 13, 65302 Kavala, Tel.: + 30-2510 227224,

e-mail: kavala@mdmgreece.gr

Patras: Panachaikou 50, 26224 Patras, Tel.: + 30-2610 310366,

e-mail: patras@mdmgreece.gr

The organization MSF Greece / **Médecins Sans Frontières** / Γιατροί Χωρίς Σύνορα is also involved in health care. More in formations on the homepage <http://www.msf.org/greece>, Address: 15 St. Xenia, 11527 Athens, Tel.: + 30-210 5200500, Fax: + 30-210 5200503, e-mail: info@msf.gr.

The **SOS Children's Villages** also have their own organization in Greece and help in particular unaccompanied minors. Address: 12-14, Kar Servias Str, 10562 Athens, Tel : +30 2103313661, Fax: +30 210 3226652, e-mail: sosathens@sos-villages.gr, Homepage: www.sos-villages.gr.

II. Greek NGOs

The Greek civil society has developed organizations and initiatives strongly committed to help refugees and migrants. These also work together in some cases with German aid organizations.

ARSIS (Association for the Social Support of Youth) is an organization founded in 1992 for the rights of children and adolescents. It cares especially for unaccompanied minors.

Homepage: <http://arsis.gr>. Contact places:

Athens: 43 Mauro Mateon street, 10434 Athens, Tel./Fax: + 30-210 8259880, email: arsisathina@gmail.com

Thessaloniki: 35 Ptolemeon street, 546 30 Thessaloniki, Tel.: + 30-2310-526150, Fax: + 30-2310-552813, Email: infothes@arsis.gr

Volos: Makrinitisa, 37011 Volos, Tel / Fax: + 30-24280-99939 / 44,

Email: arsis.xenonas@hotmail.com

Kozani: 4 Aminta street, 50100 Kozani, Tel./Fax: + 30-24610-49799,

Email: infokoz@arsis.gr

Alexandroupoli: 2nd km Alexandroupolis-Makris Road, 68100 Alexandroupoli,

Tel.: + 30-2551038952 Fax: + 30-2551038947, e-mail: arsisalex@gmail.com

The **Greek Council for Refugees** focuses its work on full support for refugees and asylum applicants and provides, inter alia, a social and legal advice. Website: <http://www.gcr.gr/index.php/en/>. Address: Solomou 25, 10682 Athens, Tel. : + 30-210 38 00 990, Fax: + 30-210 38 03 774, e-mail: gcr1@gcr.gr, Di-rector: protogerou@grc.gr, Program Manager: esarantou@gcr.gr.

Other Organizations focussing on giving migrants and refugees a forum to help themselves and to get into contact with each other are The **Greek Forum of Migrants**, homepage:

<http://www.migrant.gr/cgi-bin/pages/indexv2.pl?arlang=Greek&type=index#> (address: Patision 81, Athens, Tel.: +30 210 8831620) and this together with other organizations forms the **Greek Forum of Refugees**, homepage: <http://refugeegr.blogspot.de/>.

The organization Kivotos tou Kosmou (**Ark of the world**) supports children of different nationalities from socially disadvantaged families. The concept is known in Germany as "Ark" comparable and includes inter alia the provision of food, child-care, afternoon courses and other measures for social inclusion. Directions in Athens, Epirus and Chios. Homepage: www.kivotostoukosmou.org. Address: Zinodorou 3 Kallikleous, 10442 Athens (Colonus), Phone and Fax. + 30-210 5141935, e-mail: kivotos5@otenet.gr.

The organization Paidia tis Gis (**Children of the World**) takes care of children of all nationalities-activities, works with youth prisons and orphanages, helping street children. More information on the homepage: <http://www.paidiatisgis.gr/>. Address: Korai 4.14561 Athens Kifisia, Tel. : + 30-210 7214094, Fax: + 30-210 8084095, e-mail: fspaidiatisgis@gmail.com.

