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Dear Representatives,

Thank you for your letter of 1 September and for sharing your concerns and recommendations on the housing situation faced by applicants and beneficiaries of international protection in Greece. The civil society organisations play an important role in supporting refugees and asylum seekers and in upholding the common values and fundamental rights upon which the EU is founded, in line with the Charter of Fundamental Rights.

Over the last few years, the European Commission has provided substantial financial support to Greece in order to set up and improve its migration management. We supported the Greek authorities and International Organisations active in the country in setting up and maintaining accommodation, protection and integration programmes for asylum applicants and beneficiaries of international protection.

I am in close contact with my counterparts in Greece and continue to raise several of the issues you refer to. The Head of the Task Force Migration Management, Ms Beate Gminder, will provide you with more details of our support and the progress made in recent months.

The Commission is fully committed to the objective of providing adequate accommodation to migrants in need of shelter and of a seamless transition to access sustainable integration programmes for beneficiaries of international protection. We will continue to support the Greek national authorities to manage migration in line with EU law and values.

Yours faithfully,

Ylva JOHANSSON

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The Greek Housing Network
The Shift

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