

The Committee of the Muslim Alevi-Bektashis of Thrace in Greece

Thank you Madame Chair. Under this agenda item, I would like to speak about the situation of the Muslim Bektashi-Alevi minority in Greece following the recent recognition of our community's legal personality. The decision of the Hellenic Parliament on 1 August 2025 was an important and positive step. It gave our community legal recognition, visibility, and a greater sense of security. We appreciate this decision and see it as contribution to freedom of religion and peaceful coexistence in our country. But legal recognition alone is not enough. Since then, we have continued to face serious challenges. Some local media outlets and social media users have spread false and harmful messages about our community, including pressure and exclusion for certain groups within the wider Muslim minority. These problems show that prejudice, mistrust, and misinformation still obstruct peaceful coexistence. To move forward, we need clearer action from both the state and local communities. First, we need more dialogue between cultures, between faiths, and among all members of the Muslim minority in Thrace. Second, educators and the media must play a more active role in stopping misinformation and stigma. Fair and accurate representation is essential to overcome old prejudices. Third, cooperation between the state and communities must increase. Community initiatives, mediation, and practical cooperation can be prevent misunderstanding and [cut off by Chair].