

## **GREECE**

**Madame President, Excellencies, dear Colleagues,**

**Allow me first to thank the Government of Japan for hosting the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, during these turbulent times of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**I would also like to extend our appreciation to the Secretariat and to Ambassador Takeshi Hikiyama for his indispensable role during the negotiations of the Political Declaration which we fully endorse.**

**Ladies and gentlemen, Greece aligns itself fully with the statement of the EU.**

**In our view, international cooperation and multilateralism are indispensable tools to combat the evolving challenges we all face in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice and in this respect we underline the central role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in this context.**

**Our continuous support to the difficult project undertaken by the United Nations is given.**

**In this context, we have ratified a number of UN conventions and protocols, for example :**

**The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the three Protocols –**

**The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons,  
Especially Women and Children,**

**The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air**

**The Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in  
Firearms, their parts and Components and Ammunition,**

**The United Nations Convention against Corruption,**

**The Optional Protocol to the Convention against torture and other  
cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,**

**The Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child, on  
the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,**

**And the United Nations Convention against illicit traffic in narcotic  
drugs and psychotropic substances.**

**Greece, consistently participates and contributes to the  
mechanisms for the review and the implementation of the above  
mentioned UN Conventions.**

**Let me conclude by expressing my wishes for a successful Congress.**

**Thank you for your attention .**