

EMBASSY OF GREECE  
TO THE NETHERLANDS

Cour internationale de Justice

Enregistré au Greffe le :

International Court of Justice

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*The Ambassador*

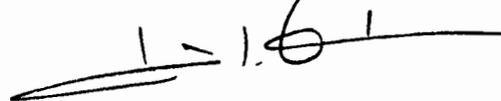
The Hague, 30 January 2004.

*Excellency,*

Referring to your letter of 19 December 2003, please find enclosed a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,



George J. Kaklikis

His Excellency  
Mr. Ph. Couvreur,  
Registrar at the International Court of Justice,  
Peace Palace,  
The Hague.

## MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC

In response to the letter of 19 December 2003 from the Registrar of the International Court of Justice to the Ambassador of Greece in The Hague, concerning the request for an advisory opinion made by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution A/RES/ES-10/14 of 8 December 2003 to the International Court of Justice concerning the legal consequences of the construction of a Wall in the occupied Palestinian territory, Greece has the honour to submit the following observations:

Greece as a member of the European Union would like to refer to the statement submitted by the EU in connection to Resolution ES-10/13 cosponsored by the Union and adopted by the General Assembly on 21 October 2003, demanding Israel to stop and reverse the construction of the Barrier inside the occupied Palestinian territories, including in and around East Jerusalem, which is in departure of the armistice line of 1949 and is in contradiction to the relevant provisions of international law.

Greece fully subscribes to the views expressed in the relevant EU statements transmitted to the Court by the Irish Presidency.

Greece is fully attached to the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes, including by judicial means. With respect, however, to the request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice, Greece would like to refer to the common position of the EU of 8 December 2003, as regards the propriety of such a request. In that political statement the EU emphasized that the request for an advisory opinion would not help the efforts of the two parties to re-launch a political dialogue and it would therefore be inappropriate. It is, of course, up to the Court to decide thereon, in the exercise of its discretionary power under Article 65 of its Statute.