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# The right to health of undocumented migrants and asylum seekers after austerity measures

The case of Greece

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**Abstract:** The financial crisis that started in the U.S market in 2006 rapidly escalated to a global financial and economic crisis. Greece was one of the most affected European countries by this globalised phenomenon. In response to the crisis, many countries - amongst which Greece - have been obligated to adopt “austerity” measures, including cuts in benefits and health services. The aim of this research is to analyse the amendments in the Greek legislation and the introduction of new legal measures after the implementation of austerity measures concerning the access to health care for undocumented migrants and asylum seekers residing in Greece. The main research question of this study is whether these measures are in conformity with Public International Law and Human Rights Law. A method of semi-structured interviews with social assistants of medical NGOs in Greece has been used for the purposes of this thesis. The results of the interviews present the perception of the access to healthcare as seen by social workers and reveal the difference between Law and Practice. Finally, recommendations are suggested in order to strengthen the right to health as well as to ensure access to health care for all without discrimination.

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