



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
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TO: His Excellency Prime-Minister of Greece Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis
RE: Status of KETHEA Organization

Your Excellency,

I am writing to you with a grave concern about the current developments around KETHEA Treatment organization for addicted individuals.

I have a pleasure and privilege of working with KETHEA for almost 20 years providing their staff with training and education in the framework of the collaborative education between the University of California San Diego and KETHEA. Over the last several decades KETHEA had developed as one of the best and a model organization not only in Europe, but frankly I the world. A big part of their success was their very effective managerial model that allows on one hand careful oversight of the activities by the Board, and on the other a great degree of flexibility. This management model was the cornerstone of the growth of KETHEA and the reason for exceptional clinical and cost effectiveness. The accomplishments by KETHEA have been recognized globally, and the organization has received a special consultative status within the United Nations - a rare and very prestigious recognition. I would like to reiterate that the KETHEA's self-management model had been proven both effective and cost saving.

I am very concerned that changing this model will result in significant damage to the patients' care, increase in cost, and decline in overall effectiveness of KETHEA. There are multiple examples around the world of rather negative results when governments take over operations of effective non-governmental organizations, so it is not difficult to predict what will happen, if the same development occurs in your beautiful country, the home of KETHEA - one of the best treatment organizations in the world.

I would kindly ask you to look into this matter and support KETHEA in maintaining their independent status. I am sure that the citizens of your country and the entire Greek community will be thankful to you for supporting great care that KETHEA offers to people in need.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Igor Koutsenok".

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