

November 1, 2019

Prime-Minister of Greece  
Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis

RE: Recent changes on the status of the KETHEA Organization

Dear Mr Prime Minister,

On behalf of the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (ISAJE, <http://www.isaje.net/>), we are herewith expressing our serious concern about the recent developments on KETHEA's management status.

The journal *Exartiseis* has been a member of ISAJE since 2003; it is the only Greek peer-reviewed scientific journal on addictions, published by the Therapy Center for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA-[www.kethea.gr](http://www.kethea.gr)). Over the last two decades, a large number of Greek and other researchers have had the opportunity to publish their work on addiction-related issues in *Exartiseis*, maintaining a significant role in this field in Greece. From the journal's cover: "By staying current with national and international developments *Exartiseis* aspires to create a forum that will stimulate dialogue between the community of academics, professionals and policy makers in the field of drug addiction."

It is our understanding that a major part of *Exartiseis*' success over the years is due mainly to the fact that KETHEA as publisher operates in an efficient and cost-effective way, having grown globally as a model drug treatment organization as well as an exceptional research, training and publishing institution in addiction treatment. The voluntary Board of Directors, elected by the general assembly of KETHEA, in large part explains why KETHEA is recognized globally, and has been accredited a special consultative status within the United Nations.

As an international professional organization of editors, we are concerned that a successful, fully independent journal will be seriously damaged as a result of the government's decision to change KETHEA's model of governance. As such, we ask that the Greek government maintain KETHEA's independent management status.

Sincerely,



Richard Saitz, MD, MPH  
President, International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (on behalf of the board of directors)