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## **The right to health : a human rights perspective with a case study on Greece**

Alexiadou, E.

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**Author:** Alexiadou, E.A.

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Propositions relating to the dissertation

The Right to Health

A Human Rights Perspective with a Case Study on Greece

by Elisavet Athanasia Alexiadou

1. The recognition of the right to health by Greece is not automatically reflected in national laws and policies, but it rather illustrates a path on how the Greek State should respond to the health needs of its population.
2. Realizing the right to health in times of an economic crisis requires a strong focus on the pressing health needs of vulnerable population groups, such as (Roma) children and undocumented migrants.
3. Mainstreaming the right to health across all domestic legislative and policy health-related measures requires due attention to significant and essential right to health elements (i.e., the ‘AAAQ’ requirements, accountability and participation).
4. Without political will the realization of the right to health will remain an empty promise. This is most obvious if one looks at the case study on Greece.
5. Contrary to the increasing prominence and recognition of the right to health in human rights law and national constitutions, its effective realization remains a tough issue worldwide.
6. The first UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health (Paul Hunt) was correct when he noted in 2007 that ‘the right to health is one of the most extensive and complex human rights in the international lexicon’.
7. Given the diverse national realities and challenges there is ‘no one size fits all’ action plan as regards to the manner in which States should implement their right to health obligations.

8. States must acknowledge the interdependence of all human rights in their laws and policies in order to achieve the full realization of the right to health.
9. The international community should assume responsibility for realizing the right to health of every individual worldwide and especially of those most in need.
10. It is better to concentrate on the journey itself than on the destination. (freely adapted from a Cavafy's poem, 'Ithaca')