What is the internal organisation of the GNCHR?

The GNCHR functions in accordance with its Internal Regulation (Act Y 138, 6.4.2000 (OJ Β’ 475), “Promulgation of the Internal Regulation of the Greek National Commission for Human Rights”), according to which five Sub-Commissions have been established and are functioning:

- The Sub-Commission for Civil and Political Rights;
- The Sub-Commission for Social, Economic and Cultural Rights;
- The Sub-Commission for the Application of Human Rights to Aliens;
- The Sub-Commission for the Promotion of Human Rights and
- The Sub-Commission for International Communication and Co-operation.
What is the GNCHR?
The Greek National Commission for Human Rights (GNCHR) is the independent advisory body to the Greek State on matters pertaining to human rights protection. It was established by Law 2667/1998 in accordance with the UN Paris Principles and inaugurated on January 10, 2000, when it was first convened by the Prime Minister. Its members are nominated by institutions whose activities cover the field of human rights: NGOs, trade unions, independent authorities, universities, bar associations, political parties, Parliament and the Administration.

Why was the GNCHR established?
The original source of inspiration for the creation of GNCHR were the Paris Principles adopted by the United Nations Organization (General Assembly Resolution A/RES/48/134, 20.12.1993) and later on by the Council of Europe, international organisations whose mission is to promote the establishment of National Commissions for Human Rights. The GNCHR has been accredited, since 2002, a status (full compliance) by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, recognising – among others – its institutional independence and the broadness of its mandate.

Where did the creation of the GNCHR emanate from?
The creation of the GNCHR emanated from the need to constantly monitor developments regarding human rights protection on the domestic and international plane, to inform Greek public opinion about human rights-related issues and, above all, to provide guidelines to the Greek State aimed at the establishment of a modern, principled policy of human rights protection.

Which is the GNCHR’s main mission?
- The constant monitoring of developments regarding human rights protection, the continuous briefing and promotion of the relevant research.
- The maintenance of permanent contacts and co-operation with international organizations, such as the United Nations Organisation, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, with National Human Rights Institutions of other States, as well as with national or international non-governmental organisations.
- The formulation of policy advice of human rights issues.