



Council of the
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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Conclusions on the role of youth work in the context of migration and
refugee matters
- Statement

Delegations will find attached the statement by the Greek delegation to be entered into the Council's minutes.

**Statement by Greece on the “Conclusions on the role of youth work
in the context of migration and refugee matters”**

Since the very presentation of the draft ‘Council Conclusions on the role of youth work in the context of migration and refugee matters’, Greece fully shared its objectives and engaged constructively in the discussions within the Council, in order to arrive at a comprehensive and robust text, which would set the guidelines for endorsing policies inspired from and harmonized with the ‘Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union’ and the European values.

Greece wishes to clarify that it is only for the sake of compromise that it accepts the text in its final form and to express its concerns about the “watering down” of the Council Conclusions. The text does not contain any specific reference to young migrants, let alone asylum seekers and stateless persons. The exclusion of these terms from the final version of the text produces Conclusions which, in our view, do not visibly reflect the willingness to support these categories of young people in vulnerable situations. We deeply regret the lack of concrete references to these groups and the use, instead, of the neutral expression ‘third country nationals’, which is too broad and lacks political content.

Greece believes, as expressed within the Council preparatory bodies, that the political message ought not to be weak, ambiguous and obscured. Given that the political impact of these Council Conclusions on the public discourse risks to be seriously reduced, Greece calls on member states to intensify their efforts in order to fully support the intended goal of this political text.