The Orange House is run by the NGO ZAATAR and offers a House for refugees in Athens with has medical, psychosocial and education assistance as well as a mentoring program for unaccompanied minor children. It also offers shelter and assistance to LGBTQ refugees and Legal Aid in cooperation with NGO PRAKSIS, see the facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/atlasLGBTQ/>. E-Mail: contact@zaatarngo.org, Volunteering: volunteer@zaatarngo.org, Homepage: <http://zaatarngo.org/>.

Organization Earth was founded in 2010 to raise awareness for the environment. Since May 2016 the subdivision **Earth Refugee** exists, which is especially engaged in the camps in Sounio (Lavrio) and Skaramangas. They are working on different projects and always support volunteers to find a way to help. Contact: Konstantinoupoleos 44, Athina 118 54; Online: <http://www.organizationearth.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/EarthRefugee>; Phone: +30 210 232 5380.

The Greek Association of Paraplegic Persons (wheelchair users) **PASPA** supports refugees e.g. who have lost a leg and have to use a wheelchair or a prosthesis in war and possibly also their families by offering housing, nutrition, medical care and legal advice. The organization has branches in Thessaloniki, Patras, Argos and Lamia (planned: Rhodes, Chania and Mytilene). Address: Othonos Stathatou 37-39, 11145 Athens. Tel.: + 30-210 8312740, Fax: + 30-210 8310344, e-mail: parapleg@otenet.gr, Homepage: <http://www.paspa.gr>.

The organization **Praksis** fights poverty and exclusion; it reaches out to the poor, homeless, uninsured, migrants any form (refugees, asylum-seekers, unaccompanied minors, victims of trafficking and forced prostitution). It provides counseling, education and support for people at risk of social exclusion. Homepage: <http://www.praksis.gr/en/about-praksis>. Address: 57 Stournari Str, 10432, Athens (the administrative center, activities in other parts of the country), Tel. : + 30-210520 5200, Fax.: + 30-210520 5201, e-mail: info@praksis.gr.

Solidarity Now advocates for the rights of people in risk of social exclusion such as Roma but also refugees and migrants, and provides food aid, accommodation and medical care. The organization functions as a network for various help organizations and operates a Solidarity Center in Athens (since December 2014) and Thessaloniki (since January 2014). Special program (Shelter, PSS, medical, legal and social aid) since February 2017 with EU and UNHCR funds for LGBTQ refugees „Safe Refugee“:

<http://www.solidaritynow.org/en/safe-refugee/>. Homepage:

http://www.solidaritynow.org//index_en.html Address: Ethn. Antistaseos & L. Kifisias 342, GR-154 51, Athens-Neo Psychiko, email: contact@solidaritynow.org,

Solidarity Center Athens: Domokou 2 (opposite the railway station Stathmos Larissis), 2nd floor (the ground floor hosts the homeless assistance center KYADA of Athens), Tel (+30) 210 8220883, Fax: (+30) 210 8250986 E-mail: athens@solidaritynow.org

Solidarity Center Thessaloniki: Leontos Sofou / Egnatia Str, Tel (+30) 2310 501030, (+30) 2310 501 040, Fax: (+30) 2310 527 518, e-mail: thessaloniki@solidaritynow.org

The **Smile of the Child** advocates since more than 21 years for the rights of children and adolescents and supervised et al unaccompanied minors, separated children bring their parents back together with them and provides accommodation, care and medical provisions and is active in all of Greece. Homepage: www.hamogelo.gr, donations:

<http://www.hamogelo.gr/46.2/Support-us>, correspondents for volunteers: Athens: Tel: + 30-2103306140, E-mail: volunteer@hamogelo.gr, Ancient Corinth: Tel.: + 30-2741032628, Thessaloniki: Tel.: + 30-2310250160, Corfu: Tel.: + 30-2663051755, Patras: Tel.: + 30-2610332499, Pyrgos: Tel.: + 30-2621024080, Tripoli: Tel.: + 30-2710234154, Chalkida: Tel.: + 30-2221050199.

