



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MUNICIPALITY OF KOS**

Kos, 31st of March 2016

To: Kos Travel Agencies

Notification

During the past year, Kos has received a number of refugees and migrants, who are seeking for a way to Europe via Greece.

As a result of combined effort among the local authorities, politicians and tourist operators the Municipality has managed to offer valuable help and support to refugees and migrants and combine the tourism profile of Kos, with its solidarity profile, without jeopardizing/ affecting the vacations of people visiting Kos.

At the same time, flows of refugees/ migrants towards Kos were dramatically reduced since the beginning of 2016 and are now zero, while there are currently just 62 refugees/ migrants on the island, who will soon be to the relevant hosting areas in the mainland, in order for them to continue their journey towards Europe.

Moreover, a very effective registration mechanism has been put in place in Kos and will soon become fully operational, bearing the following characteristics:

- It is located at a dedicated area outside the city of Kos
- NGOs supporting the process are also located at the same area
- Arriving refugees and migrants are transferred first to the dedicated area and then to the port, so as to continue their journey to Athens
- Special focus has been placed on the security of the city and on keeping public areas free and accessible

It should be noted that a webcam has been installed by the municipality authorities in key points of the capital (central square and port), allowing everyone to have an actual and real time image of what is actually the situation

<http://www.kos.gr/en/kos/SitePages/webcams.aspx>).

Kos is and remains the 4th most popular tourism destination in Greece. Endless and breathtaking beaches, natural beauty, historic monuments, typical architecture, combined with the most advanced tourism infrastructure in all fields, are here to offer unique hospitality and amazing summer experiences to Kos visitors.

Mayor of Kos Island

George Kyritsis