

# **In a few years police persons with another nationality and religion**

The image of the Greek Police is changing. In a few years it will be composed of social groups such as immigrants, persons with other religions, and in general, people of different culture and mentality. This fact was illustrated yesterday at the hotel “Xenia” in Portaria, with a survey of a sample of 600 police men and women, who, in their majority – as it emerged- are negatively disposed towards these new social groups, which in a few years time will be incorporated into the body of the Greek Police. Concretely, the Panhellenic Federation of the Greek Police (POASY), in cooperation with the Police Union of Magnesia and the non-governmental organisation ANTIGONE, organized a seminar with the subject “combating discrimination inside the Police”, in the context of which the conservation of the cohesion of the Greek Police was examined. According to Mr. Konstantinos Voudouris, Chairman of the Police Union of Magnesia, the seminar’s ulterior goal was to avoid reactions and shocks inside the Greek Police, caused by the imminent changes. What are these changes? When asked about them, Mr. K. Voudouris said that in a few years the interior of the Greek Police will be diverse and multicultural, like the Dutch and Swedish Police. He added that the diversity audit performed on the Greek Police showed that for the time being the force is composed of a majority of Greeks and does not contain any “special” social groups, in contrast to the European countries.

However, he underlined that its composition will soon change, with the incorporation of immigrants, persons with different religions, and individuals with different cultures and mentalities, since this is provided for by the relevant EU Directive which is part of national legislation. Mr. Voudouris added that the seminar was organized in this context to prepare the Greek Police for its new image and avoid reactions and shocks. During the seminar, a number of issues were examined and the discussions were fruitful.

Katerina Marouga