

Statement of Greece at the general debate of the 30th CCPCJ (17-21.5, Vienna)

Mr Chair, Excellencies, dear colleagues.

Greece aligns itself fully with the statement of the European Union.

I would also like to commend the Government of Japan and the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime for their efforts leading up to the 14th Congress of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and its successful conclusion. An achievement all the more remarkable given the challenges and logistical impediments created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ladies and gentlemen, we welcome the adoption of the Kyoto Declaration and consider it a milestone in our joint fight against crime and in our efforts to achieve the goals set at the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The evolving nature of crime that transcends national boundaries and endangers social cohesion in our countries demands coordinated international responses. In this respect, I would like to reiterate our view that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Commission of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are the most important fora where such policies can be formulated on a global scale.

Equally important is to underline that any such international and national initiatives should be based on the respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, evidence based prevention and the rule of law.

In concluding, I would like to wish every success on the discussions and consultations our delegates will be having during this week.

Thank you Mr. Chair