III. Church Organizations

APOSTOLI was founded in 2010 and is the major charity, welfare and humanitarian aid agency of the Archdiocese of Athens (Church of Greece). "Apostoli" offers charity, welfare, emergency relief and development assistance and programs to all those in need, without discrimination whatsoever and also offering the volunteer program ELANDE in cooperation with the German Protestant Church. Contact person: Dr. Vasileios Th. Meichanetsidis, JCD Despos Sechou 37-Plateia Kynosargous 5, GR-11743 Neos Kosmos-Athens GREECE Tel.: + 30 2130 184 446 & 2130 184 400 (central), e-mail: v.meichanetsidis@mkoapostoli.gr & info@mkoapostoli.gr, Website: www.mkoapostoli.gr, FB: www.facebook.com/mkoapostoli.

Caritas Hellas is a registered charitable association, Non-Profit Organization, institute of the Catholic Church in Greece, member of Caritas Internationalis and Caritas Europa. Caritas Hellas offers charity, essentials, development assistance, providing social services, such as consulting, moral and psychological support, financial and in kind help, offering volunteer activities and implementing programs against poverty and social exclusion especially concerning vulnerable groups of the population. Contact persons: Fr Antonios Voutsinos (Priest), President Ms Maria Alverti (Director).

52, Kapodistriou str. 10432 Athens GREECE, Tel.: + 30 2105247879 (central), E-Mail:

caritashellas@caritas.gr, Website: www.caritas.gr, FB: www.facebook.com/caritashellas

Social Spot Athens: René Pio 2A, Neos Kosmos, Monday to Friday 9:30 - 17:00, Tel. 213-0909940.

Social Spot Thessaloniki: Polytechniou 31, 4th floor, Monday to Friday 9:00 - 18:00, Tel. 2316009947.

The Ecumenical Refugee Program (**ECRP**) founded in 1994 offers a wide variety of help for refugees. It is a project partner for EU DG ECHO, UNHCR and the Greek Health Ministry and offers social and legal aid, interpreters and shelter for refugees. I also assists family reunion e.g. of unaccompanied minors. The organization address is 20 Iridanou St.; 11528 Ilisia, Athens, Tel .: + 30-210729 59 26/27, Fax: + 30-210729 59 28, e-mail:

ecrpath@gmail.com. See also

<http://refugeeshub.org/places/athina/accommodation/ecumenical-refugee-program-erp/>.

IV. Overviews on NGO Help for Refugees in Greece

The **Greek Ministries of Education and of Foreign Affairs** have jointly published a website about help provided to refugees by NGO initiatives in Greece (last updated: June 16th, 2017):

<https://refugees.studyinggreece.edu.gr/index.php/>.

These are shelter: (<https://refugees.studyinggreece.edu.gr/index.php/shelter>),

legal aid: (<https://refugees.studyinggreece.edu.gr/index.php/legal>),

health provision: (<https://refugees.studyinggreece.edu.gr/index.php/medical>),

nutrition and hygiene products: (<https://refugees.studyinggreece.edu.gr/index.php/distribution-of-product>) and education: (<https://refugees.studyinggreece.edu.gr/index.php/education>).

A publication by the German **Raphaelswerk** funded by the German Federal Ministry of Family, Seniors, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) about the social situation for refugees and migrants in Greece, especially concerning people returning to Greece, includes contact information to NGO help: (last updated: December 2017)

<https://www.raphaelswerk.de/wirberaten/fluechtlinge/zumindest-nicht-ohne-information>.

The Network **Welcome to Europe** offers information on NGO help for refugees and migrants in all of Greece, especially Athens, Thessaloniki and Patras:

<http://w2eu.info/greece.en/articles/greece-contacts.en.html> (last updated: July 2018).

V. Translation and integration assistance

For Lexica assisting translation and social and health orientation for refugees in Greece in the languages Greek, Arabic, English, French, Sorani, Kurmanji and Urdu established with the assistance of Switzerland and UNHCR see <https://www.eda.admin.ch/greece-lexica>.