



**Homo  
Digitalis**  
Protect your rights

## Press Release

Contact Person: Eleftherios Chelioudakis, [e.chelioudakis@homodigitalis.gr](mailto:e.chelioudakis@homodigitalis.gr), +30 6945645313

Athens, 3 April 2024

### **The Hellenic Data Protection Authority fines the Ministry of Migration and Asylum for the "Centaurus" and "Hyperion" systems with the largest penalty ever imposed to a Greek public body**

Two years ago, in February 2022, Homo Digitalis [had filed](#) a complaint against the Ministry of Immigration and Asylum for the "Centaurus" and "Hyperion" systems deployed in the reception and accommodation facilities for asylum seekers, in cooperation with the civil society organizations Hellenic League for Human Rights and HIAS Greece, as well as the academic Niovi Vavoula.

The 'Centaurus' system is a digital system for the management of electronic and physical security around and inside the facilities, using cameras and Artificial Intelligence Behavioral Analytics algorithms, while the 'Hyperion' system is the main tool for controlling access (entry and exit) to those facilities using biometric data.

Today, the Hellenic Data Protection Authority identified significant GDPR violations in this case by the Ministry of Immigration and Asylum and decided to impose a fine of €175.000 euro - the highest ever imposed against a public body in the country.

The detailed analysis of the DPA highlights the significant shortcomings that the Ministry of Immigration and Asylum had fallen into in the context of preparing a comprehensive and coherent Data Protection Impact Assessment, and demonstrates the significant violations of the GDPR that have been identified and relate to a large number of subjects who have a real hardship in being able to exercise their rights.

Despite the fact that the DPA remains understaffed, with a reduced budget, facing even the the risk of eviction from its premises, it manages to fulfil its mission and maintain citizens' trust in the Independent Authorities. It remains to be seen how long the DPA will last if the state does not stand by its side.

Of course, nothing ends here. A high fine does not in itself mean anything. The Ministry of Immigration and Asylum must comply within 3 months with its obligations. However, the decision gives us the strength to continue our actions in the field of border protection in order to protect the rights of vulnerable social groups who are targeted by highly intrusive technologies.

You can read Decision 13/2024 on the Authority's website [here](#).

Homo Digitalis, Παράλου 12, Αθήνα-Πουφ, T.K. 118 54, [info@homodigitalis.gr](mailto:info@homodigitalis.gr)